

Vancouver, BC

30 minutes

Firehall Arts Centre
280 East Cordova St

EDGE Two
Thursday July 15 @ 7pm
Saturday July 17 @ 7pm

Choreographer:
Amber Funk Barton

Performers:
Amber Funk Barton
Josh Martin

Light Design:
Jason Dubois

**Sound Design and
Composition:**
Jacob Cino

*The Response Dance Society
gratefully acknowledges the Canada
Council for the Arts, The British
Columbia Arts Council and The City
of Vancouver.*

*Special Thanks: Donna Spencer,
Joyce Rosario, Chris Barton.*

EDGE Two

the response./Amber Funk Barton

Hero & Heroine



Festival of contemporary dance 2010

July 8 – 18, 2010

“Our heroes are people and people are flawed. Don’t let that taint the thing you love.”

Randy K. Milholland

Falling in and out of sleep, a man and woman find themselves in a surreal landscape battling unknown forces...sometimes alone, other times together, but mostly with the unsaid between them. This intimate duet, featuring the unique athletic hybrid movement of Amber Funk Barton, balances raw energy and precise physicality with the sensitivity of touch as the performers, working as both allies and enemies investigate each other and the space that surrounds them. *Hero & Heroine* accepts the obvious yet challenges the emotional and physical dynamics of a relationship between a man and woman, eventually leading them to discover that their actions, whether as a regular human being or the alter ego of their dreams, has consequences.

the response.

Artistic Director | Amber Funk Barton

Dedicated to pushing the physical and emotional boundaries of dance, **the response.** is a new Vancouver-based contemporary dance company founded in 2008 by its Artistic Director, Amber Funk Barton. The inspiration for this company lies in the ability of the human body, its capacity, its physical potential and its emotional make-up while investigating the possibilities of fusing together the articulation and sophistication of contemporary and classical technique with the athleticism, dynamics and energy of urban dance and culture. **the response.** aims to go beyond the focus of form to create cinematic experiences by using the body to create pictures, images and shapes to evoke reaction. It is a company also distinguishable by the vulnerability and sensitivity portrayed in its works. **the response.** is also concerned with bridging the gap between art and entertainment, challenging the perception of how contemporary dance can be perceived and interpreted

Primarily a vehicle for the creation of new works by its Artistic Director, **the response.** is currently a non-ensemble company, working project-to-project with recurring collaborators, yet changing and appropriate to the current

creation. **the response.** aims to tell stories and spark people's imaginations. It is a reaction: to what we see, feel and hear...

Amber Funk Barton has had her work presented in various venues around the city of Vancouver, throughout Canada and internationally at the Chapter Arts Centre in Cardiff, Wales and On the Boards in Seattle, WA. She is the inaugural winner of the Iris Garland award as well as the 2007 recipient of the Holy Body Tattoo Emerging Artist Award for her work. In 2008, the premiere of her first full length work, RISK, marked the debut debut of her own Vancouver based dance company, **the response.**