

Two Dances in Nicaragua

Choreography and performance: Peter Chin from February 2010

Second dancer: Nelsón Gutierrez

i-phone and camera by Jeremy Mimmagh

Film created by Peter Chin March 2021

Music: Cumbia Chinandegana by Jorge Paladino

Interviewer: Martha Chavez

Recorded in 2010 in León Nicaragua with collaborator Jeremy Mimmagh researching their performance piece 'Fluency', Peter Chin dances spontaneously in the classroom where he was studying Spanish language, and later a young Nicaraguan dance student performs Chin's choreography in the inner-city basketball court. Both dancers were learning a new language, and in different ways, navigating the state of being out-of-place.

PETER CHIN is a multidisciplinary artist born in Jamaica and based in Toronto and Cambodia. He has been part of the cultural life of Toronto for almost 50 years, starting with singing in Massey Hall in 1972. Peter Chin is the founder and artistic director of dance-driven trans-disciplinary company Tribal Crackling Wind, and co-founder and director of the NKK International Dance Centre in Siem Reap Cambodia. Chin has been described as a renaissance man of the dance world, and is recognized as a composer / musician, choreographer / dancer, designer, writer and filmmaker. His works have received 5 Dora Mavor Moore awards, and many nominations. Chin has also received a Gemini award for his performance in the film 'Streetcar' by Nick de Pencier. He was also an inaugural winner of the K.M. Hunter Artist Awards - Interdisciplinary Arts category, and has been recognized with the Muriel Sherrin Award, among others. Chin is the inaugural laureate of the Eldred Family Dance Award. Chin's works have been presented across Canada, United States, Mexico, Jamaica, Columbia, Amsterdam, UK, Cambodia, India, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Japan, and Taiwan.

MARTHA CHAVEZ is a Latin-Canadian-LGBTQ award-winning comedian, actor, activist, and budding playwright. With her unique sense of humour, friendly-in-your-face style, and devilish charm, Martha paints hilarious stories drawn heavily from personal experience, like her upbringing in Latin-America. She came to Canada as a refugee, but Martha has established herself as one of the country's most sought-after comedians. She's known throughout Canada for her coast-to-coast stand-up tours and for her tailor-made corporate shows, her many appearances on the Just for Laughs Festival, the Winnipeg Comedy Festival, The Debaters, and as a regular cast member of the hit CBC show Because News. She starred in her two national comedy specials: Comics! on the CBC and Something About Martha on the Comedy Network. Her One Woman Show "Staying Alive" was featured in the Soulo Festival and the Aluna Theatre Festival in Toronto, and in NYC's SOLOCOM. Martha won Stand-up Comic of the Year at the 2018 Canadian Comedy Awards, and her comedy album, "CHUNKY SALSA," was featured among the 11 Best Comedy Albums of 2019 (Interrobang Magazine.) She is also a fierce human rights activist, using humour to challenge the status quo in four different languages., which is run by five Nobel Peace Prize winners. In her own words, she's the "most famous LGBTQ+-Nicaraguan-Canadian stand-up comic in the world."