

Winnipeg Cultural Capital of Canada 2010 &
Natasha Torres-Garner
Winnipeg's Arts Ambassador (Dance)
present:

Transient Exposition

Monday, December 13 - Friday, December 17, 12pm - 1pm
Performance starts in the circular underground walkway at Portage and Main connected to Winnipeg Square, and ends at the walkway above the Millennium Library

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Transient Exposition

As part of Winnipeg's designation as the Cultural Capital of Canada 2010, five artists have been chosen to serve as Winnipeg's Arts Ambassadors. These artists have been advocating for their art forms within the city and beyond, raising the status of their disciplines in the everyday consciousness of the public. As part of their appointment, each artist was also asked to create a legacy project to mark the occasion.



Transient Exposition is a duet performance featuring Natasha Torres-Garner and Ali Robson, with percussionist David Schneider, taking place in downtown's Winnipeg Square and Skywalks. The area is a pedestrian thoroughfare primarily used by those employed downtown. The space is filled with people during weekday lunch hours, but comes to a silent, sudden halt in the evenings and weekends. Even at times when the population is high, the level of creativity and interaction is minimal. Those who are there are using it for the hiding spot it provides from our harsh winters, and/or a short cut in their daily travel. Eye contact, interaction, reflection and expression is hard to come by around these parts. In *Transient Exposition*, Torres-Garner aims to defy these accepted conditions, and for a brief moment light a spark for those passing by. This performance travels, and we will be making our way to the hallway leading to the Millennium Library, where the Carol Shield's auditorium is located.

Natasha Torres-Garner

As an accomplished Winnipeg dance performer, Natasha Torres-Garner worked with Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers as a company dancer for six years and has performed in a number of projects as an independent dancer. Her independent experience has given her the opportunity to work with Montreal's Fortier Danse Création, Bill Coleman (Toronto), in repertoire by the late Jean-Pierre Perreault (Montreal), as well as with Winnipeg's TRIP Dance Company.

Torres-Garner is also a founding member and the Organization Director of Young Lungs Dance Exchange, a Winnipeg-based community organization offering performance and choreographic opportunity to emerging dance artists. As the Organization Director, she is responsible, with the assistance of the board of directors, for the planning and dissemination of each season based on the needs and desires of the membership.

As a choreographer she has presented half and full-length works locally and internationally. In 2007 she created *Spay*, which was performed at Winnipeg's Rachel Browne Theatre and Regina's New Dance Horizons. In 2008 Natasha created a full evening work in collaboration with shotAG of Dresden, Germany. The winter of 2009 allowed her the opportunity to work on her first half-length solo performance, *Real*, which was performed at Winnipeg's cre8ery in April, 2009. In the fall of 2009 she created a new half length work entitled *a way in*, performed by The Toronto Dance Theatre at Toronto's Winchester Theatre. Throughout Torres-Garner's career she has received mentorship from senior choreographers Rachel Browne, Davida Monk, Serge Bennetan, Karen Kuzak, and Tom Stroud.

Ali Robson

Ali Robson is a contemporary dance artist from Winnipeg. Since 2004 she has been studying and performing contact improvisation in Vancouver with EDAM under the direction of Peter Bingham. In Winnipeg, she has worked with TRIP Dance Company performing in *Herding Instinct* and the art of displacement. Recently, she performed in *The Rite*, a dance theatre collaboration directed by Tom Stroud, Chris Pinker, Natasha Torres-Garner and Ian Mozdzen. Her own choreographic work has been presented by Young Lungs Dance Exchange and performed in the Winnipeg Fringe Festival. She teaches creative movement for children, contact improvisation classes and is a graduate of the School of Contemporary Dancers Professional Program in affiliation with the University of Winnipeg.

About the Winnipeg Arts Ambassadors

Chosen by a jury of their peers, all five Arts Ambassadors will be engaged with the community and completing a legacy project.

Debbie Patterson – Theatre Arts Ambassador

Debbie is creating a theatre piece based on interviews she is conducting with people who live or work, or have ever lived or worked near the intersection of Sargent and Victor Streets in Winnipeg. Look for a reading in January.

Dominique Rey – Visual Arts Ambassador

Dominique's project, *Speed Bump – A Slow-City and Slow-Life* examines how the notion of slowness has become a worldwide phenomenon that is transforming cities everywhere, from food production to food consumption, to health, sex, work, leisure, education, transportation, childrearing, urban planning, and the environment. Look for "messages" throughout the city aiming give back to the present moment its' true worth, allowing for a more reflective way of being.

John K. Samson – Music Ambassador

John K. Samson presented his legacy project in the form of a performance with The Correction Line Ensemble at the First Lutheran Church, 580 Victor Street, on November 24th. The Correction Line Ensemble is a newly formed chamber ensemble involving six musicians from diverse backgrounds, weaving together an engaging and seamless conversation between classical and modern music.

Michael Van Rooy – Literary Arts Ambassador

As his legacy project, Michael Van Rooy is seeking to find people who self-identify as non-readers, and engage them in reading books by Manitoba authors. By providing the books for free, requesting reviews and comments, and creating a Facebook page to host the project, Van Rooy is bringing people and books together using accessible social media.

For more information or high resolution pictures, please visit www.artsforall.ca



All photos by Leif Norman