

Snapshot Sessions 2.0

Projects Ready for Touring

CAPACOOA Canada 

Virtual Pitch Sessions

**PROGRAM
DAY 3**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Artist Line up

Thursday, February 27, 2025

Time	Name	Touring Show Title	Artist/Company
1:00-1:05	Welcome		
1:05-1:15	OKAVANGO African Orchestra	Africa Without Borders	OKAVANGO African Orchestra
1:15-1:25	Diane Flacks	Guilt (A Love Story)	Tarragon Theatre
1:25-1:35	Santee Smith	SKÉN:NEN	Kaha:wi Dance Theatre
1:35-1:45	Orchid Ensemble & Oktoecho	“Katajjaq meets Khoomei”, the meeting of Inuit & Mongolian throat singing	Orchid Ensemble & Oktoecho
1:45-1:55	Chelsea Haberlin	Fat Joke	Newworld Theatre
1:55-2:05	Janie & Marcio	Sans toi [T]	Janie & Marcio
2:05-2:15	Jaffa Road	Jaffa Road	Jaffa Road
2:15-2:25	Jessie Garon	everything i wanted to tell you (but couldn't, so here it is now)	Vazari Arts Company
2:25-2:30	Thank you & wrap up		



Contact

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Socials

Facebook:

[Okavango African Orchestra](#)

[Visit website](#)

Representation

Name: Marilyn Gilbert - MGAM

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Name: Luisa González - MGAM

Contact: luisa@mgam.com

Name: OKAVANGO African Orchestra
Touring Show: Africa Without Borders
Artist/Company: OKAVANGO African Orchestra

Multiple instruments, languages and countries help define Okavango African Orchestra. Okavango brings together the music and instruments of several African cultures to create a new music, harmonizing different tunings, rhythms and timbres. The musicians and instruments represent a continuum of traditions and cultures from time immemorial to the present day. Okavango has released 3 albums, their debut album was awarded a JUNO, Africa Without Borders was nominated for a JUNO and a Canadian Folk Music Award, the latest release Migration is nominated for a 2025 Canadian Folk Music Award. Okavango looks ahead on our continuing journey to an Africa Without Borders.

Project Description

Our repertoire includes a variety of music genres, acoustic songs, traditional music and contemporary styles. Mandingo griot traditions, highlife, katwe, chimurenga, guayla, asiko, mbalax, folk, ballads and dance music. We select our set lists for each performance depending on the audience and venue. Our shows attract an all-ages diverse audience that are enthusiastic about global music rooted in tradition and presented in a contemporary form. Our group has done many workshops in African instruments (kora, krar, djembe, guitar, mbira, songs, percussion, dance, etc.) and our concerts engage our audiences in singing, dance and movement.



Name: Diane Flacks

Touring Show: Guilt (A Love Story)

Artist/Company: Tarragon Theatre

DIANE FLACKS (creator/performer) is an icon of Canadian comedy, theatre, and television, with a multi-decade career spanning genres and media. Guilt (A Love Story) is her fifth full-length theatrical solo show; her four previous - 'Myth Me,' 'By A Thread,' 'Random Acts,' and 'Bear With Me' - have been critically acclaimed, toured extensively across the continent, and remounted internationally.

Socials

Instagram:

[@tarragontheatre](https://www.instagram.com/tarragontheatre)

Facebook:

[Tarragon Theatre](https://www.facebook.com/tarragontheatre)

Visit website

Representation

Name: Justin Miller - Tarragon Theatre
Artistic Producer

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TARRAGON THEATRE is a renowned national hub for playwriting and new work creation. As the home of the Canadian playwright since 1970, Tarragon Theatre has been at the centre of some of the most significant Canadian works of the last half-century, premiering plays by Hannah Moscovitch, Morris Panych, Anosh Irani, Kristen Thomson, Guillermo Verdecchia, Kat Sandler, and countless more.

Project Description

Guilt (A Love Story) is a deep dive into that complex, uncomfortable, and highly human feeling: a state of being that plagues most of us (especially parents). Focussing on writer and performer Diane Flack's personal odyssey, 'Guilt' is the story of a self-sacrificing Jewish mother who becomes the instigator of her own family's dissolution.

But where does guilt come from, anyway?

Investigating guilt's origins and power, its startling cameos in everyday family grievances and large-scale cultural causalities, Diane grabs her audiences by the collar and refuses to let go.

But don't worry, you'll be laughing as she does, because how else do we get through anything?



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Socials

Instagram:

[@kahawidance](https://www.instagram.com/kahawidance)

Facebook:

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[@KahawiDance](https://twitter.com/KahawiDance)

Visit website

Representation

Name: Kimberley Feltham - Dance
Umbrella of Ontario

Contact: producer@danceumbrella.net

Name: Santee Smith

Touring Show: SKÉN:NEN

Artist/Company: Kaha:wi Dance Theatre

Kaha:wi Dance Theatre (KDT), founded in 2005 by award winning Artistic Director Santee Smith, is a vibrant Rotinonhsión:ni company rooted in Six Nations of the Grand River and Toronto, ON. “Kaha:wi,” meaning “to carry” in Kanyen’kéha (Mohawk), embodies its mission to bring Indigenous stories to life through bold, multidisciplinary performances. Blending ancestral knowledge with cutting-edge artistry, KDT creates powerful works that ignite imagination and spark dialogue. Led by Smith’s visionary creativity, the company tours nationally and internationally, forging connections, inspiring audiences, and celebrating Indigenous voices through transformative storytelling and collaboration. KDT is where tradition meets innovation in unforgettable ways.

Project Description

SKÉN:NEN (Sgah:nah) is an immersive performance weaving embodied storytelling, a captivating score, and cutting-edge projection design to envision a post-environmental catastrophic world. Set in 2050, four climate survivors navigate a fractured Earth, striving to restore balance within themselves and the natural world. SKÉN:NEN means peace and balance, embodying the Rotinonhsión:ni tenet of harmony with nature. Against rising virus-filled waters and toxic air, a young girl named “Niyoh” journeys from Ohswé:ken (Six Nations) to the Ratirontaks (Adirondacks), meeting fellow survivors—a feral child, a quantum engineer, and an otherworldly guide. SKÉN:NEN’s powerful vision urges for forward thinking care the of planet.



Name: Orchid Ensemble & Oktoecho

Touring Show: “Katajjaq meets Khoomei”, the meeting of Inuit & Mongolian throat singing

Artist/Company: Orchid Ensemble & Oktoecho

Oktoécho guides the listener into a sonic world brimming with lyricism woven with Middle Eastern, Aboriginal and Western music. In this project, co-artistic directors composer Katia Makdissi-Warren and throat singer Lydia Etok are joined by Michel Dubeau (multi-instrumentalist), Caroline Novalinga (katajjaq), Bertil Schulrabe (percussions), and Didem Basar (kanun).

Orchid Ensemble transforms its Taiwanese roots and blends influences from Chinese, Indian, Jewish, and Central Asian music, with spirited improvisation, to create unique repertoires. With composer Lan Tung (erhu/Chinese violin & vocals), Dailin Hsieh (zheng/Chinese zither), and Jonathan Bernard (percussion), the ensemble has won two International Independent Music Awards and received numerous nominations for JUNO, Western Canadian Music Awards, Canadian Independent Music Awards, and Canadian Folk Music Awards.

Project Description

Vancouver’s JUNO nominated Orchid Ensembles and Montreal’s multifaceted Oktoecho come together to present “Katajjaq meets Khoomei”, a unique blend of Inuit and Mongolian throat singing, fused with the sounds of Taiwanese, Chinese, Japanese, European, and Arabic music. Both highly experienced in cross-cultural collaboration, Orchid’s roots in Asian music and Oktoecho’s expertise in Middle Eastern and First Nation’s music compliment each other. Their union assembles an instrumentation never before put together: Oktoecho - shakuhachi, clarinet, duduk, oud, Inuit throat singing, kanas, and percussion; Orchid Ensemble - erhu & zheng (Chinese), vocals, and percussion, plus guest artist Anand Avirmed on Mongolian throat singing and horsehead fiddle.

Contact

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Socials

X (Formerly known as Twitter):

[@OrchidEnsemble](https://twitter.com/OrchidEnsemble)

Facebook:

[Orchid Ensemble](https://www.facebook.com/OrchidEnsemble)

YouTube:

[@TheOrchidEnsemble](https://www.youtube.com/@TheOrchidEnsemble)

Visit website

Representation

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Name: Katia Makdissi-Warren (Oktoecho)

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Contact

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Socials

Instagram:

[@newworldtheatre](#)

Facebook:

[Newworld Theatre](#)

X (Formerly Known as Twitter):

[@NewworldTheatre](#)

[Visit website](#)

Name: Chelsea Haberlin

Touring Show: Fat Joke

Artist/Company: Newworld Theatre

Established in 1994, Newworld Theatre creates, produces, and tours new plays, performance events and digital works. Our work centers stories and perspectives that challenge systems of oppression. Our motto is 'plays well with others' which means that collaboration and working across perceptions of difference are vital to the way we work. We deliver community-engaged programs and are at the forefront of developing cultural infrastructure and sectoral capacity in Vancouver and across the country.

Project Description

A fusion of stand-up comedy, storytelling, and unapologetic fact-blasting, Fat Joke thrusts fatphobia into the spotlight. Cheyenne Rouleau surgically dissects this seldom-discussed subject with a razor-sharp wit that leaves the audience confronting their assumptions.

Brace yourself for a social commentary that challenges conventions, sparks crucial conversations, and keeps you laughing in the process.



Name: Janie & Marcio

Touring Show: Sans toi [T]

Artist/Company: Janie & Marcio

Janie and Marcio are professional dancers and choreographers with years of experience, having worked internationally with renowned artists. Their victory on the TV show Révolution made them prominent figures in Quebec's dance scene. In 2021, they launched Syntonie, a highly praised work that toured 42 cities, winning several awards, including Best Tour at the Rideau Awards in 2023 and the Arts of the Stage Award at the Grand Prix de la culture Desjardins de Lanaudière. The project also involved 800 young dancers. Their second show, Sans toi [T], premiered in May 2024 and is currently on tour with 28 dates scheduled through 2026.

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Socials

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Facebook:

[Janie et Marcio](#)

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[@janieetmarcio1740](#)

Visit website

Representation

Name: David Lavergne

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Project Description

Sans toi [T] is a contemporary dance performance created and choreographed by Janie & Marcio, winners of season 2 of the popular TV competition Révolution. This new work draws inspiration from gatherings around the table, where people from different backgrounds share their stories. It explores how memories shape our identities and influence our world perspective. The title in French refers to absence and the symbolism of shelter and unity. Through an innovative blend of dance, video projections, and dynamic lighting and music, Sans toi [T] invites the audience to reflect on their personal experiences and challenge their deepest values. Featuring eight renowned dancers and collaborations with local dance schools, this multisensory performance pushes the boundaries of traditional dance.



Name - Touring Show - Artist/Company: Jaffa Road

Jaffa Road is a 2X Juno nominee and winner of a Canadian Folk Music Award. Their compelling intercultural sound creates a unique sonic journey that is ancient and modern, acoustic and electronic, sacred and secular. Their inventive fusion blends inspirations from the worlds of Jewish, Arabic & Indian musics, along with jazz, electronica, & rock. They are currently working on their 4th album, their most recent release UNTIL WHEN, won Recording Artist of the year at the Ontario Folk Music Awards.

Project Description

JAFFA ROAD will be soon be releasing their 4th album. They are touring concerts with their exciting new material which includes collaborations with Drew Gonsavles of KOBO TOWN, and Ahmed Monika. In addition to their new material the concert also features their best material from their previous albums which have been recognized with numerous industry awards and accolades. Their inventive fusion blends inspirations from the worlds of Jewish, Arabic & Indian musics, along with jazz, electronica, & rock.

Contact

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Socials

Instagram:
[@jaffaroad](#)

Facebook:
[Jaffa Road](#)

[Visit website](#)



Name: Jessie Garon

Touring Show: everything i wanted to tell you (but couldn't, so here it is now)

Artist/Company: Vazari Arts Company

Jessie Garon (she/they) is a queer performer and choreographer working in contemporary dance theatre. She is a graduate of Dance Arts Institute after which she interned for Ate9 Dance Company (Los Angeles) under Artistic Director Danielle Agami.

Since 2014, she has participated primarily in collaborative processes blending performative forms. Her work incites the potential of dance virtuosity, rigor and spectacle as materials to craft spirited, athletic and abstract dance theatre. Garon is a co-founder and Artistic Director of Vazari Arts. As a creator she is nominated for the 2024 Johanna Metcalf Performing Arts Prizes.

Contact

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Socials

Instagram:

[@jessiegaron](#)

[@vazariartsco](#)

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[Vazari Arts Company](#)

[Visit website](#)

Project Description

'everything I wanted to tell you (but couldn't, so here it is now)' is a 60 minute duet created in collaboration with Dora award winning dancers Jarrett Siddall and Sully Malaeb Proulx. Two dancers are locked in a liminal space of shared memories, imagined incidents, and the difficult things left unsaid. Together they set off on an athletic journey traversing the tangible and illogical as they learn to navigate change without letting go. It is an adventurous, unflinching look at the ties that bind and by extension love, loyalty and the difficult things we hope never to escape.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all artists, participants, attendees, contributors and supporters who made this event possible.

For inquiries about future pitch sessions, please contact CAPACOA:

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