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Rotary Centre for the Arts adds Body Extended Dance Showcase to Spring Lineup

(Kelowna, BC) - The Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA) is pleased to announce the addition of Body Extended, an innovative dance showcase, to its “RCA Presents” spring performance lineup. Featuring stunning original works from performers Emmalena Fredriksson and Jessica McMann, Body Extended takes place at the Mary Irwin Theatre on Sunday, June 19 at 8:00 PM.

Says Colleen Fitzpatrick, Executive Director of the RCA, “This showcase is a thrilling addition to our spring lineup in the Mary Irwin Theatre. Fredriksson and McMann are among Canada’s most innovative dance artists, and we are thrilled to be able to present them side by side with the support of the Dance West Network.”

Body Extended questions the limits of the human body, exploring how it stretches into the world through its relationships with land and technology. The program begins with the **live premiere** of Emmalena Fredriksson’s *Ecdysis*, which blends contemporary dance with computer programming, innovative lighting design, and striking costuming to explore themes of embodiment and transformation in the wake of trauma.

Ecdysis is followed by Jessica McMann’s *iihksiisiinatsiistostiimao nipaitapiitsiin*. Grounded in land-based Indigenous research-creation methods, this piece weaves together personal experiences of adoption with broader histories of displacement and connection to land. Fusing Indigenous storytelling practices with contemporary dance and video projection, McMann creates a new language for understanding the body and its many relations.

Karma Lacroff Nieoczym, Theatre Programming Coordinator at the RCA says, “Together, these unique pieces stage a stirring and visually arresting exploration of the body in connection to

Kelowna Visual and Performing Arts Centre Society

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technology, trauma, land, and our surroundings. Tapping into influences as diverse as Indigenous narrative and sci-fi body modification, *Body Extended* is unlike anything else you're likely to see in the Central Okanagan this season."

Body Extended runs at the Mary Irwin Theatre at the Rotary Centre for the Arts on Sunday, June 19 at 8:00 PM. Tickets are now on sale, starting at \$19. The show will be followed by an artist talk back session. McMann will also lead a hoop dancing workshop the same weekend and Fredriksson will be in conversation virtually in early June, discussing the use of technology, the LED light spine costume used in *Ecdysis*, and creating the choreography for her piece. Further details will be in our e-newsletter in May.

Hi-Res Press Photos Available On Request: Please contact marketingassist@rotarycentreforthearts.com

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About Emmalena Fredriksson:

Emmalena Fredriksson is a contemporary dance artist living and working in Vancouver, Canada, as a guest on the ancestral unceded lands of the Coast Salish peoples. Her practice is defined by choreography as a relational practice in the expanded fields of dance, often collaborating with artists of other disciplines, creating choreographic experiences and dance for social events, films, galleries, and performances. Born in Sweden, she received her training at Balettakademien in Umeå and SEAD in Austria. Emmalena has presented choreographic work, performed and taught internationally with Daghdha Dance Company (IE), Canaldanse (FR), Malta University (MT), Pact Zollverein (DE), and Falmouth University (UK) among others.

About Jessica McMann:

Jessica McMann is an Alberta-based Cree (Cowessess, SK), a multi-disciplinary artist. She interweaves land, Indigenous identity, history, and language throughout her dance and music creation/performance practice. A classically trained flutist, she holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Calgary and an MFA in Contemporary Arts from Simon Fraser University. Her work fuses traditional language and dance with her own contemporary experiences as an Indigenous woman and Two-Spirit person. Jessica has played and performed at venues and festivals across Canada, as well as toured in Sweden, the Netherlands, and Belgium. She has created soundtracks for the ITWE Collective, performed with the Ambrose University Chamber Orchestra and the Foothills Philharmonic Orchestra in Alberta, and was a guest musician for Arcade Fire at the JUNOs.

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 and Okanagan People