

**NACS (Not Another Clown Show) Productions** was formed in 2019 to present *Outside Ethel: Inside* at the Toronto Fringe Festival. Producer/creator/performer Christine Moynihan has assembled a stellar team to celebrate her return to the stage. John Turner, one half of the multi-award winning horror clown duo Mump and Smoot (with whom Moynihan studies clown), directs; lighting design is by multiple Dora Award-winning Simon Rossiter; and choreography is by Dora Award-winning Roberto Campanella. The team is rounded out by talented sound designer Lyon Smith, stage manager Rebecca Walsh, and Jake Poloz in a special guest appearance as “An Artist of the Ballet.”

#### **COMPANY BIOS:**

**Christine Moynihan** (creator/performer) has spent the last 35 years as a celebrated arts administrator – 15 years as the Executive Producer at Equity Showcase Theatre, 10 years as the Executive Director at the Dance Umbrella of Ontario and 10 years as an independent arts administrator – winning both the Brenda Donohue Award (1994) for outstanding contribution to the Toronto theatre community and a Harold Award (2000) for outstanding service to Toronto’s independent theatre and dance communities.

Before that, Moynihan was an actor, working in theatres across Canada including Playwrights Workshop, The Saidye Bronfman Centre (now the Segal Centre) and the Centaur Theatre (Montreal); Young Peoples Theatre, Nightwood Theatre and the Canadian Stage Company (Toronto) and Theatre Calgary, among others. She worked with such directors as Richard Greenblatt, Bob Baker, Kate Lushington, and JoAnne Akalaitis. In 1987, she was nominated for a Dora as Best Featured Actress in *Genuine Fakes*, written by Dennis Foon and directed by Richard Greenblatt for Canadian Stage.

**John Turner** (director) is best known as the "Smoot" half of [Mump & Smoot](#), along with Michael Kennard ("Mump"). This award winning Canadian clown duo has delighted audiences throughout North America for the past thirty years. After three sold out Fringe Festival tours in 1989, 1990, and 1992, Mump & Smoot went on to play regional theatres across the continent with great success. These theatres include the Astor Place Theater (Off Broadway), Yale Repertory Theater, the La Jolla Playhouse, the Dallas Theater Center, the American Repertory Theater (Boston), Baltimore Center Stage, the Canadian Stage in Toronto, Alberta Theatre Projects in Calgary, and the Vancouver East Cultural Centre to name but a few.

John began teaching the Pochinko style of clown in 1991 at Equity Showcase Theatre in Toronto. He taught there for 7 years before opening his own studio, The SPACE, with Michael Kennard where he continued to teach, direct, and work on Mump & Smoot shows for the next 6 years. He currently teaches on his farm on Manitoulin Island, where he has founded the Manitoulin Conservatory for Creation and Performance.

John is also the director of Karen Hines' *Citizen Pochsy*, one of the acclaimed trilogy of Pochsy Plays on which John has collaborated for over a decade, (finalist for the Governor General's Award for Drama). Other directing credits include Jennifer Dallas's Dora Award winning *Kittly-Bender*, Sandrine Lafond's *Little Lady*, Michael Kennard's *Puzzle Me Red*, Miriam Cusson and Mélissa Rockburn's *Stuff*, Diana Kolpak's *Lionheart*, Emelia Symington Fedy's *Patti Fedy in Lovers Rock*. For the De-ba-jeh-mu-jig Theatre Group, John directed the workshop and full production of *The Gulch*, as well as Tomson Highway's *A Trickster Tale*. John also directed *Clown & Such...* at the Centre for Indigenous Theatre, Louis Negin's *The Boy Scouts' Manual*, and Linda Brokenshire's *The Lecture* and *The Hero*.

**Roberto Campanella**, (choreographer) born and raised in Rome, trained at the Scuola Italiana di Danza Contemporanea. In 1985, Roberto joined the Compagnia Italiana di Danza Contemporanea and later joined the prestigious Aterballetto. In 1993 he joined The National Ballet of Canada where he was soon promoted to Soloist and was cast in many classical and contemporary roles. Roberto made his

choreographic debut at The National Ballet of Canada's 1995 Choreographic Workshop . A co-founder of the lauded Toronto-based dance company, ProArteDanza, Roberto has choreographed over 20 works for that company, as well as choreographing a wide variety of commissioned works for companies at home and abroad. In 2001, Roberto was nominated for the Bonnie Bird Choreography Award in London, in 2007, he received the Fellowship Initiative Award from the New York Choreographic Institute, an affiliate of the New York City Ballet, and in 2008, he was awarded a Chalmers Professional Development Grant. Roberto's first full-length work *Alice in Wonderland* premiered at Ballet Augsburg in Germany in October 2008. Roberto was awarded the Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding Choreography with co-choreographer Robert Glumbek for ... *in between*..., which premiered at ProArteDanza's Season 2010. Roberto was also the choreographer and movement coach for the Academy Award winning film, *The Shape of Water* – one of his many collaborations with director Guillermo del Toro.

**Jake Poloz**, (guest artist/ “Artist of the Ballet”) a graduate of the Conteur Academy, is a Toronto based dance artist & choreographer. He has had the opportunity to perform works by Matt Luck, Hannah Kiel, Anisa Tejpar, Alyssa Martin, Tori Mehaffey, Robert Glumbek, and Roberto Campanella, and has performed with Toronto companies ProArteDanza, Hit & Run Productions, Human Body Expression, and Bouchardanse. Jake was also a recent participant in adelheid's “re:research” in the process of Benjamin Landsberg. He is excited to present his new work as part of *A Two Piece* in the 2019 Hamilton Fringe Festival.

**Simon Rossiter** (lighting designer) is an award-winning lighting designer based in Toronto, Ontario. He has collaborated on more than three hundred productions since 2003 with a variety of companies throughout Canada, including more than two hundred original designs.

Simon has received nine Dora Mavor Moore award nominations for Outstanding Lighting Design, receiving the award three times, and has twice been nominated for the Ontario Arts Council's prestigious Pauline McGibbon award in design.

Simon is a member of the Board of Directors for the Associated Designers of Canada, a professional association advocating for the rights and working conditions of theatrical designers.

**Rebecca Walsh** (stage manager) is a Toronto-based Stage Manager and Arts Administrator. She has worked for the Toronto International Film Festival, Tiger Princess Dance Projects and has assistant stage-managed acclaimed productions with Toronto Dance Theatre, Citadel + Compagnie, CCDT, Dusk Dances: Withrow Park, and Signal Theatre. As well as apprentice stage managed productions with Smile Theatre, Port Stanley Festival Theatre, Orchestra Toronto, and Toronto's Hart House Theatre.