



Cover photo by Marie Caloz

getting  
to know  
your  
fruit.

Sara Porter  
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Photo by Kendra Epik

# SARA PORTER

Artistic Director / Choreographer / Dancer

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Intelligent and imaginative, Sara is an adventurous, multi-disciplinary performer and writer. Working at the intersection of text and movement, she presents a vulnerable and defiant presence onstage. She began her professional career dancing in Montreal, creating and performing her own pieces as choreographer, while writing about local and international dance artists. Later, she relocated to Edinburgh, where she continued to develop new work and teach contemporary dance and cultural theory.

Sara moved to Toronto in 1998 to teach in the dance department at York, bridging studio and theory in her teaching. She has created over thirty works for herself and other artists. Sara is a member of the movement based group, the Intergalactic Arts Collective in Toronto. Her writings on dance have been published in books, magazines and journals in Canada and the UK.

# COMPANY

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Sara has been presenting her distinctive stage works internationally since 1990. Her earliest solo - *Souls in the Rinse Cycle* with NS multi-instrumentalist Cathy Porter drew on themes of religious background - from there she began developing her distinctive, multi-disciplinary world, incorporating original text, costume, singing, theatrics and play. Notably her clown-based duet - *Opus Ornithologicus: the great bird work* toured in Ontario and was summoned to Prince Charles' Royal Garden Party in Edinburgh. Sara's work turned toward feminist themes exploring the sensual body onstage - integrating humour and research into movement performance.

Sara is the recipient of the Chalmers Arts Fellowship and was recently featured in The Canadian Screen Award-nominated series *THE MOVE*. She lives in Toronto with her partner, Marie, and three sons.



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# Getting to Know Your Fruit.

Sara delves deeper into her Memoir & Movement project in a revamped and intrepid new solo Getting to Know your Fruit. "I've been slicing, dicing, researching and rolling around with fruit over the past year. From revelling in the fresh stuff at Fiesta Farms grocery story to reflecting on the Biblical transgressions of Adam and Eve - I'm thinking about fruit as the sweetness of life, a slander for queer love, and the source of nutrition, poetry, and art, feeding flesh and the imagination.

The fruit of my own flesh, and my own family tree - I'm working on a completely revamped Getting to Know your Fruit - digging deep into memoir and movement to create a new form for Fruit." Sara Porter offers ripe and raucous contemporary performance in her fresh and bold new solo Getting to Know your Fruit.

Always on the edge of humour and absurdity, Sara explores the biology, sensuality and poetry of fruit as a metaphor for the struggle toward self knowledge. Sara stretches the bounds of memoir to harvest the fruits of her 30-year career in contemporary dance, writing, clown, theatre and visual design. Playing through math and memory, literature and lip sync, Sara is on a multi-disciplinary journey to examine the roots and fruits of her identity as a queer woman artist.

Getting to Know your Fruit charts a playful path through storytelling, video, monologue, costumes in an entertaining and instructional hour unlike any other.

**>> [CLICK HERE TO VIEW TRAILER](#)**

**“Irreverent, soulful and deliciously fun... Sara Porter is magnificent. I'm awestruck!”**

**-Niegel Smith, Artistic Director, The Flea Theatre**

**“Exceptionally deft... aesthetic pleasure from beginning to end.”**

**-Douglas Dunn, choreographer, Douglas Dunn + Dancers**

**“Outrageously funny & brutally vulnerable. A mature woman who isn't afraid to be just that.”**

**-Scott Charles, The Writer's Block**

**“Porter is smart, funny, and poignant... a tour de force.”**

**-Karen Bernard, Performance Mix Festival Director**



Photo by Christos Giotis

# PRODUCTION DETAILS

**Number of Dancers - 1**

**Number of Touring Personnel - 3**

Artistic Director / Performer

Technical Director

Stage Manager

## **Ancillary Activities**

Post show Q & A with artist

Community workshop in Memoir & Movement

Pre-show talk - "How to enjoy watching contemporary dance"

**Produced by** Sara Porter Productions & Dance Umbrella Ontario

## **Key Creative Team**

Sara Porter - Artistic Director / Performer

Katherine Duncanson - Creative Collaborator

Rebecca Picherack - Lighting Designer

Linnea Swan - Videographer

**Seeking** - Touring & Residency (for new work development)

**Performance Fee** - Negotiable upon request / see EPK

*Tech rider attached.*