

BIOs

Navid Navab | navidnavab.net | is a Montreal based media alchemist, composer/improvisor, audiovisual sculptor, *gesture bender*, and multidisciplinary artist. Interested in the poetics of gesture, materiality, and embodiment, his work investigates the transmutation of matter and the enrichment of its inherent performative qualities. Navid uses gestures, rhythms and vibration from everyday life as basis for real-time compositions, resulting in augmented acoustical-poetry and painterly light that enchants improvisational and pedestrian movements.

His pieces, which take on the form of gestural compositions, responsive architecture, theatrical interactive installations, and multimodal improv-based performances, have been presented internationally at diverse venues including Canadian Center for Architecture, Festival du Nouveau Cinema, Shanghai eArts, MUMUTH Austria, Roulette New York, Western Front Vancouver, McCord Museum, Musée d'art Contemporain de Montréal, Timisoara Romania, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, International Digital Arts Biennial, Musiikin Aika Finland, and CCRMA Palo Alto among others.

A graduate of Ontario Royal Conservatory of Music, Concordia University's Electroacoustics and Computational Arts program, and McGill Music Technology, Navid has been working for the past several years creating deeply expressive intermedia instruments synthesizing research at IRCAM, CRIMMT, CNMAT, Topological Media Lab and Matralab, while using phenomenological studies to inform the creation of computationally-augmented performance environments.

Tony Chong

From 2005 –2008, Tony was the Co-Artistic Director and then the Artistic Director of Le Groupe Dance Lab in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Tony has danced and toured internationally with companies such as La Compagnie Marie Chouinard, Carbon 14, Jean-Pierre Perreault, Dominique Porte's Système D, Louise Bedard Danse, and José Navas' Compagnie Flak. He has also collaborated and worked with companies from abroad such as Germany's Steptext Dance Theatre and Belgium's Ballet C de la B with Christine de Smedt.

Tony has created a number of works that have been presented Internationally including The Berlin Project, Le Naufragé, L'Empreinte des Anges for Danse l'Astragale in Trois Rivières, Delusions of Enchantment, Bloodletting and Other Pleasant Things for Dancemakers Company, Berceuses Tristes et Autres Monstres for L'École Nationale de Cirque, Comme Hamlet (film) and more.

Tony received his Bachelors of Arts degree with a major in Dance studies at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. He continued his studies in New York at NYU's The Tisch School for the Arts and in San José, California with The Limon West and The Limon Company. With his career in dance, Tony is also a photographer and a professional cook.

Jérôme Delapierre is a visual artist and interaction designer working in Montreal. He studied Computation Arts and Interaction design at Concordia University as well as Contemporary Arts and new media at IMUS University in France. Currently, he is the artistic director of Anartistic, and freelance visual designer and researcher at Topological Media Lab and Alkemie Atelier.

He has collaborated with different artists and researchers like Pk langshaw, Sha Xin Wei, Michael Montanaro, Roger Sinha, Dj Champion, Philippe Ducros and Jean Derome, and his work has been presented at festivals and events in various countries. His research is based on the relationship between human and technology and non linear interactivity, focusing on the experiences of urban social behavior. He is interested in new ways to create visual sets and environments by exploring eclectic projection techniques. Jérôme's work encompasses: visual design, responsive video, interactive installations, performances and scenography.

Michael Montanaro is a trans-disciplinary artist known for his work in the field of contemporary dance and mixed media. In 1985 he founded Montanaro Dance, developing a reputation for using cutting edge technology to create theatrical environments for his choreography. He has worked as a choreographer and director on numerous projects including the Cirque du Soleil's "Varekai", Opéra de Montréal's "Carmina Burana", a theatrical work "Frankenstein's Ghosts, and a series of short films "Dances For Small Spaces".

Michael has been chair of the Contemporary Dance, Concordia University for the past 15 years, is Co-Director of the Topological Media Lab and a founding member of Hexagram / Institute for Research/Creation in Media Arts. He is currently overseeing the direction of "Einstein's Dream"- a large-scale interactive installation and is also involved in the envisioning and design of numerous projects dedicated to evolving innovative ways in which technology is used to enhance live performance.