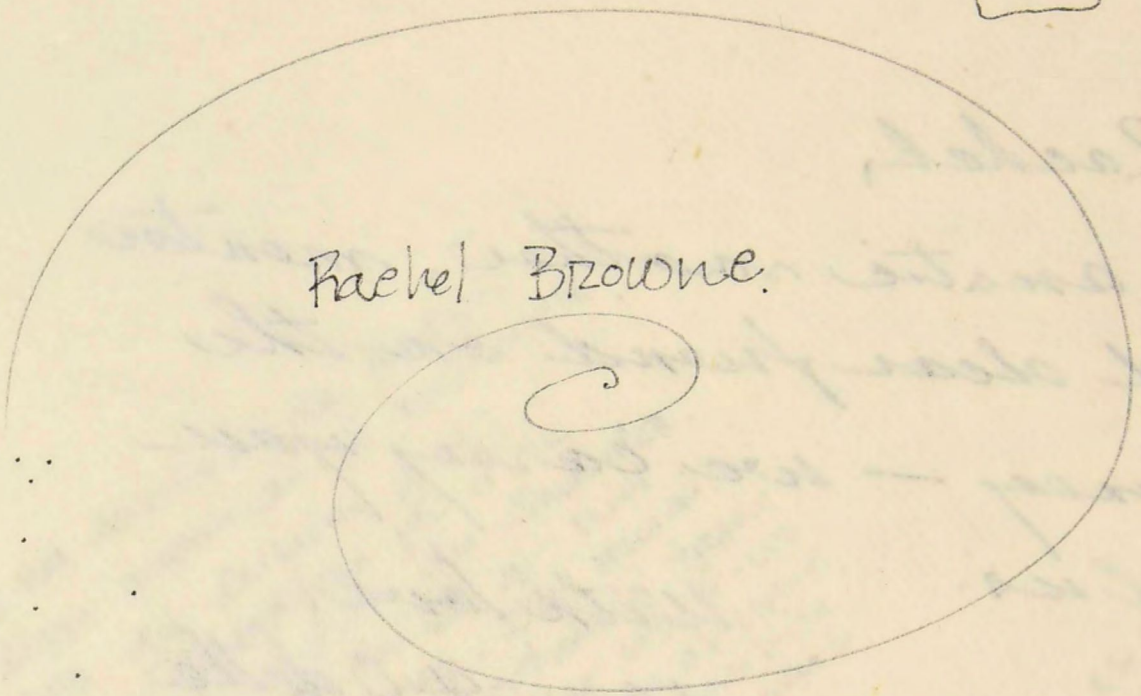


June 2012.
CDF



To Rachel,

Our artistic mother, mentor and dear friend on the Journey — we carry you with us.

With love,
Faye + Odette
♡ Gaie Robyn ♡

Dear Rachel

Thank you for your belief in me, for always being there, for your amazing love of dance, for your love of life and God for both your own and dance families. You have passed so much on to us ... Thank you for being there, for all your gifts ....
Until we meet again.

Je me souviens de Rachel.
Nous avons siégé ensemble
lors du dernier jury
Pan-Canadien pour le
Conseil des Arts du Canada.
Elle était l'arrivée et ici
la plus jeune. On avait
pu croire le contraire tant
elle était taïcke vis-a-vis
de son art. Humble et vraie,
elle cumulait le point de
vue du créateur et l'avocat
aux besoins des artistes.

C'est ici que j'ai vu
Rachel faire preuve
d'une rigueur et des études
exceptionnelles à
l'école de deux continents
et de deux cultures.

Mes sincères
confidences à Toute la
communauté de la danse
à Winnipeg. Sachez que je la
sens présente à travers chacun de vos
coeurs.
Hélène Blair.

Rachel,

I remember you saying to me
as I was questioning some content for
my students "Sylvie all experiences that
we consider good or bad are great learning
experiences for our young dancers" that
I will always remember

Love
Sylvie

Rachel was always a part of
my professional dance world - as a
student, as an audience member, as a rehearsal
director, as an educator ... she was generous
and tenacious at the same time - such a
rare combination of traits. I learned a lot
from her both in dance and in life.
She will be missed, but she will live on
through the legacy that is her work and
her teachings. I have many fond
memories that I will carry with me.

Andrea Roberts
the school of Classical Dance
Pointe

Dear Rachel,

Before I really knew you I would always be in such awe when I saw you around the studio. I was so intimidated by you and all the amazing things you had accomplished. When we finally got to work with you, you already knew all our names and pieces we'd performed in. You were so comfortable. It was lovely to watch you watch us and made us all feel so comfortable... hearing your laugh, dancing in your chair. After our grad show I remember you looking for me to congratulate me and give me a hug, and I felt so much love. You have made it possible for us all to be where we are today, and I am so grateful for to opportunities you have given us. You will always be missed and remembered.

Love, Tess Rutherford

Dearest Rachel Browne,

If it were not for your lifetime of work, I would not have had the experience of dance the way that I have. Dance has deepened and enriched my soul, it is because of your life in dance that my life in dance has been brought to light. We are blessed to have known you in some small way, for your spirit is great and now forever expanding.

Much Love and a big hug,

Alexandra Garrido

Dear Rachel,

I remember the first time
I heard your laugh. It was so
hearty and full of joy, and I was
surprised that it came from such a small
woman. Clive grew used to hearing it all the
time, in the studio, at every dance show in Winnipeg.
Once I even had the pleasure of hearing you laugh at
my own choreography. I'll never forget that laugh, nor
the amazing woman behind it. Your light and joyful spirit
will always inspire me.

- Love Sam

Rachel,

I Remember the first time I met you - it wasn't as much of a meeting but more of a sighting → I walked into the studio and Gaile yelled at me telling me I had to wait for Rachel to leave the room. Then I saw you and was in awe. That was Rachel Browne. I didn't know much about you but you had a theater named after yourself so you must be famous. Throughout the next few years I saw your pieces frequently but didn't really know you. But then in 2nd year I saw that saw you frequently but didn't really know you. But then in 2nd year I saw that we were going to do a piece with you. I was esstatic. Throughout the process we all grew to love you. The way you smiled and laughed, the way you described the most beautiful images to help us understand what you wanted. You there would an overwhelming respect and love of you. Without you there would be no school, company, no dancing for us. You always remembered our names and loved us all in return. For that we will be forever grateful.

- Love Amy

It was always a pleasure having you in our presence, and you always will remain there.

Love Zorya

Dearest Rachel,

I feel so blessed to have known you & be known by you. The night you passed on, we sat together and watched Azure's beautiful show. You delighted yourself in the show, dancing in your seat, laughing and sharing with me your words of adoration. You are so loving & such a good listener. Thank You for laying down foundations for us to dance upon! Your life & art will forever be pillars of inspiration & strength to go on! My favourite memory of You is when we did our last performance & were celebrating with Sparklers. You rushed towards me with arms open wide, calling me name and embraced me with so much love and brilliant energy! That was the same feeling I had when we performed in the Arts Court. Thank You for your love... like a grandmother... your warmth encourages me!

We miss you.

Love,

♡ Janelle

Дорогая Rachel,

Спасибо тебе большое за этот великолепный подарок, за танец которой мы наши надеялись за все что ты сделала для танца, за то что ты всегда поддержала нас, и то что ты смотрела на нас, будет хорошо, и наш танец не хватало. Я надеюсь что тебе будет очень понимать о тебе, и каждый раз тебе будет очень любить! ☺ Но всегда будем помнить о тебе и танцевать для тебе! благодарю за сцену, а будем помнить тебе, наш тебе (Kate) Ukhotin (Катя Дехотина) Светлая память тебе, наш тебе с любовью Катя Дехотина

(Kate) Ukhotin (Катя Дехотина)

Dear Rachel,

Thank you for the light, life and boundless love you dedicated to our school - our community. Thank you for your smile, your laugh - your honesty, for your clarity of intention, and for the way you expected miracles of everyone - your students, your dancers, and especially yourself. Thank you for showing all of us the joy and openness of creativity - not only in dance, but through living a free, and in that way beautiful, life.

♡ Hannah.

Dear Rachel,

Your presence at the school will be missed greatly in the studio as well as everywhere else. Your kind smile, calm demeanor, and natural beauty have been a delight to all after classes. I will miss watching you work with your students and the dancers in the studio. I am sure you will be successful in whatever you do in life. Thank you so much for everything you have done for us.

Love,

The first time I saw Rachel downstairs in the school about a year ago, I became very nervous, because she seemed to be a celebrity in the other parts of the country that I had been dancing in. To my surprise, all of the young students greeted her by her first name as they would a colleague or friend. It was then that I realized what kind of a lady Rachel Browne actually was. I feel I owe her a lot for SCD existing and allowing me to study and graduate in a program I absolutely love.

Thank you, Rachel. -Cant-Ann ♡

Dear Rachelle,

I would just like to thank you for the love & support that you've shown. I really appreciated the amount of patience that you've shown towards me. I thank you for believing in me. and I will not let you down. I will carry on your legacy. Hopefully I can be half the artist that you are. Rachelle you were a wonderful person and it is you inspire me. thank you for being you and I feel priviledged to be part of your life.

love Ashley

Dear Rachel,

Three weeks ago I dreamed about you. It was the closing night of our show, and I dreamed that the next morning I had arrived for rehearsal of our COF pieces. When I arrived rehearsal was already in progress, and it was your piece for us. Momentum. But things were changed. Instead of a trio, all of us were to dance. You had passed the piece on to Odette; as she had felt we needed a starting place for something new. Upon finding this out, I felt incredulity, fury and anguish that your gift to us had to change. The dream ended, and I awoke weeping. Rachel, we will carry your legacy into the future and do our best to honour you and your brilliant work. Thank you for your love, your understanding, your genius. - Sarah Helmer

Dear Rachel

I am inspired by your huge love & commitment to dance and the future of dance. You will be truely missed. Your presence around the school was so refreshing. I am truely honoured that I had the chance to meet you and got to see me graduate. I feel that now it is my responsibility to keep the legacy going in your honour. Thank you with all my heart for creating the company & school because I would not be where I am without you. Love you very much. Alexandra Scarola

Rachel,

I am so thankful for all your gifts + for the legacy you created that I am so blessed to be apart of. A story that I love about you that Odette told us is of her being at the beach one day + seeing you standing in the water with your chest + face towards the sky in a high release basking in the sunlight. I love that image of you. It was so apparent that you saw all the beauty + art in life + that is so inspiring to me. Thank you.. I wouldn't be dancing where I am today if it wasn't for your hard work + passion for dance.. xox

You will be forever loved + missed! Kelsey

Nous vous supportons
de tout coeur dans cette épreuve
et nous saluons l'apport de cette
femme à la danse.

Josée xxx

" Dansez, dansez, sinon nous sommes perdus" Pina Bausch

♡ - Les Élèves de l'École de Danse Contemporaine de Montréal -

Julie Zymchuk Arabel Gagnon Alexia Hatfield Jessica Dunn Gangis Claudelle Thibeau Marie-Eve Couchane Marie-France Jacques

My memories of Rachel are from a brief time spent in Winnipeg. I would see her through windows, in rehearsals, passing her in the hall and always present at/in the school and the company. Though I didn't know her closely, I did meet her and could see the ripples of her influence and inspiration through the community. She contributed a huge amount to the foundation and history of dance in Canada. My thoughts to all who were close and who were inspired by her. She will be missed. ♡ Amelia Iverson

and the drinking fountain in the school.

We send our thoughts to the Winnipeg Dance Community and Rachel's family. Ms. Brown was a huge influence.

Kind Regards,
The School of Toronto Dance Theatre
Class of 2012

Megumi Daruta

Negesha DeSouza xoxo

Chantal Baudouin

Kristine Van Kessel

Sarah Ceuschan

Natalie Wesserbeck Sandhill

Jolena Wojcik

Letter to Rachel,
12th June 2012

Dear Rachel,

the last time I had a long and engaged conversation with you was at the Festival Dance Canada, 2010. We were seated next to each other in the theatre....

Two years later, almost the same date, we are still in Ottawa, having a chat about dance, about passion. Your Winnipeg-Canadian legacy will be on stage tonight along with Perrault's. What a joy that both you masters are performing in unisson.

We love you, we thank you, we will not forget because we are passing on our love of dance.

With all my love and admiration

Giselle Dragon
"Joe & Rodolphe"
2012-FDC

Rachel,

Thank you. We never got a chance to give you our thank you gift. So, I'll tell you! It was going to be a pendulum. Working with you was one of the greatest gifts I could have received. You knew exactly what to say. I'm feeling a bit scattered right now (as usual). I'm in the middle of class here at CIDF and I'm running back & forth between combinations. Haha How fitting. I promise to always tease and boss James around (as long as were still working together. - actually, I will even if not.) We all know it's best for him.

Thank you for your patience, your empathy, your love, your choreography. Thank you for believing in my dancing and pushing my artistry. I miss you and I love you.

Rachelle.
* I can't wait to perform 'Momentum' for you again.
xo Thank You.

Nos ~~nous~~ condoléances.
L'École de danse de Québec

Marie Catherine Martel Lisa-Anne Paradis.

Stéphanie Backer - Alexandra
Odile-Amélie Peters Geneviève
Anika
Ste Marie

Damarise.
Ste. Marie

Winnipeg,
Lots of love and condolences from
The School of Dance Ottawa grads! xo.
Jacalyn add
Danielle et Duchesne
Kay Kenney
Melissa Ray

Même si je ne connais pas, je sais combien précieuse tu as été pour la danse!
Repose en paix et je te sais avec nous ici, en ce moment!! Johanne Dor

Dear Rachel,

I saw you dancing onstage in Toronto at an age when others would stay close to home in the care of others. You showed such daring and generosity in your dedication to your art, and your strength of mind and body was incredible to see. Thank you for sharing your love of dance and of life with so many.

Damarise Ste. Marie

à la mémoire de cette
grande danseuse,
Chers amis,
De perdre quelqu'un
qui nous est si chère,
qui nous est si importante,
nous fait prendre connaissance
des empreintes du
l'héritage, de la force et
du courage qu'elle a impliqué.
Sincères condoléances à vous amis
de Winnipeg.

Cathy Daniels, l'École de danse du
Québec
juin 2012

Rachel loved her colleagues. Her colleagues included senior artists, emerging artists, students, designers, composers, administrators, the public ... all of us. In accord with her profoundly progressive beliefs she, with equal regard and respect, embraced us all.

I shall miss her sense of humour. Rachel was actually quite funny ... in an entirely endearing way ... and knew how to laugh at herself. Within the seriousness of her artistic practice she was able to see, and delight in, the whimsy, humour and absurdities of life.

... and so my/our beloved Rachel
in my and our bodies... My muscles
and bones remember her movement,
my mind remembers her rich concepts,
ideas and beliefs, my eyes remember
the beautiful images of her dances, my
heart remembers her passion and
generosity and my will remembers
her tenacity and perseverance. We
made new metaphors together. We
made art that was transformational
and transcendent.

I wish I had one more time to do
one more run "over-easy" (which
never meant "over-easy") but I will
cherish forever my memories of you

Rachel was small but she had a mighty voice, a powerful voice in support of artists, women, and all people.

Rest in peace my beloved friend.

Patricia Fraser

"The woman I am is not what you see.
I'm not just bones and crockery"

Dorothy Livesay

I have known Rachel since she came to Canada, Sept 7, 1957 to join the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and I have loved her all these years. She gave us Winnipeg Contemporary Dancer, and countless wonderful creation and inspired thousands of dancer. Thank you Rachel - you will be greatly missed !! This is a great loss to dance + Canada.

All My Love
Richard Rutherford

With all my heart,
Always
Harold Pleasance

a great loss - my deepest sympathies.
Mavis Martin (Can. Heritage)

My Condolences Pete Zanetti
CDF Volunteer

Great memories, great dance

Proud to be a Winnipegger, too!

Thank you for
all you have done
for the DTFC

With respect, appreciation & fond memories of a great & passionate
artist

Thanks for all your contribution in developing
dance in Canada. You will be dearly missed.
R.I.P.

A treasure is lost - but never forgotten.
Claire Wootten

On behalf of the Canadian Dance Assembly, sincere condolences.

Dfave.

It was my great honour and pleasure to know Rachel and present her choreography in Toronto. I have fond memories of Rachel's intelligent choices of subject matter and superbly talented collaborators and interpretors.

Mimi Beck, Dance Curator,
DanceWorks

Rachel was a beacon of light, a guide, an inspiration ... she was always kind and open to me, and gave me hope and confidence in the Canadian dance milieu. I will always miss her. Particularly here at the CDF!

Cathy Levy
NAC, Dance Producer

Rachel Browne,

An icon in the Wpg + Canadian dance community.
A dance artist dedicated to discipline,
sincerity of heart + expression. Movement
subtle + full on stage in rehearsal + lesson.
Tender love + steady passion.

I feel so blessed to have known her
as a young dancer + graduate of the
SPP SCD.

Love to her as a dance family
+ forever friend.

Alex Schettler.

from Toronto I recently spoke to
Dammede Hall, Rachel Franco, Terra Noble,
Brooke Noble, Coral Aiken all of whom
send their love + condolences.

On behalf of members at the National Arts Centre we offer Rachel's family our deepest sympathies. So many in this building had the pleasure of knowing her and working with her.

Rosemary Thompson NAC

Our condolences - Prairie Scene, NAC

How fortunate I was to know you
How fortunate I was to see you Friday
How fortunate I am to chat with you

Miss you Ray

Ted

It was a great moment to
witness the reconstruction of your luminous
choreography in Winnipeg a few years ago – and
to sit and watch with you in the audience.
I am enriched.

Long live your divine
energy & presence
in our hearts

Deepti

Sincere condolences to your family
and many friends who revere your
inspired contributions over the years.

N. Nicholbaugh

Rest in Peace
What you created
lives on....

* Ghislaine *

Rachel,

I am happy & grateful
to have walked awhile with
you on this journey we are on,
now your travels continue
mmm... I wish you much love always,
Carol Purcell

M. Family
ENCORE!

Sincere Condolences and
Peace & Love to Rachels
family, Jared ones
and her WCD family
She will be greatly missed.
Angela

A dear Goddess
Legfoot night.
Carla's Birthday
16 June 2012

Fred Hefflefinger