

A DanceWorks CoWorks Series Event  
A Peterborough New Dance co-presentation

MEAGAN O'SHEA'S

meet me  
at



# Meet Me At 8

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## PROGRAMME

*Meet Me At 8 is the culmination of a year of creating solos based around a constant situation. Throughout the evening you will have the pleasure of witnessing the trials of six different characters, all of them alone in the bar, unaware of each others' solitude. Some of the characters you may recognize. Let me introduce you to them.*

*There is a woman who is terribly uncomfortable in a bar, she drinks only at dinner or in restaurants, but never alone, never alone in a bar. She is working on her PhD, teaches at the university, waiting to meet her advisor, an older man who she fantasizes about having heated intellectual debates and torrid sexual encounters.*

*A man is waiting to meet a blind date, he is eager to be the ideal mate, but also, the date is late. As time goes by he grows more and more concerned with how conspicuous he is, the man who has been stood up.*

*A young woman, newly single returns to the place of her first meeting with the now ex. In search of her own sensuality, she takes her first few steps alone again.*

*Raymond, an accountant who collects miniatures and brews his own beer. He is comfortable being alone in a bar, enjoys the beer and the atmosphere.*

*A woman who has so carefully organized her life and classified everyone else's, she has managed only to trap herself in her own box.*

*Every bar has a flower lady. She watches, witnessing the intimacies of others, never having any of her own.*

Welcome to Meet Me At 8. I hope you enjoy the show.\*

Meagan O'Shea, September 2000

publicist: Majero Bouman  
photos: Jackson Huang  
design: Araina Gillis

concept and choreography: Meagan O'Shea

dancers:  
Dara da Costa, Alisa Michelle, Jean Neveu,  
Caroline Niklas-Gordon, Kate Story, Andrew Morphew

music compiled from:  
The Rightous Brothers, Otis Redding, Jacqueline du Pre, Brahms, Bach, Meshell  
Ndegeocello, Madredeus, Chris de Burgh, H Stohart, H Ruby, B Kalmar,  
The Five Satins, Gabriel Yared

music mixing: David Krain

### Acknowledgements

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## ARTISTS' BIOGRAPHIES

**Dara da Costa** (dancer) graduated from the Professional Performance Training Program in Modern Dance at The School of Dance in collaboration with Le Groupe Dance Lab in 1998. She has performed in The Canada Dance Festival in Allen Kaeja's Fiftyne; in Toronto's fringe Festival of Independent Dance Artists in Soul Survivors with Screaming Kettle Dance Productions, as well as in productions at the National Arts Centre, the National Gallery, and the Museum of Civilization. Both as a student and professionally, Dara has had the opportunity to work with such choreographers as Julia Aplin, Susie Burpee, Yvonne Coufts, Sylvie Desrosiers, Angela Jackson, Meagan O'Shea, Harold Rheume and Tedd Senmon Robinson.

**Alisa Michelle** (dancer) is a twenty-five year old scholarship graduate of the School of Toronto Dance Theatre. She has had the pleasure of performing in ffIDA, Dances for a Small Stage, and in Bill Coleman's Freak Show. Alisa has presented her own work at Silicone Solutions and Filter, and is continuing to focus on collaborations with artists working in other mediums.

**Andrew Morphew** (dancer) is happy to be performing in his first professional dance production. An Ottawa based actor, his primary training is in physical theatre, particularly clowning. He graduated from the Dell'Arte School of Physical Theatre in Blue Lake, California. Since then Andrew has worked with Ottawa companies such as Odyssey Theatre, Company of Fools, Theatre Chicks and Counternotes Theatre Group.

**Jean Neveu** (dancer) attended Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in the Dance and Theatre programme studying ballet, modern and jazz, performing in choreographies by Danny Grossman and Timothy Spain. Returning to Ottawa Jean has continued his training with Peter Boneham at Le Groupe Dance Lab. Jean has performed in pieces choreographed by Yvonne Coufts, I Love To Forget (1998); Anik Bouvrette, Hovering Over Me in Canada Dance Festival 1998; his own work, Craintif (1998) at Momentum and Raisonnance for Dance Advance 1999, and Canada Dance Festival 2000.

**Caroline Niklas - Gordon** (dancer) was born in Kutna Hora, Czechoslovakia, but grew up dancing in St. John's, Newfoundland where she trained with her mother Nicole Nogaret, former Prima ballerina with numerous European companies. Her summer months were spent training at Briansky Dance Center, Simon Fraser University, Toronto Dance Theatre, The School of Dance in Ottawa, Quinte Ballet on Belleville. At eighteen Caroline embarked on her professional career as an apprentice with The National Ballet of Prague. In 1992, she returned to St. John's where she began teaching, choreographing and working alongside local artists such as Anne Troake, Louise Moyes, Alison Carter, Tristan Rehner, Jennifer Lynn Dick and Sarah Stoker. Caroline now resides in Toronto where she has joined the ranks of the independent dance community.

**Meagan O'Shea** (choreographer) is an independent dance artist, who often combines physical language and prosaic text to create a kinetic performance art fusion of non-linear narratives. In 1998 she was invited to Edinburgh to develop a solo, ...this is The Way which has since been presented at ffIDA 1999, Calculated Risks, with Kate Alton's Overall Dance in Ottawa as part of Dancing Across Ontario, and as a group piece with InMotion Dance Company at the Winchester Street Theatre, 2000. This spring her trio, 3 of a Feather will be performed at the Guelph Contemporary Dance Festival by the youth company YMI Dancing Inc.

**Kate Story** (dancer) is a Peterborough-based performer and writer. She has created several dance/theatre pieces on her own body, most recently Crazy...Crazy Like a Fish which performed in Peterborough's Emergency festival of new dance, and went on to success at the St. John's Fringe Festival; and Swallowed, which received critical acclaim in St. John's and at the 1998 fringe Festival of Independent Dance Artists in Toronto. She has choreographed for and performed as a dance/theatre artist for several theatre companies, among them: 4th Line Theatre at Riverbanks Productions, Nightwood Theatre, DNA Theatre, and Caravan Stage Company.

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