



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Conversations on Performance

June 2 to 8 2022

The FTA's newest project, **Conversations on Performance** is a 7-day seminar from **June 2 to 8, 2022** as part of the 16th edition of Festival TransAmériques. FTA will take place in Montreal from May 25 to June 9, 2022.

Open to a maximum of fifteen young Canadian professional artists aged 25 to 35, this project takes the form of a **seminar** held in English and based on six shows presented during FTA. Participants are encouraged to expand their ideas about contemporary theatre and dance, confront their **artistic realities** and **critical thinking**, and to share their **expertise** with their peers. A cultural project coordinator will serve as a consultant during the project.

For its second edition, **Conversations on Performance** will include English-language artists from Montreal, across Quebec and from other provinces in Canada. We hope to eventually open it up to participants from other countries in the years to come.

Objectives

- Encourage the development of emerging artistic practices by circulating ideas and intermingling disciplines and diverse creative contexts;
- Enrich the professional and artistic approach of participants by discovering the work of other artists, as well as contemporary dance and theatre performances from Canada and elsewhere;
- Stimulate contact with other artists and critics, and the sharing of ideas.

Festival TransAmériques

The biggest performing arts festival in North America, Festival TransAmériques is a driving force for the promotion of contemporary theatre and dance. FTA delves deep into artistic disciplines, probing their limits in its quest for bold, outstanding artistic voices. Its policy is a pact with the present, i.e. to support creative artists by presenting and co-producing contemporary theatre and dance pieces, works that reinterpret the world we live in, that shed light on our times. Featuring shows from all over the world, FTA mirrors political and social movements of our era, as echoed in striking and essential works of art.

Eligibility Criteria

- At least two years' experience as a young dance, performance art or theatre professional*.
- Have good spoken english
- Be between 25 and 35
- Vaccination passport or provincial proof of double vaccination required

Special attention will be given to candidates who have demonstrated over the course of their short careers a desire to reflect in depth about their chosen art form and to further advance that particular discipline.

** Directors, playwrights, choreographers, actors, performers, designers or any other candidate with a performing arts practice*

Program activities

- 6 FTA shows
- Discuss FTA shows and related topics with an emphasis on critical analysis
- In-depth discussions with FTA artists
- Visits of cultural venues and artistic centres

Conversations on Performance is a demanding seminar that implies an intense daily schedule. Participants must demonstrate engagement and commitment.

Registration fees: \$195 / PARTICIPANT

Includes 6 FTA shows and 7 days of activities, with a professional mediator

Not covered by the Festival:

- Meals
- Transportation to and in Montreal
- Personal expenses
- Lodging (special rate available at university residences)
- Tickets for shows not included in the Festival's programme

Every submission requires

- 1 page cover letter
- Resume – please include your age

Please submit your files at the latest on January 24 to conversations@fta.ca and indicate **Conversations on Performance Application** in your email title.

If selected, it is your responsibility to find the funding necessary for taking part in the project. FTA will provide an official letter of acceptance to help in your search for funding.

We highly recommend that you start by communicating with your municipal and provincial funding agencies. The Canada Arts Council also offers travel grants for artists taking part in professional development activities.

Informations and questions

MJ Crompt | Mediation and Audience Outreach Assistant
514 842 0704 + 24/ adj.publics@fta.ca / Festival TransAmériques / fta.ca

Testimonials from participants

“Attending Conversations on Performance was transformative for my artistic practice. I was challenged, motivated, and inspired by my time at FTA. The exceptional shows, informative meetings with artists and producers, and fantastic conversations with the seminar group have all had an exciting effect on the work I'm making now. I made new friends and future collaborators from across the country, and I can't wait to see when and how I cross paths with my fellow participants in the future.”

David Gagnon Walker, Halifax

“One of very few opportunities for young Canadian live-art artists across the country to come together and share best practices. I left feeling connected to emerging artists from coast to coast, and overall more implicated in the landscape of Canadian performing arts.”

Burcu Emeç, Montreal

“The Conversations on Performance seminar was a truly enriching week. It's a rare and special opportunity to discover other artists' point of views because we get to reflect from a shared experience. The discussions allowed me to expand my critical thinking and also consider how my own voice can be an active part of the Canadian artistic landscape. “

Bruno-Pierre Houle, Montreal

“The Conversations on Performance program was such a rich experience. FTA's national and international curation is unparalleled and offered not just networking opportunities but a pressing chance for real exchange with my peers about the state of our art. I'm still in contact with my cohort and I have no doubt I will be for years to come.

The program fills an urgent void in our country. I'm at a pivotal time in my career when I'm trying to build national relationships, but there simply aren't other exchange opportunities like this for artists at our career stage—that is, for professionals several years into their practice who are creating work and driving artistic innovation, but still developing their aesthetic and grappling with their place within the industry—who are "established" and no longer "emerging", but for whom "mid-career" sounds positively ancient. And with many of the country's other young professionals programs having recently shuttered Conversations on Performance is unique and all-too necessary. “

Griffin McInnes, Toronto