

# BUTOH-A-GO-GO



**A Canadian West-Coast  
Butoh/Performance Company**

# BUTOH-a-GO-GO

Thomas Anfield and Kevin Bergsma



Co-creating multi-disciplinary works on a shoe-string budget since the summer of 1999 when they formed BUTOH-a-GO-GO. Drawing from a wide variety of body/movement disciplines BUTOH-a-GO-GO produces, designs, choreographs and scores their own work.



BUTOH-a-GO-GO/ The Narthex

# BUTOH-a-GO-GO

Pursuing the power of performance and its ability to alter time and space



The BUTOH-a-GO-GO mandate is to create a considerable repertoire of original Canadian, West-Coast multidisciplinary works of extensive artistic quality; to present internationally; and to pursue the development of a positive and productive creative process.

# IN THE RED (WT: V)

A fifty minute Butoh duet performed and created by Thomas Anfield and Kevin Bergsma



photos: baby mia

# BUTOH-a-GO-GO

## REPERTOIRE



### **IN THE RED (WT: V)**

Formerly named  
WORKING TITLE: VANCOUVER  
World Premiere – June 2006  
Moscow International Festival of  
Contemporary Dance  
- duet with T Anfield & K Bergsma

### **The Narthex Laboratory**

InterUrban Arts Gallery  
- improv jam with T Anfield, K Bergsma, Davida,  
Caroline Farquar, Caroline Liffmann, T Podlozniuk

### **Narthex Praxis**

World Premiere – August 2004  
Elliot Louis Gallery  
- duet with T Anfield and Kevin Bergsma,  
- with live brush painting

### **The Narthex**

World Premiere – June 2004  
Moscow International Festival of Contemporary  
Dance  
- duet with T Anfield & K Bergsma

### **Tofu Tutu Futon Photon**

World Premiere – December 2003  
The Roundhouse/Pride in Art  
Dec 2002  
- trio with T Anfield, K Bergsma & D Bircham

### **East**

World Premiere – December 2002  
Hijos Fundraiser/VECC  
- duet with T Anfield & K Bergsma

### **Nature Morte**

World Premiere October 2000  
Dynamo Gallery  
- duet with T Anfield & K Bergsma

### **The Monkey's Mask**

World Premiere September 2000  
Gachet Gallery  
- duet with T Anfield & K Bergsma

### **Pontormo Part I**

World Premiere August 2000  
The Crying Room  
- duet with T Anfield & K Bergsma

### **The Double**

World Premiere May 2000  
The Michaud House Gallery  
- duet with T Anfield & K Bergsma

### **@ The Parade of Lost Souls**

World Premiere October 1999  
Public Dreams  
- duet with T Anfield & Salomé Diaz

### **@ Pinched**

World Premiere October 1999  
Fundraiser for Daniel Collins/WISE Hall  
- group piece with T Anfield, K Bergsma, Diane  
Boule, Salomé Diaz, Sara Dorsey & Christine  
Richmond

### **Dancing on the Edge of the Fringe**

World Premiere September 1999  
Windows of Mecca (on Commercial)  
- quartet with T Anfield, K Bergsma, Salome Diaz &  
Colleen Heslin

### **@ Circus of Dreams**

World Premiere August 1999  
(Public Dreams)  
- duet with T Anfield & K Bergsma

### **@ The Lost Lagoon**

World Premiere August 1999  
Stanley Park  
- trio with T Anfield, K Bergsma & Salomé Diaz



BUTOH-a-GO-GO

2122 Alberta St, Vancouver, BC V5Y 3K3

604-873-3334 / [butoh@kevinbergsma.com](mailto:butoh@kevinbergsma.com) / [www.kevinbergsma.com/butoh.htm](http://www.kevinbergsma.com/butoh.htm)

ADDITIONAL IMAGES



BUTOH-a-GO-GO

2122 Alberta St, Vancouver, BC V5Y 3K3

604-873-3334 / [butoh@kevinbergma.com](mailto:butoh@kevinbergma.com) / [www.kevinbergma.com/butoh.htm](http://www.kevinbergma.com/butoh.htm)

# **BUTOH-A-GO-GO**

A Second Generation West-Coast Canadian Butoh/Performance Company

---

## **BUTOH-a-GO-GO**

Since 1999 Thomas Anfield and Kevin Bergsma have created Butoh-based performance art that utilizes numerous creative modes including elements of theatre, live painting, modern dance and martial arts. As BUTOH-a-GO-GO, the artists have created 14 original works to-date, each interacting with original sound and light compositions.

BUTOH-a-GO-GO has performed in two of Vancouver's Press Play Festivals in 2003 and 2005; twice in Moscow at the Moscow Ballet's Festival Of Contemporary Dance 2004 and 2006; at Vancouver's Dancing On the Edge Festival in both 2005 and 2006; and most recently at Victoria's Romp! Festival of Contemporary Dance in October 2006.

**Thomas Anfield**, Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director of BUTOH-a-GO-GO  
VISUAL ARTIST/PERFORMANCE ARTIST

Thomas Anfield has been part of numerous international solo and group exhibitions and a variety of internationally collaborative murals and projects in Canada, Mexico, United States and Africa. Thomas held a faculty position at the Vancouver Academy of Art, instructing figurative drawing and painting 1997-2004. He is represented in Vancouver by Gallery O and In Toronto at Ima Gallery. As a performance artist Thomas works predominantly with the collaborative duet BUTOH-A-GO-GO that he created along with Kevin Bergsma. In addition to collaborative work with BUTOH-a-GO-GO, Thomas' performance credits include, The Post Cecil Taylor Garage Music Orchestra, Gong, Radix Theatre, Talking Pictures, and Kokoro Dance. Thomas is a Canada Council, Inter-Arts grant recipient (2000) and (2004).

**Kevin Bergsma**, Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director of BUTOH-a-GO-GO  
BUTOH ARTIST/DANCER/SINGER/ACTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER

In addition to the work with BUTOH-a-GO-GO Kevin has performed and created for international dance festivals and presentations across Canada, in the United States, Poland, and Japan. A multidisciplinary artist, his creative forms include Butoh, cabaret, dance, film and television, musical theatre and opera. Other contemporary dance credits include work with: dancersDancing; Kokoro Dance; LINK Dance; and Vancouver Dance Theatre.

# BUTOH-A-GO-GO

A Second Generation West-Coast Canadian Butoh/Performance Company

---

## REVIEW QUOTES

"In The Red was a performance of rare depth and integrity"

Reanna Alder  
Marlet, Victoria BC

"Anfield and Bergsma, two shining examples of male pulchritude from their bald heads to their well-conditioned physiques, used the glacial slowness and immense physical control of butoh to explore West Coast themes in In The Red (WT: V)."

Paula Citron  
Globe & Mail

"Do not let anyone tell you that butoh is not beautiful: this exquisite little piece [The Narthex] proves otherwise."

Deborah Meyers  
Vancouver Sun

"Anfield and Bergsma's lumbering movements are infused with captivating energy. Set to the jarring sounds of Butoh-A-Go-Go's original multi-instrumental score, Monkey's Mask is as deceptively simple as the haikus of the Japanese poet Basho, on which it's based."

Kelsey Dundon  
Vancouver Georgia Straight

"The success of the Canadian duet "Butoh-A-Go-Go" could only be envied. These homunculuses, dressed as sumo wrestlers, found in their version of Japanese Butoh dancing something closest to its true ethic. Not for them the improbable and unthinking but still ever-popular flirtation with homoeroticism [which marks Butoh] in the Russian latitudes, rather, against the background of the countless ragout of possible male and female Butoh forms, the Canadian style showed itself to be a meaningful and strong version."

Moscow Gazeta  
Modern Dance in Moscow