CONTACT QUARTERLY, journal of dance, improvisation, performance, and contemporary movement arts is the longest living, independent, artist-made, not-for-profit, reader-supported magazine devoted to the dancer's voice. Providing a platform for seasoned and emerging artists and educators to communicate and dialogue about their work, CQ is a singular record of the developments in contemporary movement practices over the last 40 years and plays an active role in supporting the artists and creative forms that appear in (and reach beyond) its pages.

Nancy Stark Smith danced in the first performances of Contact Improvisation in NYC in 1972 and has since been central to its development as a dancer, teacher, performer, organizer, and writer/publisher, working extensively over the years with Steve Paxton and others. She travels throughout the world teaching and performing contact and other improvised dance work at festivals, schools, and art centers, working with many favorite dance partners and performance makers including musician Mike Vargas. She cofounded Contact Quarterly in 1975 and continues to co-edit and publish the journal and other dance books.

Chris Aiken is an internationally recognized teacher and performer of dance improvisation and contact improvisation. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Dance and Director of the MFA program at Smith College. Aiken has received numerous awards for his artistic work, including a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Bush Foundation Fellowship, funding from the Jerome Foundation and commissions from the Walker Art Center, Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival, Dance Theater Workshop, Bates Dance Festival and the National Performance Network. He teaches and performs internationally on his own and with his collaborator Angie Hauser.

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