The Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria (ICA) helps individuals and organizations to connect across cultures. We provide information, support and tools to help immigrants and refugees reach their goals. By engaging people through networks, education, employment, and arts programming we create a welcoming community.

Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria
930 Balmoral Road, Victoria, BC V8T 1A8
250.388.4728
www.icavictoria.org

This project is generously supported by:

Victoria Foundation
connecting people who care with causes that matter
**DIRECTOR’S NOTE**

This production has been a salve, a much-needed creative medicine to tell stories that often can’t find a home. Stories of place/displacement, belonging/longing, connection/disconnection across diverse voices: indigenous, settler, refugee and immigrant. Through the process it became clear that these stories were both newborn and hungry to be seen, as well as ones that were old and homeless...until now. Together we stepped into this creative relationship and found our places of service to each other and to the whole. I was grateful for the incredible cast of creators who brought forward their voices and embodied them with such generosity, encouraging me to do the same.

Monique Salez  
Owner & Artistic Director, Raino Dance

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**PROGRAM NOTE**

This performative art presentation was indeed a community and team effort! We knew we wanted to create a show that celebrated diverse local talent, but also one that challenged current beliefs and questioned community barriers to meaningful inclusion. Trusting that people would be willing to share their experiences, we put a call out for stories that spoke of their inter-relationship to place and people. The only caveat was that the stories needed to be honest and to make us feel something. We understand that work like this can be seen as provocative and create some discomfort, but without it, we know we can’t begin to imagine a social way forward. What you see in this multidisciplinary presentation are artists being courageous enough to speak their truth. This ICA project, funded by Victoria Foundation, is a partnership with Raino Dance and its Artistic Director, Monique Salez, whose creative vision was crucial in bringing the production to life. We’d also like to thank Krystal Cook and Asha Mehrabi for being an integral part of the Creative Team.

Paulina Grainger  
Manager – Arts & Community Engagement, ICA

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**CAST**

**Fracturing Colonial Toxic Masculinities #1**  
Devi Mucina  
Nandi Mucina  
Chorus  
Monique Salez (Director)

**Young Steps**  
Teka Everszt  
Krystal Cook (Director)

**Try to be Soft #1**  
Kemi Craig (Dancer)  
Joy Ngenda (Poet)

**On the Border**  
(Based on Warsan Shire’s Poem Home)  
Paulina Grainger  
Evan Roberts  
Meer Mahmoud (Guitarist)  
Asha Mehrabi (Director / Choreographer)  
Asha & Paulina (Playwrights)

**She Carries the World on Her Back**  
Nicole Mandryk (Song)  
Teka Everszt  
Monique Salez (Director)

**Try to be Soft #2**  
Kemi Craig (Dancer)  
Joy Ngenda (Poet)  
Monique Salez (Director)

**Connections**  
Lina de Guevara  
Krystal Cook (Director)

**Falling Past the Cedar Skyline**  
Rayn Cook-Thomas  
(Choreographer / Dancer)

**Fracturing Colonial Toxic Masculinities #2**  
Devi Mucina  
Nandi Mucina  
Chorus  
Monique Salez (Director)

**Many Seas**  
Billie Tes  
Asha Mehrabi (Director)

**My imprint is Mine**  
Lindsay Delaronde  
Kemi Craig (Crew)  
Teka Everszt (Crew)  
Monique Salez (Director / Choreographer)

**Rafaga (By Jouquín Turina)**  
Meer Mahmoud (Guitar Solo)

**Migration**  
Monique Salez

**We are of the Light**  
Krystal Cook (Poet)  
Tesekla Cook-Willie  
Monique Salez (Director)

**Fracturing Colonial Toxic Masculinities #3**  
Devi Mucina  
Nandi Mucina  
Chorus  
Monique Salez (Director)

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*Please be advised of Adult Language*

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**CREATIVE TEAM**

**Directed by**  
Monique Salez

**Produced by**  
Paulina Grainger

**Creative Support**  
Kris Kramer

**Creative Support**  
Kemi Craig (Crew)

**Stage Manager**  
Hina Nishioka

**Photography**  
Quinton Gordon

**+ Program Design**