

Kirsten Wicklund

Kirsten Wicklund (she/her) was born in British Columbia, Canada and trained at Goh Ballet Academy, Modus Operandi Contemporary Training Program, The Royal Winnipeg Ballet School, The Banff Centre for the Performing Arts, and received scholarships to train at American Ballet Theatre, Boston Ballet & Pacific Northwest Ballet. As a Dance Artist, Kirsten has danced with The Washington Ballet Company, Ballet BC under Emily Molnar, CM / Medhi Walerski (2014 - 2021), Opera Ballet Vlaanderen (2021-2024) and more. Kirsten has danced and created original works by Crystal Pite, Ohad Naharin, Sharon Eyal, Pina Bausch, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Akram Khan, Lesley Telford, Medhi Walerski, William Forsythe, Emmanuel Gat, Wen Wei Wang, Cayetano Soto, Adi Salant, Aszure Barton, Company 605, Johan Inger, Serge Bennathan, Jorma Elo, Jacopo Godani, Fernando Magadan, Walter Mateini, Emily Molnar, Jan Martens, Richard Siegal, Ella Rothschild and more.

As an independent maker, Kirsten has choreographed works for Ballet Edmonton, Opera Ballet Vlaanderen, The Dutch National Ballet's Junior Company & New Moves Program, The New York Choreographic Institute at New York City Ballet, Ballet BC's "Take Form", Ballet Kelowna and more. Her work "Overcast" was selected as a finalist for the International Choreographic Competition Hannover in 2021. In 2024 Kirsten was appointed the Artistic Director of Ballet Edmonton. She is passionate about leading the 10-dancer ensemble with a focus on the creation of bold and risk-taking work in contemporary ballet and dance theatre featuring leading and emerging voices within the global dance community. Kirsten was recently commissioned to build a new work FIELD for Opera Ballet Vlaanderen which made its World Premiere in Antwerpen, Belgium in November 2024.