



**Zohreh Valiary** is a visual artist from Iran. She has accomplished her BA in Graphic Design & her MA in painting in Tehran. Zohreh worked as

Graphic Designer, Mural Painter & art teacher. She moved to Canada at the end of 2013.

**E:** zohreh.valiary.e@gmail.com

**Richard Kusi-menkah** is hip-hop, R&B, rock and funk bassist from Edmonton, AB. He collaborates with other musicians on occasion and is part of the Edmonton/Sherwood Park-based punk/pop/rock band Form 10.

**W:** facebook.com/rkusimenkah or instagram.com/kuskus87

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**Open Minds Connective** is a collective, open to all artists, that aims to connect a variety of individual

artists/groups in order to build, inspire, collaborate on, and present artistic works.

**W:** openmindsconnective.com

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**ImagiNation Miscellany** is an artistic showcase in which a miscellany of imaginative people come together to showcase their work, perhaps collaborate and improvise using different art forms - from music to spoken word poetry, photography to video, dance to hip hop - and most of all, see who else is out there in the YEG community with a knack for artistry so that future collaborations can be born!

**W:** facebook.com/ImagiNationMiscellany

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### Special Thanks to:



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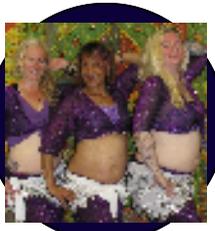
### Artist Biographies

September 6, 2015

**Yalla Beena** is an Egyptian Dance student troupe representing Bedouin Beats Dance Studio, which is located on 118 Ave. in Edmonton, AB. Formed in January 2014, this troupe studies Egyptian Dance styles. Tonight at ImagiNation Miscellany they will perform a modern classical piece choreographed by David of Scandinavia as well as a Cairo street dance know as shaabi choreographed by Egyptian Master Mohamed Shahin. Both pieces have been adapted by the instructors of the troupe. We hope you enjoy these two different flavours of Egyptian Dance!

**W:** bedouinbeats.com /

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**Shima Aisha Robinson (aka Dwennimmen)** is a spoken word poet & student born & raised in Treaty 6. Dwennimmen is the name of an ancient African Adinkra symbol, which means

strength, humility, learning & wisdom. She has been the host of the open mic reading series, known as the POET TREE, in downtown Edmonton where poets come together to share their work. She is primarily a spoken word poet & has been writing & performing spoken word poetry for over 10 years. She has recently been published in the *2013 Sun & Snow Anthology: The Rhythm of One Love*.

**W:** facebook.com/denseverse /

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**David Hernández** is an independent photographer from Mexico who started his personal portfolio in 2013. In 2014 he received a photography diploma from MARCO (Contemporary Art

Museum) in Monterrey, Mexico. His work focuses on the environment of human development by capturing all of its surroundings as well as all kinds of human emotions in the process, and how these are reflected in physical expressions & in people's actions & reactions. Landscapes, nature, sports, culture & urban portraits are his passion.

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**Muta Mouraine** is a 21-year-old Edmonton/Virginia-based hip hop artist known for his energetic performance & crowd interactions. Although still a young artist, Muta has accomplished many things such as winning "Urban Artist of the Year" & was nominated for a Black Golden Award for "Rapper of the Year". He has been on stage with world premier acts such as J. Cole, Big Sean, Mac Miller & More.

**W:** mutamouraine.bandcamp.com / **E:** muta@live.ca



**Matthew Cardinal** is a multidisciplinary artist who sees art as home. Originally from John D'Or Prairie, AB, Matt's jovial, optimistic demeanor can often be found in his poetry, drawings, paintings & music. Inspired by art itself, as well as many of the people in his life, Matt hopes his work becomes more recognized so he can share it & his story with the world. In his younger days, he wanted to be someone people feared. With age, however, came experience along with life lessons. He says, "Who you are attracts like-minded people" and knowledge of this helped him choose his path in life.

**E:** freespiritk@outlook.com

**Alison Clarke** is a writer/artist who enjoys life & is passionate about reading, writing, painting, & drawing. Films also fascinate her. She is the author of *The Sisterhood*, a young adult fantasy novel about a sorceress' daughter & her best friend who is a dragon & the journey they go on to save the universe. *The Sisterhood* is book one of The Sisterhood Series. Alison has also written two children's books: *The Adventures of Eli the Elephant* and *Eli Goes to the Moon*, which she also illustrated. Fantasy is her literary and visual home, whether she is writing for young children or for teens.

**W:** realmofwynniverdon.com

**E:** monetlover200@yahoo.ca



**Enoch Gitau Attey** is a well known and recognized artist in the community. He studied music at Burman University. He is the music coordinator at Ihuman Society. He also shows his creativity by volunteering at

CJSR FM 88.5 Community Radio Station as a host for Waza Africa. You can see Enoch jam with Winter Tribe, and alternative/R&B group. ImagiNation Miscellany is honored to have him play tonight.

**W:** www.facebook.com/enoch.attey?fref=ts



**Charlotte Cranston** is a sociology student by day & a spoken word artist a little later in the day. Some days she teaches first aid and other days she does crossword puzzles. Recently, she was selected as Edmonton's first

Youth Poet Laureate and this fall, Charlotte will compete at the National Spoken Word Poetry championships in Saskatoon. She hopes to make big changes in the world someday.

**E:** crcranst@ualberta.ca

**Herman Lau** is a freelance artist from Edmonton, AB. His interests in illustration stem from the stories & games he grew up with, mythologies full of movement and characters to inspire his drawn illusions. Accordingly, he finds homes for his artwork in the speculative fiction & gaming industries. Herman has been published locally & internationally and recently exhibited at the Museum of American Illustration in New York.

**W:** spectralcalm.com / **E:** hhlau@telus.net



**Lukas Zapata** is a visual artist from Medellin, Colombia and a recipient of the 2013 Edmonton Arts Council Cultural Diversity in the Arts Award. He has been involved in various projects including short

films, documentaries, art galleries and visual mapping.

**W:** youtube.com/balconcito1234 /

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**Knights Of Valor** or "KOV" for short is a hip hop collective group from Edmonton consisting of three members

"Locke Tha MC" "Idealism" & "Intellect"

**W:** facebook.com/pages/Knights-Of-Valor/1630283880527972 /

**E:** joey\_badarm@hotmail.com



**Root - School of Kathak**

was founded by Aastha Khajuria, who has been learning Kathak, a North Indian classical dance form for more than 18 years.

Aastha's journey from India to Canada has increased her knowledge in the dance form, which has given her a deep connection and love for Kathak. She has been dancing throughout Canada with various teachers and now resides in Edmonton. **E:** aasthak@gmail.com



**Shadow Dance Studio** provides professional dance instruction in various Chinese dances for children, teens, & adults in southwest Edmonton (Riverbend area). The studio's

founder, Angel Zhong, majored in music & dance education in Sichuan Normal University & also studied at Beijing Dance Academy; she has been engaged in art education for children in China for nearly 10 years. Students from Shadow Dance have performed in Edmonton, Calgary, and China, and have taken part in cultural exchanges overseas as well. For tonight's ImagiNation Miscellany show, one of the studio's top students, Ramona Feng, will be performing a dance called "Daughter of the Mountain."

**W:** shadowdancestudio.com /

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