



6 YEARS
— and —
UP

ECHOS

For young and family audiences

WWW.SURSAUT.CA

Photos: Mikael Thümer | Dancers: Amandine Garrido Gonzalez, Joachim Yensen-Martin, Séphane Brechart, Julien Derradi, Flors Spang | Julien Derradi, Raphaëlle Remucci

Echo, a sound that reverberates, radiates,
repeats and always returns as if in answer
to its point of origin.

Echos transports us from season to season, in the unchanging and incessant cycle that blends into the eternity of the world.

Lives pass, overlapping and repeating. In an endless loop, they incarnate as slow and stealthy fragments, as moments and encounters.

In a dreamlike set, where suspended cabins create an atmosphere of a welcoming hamlet, the production suggests a vision of the world where humans live in strong complicity with nature. In this imagined space, the choreography is driven by optimism and a joie-de-vivre.

Echos intends to be a living work, full of light and hope.

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CONCEPT AND CHOREOGRAPHY /

Francine Châteauvert

DANCERS / Stéphanie Brochard, Julien

Derradj, Amandine Garrido Gonzalez, Flora Spang, Raphaëlle Renucci, Joachim Yensen-Martin

MUSIC / Karèya Audet, Tomás Jensen, Nicholas Williams

SET DESIGN / Guilhem Gosselin Rodière, Simon Gosselin Rodière, Ida Rivard

COSTUMES / Liliane Rivard

LIGHTING DESIGN / Benoît Brault

MUSICAL ADVISOR / René Béchard

SCENOGRAPHY ADVISOR / Marcelle Hudon

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR / Julien St-Pierre

TECHNICAL RIDER SUMMARY

Duration – approximately 55 minutes

Performers on stage – 6

Personnel on tour – 10

Set up – 6 hours

Strike – 2 hours

Minimum stage dimensions –*

28' x 30' x 16'

8,5m x 9m x 5m

PRESS CLIPPINGS



Photo : Mikael Thémér | Interprètes : Amandine Garrido Gonzalez, Jflora Spang, Raphaëlle Renucci Stéphanie Brochard

The most luminous passages in Francine Châteauevert's final piece are those which exude a certain pureness of pleasure, the kind that comes with the fact of simply being together. [...]

The 55-minute performance offers many of these grace-filled moments, especially in all the six-dancer choreographies. [...]

What you take away is the desire to experience the seasons with childlike joy. [...]

— Steve Bergeron, *La Tribune*, Sherbrooke

The dancers wonderfully portrayed the four seasons, and it was divine!

— Marie-Claude Veilleux, *Par ici l'info*,
CBC Estrie

CALENDAR



Photos: Mikail Theimer | Dancers: Stéphanie Brochard, Amandine Garrido Gonzales, Julien Derrad, Raphaëlle Renucé

ECHOS

September 22nd to 26th 2021

Centennial Theatre
Sherbrooke, Quebec

May 1st 2022

Théâtre Lionel-Groulx
Sainte-Thérèse, Quebec

January 24th 2023

Le Carré 150
Victoriaville, Quebec

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Francine Châteauvert



A self-taught artist, Francine Châteauvert made her first forays into the art of movement in artistic gymnastics before instinctively and naturally plunging into the world of dance and choreographic creation. Her arrival at the Sursaut Dance Company marked the start of a unique artistic approach that has never ceased to evolve and deepen.

Decidedly contemporary, her creations are imprinted with authenticity and freshness, offering performances imbued with a poetic realism in a highly physical choreographic style. Her work is characterized by a finely tuned choreographic language; a fusion of abstraction, symbolism, and theatricality of movement. Her artistic approach is greatly influenced by her background and rural lifestyle, by a profound sense of belonging to the earth and to nature and its cycles and by her childhood memories.

In November 2014, Francine Châteauvert received the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec Production of the Year Award for the Eastern Townships for *The Cicada and the Ant*. In 2006, she also received the Prize for artistic creation in dance for the Eastern Townships from the CALQ. The daily newspaper La Tribune awarded her the Mérite estrien “Personnalité de Chez Nous” in 1996 for the quality of her work and for her contribution to the region, and she also received the Prix d’excellence culturelle from the City of Sherbrooke in 1992 for the professional quality of her production, the mastery of her art, and the boldness of her artistic approach.

Echos is a final return to choreography for Francine Châteauvert and will mark the end of her journey with the company. During her 35 years as artistic director, she has created over 30 works for Sursaut.

DANCERS

Stéphanie Brochard

Stéphanie Brochard trained in both dance and theatre. She studied at the Conservatoire national de région in Angers, France, at L'École de Danse de Québec and went on to graduate from the teacher training program at The National Ballet School of Canada. She also studied at l'École Internationale de Théâtre Jacques Lecoq in Paris, where she discovered the world of physical theatre and clown. She teaches on a regular basis in various dance training programs, in addition to offering different workshops. Stéphanie Brochard joined the Sursaut Dance Company in 2008, and performs in all the company's productions as a dancer and is also Assistant Artistic Director since 2011. She also works with Les Jardins Chorégraphiques and Danse Cadence, two baroque dance companies in Montreal. In 2015, she created *Me²*, her first choreographic work. She also participated in the production *Essaim*, in which she presented her most recent solo creation, *Compromis improbable*, a project born of the desire to explore a new choreographic vocabulary by creating a fusion of baroque and contemporary dance.

Julien Derradj

Julien Derradj began his performing career in 2014 with the Compagnie au Fait in Lyon. The following year, he begins studies at l'école supérieure du Centre National de Danse Contemporaine d'Angers. He receives his diploma in 2017, and moves to Quebec, where he pursues his choreographic research in the Master's program in dance at the Université du Québec à Montréal. At the same time, he gains considerable experience teaching dance. Involved with youth, he passes on a passion for movement to large numbers of children be they in educational day cares, or adolescent audiences. As a choreographer, Julien has been presenting his own creations as well as those of Compagnie Le Rorqual, of which he is a co-founding member. In 2020, he joins the Sursaut Dance Company as a dancer in the production *Echos*.

Amandine Garrido Gonzalez

Amandine Garrido Gonzalez graduated from the University of Chile in 2002 with a degree in dance performance and worked for different contemporary dance companies throughout her country. She arrived in Canada in 2008 as part of the Cirque du Soleil production *Varekai*, where she worked as an aerial artist. As well as teaching dance and circus arts, she is involved in numerous creative projects, notably *Sève*, presented as part of Rurart – Contemporary Art in a Rural Setting, *La géométrie des chats : le regard animal*, presented at the Viva! Art Action Festival in Montreal, and *De la souffrance à l'amour*, presented on International Women's Day in Sutton in 2015. Her inspiration, a mix of contemporary influences and gypsy dancing, allow Amandine to present her vision of dance as a sacred art, as an expression of the present moment. Her versatility and strong stage presence make her stand out as an artist. Amandine joined the Sursaut Dance Company in 2013. *Acuna* is her first collaboration with the company as choreographer.

Raphaëlle Renucci

A native of Ajaccio, Corsica, Raphaëlle Renucci is immersed in the world of classical music from her very early years. At the age of nineteen, she discovers contemporary dance and joins the Conservatoire Régional de Bordeaux, all the while pursuing her university studies in human and sports science. She leaves for Montreal, Canada, in the context of a dance student exchange at the University of Quebec in Montreal, where she discovers the Quebec choreographic scene. She joins the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal, from which she earns her diploma in May 2018. Raphaëlle's interest in choreography, leads her to produce and present a number of her creations, notably at the Passerelle 840 at the University of Quebec in Montreal in 2015, and as part of the tour of Cégep en Spectacle across Quebec in 2016, as well as the Vous Êtes Ici in Montreal, in September 2016. She collaborates as a performer with various artists and choreographers, such as Compagnie Vox, Le Cirque de Soleil, Manon Oligny, Andres Skeels, the Ensemble Volte, and the Flamant collective. She dances and plays the cello, in the production *Echos*.

Flora Spang

Flora Spang is a graduate of the choreography program at the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional de Montpellier. She pursues her training at the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal, where she collaborates with numerous choreographers, notably Andrew Skeels, with whom she later works. These multiple universes, push her to assert herself on uncharted grounds, all the while awakening a mixture of authenticity and daring. After having collaborated on Sébastien Chalumeau's production *Ce qu'il y a autour*, she begins training in gigue with the Zeugma Dance collective. As creator, she is happy to work as a duo in partnership with Raphaëlle Renucci. Recipient of the Sofia-Borella Bursary, she allies herself with Silvia Sanchez, with a common desire to question, from a sensitive and human point of view, the bridge between the spirit and the body, experience and movement, consciousness and the uncontrollable. She joins the team of performers at the Sursaut Dance Company, for the production *Echos*.

Joachim Yensen-Martin

Joachim Yensen-Martin is a diversified-movement artist. His journey begins with martial arts, Parkour, and circus arts. On graduating from the Contemporary Dance Programme at Concordia University in 2013, he collaborates with Danika Cormier to form Corps Sauvage, a movement alliance that combines theatricality and duo work. He has also participated in numerous festivals in Montreal such as Fringe, Bouge d'Ici, and Short and Sweet. Established as an artist in Sherbrooke since 2016, Joachim works with the company Labokracboom in the production *Chute Libre*. Involved in a number of projects in the region, he performs with, amongst others, the compagnie de danse Axile, and in The Sursaut Squad, a cultural outreach activity developed by the Sursaut Dance Company. *Echos* is his first engagement as a dancer in one of the company's productions.

SURSAUT DANCE COMPANY

Founded in 1985, the Sursaut Dance Company is dedicated to the creation, production, and dissemination of dance works for young and family audiences.

Joyful, poetic and touching, the company's productions are witness to the maturity of a progressive and evolutionary artistic vision, that for more than 30 years has been aimed at young audiences. Conscious of the intelligence, the openness, the great capacity to listen and see and the demanding nature of young audiences, the company works with seriousness, authenticity, and with the greatest respect for this audience. Presented from coast to coast in Canada as well as internationally, Sursaut's productions inspire and charm young and old alike, everywhere they are presented.

Since 1987, Francine Châteauvert has been artistic director and choreographer for the company. From the beginning, she has collaborated closely with Adam Dymburt, and together they have worked with

passion and a seemingly endless energy to develop the company as we know it today. In 2015, in the spirit of renewal, she initiated creative collaborations with young artists, thus opening a path towards the future, in continuity with the artistic approach that Sursaut has come to be known for.

The Sursaut Dance Company is a pioneering figure in the field of contemporary dance for young and family audiences in Canada. Resident at the Centre des arts de la scène Jean-Besré in Sherbrooke since 2007, a centre unique in Quebec that is dedicated to the creation and production of dance and theatre, Sursaut is a major contributor to the development of professional dance outside major urban centres, and to the vitality of the performing arts in the region.



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