

Public Energy

PERFORMING ARTS

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Your donation helps us keep ticket prices accessible and our programming electrifying. It's easy to do online: Monthly tax-deductible donations can be made at canadahelps.org.

CONTACT

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Photo credit to (clockwise from top L) Chris Randle, Rose Bennett, Chris Randle



Olivia C. Davies, Sophie Dow,
Samantha Sutherland

ZAAGI'IDIWIN: OUR MOTHERING HEART

November 3-4, 2023
Nozhem First Peoples
Performance Space
Nogojiwanong, Ontario

ZAAGI'IDIWIN: OUR MOTHERING HEART

Co-presented by Nozhem First Peoples Performance Space,
O.Dela Arts & Public Energy Performing Arts

OLIVIA C. DAVIES, SOPHIE DOW, SAMANTHA SUTHERLAND

Zaagi'idiwin: Our Mothering Heart weaves three womxn's stories of love and loss, reflecting on the Mothers who carry us, the Mothers who raise us, and the Mother land and Mother tongue that nourish us and fill our hearts full of hope. Revealing matriarchal legacies coursing through blood memory and the living body. Seeds of connection travelling along the flow of time. Remembering the words and the entities they represent with each breath. Movements of the heart mark the passing of moments strung together in a spider's web of shared experiences. Note: **Zaagi'diwin** is **Love** in Anishinaabemowin.

Journals of adoption

Premiered August 2023 at the dance: made in canada festival (Toronto)

Performance & Choreography: Sophie Dow

Sound Design: Sophie Dow

Text: Sophie Dow & Caroline C.

Piano: Chris Zabriskie, Asher Fulero, Emmitt Fenn

Costume & Set Design: Sophie Dow

Lighting Design: originally by Andie Lloyd – adapted for touring

Stage Manager: originally by Kayleigh Sandorimsky – adapted for touring

Mentors: Olivia C Davies

Special thanks to Caroline, Marielle, Ed, O.Dela Arts/Matriarchs Uprising & all of my ancestors

slip away

Premiered February 2023 at the Matriarchs Uprising festival (Vancouver)

Composition: Jeffrey Sutherland

Voice in Audio: Sophie Pierre and Samantha Sutherland

Costume: Cindy Sutherland

Set Design: Samantha Sutherland and Olivia C. Davies

Outside Eye: Olivia C. Davies

Rematriate XX23

Choreography: Olivia C. Davies

Interpreter: Samantha Sutherland

Music: Paddy Free

Costume and Set Design: Olivia C. Davies

Visual Design & Projection Mapping: Elysha Poirier

Outside Eyes: Michelle Olson, Jo Leslie

Run Time: 50 minutes, no intermission

Please join us for a talkback with the artists immediately following the show

NEXT FROM PUBLIC ENERGY PERFORMING ARTS:



BUBIE'S TAPES

Jon Hedderwick (Peterborough/Nogojiwanong)

The Theatre on King, 171 King Street, Peterborough

January 17 – 20, 2024 @ 8:00 PM

January 21, 2024 @ 2:00 PM

While preparing a pot of matzo ball soup for his daughter, Jon Hedderwick recounts personal and family experiences from the Russian Revolution, through the Holocaust and beyond, as told by his Bubie Sarah in cassette tape recordings she left behind. Through these stories, Bubie's Tapes reveals much about the history and ongoing impacts of antisemitism in Canada and around the world. All shows in the run of Bubie's Tapes will be presented as relaxed performances. ASL interpretation will be available on a date tba. Watch the PE website for details.



VÁSTÁDUS EANA (THE ANSWER IS LAND)

Elle Sofe Sara (Guovdageaidnu, aka Kautokeino, Norway)

Market Hall Performing Arts Centre, 140 Charlotte Street, Peterborough
March 3, 2024 @ 2:00pm

Seven black-clad women, fists raised, brandish megaphones above their heads, chanting and dancing outside the Market Hall. From there, they lead the audience into the theatre for Vástádus eana: a galvanizing concert of polyphonic chants and movements that celebrates the alliances between all living creatures and the land, between nature and the community. Their powerful voices are rooted in joik, the captivating Sámi music sung while travelling across the land.

ABOUT PUBLIC ENERGY PERFORMING ARTS:

Public Energy Performing Arts is Peterborough's animator of dance, theatre, performance and interdisciplinary work. Since 1994 we have presented a mainstage series of artists drawn from across Canada and beyond, commissioned new work in concert with other Canadian presenters, supported the development of the local dance, theatre and performance community and nurtured audiences that are knowledgeable and passionate about the performing arts.

Public Energy works in Treaty 20 territory situated in the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations. We honour that we are in Nogojiwanong, the Anishinaabe word for "place at the end of the rapids", a gathering place where stories have been shared for millennia. We acknowledge the Indigenous people for their stewardship of these lands and we recognize our responsibility to foster respectful relationships with the water, the land, and its people. Public Energy recognizes that treaties did more harm than good, criminalizing cultural practices and displacing Indigenous people from their territories. We commit to doing all we can to repair this legacy by providing a platform for the voices and artistry of Indigenous artists to be heard and respected.

PUBLIC ENERGY PERFORMING ARTS SUPPORTERS:



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for the Arts

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peterborough
outside the ordinary

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ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES:

Olivia C. Davies is a contemporary Indigenous artist who creates and collaborates across multiple platforms including choreography, creative writing, film, improvisation, and sound design. Davies' body of work explores the emotional and political relationships between people and places, often investigating the body's dynamic ability to transmit narrative, seeking to traverse boundaries and challenge social prejudice by conveying concepts and impressions that open different ways to experience the world. Her work has been presented in B.C., Alberta, Ontario and Quebec since 2011. She is the Artistic Director of O.Dela Arts, the Matriarchs Uprising Festival, and is a founding member of the Crow's Nest Collective (Vancouver), MataDanze Collective (Toronto) and Circadia Indigena Arts Collective (Ottawa). She honours her mixed Anishinaabe, French Canadian, Finnish and Welsh heritage in her work.

Treaty 1-born **Sophie Dow** is a multidisciplinary creative, inspired by dance, music, film, collaboration and Michif/Assiniboine + French/Ukrainian roots. An avid adventurer, Sophie exudes passions for busking, yoga and traveling on top of holding a degree in Dance Performance and Choreography from York University. Sophie presently fulfills roles as: artistic associate of O.Dela Arts, Chimera Dance Theatre & V'ni Dansi/Louis Riel Métis Dancers, residency coordinator at Dance West Network, musician with The Honeycomb Flyers, a licensed practitioner of Traditional Thai Massage, a trained facilitator & student of BreathWave, a freelance dancer/choreographer/sound designer and a puddle jumping trickster.

Samantha Sutherland is a contemporary dance artist, choreographer, and teacher based in Tkarronto. Her ancestry is Ktunaxa and Scottish/British Settler. She grew up on Coast Salish Territories and graduated from the Arts Umbrella Dance Diploma Program in 2018. Samantha has presented her own solo works in the Matriarchs Uprising Festival by O.Dela Arts, Sharing the Stage with the National Ballet of Canada, Weesageechak Begins to Dance, Dance Made in Canada, at the National Arts Centre, and many more. She has worked as a dance artist in creations by Indigenous choreographers Jera Wolfe, and Alejandro Ronceria. She is currently an Artistic Associate with O.Dela Arts.

ABOUT O.DELA ARTS:

O.Dela Arts creates and performs contemporary Indigenous performance and community arts experiences through dance, theatre, festival curation and storytelling. Founding Artistic Director, Olivia C. Davies, along with Artistic Associates Sophie Dow and Samantha Sutherland are grateful for the opportunity to share our dances with the Nozhem community.

O.DELA ARTS SUPPORTERS:



ABOUT NOZHEM FIRST PEOPLES PERFORMANCE SPACE

NOZHEM is the Ojibwe word, which denotes the female bear. We’ve chosen this animal to represent our space because she embodies the characteristics of transformation, balance and knowledge, which are essential components of Indigenous way of knowing.

NOZHEM is very close to the earth, and therefore she knows the plants and their medicine properties. She’s the one animal that fasts all winter, thus in that way, she undergoes a transformation. She gives birth and in doing so, in bringing forth new life, she achieves a sense of balance. She’s very protective of her young and in this way, very similar to the human being. Because of her knowledge of medicine plants her physical and spiritual strength and her resilience, she is respected as a healing spirit in our community.

In theatre there is transformation which takes place as actors take on specific roles, but there is another transformation which occurs within the individual actor as they find their own healing through their personal creative expression. There is also healing for the audience as they empathize greater awareness of the human condition and the situations of others in society. Thus it is fitting for our Indigenous performance space to honour that spirit of the bear with her name NOZHEM.

- Edna Manitowabi

NOZHEM SUPPORTERS:



NEXT FROM NOZHEM FIRST PEOPLES PERFORMANCE SPACE:

DANCES FROM TURTLE ISLAND: A'NO:WARA DANCE THEATRE



Acclaimed dancer and choreographer Barbara Keneratoni Diabo with a mix program of past highlights and selections from her new piece, “I Dream in Wampum.”

Friday Jan. 26 & Saturday Jan. 27, 7 pm.

Reserve tickets here:



NOZHEM FIRST PEOPLES PERFORMANCE SPACE

2023-2024 Season

October
Indigenous
Poet Evening

November
3&4
O'Dela Arts

January 26 & 27
Barb Diabo

February 9-11
Elders and
Traditional
Peoples
Gathering

March 31
Anishinaabemowin
n Giizhigad

February
Feed the
Bear
Ceremony

March 8 & 9
Izzie M

March 22 & 23
Women's
Symposium

