

A Marriage of Earth and Dance
Autumn Nuptials for the Sursaut Dance Company

Sherbrooke, October 16 2012 – Today the Sursaut Dance Company launches its first fundraising campaign, which will culminate November 24th with the benefit event *Autumn Nuptials*, held at the Centre des arts de la scène Jean-Besré. This campaign aims to raise money for the company's artistic activities, and will serve to finance the foundation of a new specialized venue for dance and theatre for young and family audiences in Sherbrooke.

Autumn Nuptials celebrates culture in both senses of the term, a theme that perfectly reflects the company's and the artistic director's values. "My artistic approach is largely influenced by a profound feeling of belonging to the earth, to nature and its cycles. For me, art and life are intimately connected", mentions Francine Châteauvert.

Cultivating the soul and cultivating the earth are the themes of this event, where contemporary dance and the tasting of local organic products will be joined together.

Sherbrooke's mayor, Bernard Sévigny, commended this initiative, mentioning the importance of mobilizing the local arts scene in order to see Sherbrooke endowed with a new venue for youth and families. "My support for this project is all the more steadfast since it is based on a broad consensus, and each one of the partners is committed to its success. I therefore invite the people of Sherbrooke to take advantage of this event to send a clear message of our solid consensus and our collective commitment to the government of Québec, whose financial participation is crucial for the realisation of this project, which Sherbrooke's cultural scene has been waiting for for more than 20 years", he mentioned.

Founded in 1985 in Sherbrooke, the Sursaut Dance Company stuns and amazes young and old with its contemporary dance works marked with candour and poetry. Directed by Francine Châteauvert and Adam Dymburt, the company is dedicated to the creation and dissemination of dance works for young and family audiences. Sursaut contributes to the development of contemporary dance among young audiences. Its creations are imprinted with authenticity and freshness, offering performances imbued with a poetic realism in a highly physical choreographic style.

One of the main objectives of this campaign is to ensure the development of theatre arts outside major urban centres and to make culture accessible to all. The Sursaut Dance Company performs throughout Canada as well as abroad, most notably in China where it toured in August 2012. Sursaut thus became the first foreign contemporary dance company for young audiences to tour there.

Come celebrate the marriage of earth and dance with *Autumn Nuptials*, the Sursaut Dance Company's benefit event, and in so doing contribute to the development and vitality of art and dance in our region!

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