



Press Release
For immediate release

5 Awards to Celebrate 5th edition of the Prix de la Danse de Montréal

**City of Montreal joins forces with GRAND PRIX de la danse.
Second new award created this year.**

Montreal, 2 November 2015 – It has been a year rich in collaborations and awards for the PRIX DE LA DANSE DE MONTRÉAL (PDM), currently celebrating its 5th anniversary under honorary president **Danièle Henkel**. The City of Montreal, which will be hosting the awards event, has joined forces with Québecor to increase the prize money that comes with the prestigious **GRAND PRIX de la Danse de Montréal**. Moreover, the Conseil des arts will be offering a new award this year, the **Prix de la Diversité culturelle en danse**. The latter is the second new prize established this year, after the Prix DÉCOUVERTE de la danse de Montréal, presented by Agora de la danse and Tangente. A total of 5 awards will be distributed during the 5th anniversary celebrations taking place on **November 19 at 11 a.m. at Montreal City Hall**.

Established in 2011 by the choreographer **Marie Chouinard**, president of the PRIX DE LA DANSE DE MONTRÉAL, the event is an occasion not only to applaud the excellence of dance artists who performed on Montreal stages between **July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015**, but also to reaffirm the dynamism of Montreal as a dance capital and promote its international reputation.

5th Anniversary, 5 Awards

GRAND PRIX de la danse de Montréal, presented by the City of Montreal and Québecor

The GRAND PRIX de la danse de Montréal, presented by the City of Montreal and Québecor, comes with a **prize of \$22,500**. This international award honours an artist for the exceptional quality of his or her work, as well as the artist's rigour, originality and commitment that inspire both other dancers and fans of contemporary dance. The Award is given to an artist (choreographer or dancer) from Canada or from abroad.

Previous recipients were:

2014 **Meg Stuart**

2013 **Benoît Lachambre**

2012 **Anna Teresa de Keersmaeker**

2011 **Louise Lecavalier**

Prix DÉCOUVERTE de la danse de Montréal, presented by Agora de la danse and Tangente

A new award this year is the Prix DÉCOUVERTE de la danse de Montréal, presented by Agora de la danse and Tangente. It comes with a **prize of \$5000** and will be awarded to an exemplary emerging artist. This new award pays tribute to a Quebec choreographer, dancer or a collaborator (in lighting, sound, set design, etc.) who stands out as a revelation within the dance milieu.

Prix INTERPRÈTE, presented by the Regroupement québécois de la danse and the Caisse de la Culture

Created in 2014, the Prix INTERPRÈTE, presented by the Regroupement québécois de la danse and the Caisse de la Culture, comes with a **prize of \$10,000** and will be awarded to a Quebec artist renowned for the quality of his or her performance, rigorous artistic approach, discipline and commitment to creating new dance works. The first recipient of this award in 2014 was **Carol Prieur**.

Prix du CALQ pour la meilleure œuvre chorégraphique

Created in 2012 by the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec (CALQ), this award comes with a **prize of \$10,000** and is awarded to a choreographer for the artistic excellence of a work presented in Quebec for the first time in 2014-15. In granting this award, CALQ wishes to contribute to the development of dance by highlighting Quebec choreographers whose dance pieces stand out for their remarkable quality. The winner is chosen by a jury of dance professionals established by CALQ.

Previous recipients were:

2014 **Benoît Lachambre**, for *Prismes*

2013 **Daniel Léveillé**, for *Solitudes solo*

2012 **Marie Chouinard**, for *LE NOMBRE D'OR (LIVE)*

Prix de la Diversité culturelle en danse, presented by the Conseil des arts de Montréal

A new award this year, the Prix de la Diversité culturelle en danse, presented by the Conseil des arts de Montréal, comes with a **prize of \$10,000**. Awarded to an individual or an organization that promotes cultural diversity, it recognizes a striking contribution to the dance milieu or a remarkable achievement during the course of the previous season. A jury established by the Conseil des arts de Montréal will determine the winner of this award.

PDM Jury

The 2014-15 jury consists of the following members: **Fabienne Cabado** (journalist, cultural consultant), **Kathy Casey** (artistic director, Montréal Danse), **Benoît Lachambre** (dancer, choreographer and artistic director of Par B.L.eux), **Cathy Levy** (dance producer, National Arts Centre) and **David Rancourt** (dancer and choreographer). More than 100 dance pieces from here and elsewhere are under consideration, a clear indicator of the vitality of dance in Montreal.

Gilbert Rozon joins the PRIX DE LA DANSE DE MONTRÉAL Team

The 2015 board of directors consists of: **Anik Bissonnette**, **Marie Chouinard**, **Sylvain Émard**, **Frédéric Gravel**, **Bernard Lagacé**, **Caroline Ohrt** and a new member this year, **Gilbert Rozon**.

Founded in 2011, PDM is a non-profit organization with a mandate to promote Montreal as an international centre for dance creation and presentation, and to highlight its dynamic dance personalities, organizations and institutions by bestowing well-earned distinctions and awards.

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Source: PDM, Sarah Beauséjour, info@prixdeladanse.com

Media Relations:

Bérubé & Geoffroy Communications

Benoit Geoffroy and Monique Bérubé

514 722-9888 bgeoffroy@videotron.ca

