

## **Sophia Gamboa**

My name is Sophia, some people may know me as Sosa. I was born and raised in Manila Philippines and I am also a 1<sup>st</sup> generation immigrant here in the stolen lands of the Musqueam, Squamish, Tseil-Watuth Nations. I am a dreamer, a leader, a student of dance and life. I am inspired by the complexities of many different truths; It is why I am so deeply in-love with the work that I do with Immigrant Lessons. I want to encourage young minds to be honest to themselves, to be brave, to be fearless; to be free.

**"Even though I am the truth, who I have become... isn't always easy to embody."**

- SOPHIA

## **Tegvaran singh - sooch**

( SAID IN PUNJABI)

My name is Teg... Tegvaran Singh Sooch. ਮੈਂ ਇੰਡੀਆ ਤੋਂ ਹਾਂ। ਮੈਂ ਕੈਨੇਡਾ ਪੰਜ ਸਾਲ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ ਆਇਆ ਸੀ ਤੇ ਮੈਨੂੰ ਜਲਦੀ ਹੀ ਪਤਾ ਲੱਗਿਆ ਆ ਕੀ ਮੈਂ ਓਸ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਰਵਾਂਗਾ ਜੋ indigenous ਲੋਕਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਖੋਲ੍ਹੀ ਹੋਈ ਹੈ। ਮੈਂ ਇੱਕ KRUMPER ਹਾਂ ਤੇ ਮੈਂ ਹੋਰ ਵੀ ਡਾਂਸ ਸਟਾਈਲ ਸਿੱਖ ਰਿਹਾ ਹਾਂ ਜਿਵੇਂ ਪ-ਰਾਪ, ਬੇਕੁ ਤੇ ਹਾਊਸ। ਮੈਂ ਅਪਣੇ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਵਿੱਖਾਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦਾ ਹਾਂ ਕਿ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਕੋਈ ਕੰਮ ਪੜ੍ਹਾਈ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ ਸਫਲ ਹੋ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ ਤੇ ਅਪਣੇ ਸੁਪਨੇ ਫਲੇਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ ਤੇ ਅਪਣੇ ਪਰੇਂਟਸ ਨੂੰ ਖੁਸ਼ ਰੱਖ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ।

My name is Teg... Tegvaran Singh Sooch. Mein India toh haan. Mein Canada panj-k saal pehla aya si teh meinu jaldi hi pata lagiya ki mein os zamin vich ravan ga jo indigenous lokan ton khoi hoi hia. Mein ek KRUMPER haan te mein hoor vi dance styles sikh reha haan jiven Hip-Hop, Break te House. Mein apne lokan nu eh vikhana chahunda haan ki tusi kathe parahi kar sakde hoon, safal ho sakde ho, apne supne follow kar sakde hoon te apne ma-pe nu kush rakh sak de hoon.

( ENGLISH TRANSLATION)

My name is Teg... Tegvaran Singh Sooch. I am from India. I came to Canada about 5 years ago. I soon learned that I would be living on land stolen from the indigenous people. I am a KRUMPER who is also learning other dance styles like Hip-Hop, Break, and House. I want my people to know that they can study, follow their dreams and keep their parents happy at the same time.

**"A king maker... who people said could never become a king himself."**

- TEGVARAN

### **Sevrin Emnacen - Boyd**

My name is Sevrin Emnacen-Boyd. I am a bboy, but I enjoy all forms of movement and art. I was born and raised on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish people to a working class family. My father is white and my mother is Filipino. When I was young I thought I'd grow up to be a synthesis of my two backgrounds, a positive manifestation of two cultures coming together through my very being. As I grew up, I felt my childish instincts weaken and the spectre of otherness grasping me. Mixed became non-belonging, abstraction, but it also became a space for experimentation, renewal, a space I choose to embody today.

**" You make it normal. You make it nothing. Because nothing happens. Nothing happened."**

**- SEVRIN**

### **Joshua Cameron**

My name is Josh Cameron. I'm a 4th generation settler born and raised on the unceded lands of the Katzie, Semiahmoo and Kwantlen peoples. I have a mixed, mostly European background, some known and some yet to be discovered. For me the journey of learning the stories of my ancestors and predecessors at any degree of separation is inseparable from my own self discovery. Breaking is my main form of expression but I've always had the desire to push experimental boundaries by seeking out a vast well of influences. I strive to create forward thinking work that still pays homage to my foundations.

**" More than just an index finger landing on some location on a globe to connect me to where I'm really from."**

**- JOSHUA**

## **Hayden Pereira**

Hayden Pereria is my name, Mammon is my dance alias. I study street dance on land that belongs to the co-Salish people. I believe in education that actually helps and benefits what our youth want to do."

I mainly connected to this piece through the fact that I feel disconnected to my culture because of colonization and western society. I want to develop myself as an artist and I will do so until I get there or until I reached a place of being content.

**" If this culture was stripped from me I would be nothing, no one."**

**- HAYDEN**

## **Simran Sachar**

My name is Simran Sachar. I am currently dancing, creating and playing on the territories of 3 local First Nations: The Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Watuth. You know people always ask me, "what is your artist name?" And I have to tell them, "Simran Sachar is an artist's name!" I am a storyteller, dancer, artist and a second generation East Indian Immigrant. If I can do anything in this life, at the end of the day, it is to tell stories through multiple mediums, however they may be. Honest, broken, impossible to hear in their fully-formed truth and their ever-changing reality. I want to continue to break rules in my art practice, and insert my body of colour into spaces that are meant to break me. And I want you to come with me. I want us to do this together, because we belong.

**" There I was... 4 years old, 2 pigtails, and a blue nightgown. I was trying to get her down, and I couldn't... I couldn't.. I couldn't get her down"**

**- SIMRAN**