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Dancing on the Edge Announces 38th Annual Festival Lineup of Visceral and Innovative Contemporary Dance

Canada's longest-running contemporary dance festival presents five world premieres and three Western Canadian premieres as part of its 10-day event

VANCOUVER, BC – Dancing on the Edge Festival (DOTE) presents its 38th annual festival, featuring a dynamic lineup of more than 30 trailblazing performances from established and emerging dancemakers at various dance venues, including the **Firehall Arts Centre**, **SFU Woodward's**, and **Scotiabank Dance Centre**, from **June 4 to 13, 2026**.

Spotlighting a wide range of electrifying world and Western Canadian premieres from local, national and international artists, the festival will offer four mixed programs featuring interdisciplinary works, improvisational choreography, and contemporary dance over its 10-day slate of performances.

"We're delighted to present another festival of imaginative, multi-layered and virtuosic works exploring countless universal themes such as memory and relationships, knowledge sharing and the impact of environmental change, identity and its erasure, communal restoration and intergenerational trauma and grief, and the power of ancestry and love," says **Donna Spencer, DOTE Artistic Producer**. "As populist culture and online entertainment increases, it has become increasingly difficult for contemporary dance artists to develop and share their work. This festival's survival reflects the tenacity of dance artists to continue creating and stimulating imagination, reflection, and provocation through their work. Dance has a way of telling stories in a manner that reaches into our hearts and bodies and transforms our thinking, connecting kinetically with our own physicality."

Some of this year's most anticipated performances include: the world premiere of **Char** from Prince George's Method Dance, an interdisciplinary creation examining the evolving reality of wildfire in Central and Northern British Columbia; **Microphone Controller**, a full-length work from Canadian dancemaker Lukas Malkowski that reimagines the rock concert for both Deaf and hearing audiences through choreography, embodiment and sign language; **Anne**, a deeply personal work choreographed and performed by Laurence Lemieux of Toronto's Compagnie de la Citadelle; the world premiere of **KIN & DOVES** from Vancouver's Belle Spirale Dance Projects—an innovative new work featuring Ballet BC's Sid Chuckas; and **Where You Go**, a collaboration between two Vancouver companies—O.Dela Arts and musica intima—inspired by

Hemingway's "A Farewell to Arms," which portrays two lovers bound by the inescapable promise of death.

Additional world premieres include: ***She Was Here*** by local choreographer Vidya Kotamraju, an unapologetic 35-minute solo dance work that confronts the quiet erasure of women's identity within marriage; ***Casseiopia***, a new work by Indigenous artist Cheyenne Seary created in collaboration with a cast of mature dancers from Vancouver's All Bodies Dance that explores themes of tenderness, play, aging, and grief; and Joe Ink's ***the heart of it***, a tender work about the human heart and everything it represents from Vancouver's Joe Laughlin.

Dancing on the Edge's complete festival lineup includes:

EDGE 1: June 4 at 7pm & June 5 at 9pm @ Firehall Arts Centre

Tahanan/Home by Starr Muranko/Co.ERASGA (Vancouver)

the heart of it by Joe Ink (Vancouver) - **World Premiere**

Lighthouse by Company 605 (Vancouver) - **Work in Progress**

June 5 at 7pm & June 6 at 9pm @ The AddedDance Centre

Imago by Corpo Imago (Vancouver) - **Western Canadian Premiere**

EDGE 2: June 5 at 8:30pm & June 7 at 3pm @ SFU Woodward's

Casseiopia by All Bodies Dance (Vancouver) - **World Premiere**

Laborious Song by Daina Ashbee (Gabriola Island) - **Western Canadian Premiere**

Eighty Years by Jennifer Aoki (Vancouver) **Work in Progress**

EDGE 3: June 6 at 7pm & June 7 at 7pm @ Firehall Arts Centre

She Was Here by Vidya Kotamraju (Vancouver) - **World Premiere**

Char by Method Dance (Prince George) - **World Premiere**

June 8 at 7pm & June 9 at 9pm @ Firehall Arts Centre

Microphone Controller by Lukas Malkowski (Germany/Canada) – **Western Canadian Premiere**

June 9 at 7pm & June 10 at 7pm @ Firehall Arts Centre

Anne by Compagnie de la Citadelle (Toronto)

June 11 at 7pm & June 12 at 9pm @ Firehall Arts Centre

Where You Go by O.Dela Arts x musica intima (Vancouver)

EDGE 4: June 11 at 9pm & June 13 at 9pm @ Firehall Arts Centre

Wound by Modus Operandi (Vancouver)

Soft Animals by Dance//Novella (North Vancouver)

June 12 at 7pm & June 13 at 7pm @ Firehall Arts Centre

KIN & DOVES by Belle Spirale Dance Projects | Sid Chuckas (Vancouver) - **World Premiere**

Single tickets are on sale May 11, 2026. For detailed programming information and to purchase tickets, please visit: dancingontheedge.org

About Dancing on the Edge (dancingontheedge.org)

Dancing on the Edge Festival is Canada’s longest-running professional contemporary dance festival, proudly rooted in British Columbia for more than 37 years. Celebrated as a cornerstone of the Lower Mainland’s dance season, the festival showcases bold, boundary-pushing performances by emerging and established artists from across Canada and around the world. With a mission to support the creation and presentation of innovative choreography, DOTE engages audiences through performances and dialogues in both traditional and unexpected spaces—making contemporary dance accessible, thought-provoking, and unforgettable.

LISTING INFORMATION

Dancing on the Edge 2026

Dates:	June 4 to 13, 2026
Mainstage Venues:	Firehall Arts Centre 280 E Cordova St, Vancouver SFU Woodward's 149 W Hastings St, Vancouver The Dance Centre 677 Davie St, Vancouver
Ticket Prices:	From \$25-\$50 per performance 4 Pack Pass: \$95
Tickets:	Online: dancingontheedge.org In-Person: Firehall Arts Centre, 280 E Cordova St At the Door: 60 mins. prior to showtime

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