



Mocean Dance  
PO Box 783 CRO  
Halifax NS B3J 2V2  
902 420 4162  
[moceandance@excite.com](mailto:moceandance@excite.com)  
[www.moceandance.com](http://www.moceandance.com)

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Mat Howard Phone: (902) 420 4162 Email: [moceandance@excite.com](mailto:moceandance@excite.com)

**ONE NIGHT ONLY!**

Featuring Mocean Dance, Verve Mwendo, Susanne Chui and Susan Lee

JUNE 9 @ 7 & 9 pm  
DANSPLACE ON GRAFTON, 1531 GRAFTON STREET, HALIFAX, NS  
TICKETS: AT THE DOOR: ADULTS \$10, STUDENTS \$7

(Halifax, NS, May 24, 2007) - Experience some of Nova Scotia's most dynamic dance artists when Mocean Dance, Verve Mwendo, Susanne Chui and Susan Lee come together for **One Night Only**. The shows take place at Danspace on Grafton, 1531 Grafton Street, Halifax, NS on Saturday, June 9 at 7 & 9pm. Tickets are \$10/adults and \$7/students and are available at the door.

Halifax's Mocean Dance initiated and coordinated **One Night Only** and is thrilled to be sharing an evening with such a talented group of artists. "We found that all of us were brimming with fresh new work," says Sara Harrigan, Co-Artistic Director of Mocean, "so we thought it would be a great opportunity to share a show where the audience could have a taste of 'what's in the works'."

**Mocean Dance** was founded in 2001 by Halifax dancers Carolle Crooks, Sarah Di Quinzio, Sara Harrigan, Alicia Orr Macdonald, and Lisa Phinney. Mocean's work fuses versatile dancers, with backgrounds in ballet, jazz and modern dance with technical skill that is charged with emotional depth and exceptional professionalism. A Company-in-Residence at Halifax Dance since 2002, Mocean has produced and presented three season mainstage shows: *Mappa Mundi* (2006), *inFlux* (2005), and *Quintecentric* (2003). Since 2005, Mocean has presented work in San Francisco, Toronto, Vancouver and Guelph, as well as across Nova Scotia.

*Left in the Lurch*, a solo for Carolle Crooks by Sara Harrigan, follows one woman's desperate attempt to maintain control when abandoned in a difficult position. *You Tackle a Stairway Face On*, by Fredericton-based choreographer Lesandra Dodson is based on and inspired by the Spanish writer Julio Cortazar, whose *The Instruction Manual* is an absurd assortment of tasks and items dissected in an instruction manual format. The piece follows three characters that exist within an environment where climbing, singing, listening, waiting and following directions are integral to the often wry and absurd exploration of worst-case scenarios and instruction manuals.

**Verve Mwendo** is a professional dance Company-in-Residence at Halifax Dance. Founded in 2002 by Jacinte Armstrong, Cory Bowles, and Jenee Gowing, the company has since evolved to include other dancers, choreographers and musicians. Verve is dedicated to the creation and performance of new work that combines contemporary movement techniques and styles with elements of traditional dance forms, theatre, comedy, and live music.

As research for *12 Bar Blues*, Jacinte Armstrong and Cory Bowles worked with Jerry Granelli, and musicians Sageev and Dani Oore, to combine dance and music. Time, sound, pulse, and structures of improvisation, like the classic 12-Bar Blues form, are the departure points for this choreography and composition, which was developed in collaboration with the performers. Guest dancer Susanne Chui joins Armstrong and Bowles for this performance.

**Susanne Chui** is a professional dance artist based in Halifax. She is a dancer for Verve Mwendo and is co-artistic director of SINS dance collective, with Jacinte Armstrong and Sara Coffin. From 1999-2006, Susanne was based in Toronto where she trained at the School of Toronto Dance Theatre. She has worked with many choreographers and extensively with Yvonne Ng and Tilt: sound+motion dance company. As a choreographer, Susanne has shown her work at the Atlantic Fringe Festival, Kinetic Studio, At the Wrecking Ball & Series 808. She has been commissioned to make works for the Maritime Dance Performance Group and Canadian Children's Dance Theatre.

Susanne will present a new work-in-progress called *Past Imperfect*, performed by Jacinte Armstrong. With music by Toronto-based composer/performer Lee Pui Ming, *Past Imperfect* is a highly physical solo that explores how the past, however imperfect, lives in our bodies and makes us who we are.

**Susan Lee** (born in Halifax, N.S.) is a Toronto-based dancer, choreographer and teacher whose creative interest lies in the integration of music making and dance, text and movement, and improvisation as a performance art. With Kaeja d'Dance since 1997, she has originated a variety of roles in most of their stage and film works. In the past fifteen years, Lee has also originated roles in dance works by many acclaimed Canadian choreographers including Holly Small, Maxine Heppner, Yvonne Ng and Peter Chin. Lee has performed and taught in Canada, the United States, Europe and Asia. Lee's choreography has been presented in dance festivals and series in Toronto, Ottawa, Halifax and Peterborough.

*Benediction* is a lament on the senselessness of war, especially in respect to the violence inflicted incidentally on civilian populations and non-combatants. Set to the last movement of Christos Hatzis' *The Gathering*, it is also prayer for a spiritual metamorphosis that will turn our violent world into a place of peace and enlightenment.

In conjunction with the performances, Dance Nova Scotia will be offering a contemporary dance workshop entitled **Partnering into Performance** on Sunday, June 10, 11am-2pm at Danspace on Grafton. Taught by Susan Lee and assisted by Susanne Chui, the workshop is non-gender specific, emphasizing the release and ease, as well as the strength, of partnering. It is open to professional dance artists and serious dance students. Fee is \$25 (\$20 if paid by June 3). Contact (902) 422-1749 to register.

**Joining *One Night Only* is a wonderful way to show support for all of these outstanding artists and an even better way to spend a Saturday night! Tickets are \$10/\$7, and are available at the door. Performances take place at 7 & 9 pm on June 9 at Danspace on Grafton. For performance details, please contact Mocean Dance at (902) 420-4162 or [moceandance@excite.com](mailto:moceandance@excite.com).**



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