

## **BIOGRAPHY - Tasha Lawson**

Tasha Lawson is an established International dance artist with 25 plus years as a vibrant and successful visionary spanning festival producer, educator, choreographer, artistic director and performer.

Ms. Lawson is the founder, producer and artistic director of Calgary's Tri-Tone Rhythm Ensemble and Rhythm, Body and Soul Tap Festival, with a focus on preserving and promoting tap dance and percussive arts through education and presentation.

Ms. Lawson, is recognized for developing well rounded dancers, providing the foundation needed to pursue a professional career. Students have been accepted into prestigious schools including Jacob's Pillow in Massachusetts and Escola Luthier in Barcelona, and performed with acclaimed companies such as STOMP and Dorrance Dance.

Passionate about education, Miss Lawson developed Tri-Tone Teacher Training Program's in Rhythm Tap and Pre-School Creative Dance, sharing methodologies that integrate technique, musicality, artistry and history while inspiring creativity and self discipline in students.

Tasha toured the US and Japan in 2010-2011, as Assistant Artistic Director of Cirque Du Soleil's, KOOZA, maintaining show quality and artist integration. She has delivered body percussion workshops for the Cirque casts in Las Vegas, and for the International Body Music Festival's in San Francisco and Paris.

From 2002-2008, Tasha performed and toured with Tapestry Dance Company in Austin, Texas, under the direction of Acia Gray. During this time, Tasha also served as Artistic Director of Tapestry's apprentice company, Visions In Rhythm, directing the creation of six full-length concert presentations.

Tasha has guested at numerous International Festivals in North America, South America and Europe. She was on faculty at Jacobs Pillow for its inaugural Professional Tap program and has been artist in residence for Capilano University, University of Texas, Decidedly Jazz Dancework's PTP Program, Harbour Dance Center, Vancouver's, ITP Program among others.

Tasha Graduated with advanced standing in Dance Teacher Training and Dance Performance, from Grant MacEwan University, with a focus on pedagogy in modern, jazz and classical ballet and pre-school creative dance. She later attended the Modern Dance Program at Simon Fraser, then re-located to New York, immersing in rhythm tap and music studies.

Grateful for the many opportunities afforded to her, Tasha strives to share her experiences as a guest artist, educator, choreographer, program consultant, and festival adjudicator.

Most recently, Tasha launched Lawson Percussive Dance Arts Company. Supported in part by the Calgary Arts Development Authority, the a multi-form dance and live music company will premiere at the National Music Center of Canada May 21 & 22, 2022.

For more information visit [www.rhythmbodyandsoul.com](http://www.rhythmbodyandsoul.com) or [www.tashalawson.com](http://www.tashalawson.com)  
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