

# 2017 SUMMER FACULTY AND CLASSES JULY

## Week 1 (July 17th – 21st) & Week 2 (July 24th – 28th)

### GUEST TEACHERS:

#### ***Kara Chan (BFA): Contemporary/Modern***

Kara received her pre-professional training from Pro Arte Centre under the direction of Astrid Sherman, where she received provincial titles and top awards at Youth America Grand Prix. She went on to complete her BFA in Dance at The Juilliard School in New York and is now dancing with the Twyla Tharpe Company. Well versed in classical and modern styles, Kara is known for her unique musicality and has also danced professionally with the Mark Morris Dance Group and Lar Lubovitch Dance Company. She has been singled out and hailed by the New York Times as the “spark plug” and “diminutive” dancer who “consistently caught the eye with her exuberance, reach, and abandon”. Kara has illuminated numerous of stages in New York including Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, the Joyce Theatre, Jacob’s Pillow, Park Avenue Armory, and the Guggenheim Museum. She has performed masterpiece works by Merce Cunningham, Jerome Robbins, Murray Louis, José Limon, among many others. Kara is also an alumna of The School at Jacob’s Pillow and Springboard Danse Montreal.

#### ***Danielle Gould: Ballet***

A past student of Astrid Sherman & Pro Arte Centre, at age 17 Danielle competed in the Youth American Grand Prix New York City finals and won a full scholarship to the John Cranko Academy in Stuttgart, Germany. During her second year in the academy she was offered a contract with the Hungarian National Ballet. She has performed both demi soloist and corps de ballet roles in many productions with the company. Some of her repertoire includes solo parts in Sleeping Beauty, the Nutcracker, Coppelia, La Sylphide, Falling Angels and Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs. As well as Corps de Ballet in Swan Lake, Manon, Etudes, The Merry Widow, Coppelia, Giselle, Romeo and Juliet, Sylvia, Spartacus, Don Quixote and the Taming of the Shrew. Danielle’s own choreography has also been presented twice in the Hungarian National Ballet foundations Young Choreographers Evening and as a co-choreographer for the season opening gala for the 2015/16 season.

#### ***Barbra Bean: Pilates Matwork***

A former professional dancer, Barbra studied at both UC Santa Barbara and UC Irvine. At UCI she was introduced to the Pilates Method by Diane Diefenderfer. After graduating UCI with a BA in dance she completed the Teacher Training Program at Studio du Corps. She also studied extensively with Ron Fletcher as he held biannual workshops at Studio du Corps. Ron personally awarded her a qualified level teacher certificate in 2000 which pre-dated the formation of the current Fletcher program. In 2015 she was a top 10 finalist in the Next Pilates Anytime Instructor competition and was featured in Pilates Style Magazine as a finalist. She was invited to teach at the past two Fletcher Conferences in Tucson, AZ and will teach at the upcoming 2017 PMA conference in Palm Springs, CA.

Barbra currently teaches the Pilates work for the upper level students in the conditioning program at Maple Conservatory of Dance, one of Orange Counties premier ballet schools.

#### ***Desirée Dunbar (MFA): Contemporary/Modern***

Desirée is an award-winning choreographer and the creator of [gush.com](http://gush.com). She lights the way for her students to embrace their gifts, fill up their personal development toolbox and activate their potential.

She is one of the few Canadians to teach the traditional Martha Graham technique and has had the honour of instructing at various schools including Simon Fraser University, University of Arizona, Centre National de la Danse (Paris, France) and Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music & Dance (London, UK). Her company Dezza Dance is Artist-in-Residence with the City of Vancouver and is currently in rehearsals for a new work, A Port in the Storm premiering at the historic Aberthau Mansion in West Point Grey in November 2017.

### PRO ARTE FACULTY:

***Astrid Sherman (FISTD): Dance Conditioning***

Ms. Sherman graduated from the Pretoria Technikon School for the Performing Arts in South Africa. She went on to dance professionally with the NAPAC Ballet Company in Durban, where she worked with many of the innovators of South African modern and neoclassical dance, and performed in all the traditional ballet classics. After immigrating to Canada in 1997, she was awarded the highly regarded and internationally recognised advanced level teaching qualification of "Fellowship" from the Imperial Society for Teachers of Dance (ISTD). In 2003, she co-opened the Pro Arté Centre in North Vancouver which has evolved into major dance centre with six dance studios, on-site academics from Grades 5-12, on-site physiotherapy, massage therapy and nutritional services and a Pilates rehab gym. Pro Arté Centre is best known for its commitment to providing a holistic inspired training to young dancers intending to pursue a career in dance. Her past students and Pro Arté / CatchingART graduates have been accepted into numerous companies and prestigious post-graduate programs within Canada, the United States and Europe including to name a few; Juilliard, Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal, Ballet BC, Alberta Ballet, Philadanco, Ballet Theatre UK, Ballet Jorgen, Joffrey Ballet, Twyla Tharpe Company & the Rudra Bejart School in Switzerland. Ms. Sherman also has a keen interest in dance science and holistic dance training for healthier and stronger dancers. She has presented research at the International Association for Dance Medicine & Science (IADMS) conferences in 2010, 2012 & 2015, and had a paper published in the Dance Medicine and Science Journal in 2014. She was also a presenter at the Johannesburg Dance Medicine conference in 2008 and at Healthy Dancer Canada in 2012 & 2015. Ms. Sherman is currently serving on the Education Committee for IADMS and has organised local regional events in both 2015 and 2016. This October she will present research at the 2017 IADMS International Conference in Houston, on Post de Bras and the postural habits of the young smart phone generation together with Pro Arte's physiotherapist, Erka Mayall, and conditioning specialist, Susie Higgins.

***Stephana Arnold (National Ballet School, soloist Les Grands and Ballet BC): Ballet & Conditioning***

Ms. Arnold attended the National Ballet School of Canada where she received the prestigious Peter Dwyer Award and Honours standing on her Intermediate and Advanced Cecchetti Ballet Examinations. Upon graduation, she danced with several small companies before joining the National Ballet of Canada from 1992-1995. In 1996, Ms. Arnold joined Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montreal and quickly rose to First Soloist. She danced a wide and eclectic variety of principal and soloist roles from Concerto Barocco, Nutcracker, Queen of Spades, Giselle and Symphony of Songs to name a few. She was also a favourite muse for many choreographers and worked with such names as Eduard Lock, Shawn Hounsell, O'had Naharin, Jiri Kylian and Kevin O'Day. 2003 brought Ms. Arnold to Ballet BC where she danced an extensive array of principal roles, from the Woman in Conversation Piece, Tatiana in Faerie Queen, Stella in Streetcar Named Desire and her most notable and last, Carmen in February 2007 and where she was also company teacher from 2004-08. Currently, Ms. Arnold is a sought-after teacher for both classical and contemporary as well as adjudicating at dance festival competitions. She is also an ISSA certified personal trainer, conducting her own fusion body conditioning classes.

***Tania Brossoit (graduate RAD Academy, England, RAD Ambassador): Ballet & Conditioning***

Ms. Brossoit was born in England and is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Dancing Teacher Training Program. There, she gained extensive training in Ballet, ISTD Modern, National, Jazz, and Character Dance alongside dance anatomy, dance history, child psychology and classical repertoire. Tania had the good fortune to be taught and gained her extensive knowledge of the classical repertoire from many wonderful dancers of the Royal Ballet. Teachers included Antoinette Sibley, Merle Park, Monica Mason, Nicola Katrak, Natalia Markova, Anthony Dowell, Phyllis Bedells, Keith Lester, (the Diaghilev method) Rachel Cameron, (the Karsavina Method) Jane Dudley (Graham), and many of the RAD top examiners. Known for her love and passion for dance and for her exceptional work with young dancers, Tania produces a high standard of training and exam results. She is also an avid dance science researcher, and has studied at length, the physiology and biomechanics of the body and strongly applies these principles to her teaching. Many of her students have gone on to dance in major Companies and Theatre Productions or have continued their training at some of the most respected institutes around the world. She has been sought after for many years as guest teacher and adjudicator around BC and has instructed in various summer schools within the province. Choreography is also a passion for Tania, and her award-winning choreography is often recognized for its diversity. She is proud to now be an official ambassador for the RAD.

***Kimberly Dixon (BFA Dance SFU; A.I.S.T.D. (Modern dip): Modern/Improv/Contemporary***

Ms. Dixon began her training in ISTD Ballet, Tap, Modern and AFSA Acrobatics with Astrid Sherman at the age of six. She graduated from SFU with a BFA in contemporary dance in 2010. Having studied a wide variety of contemporary techniques, many of her choreographed pieces were selected not only for student shows at SFU but also for a local series of shows called Art For Impact. While at SFU, she had the opportunity to train and perform in Ghana, Brazil and the U.S. The year following her graduation, Kim spent a season dancing with Lamon Dance, a local pre-professional contemporary dance company. In the fall of 2011 Kim completed a training program, on scholarship, in contact improvisation with Edam dance, and has loved sharing these skills with the students at Pro Arté. She has participated in both summer and winter American Dance Festivals in North Carolina and New York, where she had the opportunity to work with many well known contemporary teachers and dancers from around the world. Kimberly has successfully completed all her teacher certification in A.F.S.A. International and has her Associate Diploma in I.S.T.D. Modern.

***Sophia Curalli (AISTD Imperial Ballet & Modern): Ballet/Modern***

A Pro Arte Graduate, Sophia trained with Ms Astrid from the age of 8. She was awarded her RAD and ISTD Ballet & Modern Advanced 2 certificates with Honours. Sophia has completed both her ISTD Modern Associate Teachers and ISTD Ballet Associate Teachers under the careful guidance of Astrid Sherman and Tania Brossoit. Sophia was selected for the CatchingART Aspirant Company in both 2014 and 2015 and also performed for Theatre under the Stars 2015 and 2017.