

ROSY SIMAS

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DANSE

MCKNIGHT
ARTIST
FELLOWSHIPS

Contact

Rosy Simas

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Bio

Rosy Simas (Seneca, Heron clan) is a transdisciplinary artist who creates movement for stage and installation. Her work interweaves themes of personal and collective identity, family, sovereignty, and healing. Simas creates dance work with a team of Native and BIQTPOC artists, driven by movement-vocabularies developed through deep listening.

Simas has received fellowships from Native Arts and Cultures Foundation (NACF), Guggenheim Foundation, McKnight Foundation, Dance/USA Fellow, and United States Artists. Her other accolades include the Joyce Award, a NACF SHIFT award, and multiple awards from New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, MAP Fund and National Performance Network.

Simas' works *Weave*, *Skin(s)*, and *We Wait In The Darkness*, have toured throughout Turtle Island. Her latest work, *she who lives on the road to war*, is currently on view at the Weisman Art Museum in Minneapolis.

Simas is the artistic director of Rosy Simas Danse/three thirty one space, a creative studio for Native and BIPOC in Minneapolis.



What are you working on in the next two years?

Simas is creating *O'nigöëiyosde:* (mind of peace), an ever-evolving project that returns to Haudenosaunee stories, ideas, and actions as a way to find peace and create resting space.

This project springs from Simas' creation of spaces for community to heal, rest, generate and regenerate, and collaborations with Native/BIPOC/LGBTQIA+ artists to create experiences that bring community together.

O'nigöëiyosde: is a project of environments and actions, between artists and community. It is a series of installations in community, performances, actions of peace, discussions, and writings on peace.

The intention is to contribute to the healing of our ancestors and generations yet to be born. *O'nigöëiyosde:* reaches back and forward through time and space to ask ancestors to join our voices in peace.

Initial research and development for *O'nigöëiyosde:* is supported by a 2022 MAP Fund grant.

Repertoire Available for Touring

she who lives on the road to war

she who lives on the road to war is an immersive installation and dance performance created by Rosy Simas in response to global loss and the collective need to come together in peace and reconciliation.

she who lives on the road to war takes its title from Haudenosaunee historical figure Jigonhsasee (Mother of Nations, She Who Lives on the Road to War), whose wisdom and vision helped Hiawatha and the Peacemaker bring the Nations together as the Haudenosaunee Confederacy.

This work is a space to rest, grieve, condole in and a performance of a practice which is an action to create peace. The work was created in collaboration with composer François Richomme, lighting/production artists,

and an ensemble of performers in Mni Sota Makoce.

The production and tour of *she who lives on the road to war* is supported by Native Arts and Cultures Foundation SHIFT program, New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, MAP Fund, and Art Project grants from National Endowment for the Arts.

People: On tour, *she who lives on the road to war* is performed by 4 to 5 of the original ensemble members and local community performers from the tour location, as well as the composer/musician. We tour with a lighting designer and a production manager.

Riders available: Tech rider, accessibility rider, cultural competency rider and present moment findings. A ritual performance.

