

Montreal, March 6th 2012

2012 Fundraising Campaign

Dear friend of 303,
From the whole 303 team, Happy Spring!

- - - Some realism

For Studio 303, as well for many of our peer organisations, 2012-2013 marks the beginning of a new four-year funding cycle. We wait with baited breath for the news – hoping against all odds for a *significant* increase in operating funds, which currently total \$62,000 per annum. While we also depend on a dozen crucial project grants, operating funds provide a recurring foundation on which we can build.

In today's political and socio-economic context, access to non-commercial, experimental enterprises are under threat. As cultural policies shift, costs continue to rise, and funding becomes scarcer. Under these circumstances, fundraising becomes particularly vital, providing us with additional means, as well as the latitude to put money *where* it is most needed, *when* it is most needed.

- - - Some enthusiasm

Wary, but undeterred, we continue to devise exciting projects, including two ideas which I think are really cool, but require a lot of work, and risk falling between funding cracks: a tri-continent collaboration, and for lack of a better term, an online "Tour Tool". Together, they could be considered under the sexier "*Networking & International Perspectives*" moniker.

This year, 303 is laying groundwork with Aerowaves, a dynamic European network, towards creating an Australian-European-Canadian tour of emerging artists on a shared programme, supported by E-U special funding for such initiatives. This collaboration is the fruit of an Aerowaves meeting in Croatia last year reuniting 38 dance experts from over 30 countries, where I was honoured to be the first invited Canadian delegate.

Meanwhile, our online Tour-tool will share personal testimonials about places where our artists have created or presented work abroad, drawing on the power of peer-to-peer referral. Currently, we are interviewing 20 artists and brainstorming formats and names - your input is welcome! Next season, we will expand the content, test the web interface, and launch the online directory. YES!

- - - The pitch

To survive, most independent artists must find new opportunities to create and show their work, and Studio 303 is ON IT. Your support will help us continue developing initiatives for and with artists, to empower them, and encourage the mobility of ideas and projects.

ALL donations, no matter how small, are appreciated - as well rewards including Airmiles, ViaRail points, or in kind services such as housing for artists, or access to a huge chalet for our annual staff retreat! While money always helps, the symbolic value of personal donations is truly immeasurable.

On behalf of the whole 303 team,
Thank you for your ongoing support,



Miriam Ginestier, Artistic and General director

Studio 303 is a wonderful centre to contain and create imaginative work and meetings.
- Angus Balbernie, guest teacher and artist, 2011

Studio 303 is ABSOLUTELY INVALUABLE to me personally and to my career.
- Dana Michel, independent artist, 2011

Studio 303 provides an essential infrastructure to artists who create outside the box!
- Tedi Tafel, independent artist, 2012

303 staff: General & Artistic Director **Miriam Ginestier** Administrative Assistant **Viva Delorme** Communications Director **Mélissa Guay** Resources & Rentals **Roxanne Angers** Production & Technical Director **Gabrielle Dumont-Dufresne** Communications Coordinator **Julie Poitras** Special Projects **Lys Stevens** • **Kris Nelson** Board of Directors: President **Suzanne Miller** Vice-President **André Houle** Secretary **Ilona Dougherty** Treasurer **Miriam Ginestier** Administrators **Jane Gabriels** • **Cory Garfinkle** • **Michael Montanaro** Advisory Board **Paul Caskey** • **Martha Carter** • **Guy Cools** Founders **Martha Carter** • **Jo Leslie** • **Isabelle Van Grimde**

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