

Windigo – Evening program

Premiere at Festival TransAmériques, Montreal, on May 31, 2018 - Duration: 75 minutes

Produced by Lara Kramer Danse
Choreography, Set, Sound and Costume Design Lara Kramer
Created with and performed by Jassem Hindi + Peter James
Sound Editing Lara Kramer + Marc Meriläinen
Outside Eyes Stefan Petersen + Andrew Tay + Jacob Wren
Lighting Design Paul Chambers
Knowledge Keeper Ida Baptiste

Description

Fierce and visceral, Windigo resonates like a scream, the vibrant echo of a long history of human ransacking and destruction, a violation of a land and its culture.

Returning to her grandmother's home in the Lac Seul Reserve in northwestern Ontario, the Canadian choreographer of mixed Oji-Cree and settler heritage Lara Kramer confronts a latent war lurking under the surface.

A northern epic with the air of a post-apocalyptic ballad, Windigo exorcises the demons and undercurrents of the violence perpetrated against Indigenous peoples. Overlapped mattresses slashed, ripped open by a knife, mutilated. A mishmash of resurrected objects, a breath of life in death.

A no man's land of destruction where Peter James and Jassem Hindi from a duo of wandering vagabonds, survivors killing time and boredom, spewing out and sublimating their pain and suffering.

A contemporary ceremonial, the piece plays with strong symbols, powerful metamorphoses, and intense emotion, sowing the seeds of hope in the midst of overwhelming devastation.

"Lara's compositional dramaturgies rely on principles of connection to land, inter-relationality and horizontality that are all foundational principles of First Nations worldviews. Thus, Lara reminds us that there is no seeing without responsibility, no understanding without accountability for action. Her choreographies may at times appear deceptively simple, and yet, they are mathematically rigorous, resulting into a majestic precision of gestures and a supremely crafted minimalism. Rarely have I seen a more artful mastery of time unfolding with weight, and of bodies, present with purpose and acuity. " ~Angela Conquet, independent dance curator, editor & researcher

Coproduced by Festival TransAmériques + CanDance Creation Fund + National Arts Center (Ottawa) + Centre de Création O Vertigo - CCOV (Montréal) + Dancing on the Edge (Vancouver) + Usine C (Montreal)

Delegate producer : Centre de Création O Vertigo - CCOV

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