

# thINKingDANCE

Upping the ante on dance coverage and conversation

## Meet the Writers: Anna Drozdowski

### What would your parents say about your work in the arts?

My mother has recently stopped asking me how my dance recital went. Though she can't explain what the heck I do, she taught me to do it with full commitment and a (mostly) full capacity to pay my rent. A+ parenting. I still mail her the newspaper when my name is in it.

### Finish this sentence "Good dance....."

Makes me sit at the edge of my seat, greedy for more.

### Finish this sentence "Good writing..."

Makes me want to go slowly, to make it last.

### What is the TD project really about, in your experience?

In a word: understanding. In a few more: challenging, asking, questioning, furrowing, laughing, growing, spell check and oxford commas.

### Which part about TD is challenging, scary, difficult?

There is that funny little thing called responsibility--to the project, to our collaborators, to the artists, to the community, to the funders. And to my personal voice and values.

### How has TD affected your other dance-related work?

Live performance is a moment in time, caught only by those who were there and missed by most. Writing often feels concrete: so final, so very fixed by comparison. In many ways, TD has reinforced my appreciation of the real-time experience; both in the theater and in our monthly gatherings where the exchange of ideas is happening between living, breathing bodies.

### How/when did you learn to type?

Age 15--with a cardboard shield over my fingers to prevent cheating and encourage a respectable 75 words-per-minute. The teacher played pop songs and I rhythmically plunked out "O o O a A a U u U" while (unsuccessfully) trying to catch the eye of the soccer player at the next terminal.

### What is your "desert-island" publication?

The book I've read more than any other is Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson. It was as profoundly moving in the third grade as it is today.

### If you were to write a dance love-letter, it would be to\_\_\_\_\_.

This question is confusing (and I drafted it!). I don't think that I'm asking myself to dance a love letter. I also don't think I'd recommend attempting that unless you're in a movie from 1980 where all dance montages are forgiven. Love Letter? At the moment, I'm particularly enamored with super-tight, well rehearsed and unexpected unison. Yep. So simple. So satisfying. Only slightly

embarrassing to admit, but you can't help it. Just like a love letter should be.

By Anna Drozdowski

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