

Lin Snelling

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Lin Snelling's performance, writing and teaching is based in the qualities improvisation can offer as it applies to dance, theatre, visual art and somatic practice. She toured the world extensively as a performer with Carbone 14 and worked with many improvisation ensembles. Her most recent dance collaboration is *A Sounding Line* with 10 interdisciplinary artists from Edmonton, Montreal and Toronto, "eva" as part of StageLab and *The Liminal* with Brian Webb Dance. She works often with Montreal choreographer Tedi Tafel (*Crying in Public*, *Life World*, *Calendar and Everyday*) Her collaboration *Performing Book* with visual artist Shelagh Keeley happened at the Edmonton Art Gallery/Brian Webb Dance Season, MoMA, the Power Plant/Toronto, and the VAG/Vancouver. Collaborations with Gerry Morita and Mile Zero Dance have included *RV There Yet?*, *anything goes: GWG Dance in 17 parts* and *Duplex*. She continues with *Rewriting Distance*; a workshop and performance with the dance dramaturge Guy Cools and photographer Michael Reinhart. www.rewritingdistance.com As a Professor at the University of Alberta she is presently teaching dance, experiential anatomy and composition and is Coordinator of the MFA in Theatre Practice program.

Notable Performance Projects: (last 5 years)

2020-ongoing

A Sounding Line is an improvisation ensemble began in February 2020 with a McCalla Professorship.

It is a continuation of the experiential dance, educational and performative research I have pursued since arriving in Alberta in 2008. The ensemble is Camille Renarhd, Naishi Wang, Cayley Thomas, Minggo Zhang, Jérémi Roy, Mat Simpson, Michael Reinhart, Gianna Vacirca, Kate Stashko and David Ryshpan. These are performers who have expertise in more than one discipline allowing for hybrid and emergent forms of composition. In old nautical language, a *sounding line* was a weighted line with distances marked off at regular intervals used to measure the depth of water under a boat.

2011-ongoing

Rewriting Distance: *Rewriting Distance* is a performance/workshop practice created by Lin Snelling, Guy Cools and photographer Michael Reinhart, that allows participants to tell stories, dance, and write. *Rewriting Distance* received a SSHRC Dissemination Grant and in 2012/13 and toured to Limerick and Dublin in Ireland, Antwerp in Belgium, and Montreal, Toronto and Edmonton in Canada, Tanzfabrik in Berlin, and Vienna, Antwerp, Gent, Leicester/UK, Halifax, and Limassol, Cyprus. In 2019 Snelling received a SSHRC partnership Grant in collaboration with Mile Zero Dance and a Canada Council grant to present *Rewriting Distance* in Edmonton (August 19) and soon, Halifax (May 2021) (www.rewritingdistance.com)

2009-2014

Performing Book An interdisciplinary dance, music and visual art performance developed through support from Canada Council for the Arts, TLEF, and a Winspear Grant. Collaborators are Shelagh Keeley (Visual Art) and Michael Reinhart (Music and Photography) Performed in Cyprus, Montreal, Vancouver, and Edmonton, Canada. This is an on-going site-specific inquiry into dance, drawing, music and the writing of a books through performance in site-specific spaces. In 2014 *Performing Book* was Invited to MoMA for or a Research Residency and was performed as *At the Table* at The Museum of Modern Art Archives, an internationally recognized research center for modern and contemporary art.

2008/19

Crying in Public, *Everyday*, *Life World* and *Calendar*: collaborative projects directed by Tedi Tafel. In collaboration with the dance artists Bill Coleman, Dean Makarenko, Marc Boivin, Leslie Baker and Lin Snelling. This project was made possible by grants from the Canada Council. Tedi Tafel created a performance every month for a year with *Calendar* in close collaboration with the performers. In *Life World* she also worked closely with mature performers and in collaboration with both natural and urban environments. The work was performed in Montreal, and toured to St. John's Newfoundland and New York City. *Everyday* and *Crying in Public* are each site-specific performances happening at various times of the day from early morning through dusk to late evening.

2014-2018

StageLab: *ReDirect*, *Versing*, *Eva*. Created for StageLab at the Timms Centre for the Arts in Edmonton. The premise of StageLab is for faculty to create performances at the Timms in site specific areas of the building: effectively allowing the whole theatre to become a laboratory for research into performance. *ReDirect* was performed on the Timms Stage sideways, *Versing* was performed in the Paint Shop, and *Eva* was performed in the Wardrobe Room.

Major Performance History

- 2019 **Rewriting Distance** performance. Edmonton. Gerry Morita, Stephanie Cumming, Lin Snelling, Piet Defraeye and Guy Cools. Mile Zero Dance. August 2019.
- 2019 **The Liminal:** Created by Brian Webb in collaboration with the dancers. Triffo Hall, Grant MacKewan University, Edmonton. June.
- 2018 **Crying in Public:** Site-Specific Dance Performance. Created by Tedi Tafel in collaboration with Leslie Baker, Lin Snelling, Dean Makarenko, Bill Coleman. Lighting: Yan Lee Chan. Sound: Ana Dall'Ara Majek. Video: Jonathan Inksetter. Montreal
- 2018 **eva:** Lin Snelling Director and Performer with composer/musicians Michael Reinhart, Jérémi Roy and David Ryshpan. StageLab, Edmonton.
- 2017 **Anything goes: GWG Dance in 17 parts:** Choreographers: Gerry Morita and Lin Snelling with Nicolas Arnez, Karem Çetinal, Rachel MacHenry, Kasie Campbell. Nancy Sandercock Trent Crosby. Cast: Sarah Ormandy, Mat Simpson, Sean Arcta, Ben Gorodetsky, Karen Porkka, Chayla Day and Julie Ferguson. Sugar Swing Ballroom, Edmonton, AB
- 2016/17 **Moon at Midnight:** Choreographer: Amber Borotsik, Performers/Collaborators: Pearl Edwards, Richard Lee His, Brooke Leifso, Laura Raboud, Lin Snelling, Gianna Vacirca, Jeannie Vanderkerkhove, Bill Yong. Sound: Aaron Macri, Stage Manager: Julie Ferguson. Prairie Dance Circuit Tour: Edmonton, Winnipeg, Calgary, and Regina.
- 2016 **Versing:** Lin Snelling Director and performer with composer/musicians Michael Reinhart, Jérémi Roy and David Ryshpan, and lighting designer Yan Lee Chan. Montreal and StageLab, Edmonton.
- 2016 **Rewriting Distance:** Mary Nunan, Guy Cools, Lin Snelling, Jo Slade, Oscar Mascarenas. St. John's Church, Dance Limerick, Limerick, Ireland.
- 2016 **Rewriting Distance:** Guy Cools, Mary Nunan, Lin Snelling, Mary Wycherly. St. John's Church, Dance Limerick, Limerick Ireland.
- 2016 **Rewriting Distance:** Guy Cools, Lia Haraki, Lin Snelling, Arianna Marcoulides. Out-Site Dance Festival, Limassol, Cyprus.
- 2015 **At the Table** Shelagh Keeley, Lin Snelling, MoMA Library and Archives.
- 2015 **Performing Book** Shelagh Keeley, Lin Snelling Vancouver Art Gallery.
- 2014 **Everyday** Choreography Tedi Tafel, Les Escapes Improbable, Montreal.
- 2014 **Performing Book** Shelagh Keeley, Lin Snelling, MoMA, New York City.
- 2014 **Performing Book** Shelagh Keeley, Lin Snelling, Power Plant, Toronto.
- 2013 **Duplex** Gerry Morita, Lin Snelling, Patrick Arès-Pilon, Expanse Festival Edmonton, Fluid Festival, Calgary.
- 2013 **Project Laboratoire #2** Directed by Chantal Lamirande in complete collaboration with Magali Babin and Lin Snelling. Montreal, Quartier Danse.
- 2013 **October.** Choreography Tedi Tafel, Performer Lin Snelling, Edmonton.
- 2012 **Janvier.** Choreography Tedi Tafel, Montréal, B. Coleman, L. Baker, D. Makarenko, L. Snelling, F. Jobin, M. Jean, Yan Lee Chan.
- 2011 **Performing Book.** M.Reinhart, S. Keely, L. Snelling, J. Roy, N. Blais. September, Art Gallery of Alberta.
- 2010 **Quell.**Lin Snelling, Peter Bingham, Peggy Lee, James Proudfoot. EDAM and Dancing on the Edge. July, Vancouver.
- 2010 **The Room Residency.** Directed interdisciplinary performance project at EDAM and the WESTERN FRONT. Vancouver.
- 2010 **Calendar.**Choreography Tedi Tafel; with L. Snelling, D. Makarenko, Bill Coleman and Leslie Baker. Montreal.
- 2009 **Loop Thing.** L.Snelling, M.Reinhart. Calgary Fluid Festival.
- 2009 **Performing Book.** Cyprus, L.Snelling, S. Keeley, and M. Reinhart.
- 2006-09 **Repeating Distance.** Guy Cools, Lin Snelling. London, Cyprus, Nanaimo, Montréal, Bruges, Antwerp, Athens, Vienna, Toronto.
- 2009 **Bashir Lahzar.** Directed by Piet Defraeye Movement Direction. Catalyst Theatre, Edmonton. Tour to Germany and Austria.
- 2009 **A Life in the Day.** Movement Direction. Catalyst Theatre, Edmonton. 2008 **Room.** Directed in collaboration with K. Ewald, N. Sures, S. Wendt, S. Davidson, K. Kennedy, and M. Reinhart. Montreal /August
- 2007-08 **R.A.F.T.70** M. Boivin: A.Harwood, L. Snelling, M O'Shea, D.Rancourt.

- Montréal.
- 2006 **Showdown.** Directed by A. Bürger. Choreography L. Snelling. La Chapelle. Montréal.
- 2008 **Life World.** Directed and created by Tedi Tafel. Montreal and Newfoundland.
- 2007 **Chalk.** B. Bergner, P. Newell, L. Snelling. P. Matheson, M. Reinhart. Montréal. New Hampshire, Vermont.
- 2006 **Performing Book.** Shelagh Keeley, Lin Snelling. Usine C. Montréal.
- 2006 **Quell.** Lin Snelling, Peggy Lee, Directed by P. Bingham. EDAM Studio. Vancouver. B.C.
- 2006 **The Lovely Ladies.** Mary Ann Lacey, Lin Snelling. New Dance Festival. St. John's. NFLD.
- 2005 **9 to 5 at the Belgo.** K. Ewald, S. Wendt, A. Bheurer, S. Davidson, N. Sures, M. Reinhart, Montréal.
- 2005 **Les Cinq Éléments.** METAL. Andrew Harwood, Lin Snelling. SAT. Montreal.
- 2005 **Voix D'Amériques.** Karen Young, Éric Auclair, Lin Snelling. Montréal.
- 2004 **Limbes/Limbo.** Nathalie Claude, Lin Snelling. Montréal. Usine C.
- 2004 **Interface.** Peter Bingham, Helen Walkley, Lin Snelling. Vancouver.
- 2004 **Extinction.** Michael Reinhart, Lorraine Pritchard, Lin Snelling Usine C, Montréal.
- 2003 **Blind.** Alexander Baervoets, Andrew Harwood, Lin Snelling. Montréal/Antwerp, Vooruit danse en avant.
- 2003 **Gutsink.** D. Dunn and L. Snelling collaboration with Sara Stoker and artists and musicians from St. John's. Nfld.
- 2003 **Extinction.** Collaboration w/ Michael Reinhart. Los Talleres, Mexico.
- 2002 **Studio Space.** Collaboration w/ Michael Reinhart. Studio 303, Montréal.
- 2002 **Danse en Galerie.** Lin Snelling, Josée Gagnon, Michael Reinhart & students. Studio 303, Montréal.
- 2002 **In Performance.** Lin Snelling, Peter Bingham. EDAM. Vancouver.
- 2001 **IAMMYOWNRAIN.** Choreography for C. Lamirande, M. Reinhart, J. Gagnon, Montréal.
- 2001-02 **Silences et Cris.** Carbone 14, Gilles Maheu. Usine C, Montréal.
- 2001-02 **Woman As Landscape.** L. Snelling, J. Gagnon, M. Reinhart, Artword Theatre, Toronto.
- 2001-02 **Words/Echo.** Lin Snelling, Hetty King. Tangente, Montréal. PS122, NYC.
- 2000-01 **Visitatio.** Teatro Sunil & Carbone 14. Dance-theatre. Usine C, Montréal. Tour, Mexico City, Guanajuato, Monterrey, Mexico. Bellinzona, Switzerland.
- 2000-01 **IMF.** Improvisational group performances. Usine C, Tangente, Montréal.
- 2000 **Les Filles de Séléne.** Nathalie Claude. Dance-theatre. Montréal.
- 2000 **Triptych.** Jan Komarek. Theatre piece/trio. Calgary, Montreal.
- 1999 **IMF. International Movement Fund.** Improvisation w/ Studio 303, Montréal.
- 1999-00 **Femme Comme Paysage.** Lin Snelling. Solo dance. Usine C, Montréal.
- 1997-98 **P'Hiver/Winterland.** Carbone 14. Toronto, Montreal, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 1998 **Fugitives Épiphanies** Irène Stamou. Agora de la Danse, Montréal.
- 1997-98 **Ensemble Project.** Jo Leslie. Improvisation. Montréal.
- 1996-98 **Les Âmes Mortes.** Carbone 14, Gilles Maheu. Toronto, Montréal, Spain, Ireland, Québec tour.
- 1995 **Gallery Project.** 3 dance/music events, L. Snelling, J. Leslie, M. Reinhart (music) Galerie Samuel Lallouz, Montréal.
- 1995 **Vingt Ans.** Carbone 14, Gilles Maheu. Usine C, Montréal.
- 1995 **Body As Evidence.** Lin Snelling w/ original music by M. Reinhart. Tangente, Montreal

- 1995 **State of Mind.** Lin Snelling. Original guitar music score, Michael Reinhart Studio 303, Montréal.
- 1994-95 **La Fôret.** Carbone 14, Gilles Maheu. Montréal, Mexico City, Mexico.
- 1993-94 **Le Café des Aveugles.** Carbone 14, Gilles Maheu. Glasgow, Zurich, Lisbon, Arnhem, United States & Quebec tours.
- 1993 **Mille Mots.** Lin Snelling w/ Michael Reinhart, music & Josée Gagnon. Studio 303, Tangente, Espace Libre Montréal. Dances for Small Stage, TO.
- 1993 **Leblon.** Solo work. Lin Snelling w/ original music by Michael Reinhart. Tangente, Montréal.
- 1993-96 **L'Instant de l'Instant de l'Instinct.** Curator, Andrew Harwood. Guest artist. Tangente, Montréal.
- 1989-92 **Le Dortoir.** Carbone 14, Gilles Maheu & Danielle Tardif. 3-month European Tour, '89. Central American tour, '90. Canadian & South American tour w/ Finland, Germany & Amsterdam, '91. Mexico, USA & Montréal '92.
- 1992 **Débris & Crow Sisters.** Guest artist for Claudia Moore Toronto, Ottawa.
- 1991 **Contes de Quelque Part.** Dance-theatre created, directed, performed by J. Gagnon, K. Kennedy & L. Snelling. Théâtre la Chapelle, Montréal.
- 1986 **Abacus.** CCDT Commission with composer M. Reinhart and CCDT Company
- 1985 **DanceSongs.** Lin Snelling, Joan Phillips. Winchester St. Theatre, Toronto.
- 1983/84 **Appetites.** Lin Snelling, Rachel MacHenry, Gordon Dowton. Set design, M. Reinhart.

Teaching

- 2008-on-going **University of Alberta** Professor. BFA Acting Program. Movement (Undergraduate) Coordinator of the MFA in Theatre Practice program. (Graduate)
- 2018 **CLEaR Forum /creative facilitator.** Halifax. Invited. Choreographic lab. Exploration and research for two choreographers and dancers selected from across Canada at Ross Creek Centre for the Arts produced by Mocean Dance.
- 2017 **Rewriting Distance.** Montreal. Concordia University, FOCUS ON DANCE RESEARCH Conference.
- 2012/17 **External Examiner/MA in Dance Performance/University of Limerick, Ireland.**
- 2016 **Rewriting Distance Workshop.** Tanzfabrik, Berlin.
- 2015 **Rewriting the body, embodying the writing** Circuit Est, workshop for writers and dancers. Montreal. Guy Cools Ginelle Chagnon Lin Snelling
- 2014 **Body/Voice** Josée Gagnon Lin Snelling Studio 303 Montréal.
- 2013 **Rewriting Distance:** Montreal, Ireland, UK.
- 2012 **Rewriting Distance.** Limerick. Graduate/BA Student Workshop and Lecture.
- 2011 **Rewriting Distance.** The Place, London UK. Research Project. Choreodrome.
- 2011 **Repeating Distance.** Dublin, Dance House Ireland.
- 2011 **Voice/Body.** Montreal, Studio 303 with Josée Gagnon.
- 2010 **Performing the Body.** Transformation Danse Workshop. Montreal
- 2010 **Repeating Distance** Workshop in Tilburg, Holland and Montreal, Canada.
- 2009 **Toronto Dance Theatre Company.** Repeating Distance Workshop.
- 2008 **CPR** Giving Voice 10. Performing the Body Workshop.
- 2008/09/10 **EDAM** Intensive Performance Workshop; with P. Bingham. R.Kitsos, L. Snelling.
- 2007 **The Place,** London. UK. Repeating Distance Workshop
- 2007 **Cyprus.** Repeating Distance Workshop.
- 2006 **UQAM.** University of Québec in Montréal. Voice and Movement.
- 2006/07 **National Theatre School.** Movement Teacher
- 2004/06 **LADMMI.** Teacher of composition & improvisation.
- 2004 **Voice and Improvisation.** Nanaimo/Vancouver. Interface.
- 2003 **Workshops for Gutsink Collective.** St. John's. Newfoundland.
- 2003 **Performing The Body.** W/ Michael Reinhart. **Coyoacán,** Mexico.
- 2002 **Poetry In Space.** Toronto. W/Claudia Moore.
- 2002 **EDAM,** Vancouver. Performing the body; w/ Michael Reinhart.
- 2001 **Theatre Centre,** Toronto. Improvisation, voice bodywork/M.Reinhart,J.Gagnon.
- 2000/07 **Bones moving, Breath moving.** Workshop with Josée Gagnon in improvisation, Voice, bodywork. Studio 303, Montréal.

- 2000 **Igloolik Workshop w/ Inuit Elders.** Song & story improvisation with M.Reinhart, Igloolik, Nunavut.
 1998-99 **Ecole Supérieure de la Danse du Québec.** Teacher of improvisation.
 1985-2007 **Canadian Children's Dance Theatre.** Improvisation & composition.
 1997-98 **Carbone 14.** Workshops while on tour. Dublin Ireland, Seville Spain, Londrina Brazil, Bogotá Colombia.

Published Works

- 2014 **Working backwards in Time:** Rewriting Distance at “teach me (not!)” Symposium, Vienna. IDOCDE - International Documentation of Contemporary Dance Education. On-line journal <http://www.idocde.net/idocs/1040>
 2014 **Notes on Choreography and Drawing** Shelagh Keeley Lin Snelling. Artist Book. Writing in response to Keeley's visual art.
 2013 **The Body and the Contemporary Performer.** All Stages. Alberta Theatre Magazine. Spring 2013 Issue. Pg. 11
 2012 **Dirty Dancing** – Alternatives Journal. Five artists explain how they connect with nature to protect it. All Stages Magazine Vol.38 #3 Pg. 28
 2009 **Drawing Space.** Artist book with Shelagh Keeley. Artist Book; designer Sarah Wu.
 2009 **Dance Composition: An Interrelated Arts Approach** by Janice Pomer. Artist Highlight Interview with Lin Snelling. Human Kinetics. Pg. 58-62.
 2005 **Repeating Distance.** Contact Quarterly Vol. 32 No. 1 Winter/Spring 2007 Place Issue. Pg. 33.
 2001 **Breathing Room** Liberté. Danses. Volume #43, Number 4/2001.
 2000 **Studio 303.** Catalogue segment.
 1984 **New Voices.** A Celebration of Canadian Poetry. Mosaic Press. Edited by Clifton Whiten. Pg. 99-104.

Awards and Distinctions

- 2020 Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching 2020 Faculty of Arts.
 2019 McCalla Professorship. (University wide recognition of excellence in integrated research/teaching that fosters educational leadership)
 2018 Undergraduate Teaching Award 2018-19 Faculty of Arts
 2012 Unit Teaching Award 2012/13 in recognition of outstanding collaborative teaching in the BFA Acting program from the Faculty of Arts.

Membership and Service to the Community At Large

- 2020 Canada Council for the Arts Jury. Dance.
 2018 Canada Council for the Arts Jury. Dance and Theatre.
 2014/15 Artistic Supervision of Studio 303 in Montréal
 2006 Canada Council for the Arts Jury. Dance Section
 2005 Dance and Theatre Residency Jury for USINE C.
 2000 Canada Council for the Arts Jury. Dance Section.
 2005-06 Board of Directors Culture Montréal.
 2004-08 Board of Directors ELAN. President 2008.

Education

- 1984 Diploma Professional Training Program, School of Toronto Dance Theatre.
 1981 B.A. Bachelor of Applied Arts/Journalism, Ryerson University.
 1978 Interdisciplinary Studies One Year Scholarship, York University.