

## ALLISON TOFFAN, CIRICULUM VITAE

### PROFESSIONAL HISTORY:

#### **Ripple Effect - March 2023 - present**

-Producer/Choreographer

-curated cast of new generation tap dancers and musicians, completed first creation period work for show in development to be toured as part of outreach initiative; currently 25 minutes of original music and choreography

#### **Heather Cornell Legacy Project (HCLP) - January 2022 - present**

-Chief Financial Officer, Administrative & Development Director

#### **Toronto International Tap Dance Festival (TITDF) - June 2017 - present**

Artistic Director & Lead Producer, co-produced with Harbourfront Centre

Event dates: June 1-3, 2017, August 19-21, 2022, currently working towards August 15-18, 2024

#### **Toronto Rhythm Initiative - 2011 - present**

-Founder, Artistic Producer, Featured Soloist/Choreographer

-produced 16 two-hour shows to date featuring the professional tap dance community, and visiting international guest artists in collaboration with live music.

-presented at The Great Hall in Toronto, ON, The Arts Court Theatre & Meridian Theatres at Centrepointe - Studio, Ottawa, ON, and The Park Theatre in Winnipeg, MB

Clicked On Romance (Music Video) - March 2022

Choreographer, Casting Director and post-production tap recording

Vocalist: Ori Dagan, Producer: Leonardo Dell'Anno Videographer: Carlos Coronado

#### **Intersection 2021 - August 20-22, 2021**

-Producer/Presenter

-debuted documentary, facilitated discussions, and hosted live tap/jazz music jam

3 day virtual & live event hybrid - Bar 3030, Toronto, ON and online

#### **The Artist Symposium Featuring Dianne Walker - August 24-25, 2019**

-Producer/Presenter

-professional & youth masterclasses, lectures, and performance

Randolph Academy for the Performing Arts & Bar 3030, Toronto, ON

#### **Perspectives In Rhythm - Fall For Dance North, Union Station - September 22, 2018**

-Curator & Presenting Artist, 15 minutes of personal work, curated full 1 hour of programming

Presenter: Michael Caldwell, FFDN Artistic Producer

Edwards Summer Music Series - August 16, 2018

Presenting Artist; Excerpts from The Big Band Tap Revue with Toronto Jazz Orchestra, 1 hour set

Presenter: Hit & Run Dance Productions, Toronto Botanical Gardens

Dusk Dances 2018, Withrow Park - August 5-12, 2018

Commissioned Choreographer, 15 minute work

Presenter: Michael Caldwell (Guest Curator), Sylvie Bouchard (Festival Director)

Cuphead The Video Game, Soundtrack (Recording date: September 2017)

2018 Juno Nomination for Best Instrumental Album

#### **The Big Band Tap Revue - November 28-29, 2015**

Choreographer & Co-Artistic Director with Josh Grossman (Artistic Director: Toronto Jazz Orchestra)

Director: Ted Louis Levy (Emmy Award Winner)

Brigantine Room, Harbourfront Centre Toronto, ON

Producers: Josh Grossman, Soraya Peerbaye, Allison Toffan

2 hour full-length show, concert style presentation

The StepCrew - Cast Member & Soloist: 2014-2015  
(Irish Step, Ottawa Valley Step, and Tap Dance)  
International multi-city tours, 2-hour full-length show

**The Big Band Tap Revue - December 7, 2014**

Choreographer & Artistic Director in collaboration with Josh Grossman  
Lula Lounge, Toronto, ON  
Producers: Josh Grossman, Soraya Peerbaye, Allison Toffan  
2 hour full-length show, club style (creation stage)

HOLD ON - August 29, 2014

-Featured Dancer, Choreographer: Lisa La Touche  
Norman Rothstein Theatre, Vancouver, BC  
Presenter: Vancouver Tap Dance Society/Sas Selfjord

Rhythm Lives! - August 16, 2014

-Featured Soloist & Dancer  
Rialto Theatre, Montreal, QC  
Presenter: The Montreal Tap Dance Society/Tanya Knights

Toronto's Inaugural Body Percussion Festival; NextSteps Dance Series - March 29, 2014

Commissioned Choreographer, 10 minute work  
Harbourfront Centre Studio Theatre  
Producers: Viv Moore & Soraya Peerbaye

TV Series: Warehouse 13 Series Finale, chorus girl

Shoot date: August 29 & 30, 2013  
GEP Productions/Choreographer: Jeff Dimitriou  
-Also hired for session to record the tap sounds in post-production

A Night In Tunisia, July 11, 2013

-Dancer, Tap Internationals/Choreographer: Lisa La Touche; Tap Phonics  
Symphony Space, New York City, NY  
Presenter: Tap City Festival, NYC/Tony Waag

Rhythm Lives Featuring Arthur Duncan - July 7, 2013

-Featured Soloist & Dancer  
Rialto Theatre, Montreal, QC  
Presenter: The Montreal Tap Dance Society/Tanya Knights

**TD Toronto Jazz Festival Presents Toronto Rhythm Initiative - June 30, 2013**

-Director, Featured Soloist & Choreographer  
The Shops At Don Mills, Toronto  
Presenter: Josh Grossman, Artistic Director, Toronto Downtown Jazz

Ottawa Rhythm Initiative Presents: Collected Soles - June 2, 2013

-Featured Soloist, Choreographer, and Artist In Residence  
Arts Court Theatre, Ottawa  
Presenter: Carole Anne Piccinin, Artistic Producer, Ottawa Rhythm Initiative

Listen Beyond Your Ears

-Dancer & Body Percussionist  
Choreographer: Tasha Lawson; Tri Tone Productions  
Presenter: Festival Dance Encore, Trois Rivieres, QC, May 2010  
Premiered at Tapestry Dance Company, Austin, TX, May 2010

2010 Winter Olympic Opening Ceremonies, Vancouver, February 12, 2010  
Featured Tap Dancer

David Atkins Productions/Choreography: Drew Anthony & Brock Jellison  
-Also hired for session to record the tap sounds in post production; world wide broadcast

Principle Dancer with Turn On The Tap, 2002-2009  
Artistic Director & Choreographer: Paula Skimin

## **FACULTY:**

### **TRI Summer Youth Intensive 2011 – present**

- program director, educator
- offering dancers classes in tap technique, history, improvisation, music theory & jazz form, guest artist workshops, working with live music/communication with musicians, and performance opportunity

#### Festivals:

Vancouver International Tap Festival (2014)  
Legends Of Rhythm Tap Festival, Montreal, QC (2014 & 2013)  
Manitoba Dance Festival, Winnipeg, MB (2014)  
Performing Arts BC Festival, Duncan, BC (2010)

Music Theatre - Performance Program, Sheridan College, Oakville, ON (2007-2013)

Randolph Academy (College & Youth Program), Toronto, ON (2012)

Artist In Residence, Ottawa Rhythm Initiative, Ottawa, ON (2012-2013)  
-Mentored community on choreographic development, music arrangement, communicating with musicians, and production

## **EDUCATION & TRAINING:**

2004 Graduate, Sheridan College: Music Theatre – Performance Program, Diploma (Dance, Acting, Vocal)

Music: Drums - Dave Clark, Dan Weiss, Jazz Vocals - Jay Clayton

Mentors: Paula Skimin, Heather Cornell, Brenda Bufalino, Max Pollak, Dianne Walker

Master classes/workshops: Arthur Duncan, Derick Grant, Savion Glover, Marshall Davis II, Nico Rubio, Ayodele Casel, Michelle Dorrance, Jason Samuels-Smith, Chloe Arnold, Barbara Duffy, Sarah Petronio, Dr. Jimmy Slyde, Acia Gray, Nicholas Young

## **PRIZES, AWARDS & GRANTS:**

Department of Canadian Heritage; Canada Arts Presentation Fund (2024, 2022)  
Toronto Arts Council: Dance Series & Festivals (2023, 2018, 2016)  
Canada Council For The Arts: Arts Across Canada - Public Outreach (2023, 2021)  
Ontario Arts Council: Dance Series & Festivals (2022, 2020, 2016)  
2023 Canada Council For The Arts: Sector Innovation & Development, Supporting Artistic Practice (HCLP)  
2022 Ontario Arts Council: Training and Community Development (HCLP)  
2022 Canada Council For The Arts: Explore & Create; Concept to Realization  
2022 Ontario Arts Council: Creation  
2022 Department of Canadian Heritage; Re-engaging Audiences Fund  
2021 Department of Canadian Heritage; Supporting Workers in Live Arts and Music Sectors Fund  
2015 Ontario Arts Council: Production/Presentation  
2015 Toronto Arts Council: Production/Presentation  
2014 Canada Council For The Arts: Travel To Dance Professionals  
2014 Toronto Arts Council: Creation  
2010 FACTOR Grant Recipient, Professional Demo Award  
2009 Canada Council For The Arts: Grants To Dance Professionals: Emerging Artist