

# ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES



## **JAMES CROKER**

Originally a sheep shearer from Australia, James came to Canada to study dance, theatre and mime at Guelph University, Guelph Ontario, and the former Academy of Performing Arts School in Cambridge, Ontario. James worked for the Academy for over a decade, creating and performing productions in China, Australia, New Zealand, Europe and North America. Eventually James became the arts school director, teaching and training international young people in dance, theatre and mime. In 1990 James began his own company, MOTUS O, and has since been working the roles of Co-Artistic Director as well as Choreographer, Performer, Set and Prop Designer. He has created over 70 original works for the company and has toured them throughout England, Australia, the U.S.A. and Canada. James also teaches dance and theatre in Ontario High Schools in their drama and dance programs, as well as is the director of MOTUS O's Junior Company training and creating shows for youth ages 10 – 18.

## **CYNTHIA CROKER**

Cynthia grew up in Minneapolis, Minnesota studying all forms of dance ranging from ballet and jazz to tap dancing on dinner plates. She trained professionally in voice, flute and gymnastics as well performed in many musical theatre productions. After studying vocal education at Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota she came to Canada and joined the staff of the Academy of Performing Arts School (Cambridge, Ontario) where she taught master classes in jazz dance, voice and flute and directed numerous productions internationally. Cynthia is a Co-Founder of MOTUS O as well as holds the positions of Co-Artistic Director, Choreographer, Performer, Teacher and Costume Designer. She has created over 70 original works for the company and has toured with them throughout England, the U.S.A. and Canada. Cynthia teaches movement with various social service organizations, including individuals with Parkinson's, Cerebral Palsy, Aphasia and Grief.

## **JACK LANGENHUIZEN**

A former national figure skater, Jack began, at the age of 18, his training in dance at Toronto's Roland and Romaine Dance School, including jazz, tap, ballet, musical theatre and ballroom. He also took summer classes at York University in Toronto for 2 years, studying Luigi jazz. After completing a Bachelor of Arts Degree at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo Ontario he joined the former Academy of Performing Arts School (Cambridge, Ontario) where he taught and continued his studies in dance now including modern and contact improvisation. He then toured with the Academy's dance school in Europe, Central America and throughout North America. In 1990 Jack co-founded MOTUS O as well as took the roles of General Manager, Choreographer, Performer and Teacher. Jack has created over 70 original works for the Company and has toured and taught with them throughout England, Australia, U.S.A. and Canada. Jack continues to tour with MOTUS O, as well as teaches and choreographs for figure skating clubs in Ontario.

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