



**new
works**
DANCE

Impact Report 2024-25

Artists | Audiences | Communities



What does New Works do, exactly?

- **Support** Dance Artists
- **Cultivate** Audiences
- **Present** Diverse & Accessible Performance

New Works strives to create responsive, artist-centred programs shaped by the ever-evolving needs of our dance community.

Our core commitments

- *Innovation* • *Collaboration* • *Community*

We work to **remove systemic barriers against equity-owed practices** — and carry these values through every program.

New Works — ReNewed!

A message from our Executive & Program Directors

The 2024/25 season saw New Works hitting its post-pandemic stride. With presentations, artist support programs, and community development activity surpassing pre-pandemic levels and exceeding our expectations. This was all made possible by donors, supporters, partners and public funders who appreciate the value in what we do and continue to invest in our efforts. Thank you!

In 2025 the **Cohort Program celebrated its 5th anniversary!** This program, created during the pandemic by Kristina Lemieux, has provided more than 75 dance artists with the critical skills, knowledge and networks required to bring their work to the stage.

Last season also saw **Share Dance go provincial** through partnerships with the Community Arts Council of Prince George, BC Movement Arts Society (Sointula) and Dance Victoria – all thanks to the support of the National Arts Centre’s Arts Alive program.

The season finale featured two **Arts-Based Community Development projects** with Rainbow Refugee and Watari Counselling. Projects that use movement and dance to build resilience and create healing relationships within struggling new-comer communities. (Witnessing the closing performances of each of these projects moved me to tears. There are no words sufficient to describe the impact these experiences had for the participants, their communities, and those of us lucky enough to be part of the process. JD)

This was a remarkable season for New Works - **we invite you to explore its breadth and depth through the pages that follow.**

With gratitude,

*Jason Dubois, Executive Director
Amber Barton, Program Director*

Photos by Carla Alcantara



nw PRESENTS

Local. National. International.

New Works supported a wide range of artists through performances, partnerships, and public events.

52 performances
4,300 attendees
2,384 free tickets provided
29 artists presented

Season Highlights



**Pop Up Dances
Now a Festival!**
Site-specific | Diverse | Free
Sep 2024

Expanded to a 3-day event with the support of partners: CMHC Granville Island, Vancouver Public Library, IE Creative, FLEET Studios, Kasama Chocolate.



Prism by Tentacle Tribe (Montréal)

Mesmerizing | Joyful | Rigorous
Oct 2024

New Works partnered with The Cultch & OURO Collective to bring Tentacle Tribe back to Vancouver for a sold-out run.

Photo by Elias Djemil-Matassov



OFF–Dance In Vancouver: Sunday Sampler

Artist Support | National Visibility
Nov 2024

Featuring pitches by Clala Project, Kaili Che, Marco Esccer & Collaborators, Generous Mess, Little Room Productions, and OURO Collective.

Kaili Che, photo by Alyssa Maturino



Bulleh Shah: Seeker of Light by Gaurav Bhatti

Bridging Cultures | Powerful | Resonant
Feb- Mar 2025

A world premiere made possible through our evolving partnership with The Dance Centre.

Photo by Innee Singh

nw SHARE DANCE

Low-barrier workshops facilitated by equity-owed artists
engaging youth, families, elders, newcomers, and
participants with disabilities across B.C.

85+ Free Classes
851 Participants
12 Community Partners
18 Facilitators

Season Highlights

**National Arts Centre's Arts Alive supports growing
new roots with provincial partners:**

- Dance Victoria
- Community Arts Council of Prince George
- BC Movement Arts Society (Sointula)
- Yukon Arts Centre

We continued to expand this regional pilot connecting artists and communities through schools and service organizations.

Arts-Based Community Development

Creative | Trauma informed | Belonging

Spring 2025

A collaborative approach that brought together artists and communities to co-create artistic experiences. These programs focused on healing, empowerment, and connection, using art as a tool to foster **community engagement and social change.**



Photo by Rainbow Refugee

Rainbow Refugee

LGBTQIA+ refugee claimants engaged in a 8-week creative process and performance at the IDAHOBIT (International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia & Transphobia) annual event.



Watari Counselling

Latin American refugee & immigrant women engaged in a 8-week creative process & performance during national Mental Health Week.

"I learned how it's possible to create flow both creatively and inclusively. Your workshop and guidance had uplifted me during very tough times as a refugee claimant." | "Your teaching helped me grow not just in skill but in confidence. Thanks to New Works, I now truly believe I can perform in front of people and new friends and support" - **Participants from Rainbow Refugee**

Being exiled from community is never easy.

[Read an article about this project →](#)

By Co-facilitator Kevin Jesuino



Share Dance ***IN PRACTICE***

Shifting Leadership in the Studio

Responsive Teaching | Collective Growth | Inclusive Facilitation

*5 local workshops
3 regional workshops
12 facilitators (Canada + International)
6–10 participants per session
to allow deep, meaningful exchange*

Focus Areas

- Skill-building & intergenerational dialogue
- Mental wellness in dance
- Disability justice in facilitation
- Inclusive + trauma-informed studio practices
- Power dynamics + visibility in leadership

New Collaborations

- First international session with PuSh Festival
- New partners: Future Leisure + All Bodies Dance
- New regional partners:
Community Arts Council of Prince George + Dance Victoria

nwXR Beyond the Stage

Winter - Spring 2025

New Works XR (NWXR) supports new voices in the development and exploration of creative technologies and embodied practice through a dynamic suite of workshops and events. NWXR 2025: Beyond the Stage reimagined the city through movement and technology, culminating in a open studio sharing with the community.

21 artists
7 workshops
1 open studio sharing - 65 attendees
Led by Avideh Saadatpajouh
(XR Program Coordinator)



Want to see inside the process?

[NWXR: A Visual Journal](#) →

By Megan Gibbons, NWXR Spring Intern

Still from video captured by Megan Gibbons

Sustainability lives within relationships

We envision a healthy artist-centred arts ecosystem where connection, collaboration, and opportunities are celebrated beyond the container of our own organization.

Season Highlights

Cohort 2025

Jan - May

5th season of the program → 50 artists supported to date

5 month mentorship on:

- Self-Producing tools
- Public funding + Grant Writing
- Leadership + Financial Management
- Marketing + Touring

In-theatre Workshop

Our first Lighting & Tech Workshop

led by Jeremy Baxter

In Partnership with Roundhouse Community Centre

"Being part of the cohort has been one of the most energizing experiences of my year so far and I regret not applying for it earlier. Each workshop and mentor session got me thinking deep and pushed me to stretch both my artistic and entrepreneurial muscles."

-Vidya Kotamraju, Cohort 2025 participant, Dance Artist





Mentorship & Management

Shared Capacity | Long-Term Vision | Tailored Support

Artist-led Companies:

*Action at a Distance | Aeriosa | Corporeal Imago |
Daina Ashbee | Gaurav Bhatti | Ne.Sans Opera & Dance |
Out Innerspace | OURO Collective*

In Association With:

Belle Spirale Dance Projects | Plastic Orchid Factory

Corporeal Imago, photos of performers Eowynn Enquist and Isak Enquist.

Artist Residencies



Tin Gamboa

Studio Residency – Summer 2024
Open Research | Community Process
In Partnership with Out Innerspace

danielle Mackenzie Long

XR Theatre Residency – Fall 2024
Queer Identity | Hybrid Form | XR Exploration
In Partnership with Roundhouse Community Centre

Foolish Operations

Theatre Residency – Winter 2025
Early Childhood | Playful Design | Intergenerational
In Partnership with Roundhouse Community Centre

What community is sharing...



"Our pitch performance was a solidifying factor in being invited to our first ever tour of the work. When we feel intimidated by the business side of being independent artists, the New Works team has been a friendly face to remind us that it's just another step in the creative process."

- Sarah & Aiden, Artistic Directors - Generous Mess



"Being able to experiment with placing the work inside a theatre taught me so much... [...] to find a deeper interest in my artistic practice through the NWXR program and see how it's expanded my interests both in the realm of new media as well as live performance."

- danielle Mackenzie Long, NWXR Artist in Residence 2024



"Working with New Works is great [...] they offer unique insight and perspective as long-time programmers, producers and administrators in the local dance community. Partnering with New Works enhances my capacity as an artistic director who has a complex, ongoing to do list."

- Julia Taffe, Artistic Director - Aeriosa





**new
works**
DANCE

Photo by Rainbow Refugee

What Can't Be Measured

- **A spark of confidence** in a youth class in rural BC
- **Relationships formed** across disciplines and experiences
- Tools placed in **the hands of a new generation**
- Paradigms of **dance education being questioned — and reshaped**
- **The joy of dance reaching beyond** studios and into communities

If this work resonates with you...

Join us in the 2025-26 season!

Your support as a funder, donor, volunteer, audience builds an arts ecosystem where artists and communities thrive together.

THANK YOU!

Our work is only possible with a network of generosity, collaboration, and care. From artists and partners to funders, donors, and volunteers, New Works exists because of you. Thank you for being part of this evolving, vibrant dance ecosys-

Staff | Executive Director: Jason Dubois | Program Director: Amber Barton | General Manager: Charlotte Newman | Community Engagement Manager: Marco Esccer | Producer: Francesca Fung | Production & Touring Coordinator: Hilary Maxwell | Registrar & Program Coordinator, Out Innerspace: Dawn Briscoe | Development & Artist Support: Michelle Kneale | Stage Manager / Production Manager: Siobhan Powell, Kayleigh Sandomirsky, Nico Dicecco.

Interns | Fall 2024: Amy Su | Summer 2024: Krystal Tsai | Spring 2025: Megan Gibbons

Board of Directors | Board President: Brad Trenaman | Andrea Hébert | Gurpreet Sian | Kate Franklin | Livona Ellis

Programming & Community Advisory Committee | Ashvini Sundaram | Isak Enquist | Justin Calvadores | Kay Huang | Rianne Svelnis | romham gal-lacher

Presentation Partners & Sponsors | Belsher Arts Management | CMHC Granville Island | Culture Days | Fleet Studios | IE Creative | Kasama Chocolates | Langley Fine Arts School (LFAS) | Out Innerspace | OURO | PuSh Festival | Rosedale on Robson Suite & Hotels | Simon Fraser University (SFU) | Stir | The Cultch | The Dance Centre | The Roundhouse | Vancouver Civic Theatres | Vancouver Latin American Cultural Centre (VLACC) | Vancouver Public Library (VPL)

Share Dance, In Practice & Regional Expansion | All Bodies Dance Project | BC Movement Arts | Community Arts Council of Prince George | Dance Victoria | Future Leisure | KidSafe | Method Dance Studio | PuSh Festival | Rainbow Refugee | RayCam Seniors | Strathcona Elementary School | The Dance Centre | Tsleil-Waututh Nation Community Centre | National Arts Centre - Arts Alive | Watari Counselling | wəkw'ahəs tə syaqwəm Elementary School | Xpey Elementary School | Yukon Arts Centre

Funders | Deux Mille Foundation | Hamber Foundation | Culture Works Canada | British Columbia Arts Council | The City of Vancouver and Province of BC | Canada Council for the Arts | Government of Canada | Metro Vancouver's Regional Cultural Project Grants program.

Donors | Andrea Hebert | Barbara Clausen | Beverly Walker in honour of Barb Clausen | Brad Trenaman | Brian Peterman | Catherine Ladyshevsky | Charlotte Newman | Daniela Vega | Denim & Steel | Diana Lee | Francesca Fung | Helene Laiyautim | Hillary Maxwell | Janice Beley | Jason Dubois & Clayton Baraniuk | Joe Laughlin | Karina Villada Zepeda | Kay Huang | Laura Moore | Liat Har Lev | Linda Blankstein | Livona Ellis | Marco Esccer | Martha Carter in honour of Marnie Carter | Michael Wortis | Nadine Carew | Rachel Helten | Ruhamah Buchanan | Victoria Henderson in honour of Nik Radosevic | Vivien Dang | Yvonne Chew

Volunteers | Anna Verbytska | Ashley Peralta | Carol Mendes | Daniela Vega | Jhoely Triana | Jay Gignac | Judith Colibri | Kaili Che | Kate Gole | Liat Harlev | Memo Reyes | Miles Marilyn | Natalia Martineau | Punit | RCHRDY | Rodrigo Hervert | Sam | Sandra Cecilia Estrada | Santiago Povea | Santiago Pulido | Simran Gupta | Tomoyo Yamada | Verónica González | Veronica Cheng | Zenna Cook | Zoe Jordan

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!



The Dance Centre



The Cultch



Granville Island



NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE
CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS
Canada is our stage. Le Canada en scène.



CULTURE
DAYS

ARTS
ALIVE / VIVANTS

OUTINNERSPACE

FUTURE
LEISURE

stir
ARTS & CULTURE | VANCOUVER



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada



BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

Supported by the Province of British Columbia



VANCOUVER LATIN AMERICAN
CULTURAL CENTRE



CITY OF
VANCOUVER

Arts, Culture
& Tourism



metrovancover
SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION



VANCOUVER
CIVIC THEATRES



Contact Us

NEW WORKS
77 East 7th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5T 1M4

Email: info@newworks.ca

Phone: 604-893-8807

newworks.ca

IG & FB: [@newworks_dance](https://www.instagram.com/newworks_dance)

