

NEAR&FAR PROJECTS

Synopsis

Phantasmagoria, a show exploring the process by which one renounces themselves in pursuit of their beloved.

This newly developed contemporary dance experience will premiere at the 2022 Toronto Fringe Festival, choreographed by NFP's co-artistic director, Tavia Christina, and associate produced by Bri Clarke. Original music by Brayden Krueger, with stage management by Olivia Seward.

We follow two partners as they confront the reality of their now-tattered love, each struggling to remember who they were before the first flush of love took hold. Viewed through the eyes of "The Void"—an amorphous collective whose lone motivation it is to experience human feeling—*Phantasmagoria* offers a vignette of all that can be lost and gained in love, and reminds us how both strange and all-too-human a thing it is to feel.

It is *Phantasmagoria's* chief aim to have audience members introspect—to refer to their own experience as emotional beings, to allow themselves space to feel—as we move through this exploration of self-renouncement; as we explore what it is like when you lose yourself to love. We are committed to have our audience see themselves through the work and leave the theatre with questions: "Have I fallen victim to this before?" "What are boundaries within love that keep me safe?" "How do I appear while in a relationship that is/isn't good for me?". After the performance, the company will host a brief Q&A discussing some of these topics and allowing the audience to digest and ask some of the questions they wish to bring up in a safe and enclosed environment.

The choreographer addresses the themes of queer love and non-violent abuse within the movements, to showcase how these lines can blur, as well as how one can lose themselves to another in the process of love. They are expressing real-life human experiences, with an emphasis on queer experiences and perspectives, through a non-verbal language, namely movement.

Phantasmagoria is presented with the use of quick lighting changes, and abrupt/loud music. Costumes display a whimsical and gothic aesthetic. This is a movement-based performance, in the style of contemporary, floorwork, partnering and improvisation. No text will be spoken, until a final vocalization will conclude the show.

Cast Members/Performers:

The Void

Frédérique Perron

Elvina Raharja

Barbara Simms

Eilish Shin-Culhane

Partners

Eleanor van Veen

Evan Webb