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Rotary Centre for the Arts Partners with MOonhORsE Dance Theatre for a Virtual Show Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Older & Reckless

(Kelowna, BC) - The Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA) announces its partnership with the MOonhORsE Dance Theatre to present the 20th Anniversary **Older & Reckless: 20 years of Age on Stage**, an acclaimed dance series curated by Artistic Director Claudia Moore and presented with support from the BC Arts Council and Parc Retirement Living.

Older & Reckless, conceived by **Claudia Moore**, founder, and artistic director of MOonhORsE Dance Theatre, is a dance series acclaimed for its celebration of mature dance artists and their tenacious life-long pursuit of physical expression. Appealing not only to a senior audience but to all generations, Older & Reckless shines a light on those Canadian dance artists who have dared.

Older & Reckless returns to Kelowna to share its 20th-anniversary celebration with a virtual edition on Saturday, May 1st at 7:00 pm (PST). The event is being sold as a **pay what you can/ if you can**. The sliding scale ticket price allows the community to access this performance for free or pay it forward to the dancers.

This virtual performance features innovative new dance films created and performed by award-winning dance artists Esmeralda Enrique, Denise Fujiwara, Learie Mc Nicolls, and Sara Porter in collaboration with distinguished film directors Laurie-Shawn Borzovoy, William Yong, Janet



Aronoff, and Vickie Fagan, respectively. William Yong's exquisite Noppera-bō 野籠坊 received the Award of Excellence at Los Angeles' One-Reeler Short Film Competition in January.

The program also highlights video excerpts of outdoor works *ApHeart* – led by Julia Aplin and performed by 15 Toronto dance luminaries – and the *Nelken-Line*, an homage to internationally renowned dance icon Pina Bausch, led by Viv Moore, with a cast of 25 dance artists and community movers.

Artistic Director Claudia Moore says, “It was thrilling to present *Older & Reckless* in Kelowna back in June of 2018, as part of the Rotary Centre for the Arts’ Creative Aging Festival. That event featured stellar performers Simone Orlando (Ballet Kelowna's AD/CEO), Stelio Calagias (Nelson, BC), Cori Derickson (Westbank First Nations), Joe Laughlin (AD Joe Ink), plus 18 local community dancers- including Living Things AD Neil Cadger- where I was happy to perform for my granddaughter. It was a magical time thanks to the entire RCA team. We are so excited for our ongoing relationship with the RCA and the enthusiastic Kelowna community”.

Moore adds, “Due to the pandemic, we were not able to gather last fall for a live performance at Harbourfront Centre Theatre in Toronto, but that didn’t stop our 20th anniversary celebrations. We transformed what would have been our opening night in the theatre, November 6, into an online dance fest- **Older & Reckless: 20 years of Age on Stage**. Produced by Fagan Media Group, the acclaimed program includes 32 seasoned dance artists, 1tencommunity movers, four new award-winning dance films, and excerpts of two outdoor dances. On May 1st, there will be an added live chat with the Kelowna audience and the O&R artists after the 7:00 pm PDT live-stream”.

Learn more about the Rotary Centre for the Arts [HERE](#) and buy your tickets to *Older & Reckless* 20th Anniversary [HERE](#).

Additional programming includes online workshops taking place on **April 27th and 30th** (led by Julia Aplin and Natasha Powell). Tickets available [HERE](#).

Sneak peeks to the show - Sara Porter / Vickie Fagan collaboration, **Blue**: [HERE](#) and Learie Mc Nicolls / Janet Aronoff collaboration, **Just Like Me**: [HERE](#).

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:



Esmeralda Enrique is one of the most celebrated Flamenco dance artists in Canada. Lauded internationally, she has received numerous awards including the inaugural Young Centre for the Performing Arts Dance Award as Senior Artist in 2012, the year that marked the thirtieth anniversary of both her school, the Academy of Spanish Dance, and the Esmeralda Enrique Spanish Dance Company. Her company is renowned for its innovation, versatility, and artistic excellence, receiving 6 Dora Mavor Moore Awards over the years along with numerous nominations, including 7 for Esmeralda herself. www.flamencos.net

Denise Fujiwara is a recipient of the Toronto Arts Foundation's Muriel Sherrin Award for International Achievement in Dance. Fujiwara's *EUNOIA*, a multimedia work based on Christian Bök's award-winning book, premiered at World Stage in Toronto and was named one of NOW's Top 5 Dance Shows of 2014. Her 6 exquisite solo concerts have toured to four continents. International commissions include *Cuenta las Estrellas* for la Compania Nacional de Costa Rica and *Broelliner Geists* for eX-it '11 in Germany. In 2015, she was a soloist in the Luminato Festival's extravaganza *Apocalypse* under Lemi Ponifasio. www.fujiwaradance.com

Sara Porter is an innovative contemporary creator and performer. Her feminist and queer-rooted pieces integrate dance with real-life situations, humour, poetry, clown, costume, and video. Her signature works – *Sara does a Solo*, about returning to dancing after raising kids – has toured Canada and the US since 2016. Her current solo – *Getting to know your fruit* – investigates her queerness and the nature of identity and memoir. She was featured on CBC's award-winning dance documentary series *The Move*. www.saraporter.ca

Learie Mc Nicolls, acclaimed dancer, choreographer, and spoken word artist for over 30 years is the founder of Myth Productions. He has performed internationally with the National Ballet of Cuba and Dancemakers, among others. Learie received the City of Hamilton's 2015 Performance Award and is also a two-time Dora Award winner for Outstanding Performance and Choreography for his one-man show *Armour*.

Vickie Fagan is an award-winning producer, director, writer, and filmmaker. She launched Fagan Media Group in the fall of 2010. Vickie's television background includes over fifteen years with Chum Television where she worked as a producer of documentaries, short films, and series television. Vickie specializes in offering broadcast-quality production values and story-driven content. Fagan received the Grand Jury Prize at the Ojai California Film Festival for her documentary *Adventures in Breathing*, a CPRS award of merit for the Halton Region, Drive Safe Campaign video 2012, 1st place for Experimental Short (*Betrothed*) at the Indie Gathering Film Festival, and Fastnet Film Festival in Cork, Ireland as well as the 2017 Canadian Screen Award for Best Animated Series or Program for *The Curse of Clara*.



About the Rotary Centre for the Arts

Located in the heart of Kelowna's Cultural District, the [Rotary Centre for the Arts](#) is a multidisciplinary visual and performing arts centre. The RCA continually strives to improve the economic, cultural, and social quality of life in the community by fostering participation in, and appreciation of the arts. As a world-class venue celebrating creative expression through diverse art forms and disciplines, the Rotary Centre for the Arts is a unique City of Kelowna facility in which individuals of all ages and backgrounds come together to share in the excitement of strengthening art and culture in the Okanagan. The Rotary Centre for the Arts respectfully acknowledges that it is located on the unceded, traditional territory of the syilx (Okanagan) people.