



## ARTISTIC DIRECTOR 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. James also is a teacher in dance and theatre, including working for the Royal Conservatory of Music's "Learning through the Arts" program teaching school curriculum through the arts in Toronto. He also works as an artist in residence at the Banff Centre in their Management/Leadership Program. James has created over 60 original works or 17 full-length productions for the company and has toured them throughout England, Australia, the U.S.A. and Canada.

### **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 60 original works for the company and has toured with them throughout England, the U.S.A. and Canada. Cynthia is also an artist in residence with the Banff Centre in their Leadership Development Program.

### **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. After completing a Bachelor of Arts Degree he joined the Academy of Performing Arts School (Cambridge, Ontario) where he taught and continued his studies in dance now including modern and contact improvisation. He also 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, Co-Artistic Director, Choreographer, Performer and Teacher. Jack has created over 60 original works for MOTUS O and has toured and taught with them throughout England, Australia, U.S.A. and Canada. Jack also works as a faculty member at the Banff Centre in Alberta in their Leadership Development Program.