

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

All the world's a stage for Dusk Dances

By Dale Bass
STAFF REPORTER
dale@kamloopsthisweek.com

The past 12 months have been great for Kamloops actor — now relocated in Toronto — Ryan Egan.

“One night, I had on the *History Channel* and I was on three shows in a row,” he said.

“That was pretty neat.”

Egan has worked in movies, on an online kids' series and now, is back with Dusk Dances, a Toronto-based performance troupe that is in Vancouver now for the Dancing on the Edge Festival of Contemporary Art that began yesterday (July 7) and continues to July 16.

Egan's role is the guide, the man who takes his audience along as the dance group performs throughout Queen Elizabeth Park.

And, this is not your classic dance program.



Kamloops-born actor Ryan Egan is part of Dusk Dances, an Ontario-based contemporary dance troupe performing this month in Vancouver. He's seen in his role as the guide from a previous performance.

Rather, Egan said, it's a free-flowing experience in the out-

doors, where parts of nature may become as integral to the dance as

the unique props being used.

“You're not going to see Swan Lake,” Egan said.

There have been Dusk Dances done in a pair of children's wading pools and another one where a couch was the main prop.

One being done in Vancouver, called *Box Set*, involves four large wooden boxes, dancers dressed in overalls and a gradual trip through pedestrian gestures to acrobatics.

Even Egan's character can be coaxed into performing; in fact, that's the key to his role.

“I'm sort of the life coach for dancing,” he said, “the character who still wishes he was a dancer.”

“I can be coaxed. If the audience wants it, I can be coaxed to dance at the end.”

“I always dance at the end.”

More information, including ticket prices is available online at dancingontheedge.org.