

Exquisite Pressure x All Bodies Dance Project Guidelines

About the Program

Description

Exquisite Pressure (ExP) at What Lab provides creation support for new performance works. We want to give artists a platform to try something new— to celebrate vulnerability in support of an idea that's not yet fully formed, but still worthy of exploration.

ExP is What Lab's effort to foster community and honour newness in a creative process. More tangibly, ExP will provide performance artists a creative residency, with free studio access and financial support. This residency will culminate in public showings of new work with opportunities for community support, feedback, and documentation. This round of ExP is hosted and curated by All Bodies Dance Project. They will provide selected artists facilitated workshopping opportunities and other creative support.

-Note from All Bodies Dance Project –

At All Bodies Dance Project, we don't tend to begin with an exact vision for a work. For us, pieces emerge from curiosity: What does each new combination of unique moving bodies have to offer the creation of a dance? What artistic possibility is in this or that mobility tool or access need? In what ways might our audiences perceive or interact with our creations beyond the typical conventions of performance?

Curated by All Bodies Dance Project, this iteration of Exquisite Pressure invites artists and groups interested in reaching past the default assumptions in performance making: who does it, what it looks like and how it can be shared with an audience.

Submission Process

Who can apply

Artists working with any and all modes of performance are encouraged to apply. Collectives and collaborative groups are also encouraged to apply, though please note the artist stipend will remain the same regardless of group size.

Submission and deadline

Submit the application form at via <https://whatlab.ca/apply-exp-all-bodies-dance/> by November 20th, 2024 at 11:59pm.



Selection

All Bodies Dance Project will review all application materials and chose three artists. Accepted artists will be notified by e-mail by early December 2024.

Support

Selected artists will receive

- 30 hours of studio space at the What Lab studio for creative exploration and research
- Creative support from ExP hosts All Bodies Dance Project
- A \$200 design budget to support the creation of the work
- A copy of all photo and/or video documentation, for personal use
- An artist stipend of \$1,000 on behalf of What Lab

What Lab studio Accessibility Details

The venue is located on the second floor up one flight of stairs, but there is a ground level accessible entrance through the back of the building, from the alley. There is one single-occupancy, gender-inclusive washroom. The washroom is not big enough for larger style wheelchairs to completely turn around in while the door is open. We are working on upgrading this door in time for this residency process, but this has not yet been confirmed.

Seating is typically informal, and will include some combination of chairs, floor seating, couches, and cushions. We are a trans-inclusive space. What Lab is located at 1814 Pandora Street. There is no dedicated parking, only street parking.

Important Dates/Timeline

Jan-March 2025 – Artist access to free studio time

Schedule will be created around artist's needs, depending on What Lab studio availability.

Early March 2025 – Private workshopping session

Exact date and time TBD. The cohort of selected artists will gather for a closed group works-in-progress showing, facilitated by All Bodies Dance Project.

March 13, 2025– Tech/dress rehearsal

****Artists must be available for this date**** Each artist receives three hours of tech rehearsal with a What Lab Stage Manager.

March 14-15, 2025– Public showing

****Artists must be available for these dates**** Public showing of work, to take place at What Lab. Includes feedback session led by All Bodies Dance Project.

Any questions about Exquisite Pressure or the application process can go to Jarin at jarin@whatlab.ca.

