



ÉVÉNEMENT QUÉBEC DANSE

22-29 avril 2014

For Immediate Release

A THOUSAND AND ONE DANCE STORIES TO BE SHARED

Montreal, April 10, 2014 – Initiated by the Regroupement québécois de la danse (RQD), the Québec Danse event will once again be *the* place to be for a spectrum of experiences and emotions: a thousand and one dance stories to be shared! On eight consecutive days, from **April 22 to 29, 2014**, this 3rd edition will feature 150 activities offered by professional artists, free of charge. Centred in Montreal, Québec Danse will also unfurl its banner in over ten cities across Quebec, in particular in the regions of Quebec City and Chaudière-Appalaches, as well as in the Eastern Townships, where the two Conseils de la culture will play a collaborative role. Quebec will be dancing, just about everywhere... madly, passionately! In the studio, on stage, at schools, hospitals, home-care centres, libraries, museums, on the street, in the métro, outdoors, in the public square, on the screen, Internet and in the social media. For complete program details, consult the new Québec Danse portal at www.quebecdanse.org or the [Québec Danse Mobile app](#).

2014 CHOREOGRAPHIC TRACE

An emblematic figure in contemporary dance for over thirty years, both nationally and internationally, **Louise Lecavalier** will design this year's Choreographic Trace. Drawn from her work *So Blue*, a sequence of over one hundred steps will be fixed to the floor of the Espace culturel Georges-Émile-Lapalme of Place des Arts, in front of the Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier. From April 22 to the closing of the Festival TransAmériques on June 7, passers-by will be able to walk in the steps of Louise Lecavalier and—who knows?—even pretend to be her in a selfie. They will also be able to see her dance in a video projected onto nearby screens or on their smart phones. Created by renowned artists since 2005, the Choreographic Trace inserts the footprint of dance in a public space, inviting audiences to make it their own.

SPOKESPERSONS

RQD President **Marc Boivin**, the spokesman of Québec Danse since 2011, will join forces this year with the top-notch dancer-choreographer **Anne Plamondon**, Artistic Co-Director of the RUBBERBANDance Group, which has had an impressive track record in its ten-year history. Together, the two spokespersons embody a thousand and one love stories of dance; on behalf of all those involved in the 2014 edition, they cordially invite you to become authors or actors in these tales—or privileged witnesses.

OVERVIEW OF QUÉBEC DANSE 2014

Dance in schools and beyond

In addition to the roughly one hundred classes and workshops offered in all styles and techniques by some twenty schools, including the **Académie de danse d'Outremont** (which alone is offering nearly fifty), the **École supérieure de ballet du Québec**, the **École de danse contemporaine de Montréal** and the **École de danse de Québec** are opening their doors to the public. Each of them will provide an inside glimpse into their daily activities: open classes, public rehearsals, evening workshops, a full day of observation accompanied by teachers, guest choreographers, students and staff.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of its master's program, the **Dance Department** of the **Université du Québec à Montréal** is offering a wide array of activities over an entire weekend in every available dance space of the university: a historical retrospective, modern ball, seminar-discussion, improvisational workshops, exhibition and much more.

In Quebec City, the Musée de la civilisation will welcome the **École de danse Migrations** and its students for a series of demonstration classes focusing on flamenco, Celtic dances and gumboot. Across the river in Vieux-Lévis, the **Élédanse** school will set up its teachers and students next to a chocolate shop, where it will present its production and give dance-initiation workshops.

Dance in theatres

To mark its 25th anniversary, **Zab Mabougou/Compagnie Danse Nyata Nyata** is presenting an excerpt from one of its repertoire works, *Lwáza* (2005), at a conference-performance at the maison de la culture Côte-des-Neiges. In conjunction with Danse Danse and DHC/ART, French choreographer **Olivier Dubois** will perform a duet with a dancer from his company in *Prêt à baiser*, a prolonged kiss set to Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*, at the Centre Phi for one night only. Celebrating 30 years of creation, **O Vertigo** will re-enact the mythical magnifying glass sequence in *Luna*, created in 2001 by **Ginette Laurin**, at the Espace culturel Georges-Émile-Lapalme of Place des Arts. Recent dance graduates from Concordia University will present their choreographies, created specially for the alternative spaces of the Bain Mathieu.

At the Centre des arts de la scène Jean-Besré in Sherbrooke, eight choreographers from the region will present, for a second year in a row, ***Ici Danse – Vue sur la création chorégraphique en Estrie***, a Québec Danse activity that met with great success in April 2013.

For a complete list of theatre performances scheduled during the Québec Danse event, in and outside Montreal, consult the new dance agenda at www.quebecdanse.org.

Dance in rehearsal

Several artists are inviting the public to witness first-hand their ongoing creative processes. At Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique, choreographer **Paul-André Fortier** and dancer **Robin Poitras** will present a work in progress entitled *Misfit Blues*, which will be presented in its world premiere at the Festival TransAmériques. **Nika Stein** will perform a solo she is currently working on, based on the theme of water in various cultures, and then chat with the audience at MAI. Under the watchful eye of dancer-choreographer **Sonia Montminy**, four emerging dancers from Quebec City will pursue their research and creation work before audiences at La Rotonde – Centre chorégraphique contemporain de Québec, which they began as part of the *JV Project* with two artists from Vancouver's 605 Collective. Again at La Rotonde, emerging choreographer **Josiane Bernier** and two young dancers will present her research project based

on the theme of pleasure. At Studio Libre, choreographer-dancer **Maryse Damecour** will present the fruits of her research on performance, time and space, followed by a public discussion.

Dance outreach

As part of the cultural mediation activities, the public will be able to see 28 sixth-grade students from Lanaudière elementary school at work, guided by **Emmanuel Jouthe** and the **dancers of Carpe Diem**, in an in situ approach based on the theme of a school-yard memory. **Circuit-Est** is holding a public presentation of *Alors on crée?*, featuring some thirty women and teenagers in a series of duets, under the direction of **Louise Bédard**. The maisons de la culture Frontenac and Rosemont – La Petite-Patrie are inviting **Isabel Mohn** and the five dancers from the *Corps miroirs* project (Québec Danse 2013) to relate their experiences with patients of the ambulatory care units of the Psychiatry, Mental Health and Drug Addiction departments at CHUM, and to present the eight solos created in close collaboration with the patients. The delightful and touching *Babies' Ball* is back at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Under the guidance of choreographer **Karine Cloutier**, mothers and babies aged 3 to 12 months will come together in an Afro-contemporary dance reflecting the work of eight weeks of workshops. In Quebec City, artists **Marie-Noëlle Goy** and **Priscilla Simard** from the company Papillon blanc are inviting the public to mingle with the residents of the home-care centre Le Faubourg, with whom they have forged strong links thanks to the poetry of dance.

Dance in libraries

Over thirty libraries in the Montreal Public Libraries Network will be putting on an impressive show during the month of April, displaying their collections of books, films, videos and comics on dance, while three libraries will up the ante with workshops in dance for the elderly, salsa for parents and children, and contemporary dance for children aged 8 to 12. At the same time, the Bibliothèque de la danse Vincent-Warren is organizing a conference on 17th and 18th century Baroque dance, hosted by **Anne-Marie Gardette** from **Danse Cadence** and **Marie-Josée Lecours** from Bibliothèque de la danse Vincent-Warren, who will unveil some rare and precious documentary material. At the Grande Bibliothèque, **Nico Archambault**, **Sylvain Énard** and **Alexandra "Spicey" Landé** will take part in a roundtable addressing the question of *How to make crowds dance*.

Dance on the screen

Not to be missed at the maison de la culture Rosemont – La Petite-Patrie is a giant screen projection of the documentary *Marie Chouinard: un regard sur la femme, un regard sur son œuvre*, directed by **Anaïs Barbeau-Lavalette**, which will be preceded by the film *Marie Chouinard – Le Sacre du printemps*, a major work in her repertoire performed by the 14 dancers of her company. At the Centre Go in Saint-Jean-Port-Joli, the population will be able to see the first short film involving **Chantal Caron's** company Fleuve|Espace Danse: *Glace, crevasse et dérive*, presented last March at the International Festival of Films on Art (FIFA). In the social media, be on the lookout for RQD's video clips, created in collaboration with the partners of this 3rd edition of Québec Danse. Many beautiful surprises in store!

Dance in public

The 2014 Québec Danse event offers numerous participatory dance activities involving crowds of people, outdoors. **Julie Pilon**, with the participation of several schools in the Lanaudière region and the **Cégep de Joliette dance troupe**, will lead some hundred dancers in a super flash mob at Place Bourget. Then it's the turn of **Claude Caron**, Artistic Director of the Ballet Ovest Dance Centre, who is inviting students, parents and friends to learn the steps of his choreography for a flash mob in honour of International Dance Day. Another flash mob, this time on one of the métro lines, will involve choreographer-dancer-percussionist

Rae Bowhay and the dancers of **La Puerta Negra** and the **École Flamenco RB**. And keep an eye on the tango performance by **La Republica Tanguera**, which will unfold in some ten scenes throughout the Faubourg Saint-Jean-Baptiste district of Quebec City.

Finally, not to be missed is the huge festive gathering on **April 29, International Dance Day**. This joint initiative of **Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique** and **RQD** will bring together some hundred dance professionals and amateurs in a mega flash mob on the Esplanade of Place des Arts. Get ready!

RQD

The RQD brings together some 500 dance professionals, promoting their interests in the public and political stages. Founded in 1984 with the aim of giving Quebec dance a unified voice, the RQD has over the years played a major role in organizing formative projects for the discipline. Among the most recent are the Québec danse event, the Québec Danse portal, and the mobile Québec Danse app. The goal of these initiatives is to promote dance in all its forms, enabling it to take root and flourish in all regions of Quebec, and to build bridges between dance professionals, amateurs and enthusiasts.

RQD is pleased to have its 3rd edition of Québec Danse associated with the Canadian Dance Week, as part of the I Love Dance/J'aime la danse Campaign, initiated by the Canadian Dance Assembly (ACD-CDA).

Acknowledgments

The RQD would like to thank all those who participated in this 3rd edition of Québec Danse, and in particular the following partners: the Montreal Public Libraries Network, the Caisse de la Culture – Desjardins, the Conseil de la culture de l'Estrie, the Conseil de la culture de Québec et de Chaudière-Appalaches, the cultural development agreement between Quebec City and the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications, Minimal, the Accès culture network, and Place des Arts.

The RQD receives the financial support of the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Conseil des arts de Montréal, the Conseil québécois des ressources humaines en culture, and Emploi-Québec.

– 30 –

Source:

Judith Lessard-Bérubé

Dance Promotion Manager, RQD

514-849-4003, ext. 226

jlb@quebecdanse.org

Media Relations:

Jean-Sébastien Rousseau

RuGicomm

514-759-0494

jean-sebastien@rugicomm.ca