



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

THIRD EDITION OF *PAS DE DANSE, PAS DE VIE!* From April 24 to 29, 2007, a celebration of professional dance in Montréal

Montréal, April 17, 2007 – From April 24 to 29, 2007, make room in your schedule for the third edition of *Pas de danse, pas de vie!*, with prima ballerina **Anik Bissonnette** as spokesperson. Created in 2005 by the Regroupement québécois de la danse (RQD) to mark International Dance Day, *Pas de danse, pas de vie!* **celebrates the vitality and diversity of professional dance in Québec.** Through the generous participation of hundreds of artists, teachers and creators and collaborations with institutional partners such as Place des Arts, the main partner of this year's edition, *Pas de danse, pas de vie!* underscores the contribution of the dance community to Montreal's reputation as an international cultural capital.

From April 24 to 29, 2007, Montrealers of all ages are invited to participate in numerous free activities presented by hundreds of dance professionals. **Approximately 30 free dance classes will be held from Thursday, April 26 to Saturday, April 28, 2007.** The classes will be led by professional instructors and are intended for newcomers as well as seasoned professionals. Contemporary African, hip-hop and modern dance, as well as tango, flamenco, ballet and bharata natyam: there will be something for everyone, and you may even find a new passion! Images and words can also foster an interest in dance, as seen in the activities of two regular partners of *Pas de danse, pas de vie!* **On Friday April 27, 2007, at 7:00 p.m., the Cinémathèque québécoise will present 17 Canadian dance videos** selected by the team at CHUM Television's Bravo!FACT (Foundation to Assist Canadian Talent). The **Grande Bibliothèque (Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec) is also on board, showcasing a selection of books on dance** throughout *Pas de danse, pas de vie!* **On April 27 and 28, three major Montréal dance institutions (LADMMI, L'École supérieure de ballet contemporain and Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal) will open their doors to the public** and share the fascinating backstage world of professional dance.

Pas de danse, pas de vie! concludes on **Sunday, April 29** (International Dance Day) at Place des Arts. Starting at 11:00 am, **over a hundred artists invite members of the general public to join them in an extraordinary artistic demonstration: SquatDanse.** For this unique experience, renowned artists such as Édouard Lock, Anik Bissonnette, José Navas, Paul-André Fortier and Pierre-Paul Savoie as well as emerging creative talent (such as Les Imprudances, Lucie Carmen Grégoire, Jessica Cumberbirch, Caroline Dubois and Nathaniel Siry-Fortin) will happily squat in the better-known and more "secret" spaces of Place des Arts. Montréal citizens are invited to attend free indoor and outdoor performances, meet choreographers, view installations, attend public rehearsals and watch an exciting match of improvisational movement. We should also mention the opening event, *La Traversée* by Héloïse Rémy, which will feature over 80 professional dancers performing a meditative dance on the esplanade, as well as the closing event, in which participants of all ages are invited to dance with choreographer Margie Gillis.

Finally, ***Les Traces Chorégraphiques*** will establish a path through the urban landscape during ***Pas de danse, pas de vie!*** Since 2005, RQD has used these dance steps – created by Québec choreographers and painted on public sidewalks and in other outdoor locations – to spread the message of *Pas de danse, pas de vie!* This year, twenty-five years after the first Maison de la culture opened in Montréal, RQD and the dance community wanted to thank the staff of the city's cultural dissemination network for its unfailing support of dance development and dissemination in the Montréal area. The RQD also wanted to thank the Conseil des arts de Montréal (CAM), which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year and which plays a key role in companies touring. From April 24 to 27, 2007, groups of young dancers will paint *Traces Chorégraphiques* in front of two dozen Montréal cultural sites as well as in front of the offices of the CAM.

For more information on *Pas de danse, pas de vie!* activities in Montréal, consult the RQD Web site at www.quebecdanse.org or call 514 849-4003. A copy of the official *Pas de danse, pas de vie!* pamphlet may also be obtained in several Montréal cultural venues.

RQD greatly appreciates the Montréal dance community's exceptional level of participation in the 2007 edition of *Pas de danse, pas de vie!* We would also like to thank the following partners: La Société de la Place des Arts, La Direction du développement culturel de la Ville de Montréal, the Cinémathèque québécoise, CHUM Television's Bravo!FACT, the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec and Studio Bizz.

***Pas de danse, pas de vie!* outside Montréal**

Outside the Montréal area, dance artists and organizations, presenters and cultural organizations use the *Pas de danse, pas de vie!* slogan in their own celebrations of International Dance Day. Postings on *Pas de danse, pas de vie!* activities outside the Montréal area can be found on RQD's Web site, at www.quebecdanse.org.

Regroupement québécois de la danse

Founded in 1984, Regroupement québécois de la danse is a non-profit Québec association of close to 500 members, all of them dance professionals (performers, instructors, choreographers, companies, presenters, professional schools and researchers). RQD represents and defends the interests of all the dance professions in the public and political arenas, both locally and nationally.

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