

ACTS

Balancing



Calgary's 3rd Annual Disability Arts Festival
December 2 - 6, 2003
Big Secret Theatre



Using the arts to affect personal and social transformation
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Mercy Killing or Murder

Stage Left Productions; Calgary, AB

Mercy Killing or Murder explores a controversial and timely topic. As medical ethics promises the elimination of disability and disease from our society, so too does it evoke concerns about eugenics and the elimination of difference and diversity among us. This production explores the extreme positions taken during Robert Latimer's trial (and subsequent appeals) and offers up the voices that were seldom heard amidst the dialogue around this case: those of people with physical and developmental disabilities, just like Tracy.



Crazy for Life

Victoria Maxwell; Vancouver, BC

Actor/writer Victoria's journey has taken her round the bend and back again: from a meditation group in Kitsilano to the psych ward of Lion's Gate Hospital; through the black suicidal depressions and the manic highs of bipolar disorder. Her one-woman show, Crazy For Life, both entertains and educates, dislodging stigmas and showing the everyday 'Joe/Josephine Average' face of psychiatric illness. The play deals with universal themes of pain, courage and hope. It is a celebration of the richness of life and the power of the human spirit.



Picture This... Preview

Calgary SCOPE Society; Calgary, AB

Picture this...festival is a four day film and video festival for, by and about persons with disabilities. It is largely a volunteer effort of persons with disabilities, their friends, allies and support people.

Picture this's third festival is on February 10 - 13, 2004. This is a Tuesday to Friday event, with morning, afternoon and evening programs. It is at the Rozsa Centre on the campus of the University of Calgary.



Wheelchair Ballet

Spirit Synott; Toronto, ON

Spirit Synott has trained with Actor's Workshop, Equity Showcase, Classical Lab, and Actor's Co-op. She graduated with honours from the Ontario College of Art, and completed her postgraduate work in Florence, Italy. As a dancer, Spirit has performed in solo, duet, and ensemble pieces. She has danced with many dynamic artists including Frank Hull, Viv Moore, Almond Small, and Rachel Gorman, as well as Dance Companies such as Canboulay, and OMO Dance.



Spiraling Within

Vancouver, BC

A bold, touching one-woman multi-media show that combines dance, movement and dark humour to explore mental illness and examine the system from the inside out. Spiraling Within follows Kayla as she pops her pills of choice and trips through bus rides, raves and psych wards. The play explores depression, anxiety, bi-polar disorder, psychosis and the way in which these disorders are dealt with by society, families and individuals. As Kayla attempts to self-medicate with rave and street drugs, her psychosis spirals out of control...



Rhythmic Dance

Cerebral Palsy Association; Calgary, AB

Rhythmic dance is a combination of gymnastics and dance. It's a great way to develop range of motion, flexibility, and tone through a series of stretches and basic dance moves. It incorporates music, movement, and various apparatus to increase coordination, motor function, and rhythm.



Drum/Dance Workshop

Calgary, AB

They will be kicking off the drum circle with a little bit of both drumming and dancing. This will be followed by an opportunity for you to participate in an inclusive drum circle, where you too can drum and find your own rhythm! Then we'll add some easy and gentle movement to get you up dancing too!



Birds of a Feather

Calgary, AB

Birds of a Feather is a total arts exploration, using movement, masks, and music to share a day in the life with some fine feathered friends. All performers have chosen a bird to represent themselves and their personal experiences as a disabled person. Come watch as they make the "caged bird sing", sit around like a bunch of "birds on a wire", and tell the story of the "ugly duckling" and more!