Press Release
For Immediate Release

Registration for the Second Estates General Has Begun!

Montreal, March 11, 2009 – With just 43 days before the Second Estates General of Professional Dance in Quebec, the Regroupement québécois de la danse (RQD) is pleased to invite the discipline's professionals and partners to register in large numbers for this exceptional event. The Second Estates General will be held in Montreal on April 23 to 26, 2009. Over 300 people are expected to attend, debate issues and decide the future of dance practices in Quebec.

As expressed by RQD's President, Anik Bissonnette, the Estates General are "a challenge we have given ourselves: to get together, take a long hard look at our current situation, and find solutions to our problems. They also represent an incredible public forum where we can speak passionately and be heard for who we are, on what we need, and on where we want to be 10 years from now."

Reserve a place now!

Individuals interested in participating in the Second Estates General on Professional Dance in Quebec may register in one of several categories. Professionals, on their own or as representatives of an organization, may register as **delegates**, giving them the right to participate in the workshops and vote during the plenary assembly. **Observer** status is available to government agents, mulitidisplinary presenters, members of the boards of directors of RQD member organizations, dance practitioners and organizations from outside Quebec, students, RQD associate members with less than two years of professional experience, and representatives of the media. Observers will be able to register for activities on the condition that the space is available, but they will have non-voting status. **The deadline for registration is 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 17, 2009.**

On the program

The first stop on April 23, 2009 is opening night, to be held at the Jean-Pierre-Perrreault Building of Circuit-Est Centre chorégraphique. Then the Estates General move to the facilities of the Dance Department at l'Université du Québec à Montréal and l'Agora de la danse on Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25, for two days of workshops. Third stop, the Studio of l'Agora de la danse on Sunday, April 26, where close to 80 proposals will be debated and voted on in a plenary assembly. The proposals are associated with five different themes investigated during the Grands Chantiers de la danse: Renewal of the Discipline: Continuity and change; Paradoxes and challenges in a qualified work force; Conditions of practice and artistic requirements; Consolidation and regeneration of the dance infrastructure; and Dance territories: Anchors and nomadism. Informal breakfasts, coffee breaks and cocktail hours will round out these days of exchange and reflection.

To register...

Registration fees will vary depending on whether you take the four-day package or only register for specific days. Please note that a 15% reduction on registration fees is available until 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 3, 2009. A copy of the *Participant's Catalogue* will be sent out by mail to all delegates and observers as soon as RQD has received their completed registration form. The registration kit for the Second Estates General of Professional Dance in Quebec is available online on RQD's Web site at www.quebecdanse.org.

As Anik Bissonnette says, "The success of this event depends on the unique contributions of individuals and on getting the most out of our collective experience and knowledge."

So, you are now officially invited!

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