

Peterborough New Dance and Sarah Chase Dance Stories present

PORTRAITS



February 6 & 7, 2004
Market Hall Theatre
Peterborough Ontario

PORTRAITS

choreographer & dancer
composer & musician
lighting design
scenography

Sarah Chase
Bill Brennan
Hans Meijer
Tine Van Aarschott

Sarah Chase has spent many years telling people stories, she uses the medium of dance woven together with spoken word and music. In telling her own stories she noticed that certain patterns repeated themselves, time seemed to spiral and circle. She decided to look inside of the lives of ten different strangers in different cities in Europe, to create portraits of these people using dance and stories, and to see what kind of synchronicities and patterns she would find in lives other than her own. Tonight she will perform three of these portraits, you will be introduced to the true life stories of Gust and Marc from Belgium and Renate from Cologne.

Each of these people were randomly selected and Sarah was told no information about them before hand. In each case the day before she first met the stranger she spent an entire afternoon in their home looking at all the objects, photographs, paintings, music and books etc that were in their apartment. She began to understand the person through the clues she found in

their home, absorbing the essence of the person and gathering questions to ask them. For the three days following she interviewed the person about their life stories. At the end of each day she spent several hours dancing in a studio allowing her body to respond to the stories she had heard during the day. Musician and composer, Bill Brennan also interviewed each person, learning about the music that they associate with their memories. He plays fragments of these pieces of music as he weaves the sound score for the piece.

In tonight's performance Sarah and Bill will reveal the details of these three people's lives that have burnt their way into their minds and hearts . The scenography has been made by visual artist Tine Van Aarschott who used photos taken in the interior of the apartments. In researching the lives of these people they have discovered that we are all in the centre of our own extraordinary stories and that sometimes it takes an outsider to reveal this to us.

For Sarah Chase Dance Stories

Administration provided by Dance Umbrella of Ontario:

Christine Moynihan, Administrator - Sue Edworthy, Tour Marketing Coordinator

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the Ontario Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts International Co-Production, the Toronto Arts Council, Laidlaw Foundation, Kaai Theater (Brussels) and the National Arts Centre (Ottawa).

Sarah Chase

Toronto-based dancer-choreographer Sarah Chase creates works where dance, music, and the spoken word are indissolubly linked. Her work, presented across Europe and Canada, has achieved international acclaim. As an interpreter, she has worked with choreographers Benôit Lachambre, Alexander Baervoets and most recently, Raimund Hoghe. Her own choreography *muzz*, *Lamont Earth Observatory* and *a small room*, has been presented at many international festivals including the Klapstuk festival, Dans in Kortrijk, the Szene Salzburg festival, the FIND (Festivale internationale du nouvelle danse) and the Holland Dance festival. In April 2001 she presented her one-on-one storytelling piece *a small room* in the attic of the Kaaitheater studios. She has worked with numerous Canadian choreographers, including Peggy Baker, Claudia Moore, Michelle Silagy, Bill James, and with the dance companies Danse Partout in Québec City and Karen Jamieson in Vancouver. In January 2000, she performed in Volcano Theatre's award winning production, *Building Jerusalem*.

Ms. Chase has trained with Peggy Baker, Pat Miner and the Teacher's Collective (Toronto), Joan Skinner, Stephanie Skura, Irene Dowd, Samuel Wuersten, Christine Wright and at the Cunningham School (New York, USA) and the School of the Toronto Dance Theatre.

Bill Brennan

Bill Brennan is a percussionist / pianist / composer, born and raised in St. John's, Newfoundland. He has performed with The National Ballet Orchestra, Hemispheres, Nexus, and was acting principal percussionist for the Canadian Opera Company's 1993-94 season. He has backed up Cab Calloway, Eartha Kitt and Dizzy Gillespie, is a founding member of the Batterie Park percussion group, and has performed with the Evergreen Club Gamelan since 1984. Bill has performed in Belgium, Japan, Holland, Norway, the USA, England, Scotland and across Canada. As a pianist he co-leads the band Chesterfield Inlet. He performs with the group Vuja De, John Millard's Wasteland, Continuum and the traditional Irish music group of Loretto Reid and Brian Taheny. Recently, Bill has been musical director for CBC's Vinyl Café with Stuart MacLean.

Bill's compositions include *Alegria*, premiered at the 1996 Sound Symposium; a work for Attaca, premiered at the 2000 Sound Symposium; and *Pradalah* for Hemispheres Music Projects. His arrangements for percussion include the music of Egberto Gismonti and Marco Antonio Guimares. His co-written work *Alma Chillin* has been released on the NAXOS label. He has also composed music for dancer Sarah Chase, including *Lamont Earth Observatory* and *muzz*, premiered at the Holland Dance Festival.

Sarah Chase Dance Stories touring engagements are made possible with the support of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada / avec l'appui du ministère des Affaires étrangères et du commerce international du Canada

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REEL DANCE ON THE ROAD

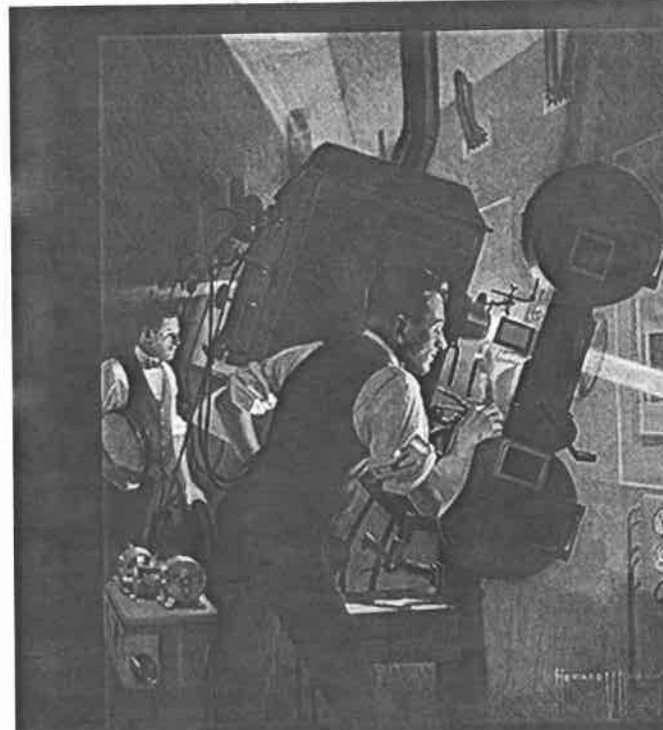
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Feb. 20

time tba

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#11 Theatre: ICARIA

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May, 2004, 8 PM

Location TBA for this work by Bill
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PERFORMANCE ART WORKSHOP

LED BY DARINKA BLAJAG

Saturday, February 21 11am-1pm

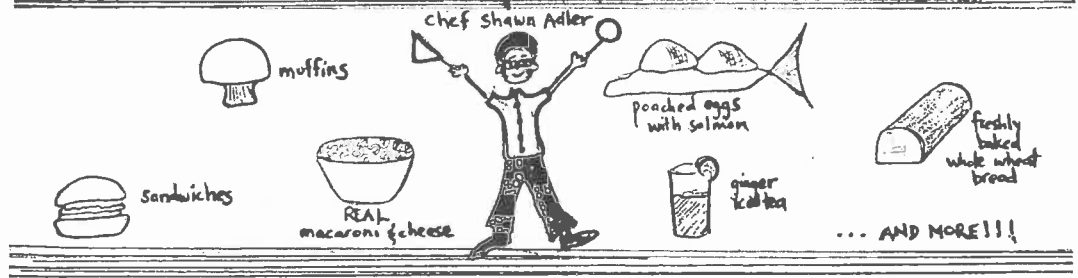
379 George Street North

Call to register: 745-1788

Darinka Blagaj has been involved in
Performance Art for 13 years in both
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upcoming #12 Emergency festival.

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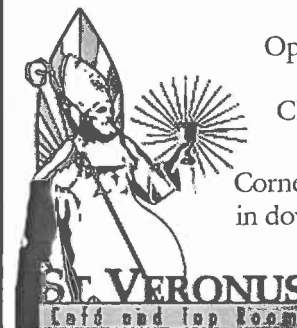
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PETERBOROUGH NEW DANCE is an animator of contemporary dance and, under the banner PUBLIC ENERGY, related forms encompassing theatre, new music and interdisciplinary work. Since 1994 we have presented a mainstage series of dance companies and independent choreographers drawn from across Canada, commissioned new work in concert with other Canadian presenters on the CanDance Network, and supported the development of the local dance, theatre and performance community by presenting area artists and arranging specialized classes and workshops.

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anonymous (2)

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