



MONTREAL DANSE

CHOREOGRAPHIC RESEARCH WORKSHOP

15TH EDITION

- DECEMBER 17-21, 2018 -

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION GUIDELINES

HISTORY OF PROJECT

For many years, **Montréal Danse** has reflected on how we might assist choreographers in understanding and improving their choreographic process, developing their choreographic skills, and gaining insight into the singularity of their choreographic voice. In 2004 this reflection led to Montréal Danse's first Choreographic Research Workshop for choreographers wanting a safe and stimulating environment in which to question their art making.

THE WORKSHOP

Four choreographers will be selected to experience and contribute to an intensive week of research, discussion and artistic process development **from December 17-21, 2018**. Working as facilitators with these choreographers will be two experts who bring a wide range of experience to the process:

- **Kathy Casey** - Artistic Director of Montréal Danse, has assisted a wide variety of choreographers in the creation of their works over the last 20 years
- **Larry Lavender** – Well known writer, choreographer and researcher, is particularly interested in the dynamics of the choreographic process

A month or so before the workshop, each choreographer will meet once or twice with two facilitators to begin identifying specific creative challenges to be addressed. Challenges choreographers have identified in the past include: directing performers; tools for transforming material; the balance and impact of set vs. improvised actions; and how to deal with doubt in the creative process. Each choreographer will then be provided two dancers with whom to work. Choreographers and dancers are matched to provide the best possible fit between the artistic research intentions of the choreographers and the performance and technical skills of the dancers.

Starting on Monday December 17th and continuing through Friday December 21th each day will begin with a 90-minute morning public seminar. These public seminars are conducted in English and French and will be open to other choreographers, dancers, rehearsal directors, artistic counsellors, teachers, dance journalists, etc. Following the morning sessions, choreographers selected for the workshop will have individual meetings with the facilitators.

Each afternoon, choreographers will have 4 hours of rehearsal to explore ways of addressing their particular creative questions. The workshop facilitators will observe rehearsals and comment upon or ask questions about the ongoing process. A closed showing of the day's work will follow the studio work. The day will conclude with a dinnertime discussion that will allow the choreographers and facilitators to delve deeply into the creative questions brought to the table. The workshop is intensive and participants should not have any other commitments during the week.

REMARKS FROM PREVIOUS PARTICIPANTS OF THE WORKSHOP

"This is probably the most valuable choreographic workshop available in our country and every choreographer, young and old, should consider this important resource." David Pressault | "I have to say that it was one of the most, if not the most, important choreographic training experiences of my career." Marie Béland | "The facilitation and design of the Montreal Danse Choreographic Lab served to reenchant me with my practice and with the business of making dances, by manifesting such an ethical agenda, by encouraging intimacy in a professional way, and as such encouraging the activation into our potential individually and communally." Antonija Livingstone | "I found the intensity that one wishes for in a context of creation research at Montréal Danse. The freedom that reigned, the absence of expectations except for the engagement of everyone in risk

and reflection, the desire to clarify intentions and ideas and, finally, the acquisition of concrete skills.” Marc Boivin

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Choreographers will be chosen on the basis of works submitted and a written application (see Application Form below). The submitted materials are reviewed by the facilitators. A particularly important element in the selection process is the short essays applicants will provide in response to three questions on the application form. In reading applicants' responses to these questions, the facilitators look for evidence of the choreographer's ability to assess his or her dance making, to articulate their artistic questions, to explore alternate approaches in their creative work, to exchange ideas with others, and the capacity to participate fully in an in-depth, intensive workshop. The submitted works should give the selection committee a good sense of the applicant's recent creations and should help illustrate the answers to the essays.

FEE FOR WORKSHOP

The cost for the five-day workshop will be \$400, plus taxes. Please note that it is possible for Quebec residents to apply to the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec (CALQ) for financial assistance to cover the cost of this workshop. All information about grants can be found on the CALQ website.

APPLICATION DEADLINE AND NOTIFICATION DATE

Completed applications must be sent by email by Monday **October 1, 2018**. The four selected choreographers will be notified by Wednesday **October 10, 2018**. If you have any question, please contact Kathy Casey by email at kathycasey2008@gmail.com

ABOUT MONTRÉAL DANSE http://bit.ly/MtID_MtID

ALL THE CREATORS OF THE 14 WORKSHOPS http://bit.ly/Mtl_Wkskp

PARTNERS



Thanks to **Département de danse de l'UQAM** for their long-standing support of the Choreographic Research Workshops.

www.montrealdanse.com | www.facebook.com/montrealdanse

MONTRÉAL
DANSE

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APPLICATION FORM

Please review the Application Guidelines. Complete the form and attach the following materials:

- 1) **An internet link to videos of recent work or works** (e.g. on Youtube, Vimeo or via wetransfer.com). We will watch a maximum of 20 minutes of work so please be clear on what we should look at.
- 2) Your **curriculum vitae** (resume)
- 3) Your **concise answers to the following questions:**
 - **A/** What do you consider as the main strengths and weaknesses of your works to date, and from what sources do you derive these ideas (personal intuition, published criticism, feedback from dancers and/or visitors to the studio, etc.) We want to know how you are analyzing your work.
 - **B/** Please share your current artistic goals and aspirations, and explain how this workshop can move you forward. Are your current goals new ones, or transformation of older ones, or something else? What are your research methods and how do you develop ideas in studio?
 - **C/** Recognizing the intensive nature of the workshop, in particular the daily discussions with the facilitators and the other choreographers, tell us how you expect the workshop to facilitate your explorations. If you have previously benefited from the discussion of your work, describe the scope and content of these exchanges. If you have had unpleasant experiences with work-based discussions, how could things have gone better?

NAME _____

TEL # _____

ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

How did you hear about this workshop?

SIGNATURE _____ DATE OF APPLICATION _____

Completed applications should be sent by e-mail to kathycasey2008@gmail.com by October 1, 2018.