

IN MY BODY

by bboyizm / crazy smooth



It is said that the bravest
thing a dancer can do
is grow old -
for a b-boy/b-girl,
the experience is
approaching heroic.



THE COMPANY



Founded in 2004 by dancer-choreographer Crazy Smooth, Bboyizm is Canada's premier street dance company. Our mandate is to promote and preserve the foundation, authenticity, and essence of all street dances. Our ethos is centered on the premise that authentic self-expression enables an individual – and by extension, a community – to realize its full potential.

Bboyizm's full-length theatre productions have toured Canada to critical acclaim. In addition to performances, the company provides a complete street dance experience that includes outreach and street dance programs in schools and community-based organizations.

Dance to express! Not to impress.

That's our motto – we believe that in expressing oneself authentically, the art and the dance will be impressive by nature.

ARTIST STATEMENT

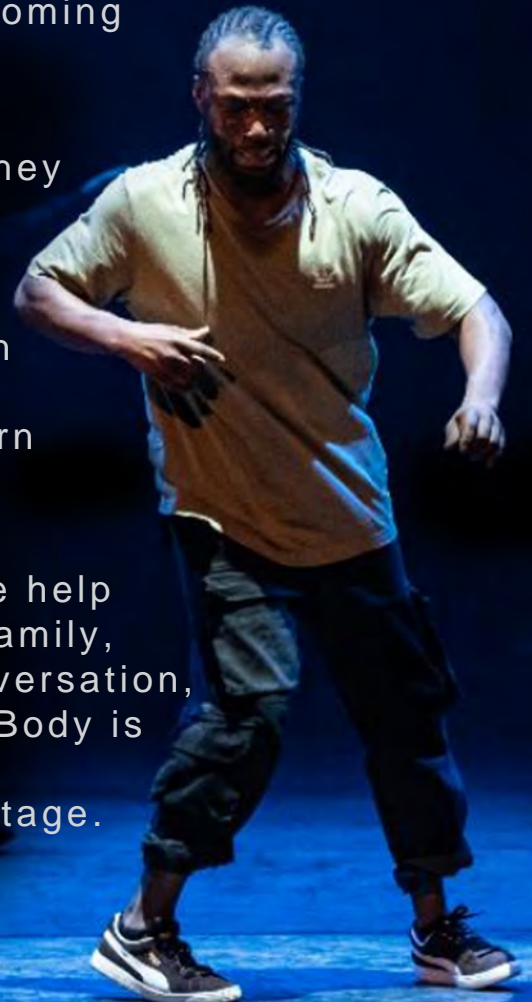
Crazy Smooth

Street Dancer, Choreographer, Artistic Director

The inspiration for In My Body has literally been in my body for over a decade and realizing my vision in this large-scale format has been a transformational experience for me and my artistic collaborators. Aging affects every aspect of ourselves and the relationships we engage in. The essence of In My Body is found amongst the intergenerational cast, representatives of our broader community, from the elders on down to the up-and-coming generation of street dancers.

While audiences experience the show, they will notice themes common to their own experience of aging – from the youthful yearning to be “grown up”, to the middle-aged realization that being grown up is not a fixed point, and the older generation’s sage acceptance or stubborn defiance.

In My Body was created with the help of my people – my friends, my family, my tribe – through hours of conversation, deep dialogue, and love. In My Body is an homage to my community – a profound thank you from the stage.





SHOW DESCRIPTION

In My Body features an intergenerational group of nine dancers and an international creative team including original music by DJ Shash'U.

In My Body explores the multi-generational dynamic and the hardship and heroism of aging in street dancing. In keeping with hip-hop culture, b-boys/b-girls present a façade of confidence and invincibility as they engage in battles to prove their value and establish their dominance.

The resulting vocabulary is one of the most physically demanding and visually impressive of the dance genres and leaves no room for the expression of vulnerability.

In this layered investigation of street dancers' perseverance in the battle against time, In My Body goes deep into the culture of hip-hop through the eyes, minds and bodies of the multi-generational company. Writer Alejandro Rodriguez provides a powerful backdrop of personal stories of survival, triumph, and defeat drawn from interviews that he conducted with the dancers including DKC Freeze, the oldest dancer in the company (57, born 1965), and Tash (51, born in 1971).

The use of projection and lighting is alternately pulsating, soothing or absent, rendering each scene fresh and specific, while the transitions are so seamless the audience doesn't realize they have been moved



SHOW DETAILS



Title: In My Body
Length: 60 minutes, no intermission
Choreographer: Crazy Smooth
Dancers: Crazy Smooth, Tash, DKC Freeze, Nubian Néné, Julie Rock, Anyo, Jayson Collantes, Tiffany Leung, Vibz
Assistant Choreographer: Saxon Fraser
Original Music: DJ Shash'U
Writer: Alejandro Rodriquez
Outside Eye: Melly Mel
Costume Design: Sonya Bayer + Melly Mel
Lighting Designer: Chantal Labonté
Video Director: Samuel Boucher
Multimedia Designer: Thomas Payette (mirari)
Creative Programmer: Charles-Éric Gandubert (The interactive box)
Production Director: André Houle (CCOV)
Technical Director: Jarrett Bartlett

Company on Tour: 9 cast members, 4 technical crew,
1 tour manager

Stage Requirements: Width of dance area: 40' (12m)
Minimum width wall to wall: 50' (15m)
Depth of dance area: 35' (10.5m)

Preferred Dance Surface: Sprung wooden floor, no concrete

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

PRESS

"Audience members who think that Bboyizm's In My Body is going to be an evening devoted only to dazzling hip-hop dance tricks are in for a surprise. While there is certainly that element in the production, overall, In My Body is a serious show that deals with a serious theme. At the heart of the choreographic intent is the question of aging in an art form that we associate with the young."

Paula Citron,
Senior Dance Writer, Globe and Mail

PRESENTER

"In My Body is a major accomplishment for street dance in Canada. Crazy Smooth and crew deliver jaw-dropping choreography while carrying a powerful message of intergenerational community and resiliency. Our audiences were as energized as they were moved by the high-level artistry of the production. In My Body satisfies on every level: the dancing is exceptional, the production values are strong, and the message is uplifting."

Brendan Healy,
Artistic Director, Canadian Stage



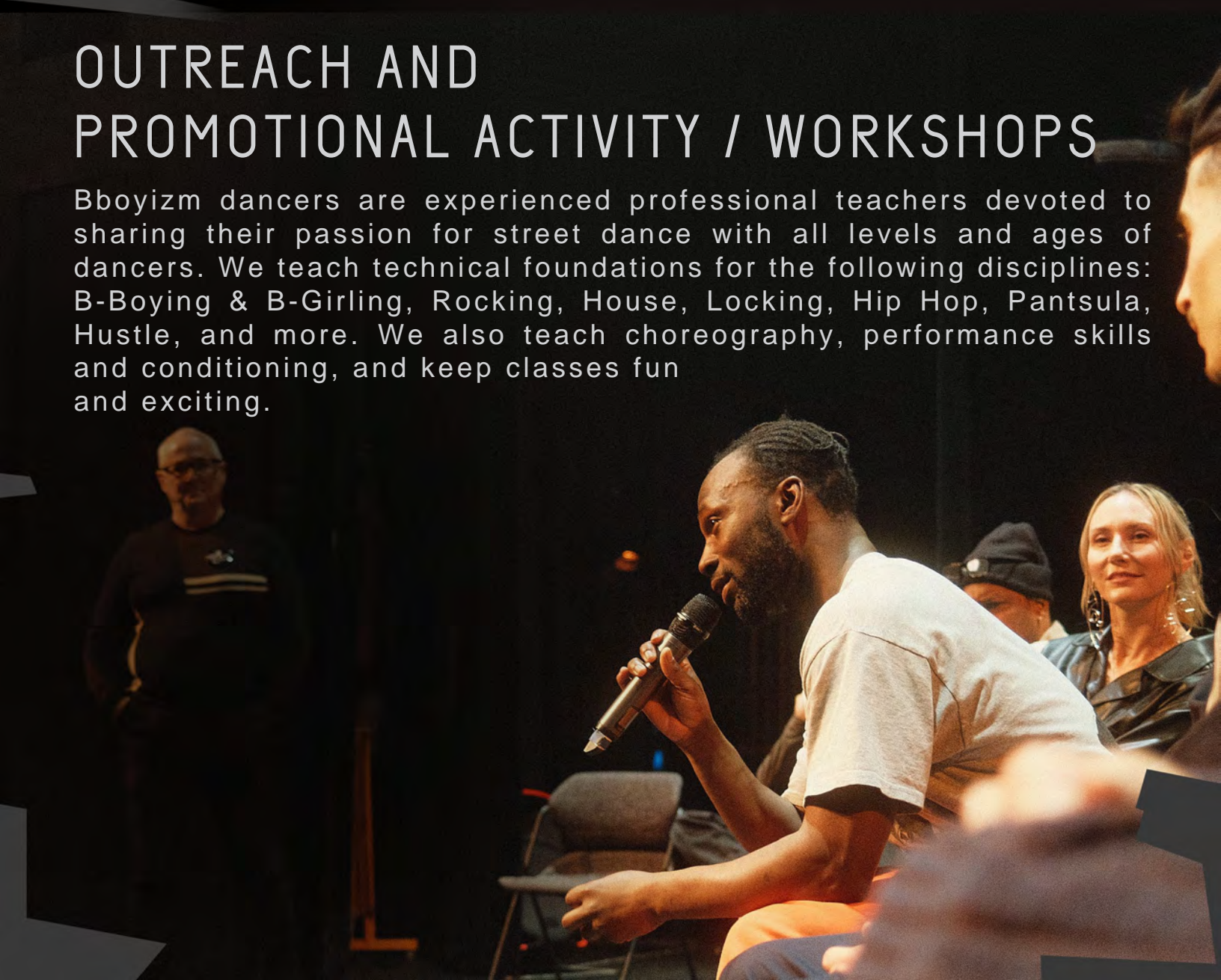
TOUR ACTIVITIES

POST SHOW TALK BACK

Company dancers can engage with your audience during after-show discussions from the stage and dancers are usually found circulating in the lobby for photos and casual interactions with theatre goers.

OUTREACH AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITY / WORKSHOPS

Bboyizm dancers are experienced professional teachers devoted to sharing their passion for street dance with all levels and ages of dancers. We teach technical foundations for the following disciplines: B-Boying & B-Girling, Rocking, House, Locking, Hip Hop, Pantsula, Hustle, and more. We also teach choreography, performance skills and conditioning, and keep classes fun and exciting.



SHOWCASES AND DEMONSTRATIONS

We are available for:

- Short demonstrations (malls, festivals, community events)
- Lectures and motivational speeches on various topics including: the history of street dance, living and learning through hip-hop culture, the experience of becoming a professional dancer and other topics
- Other customized activities to suit



PROMOTIONAL SUPPORT

- Media interviews (TV, radio, print)
- Local TV demos
- Local media filming of short segments during our tech rehearsals





PRODUCTION PARTNERS

Executive Producer: Centre de Création O Vertigo

Developed with support from: The National Arts Centre's National
Creation Fund

Co-production partners: Bboyizm, The CanDance Network Creation
Fund, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity,
Brian Webb Dance Company,
Yukon Arts Centre, dance Immersion and
Canadian Stage

To book a show: For information about bookings and tour availability



Agent/Manager
Gillian Reid

+1 (902) 275-8819
gillianreid@bboyizm.ca



Artistic Director/Choreographer
Crazy Smooth

+1 (819) 923-0454
Info@bboyizm.ca



MEDIA COVERAGE

RADIO SPOTS

CBC q with Tom Power

February 24, 2020

Episode includes Carol Off, Arian Moayed, Crazy Smooth

Crazy Smooth segment starts at 52:00 minutes

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-50/clip/15897033C>

BC All in a Day with Alan Neal

March 24, 2022

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-92-all-in-a-day/clip/15902647-crazy-smooth-explores-dancers-aging-body-work>

ARTICLES

Radio-Canada by Marika Bellavance

March 24, 2022

<https://ici.radio-canada.ca/nouvelle/1871191/spectacle-danse-creation-vieillesse-age-generations-street-dance-corps-rue-intergenerati-onnel-danseurs>

Toronto Observer by Andrew Stuetz

March 5, 2022

<https://torontoobserver.ca/2022/03/05/age-just-a-number-as-in-my-body-takes-the-stage/>

Ludwig Van Daily by Paula Citron

March 18, 2022

<https://www.ludwig-van.com/toronto/2022/03/18/scrutiny-bboyizms-body-takes-aging-street-dance-style/>



Photo credits: Rita Taylor *page 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12*
Jerick Collantes *page 3, 6, 9, 11, 14*