

## **Carlene Forbes**

We started playing with Into the Wire around October 2019. The early stages had different dancers, a different concept, and overall, a different feel. Most of our shows start that way, but this one always felt more organic in the way it was created. The process always had a very "let's plant a seed and see what grows" kind of approach. We would start with an idea, move our bodies, and let the idea unfold. Some ideas worked, some ideas didn't, and the ones what stuck would keep evolving week after week. It almost felt like being both an observer and a creator simultaneously. What started to unfold was a story, more linear (and as it turns out, globally relevant) than any we've told before.

When COVID-19 struck, I don't think that any of us thought in the beginning that we would have to cancel the show. As the weeks progressed and the show date grew closer, it became more and more inevitable, so I knew it was coming. When Dyana made the official call, of course I was disappointed, and went through a course of emotions over the following weeks, but there was something about that too that felt organic. Not easy, but organic.

I don't know what comes next for our show, and I definitely I don't know what comes next for our world. But what this whole process has showed me, is that sometimes the pause is part of the process. When the world stops turning, even for a moment, it gives a kind of space to reflect, discover and gain a new, clearer perspective. It offers an opportunity for the community to come together, help each other, and to ask for help. While the pause may cause you to face some uncomfortable feelings and fears, if you stop to look closely, you might discover that it is also a gift.

I am confident that this show will make it to the stage in all of its full length, full cast glory. Those ideas that have evolved over the past several months have not stopped evolving. They are still incubating, taking on a fresher perspective and deeper meaning, even as we all dance separately at home in our living rooms. This show started unfolding many months ago, and this pause is just another step in the process. I will wait patiently for the day that we can all come together again, to move and share our story in a brand new way.