

## Sara Porter Bio

Sara Porter is a multi-faceted artist, performer, writer and teacher with a distinctive voice and a broad palette. Noted for being truly multi-disciplinary – and her wry sense of humor – Porter centres her work in a feminist, queer worldview, and deals with the body as a point of personal reflection.



Porter's signature one-woman show, *Sara does a Solo* (2017) - about the complex interplay of motherhood and dancing – toured across Canada, and to San Francisco and New York City, relaunching her performing career at the age of 47. It marks the beginning of her memoir-based works. Her subsequent solo work, *Getting to know your Fruit* (2019), took a direct and playful approach to the form of memoir itself, and Porter's queerness, centering on her original poem about an apple, orange and banana in search of self-knowledge. Presented live at Toronto's International Presenters Showcase at Fall for Dance North International Festival (FFDN) in 2019, the work was re-envisioned as a film - by director William Yong - and premiered at FFDN in October 2021. Porter's current work - *L-E-A-K* – both art exhibit and performance – is an absurdist and erotic love letter to the ocean. It premieres in Toronto in June 2022.

As a Chalmers Fellowship recipient in 2019, Porter began investigating the intersection of literary memoir & memoir, and developed a unique mode of training and artistic exploration incorporating voice, writing, moving and conversation. She teaches workshops to artists and community members across Canada and internationally. As a creative consultant, she works with circus, opera, theatre, and dance companies, including LookUp Theatre (Toronto), Femmes du Feu (Welland), Sinha Dance (Montreal), Propellor Dance (Ottawa), Dream Big Productions (Toronto). She is currently developing an auteur-ship development program for circus artists with TOHU in Montreal.

Sara has developed new curriculum and taught theory, technique and creative practice since 1996 in colleges and universities in Canada and Scotland.

Sara has been contributing dance writing to print and online publications in Canada and Scotland for 30 years. She is author of *Peter in Process: Peter Boneham's sixty years in dance*, a biography of the Canadian icon.

Sara has received support from Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council, Canada Council, Scottish Arts Council, Nova Scotia Talent Trust.

Originally from Nova Scotia, Sara lived and worked in Montreal and Edinburgh, before settling in Toronto, where she resides with her three children.

*Photo by Marie Caloz*