



For Immediate Release
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Quick link:
www.witsinmotion.ca

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Victoria, British Columbia: Suddenly Dance Theatre Society is pleased to announce the INTERNET-BASED RELEASE of a new, original Canadian dance-film and education resource:

Suddenly Dance Theatre has created a new toolkit for building healthy relationships through social emotional learning and conflict resolution in collaboration with the WITS Programs, the University of Victoria, Suddenly Media Productions, and six young performers.

This online education initiative features a non-verbal dance-film - now available for streaming to parents, caregivers and educators everywhere at www.witsinmotion.ca. The film promotes positive relationships, peaceful resolution of peer conflict and social emotional learning skills using the established WITS Programs strategies - Walk Away, Ignore, Talk it out and Seek Help. There are no words in the film so it speaks to everyone!

See the Trailer, download hi-rez images, and explore our Press Kit : www.witsinmotion.ca

To create the work, the youth collaborated with a team of filmmakers (*co-Directors David Ferguson and Miles Lowry, choreographer Lynda Raino, DOP Daniel Carruthers, Director of Research Dr. Bonnie Leadbeater*) to inspire scenarios expressing their own experiences, feelings and observations. The film incorporates music, dance and physical theatre to engage youth audiences, and is a powerful tool for those with speech and hearing disabilities, second language students and those experiencing social and emotional problems.

The WITS IN MOTION toolkit also includes an exclusive Facilitator's Guide, which offers questions, creative activities and discussion points that form the springboard for conversation, reconciliation and deeper learning. The Guide also includes a series of images FACES TELL STORIES that can be used in emotion recognition games and activities.

*The French-language version DIRE EN DANSE will be available at www.direendanse.ca in November 2017. Suddenly Dance Theatre is working on expanding WITS IN MOTION to reach greater audiences worldwide. Charitable donations are now being accepted to support new language translations via www.suddenlydance.ca

To SIGN UP for WITS IN MOTION visit www.witsinmotion.ca

CREDITS:

Suddenly Dance Theatre respectfully acknowledges WITS IN MOTION was created on the traditional and unceded territories of the Lekwungen People, now known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations. The WITS IN MOTION dance-film was produced by Suddenly Dance Theatre as Artist-in-Residence for the City of Victoria with Producing Partners: the WITS PROGRAMS Foundation, the University of Victoria, Suddenly Media Productions; Associate Producer: Maureen Bradley; Thanks to Daniel Hogg. Produced with the assistance of the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Victoria, and the CFI Hi-Def Story Incubator Laboratory. Created with support from Dance Victoria's Residency Program. A special thanks to Kim Breiland and Stages Performing Arts School. The WITS IN MOTION guide was created by University of Victoria educators Drs. Bonnie Leadbeater and Donna McGhie-Richmond, and Suddenly Dance Theatre artists David Ferguson and Miles Lowry. Partial funding came from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Created with support from the Hamber Foundation.

Artistic co-Directors:

David Ferguson
Miles Lowry

Board of Directors:

Maleea Acker
M. A. Garcia-Barrera
Christine Fletcher
Drew Mildon
Glen Peers
Irma Soltonovich



SUDDENLY DANCE THEATRE presents
A SUDDENLY MEDIA PRODUCTION
with

SALVADOR BIGAM, CONNIE DENG, EMILY FINNIS, JAREN GUERREIRO, THERESA KIESMAN,
SOMAYA SAID choreography LYNDA RAINO director of photography DANIEL CARRUTHERS
editor DAVID FERGUSON camera assistant PERRY JOHNSTON lighting/key grip LANCE ZISKA
make up ALI LOUGHTON original music by MILES LOWRY director of research BONNIE LEADBEATER
produced by DAVID FERGUSON directed by MILES LOWRY and DAVID FERGUSON

About Suddenly Dance Theatre:

Suddenly Dance Theatre is celebrating it's 25th anniversary as a creator and producer of dance, theatre, and media led by Founding Artistic co-Directors David Ferguson and Miles Lowry. Our work supports the development, creation, presentation, and preservation of the arts through collaboration and diverse media to reach the widest possible audience. Our touring activity of original 'made-in-Victoria' works has allowed us to be proud ambassadors - through national television (Opium, Aisling, Guthrie Swims the Lake); Film Festivals (New York to New Delhi); residencies (Ireland); as well as LIVE performances toured to such diverse places as Seoul, Daegu, Kim Hae & Busan (South Korea), Vancouver, Nanaimo, Hornby Island and Guelph. We are also known as the producers of the Romp! Festival of Dance (20 Festivals). The WITS IN MOTION initiative aims to engage youth and community education through dance and media; create a lasting legacy exemplifying the WITS programs; and disseminate dance to the widest possible audience. www.suddenlydance.ca

About The WITS Programs:

The WITS Programs provide online resources for elementary school children (Grades 1 to 6). The WITS Programs have been extensively evaluated and they show positive results. The WITS Programs were developed in Victoria, British Columbia by educators, parents, and police officers who wanted to promote healthy relationships and prevent bullying and peer victimization. Over the last decade, the program resources have engaged everyone in creating safe and responsive communities where children can live, learn, and play. Walk away, Ignore, Talk it Out & Seek Help are the everyday strategies the WITS Programs promote to help children to build healthy relationships and to peacefully disengage from or resolve conflicts with their peers. In 2012, 43,386 people visited the WITS websites, with more than 500 schools now using the program, and more than 2,200 teachers and 380 Community Leaders having completed the online training modules. Access the WITS Programs website for free at www.witsprograms.ca.

SUDDENLY

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