

PRESS KIT



Circuit-Est
centre chorégraphique

A PLACE FOR DANCE

For 30 years, Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique has supported professionals on both technical and artistic levels, offering them spaces and services adapted to research, creation, training and development in contemporary dance, and getting involved in its milieu.

A pioneer organization in resource sharing, Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique counts 10 contemporary dance member companies: Louise Bédard Danse, Sylvain Émard Danse, Danièle Desnoyers/Le Carré des Lombes, Fortier Danse-Création, Et Marianne et Simon, Danse Carpe Diem/Emmanuel Jouthe, maribé – sors de ce corps, Frédérick Gravel / DLD, MAYDAY and Cie Manuel Roque.

With 5 studios located in 2 venues at its disposal, its programming — which includes master classes, workshops, mentorship projects, residencies, and international exchanges — is constantly improved in order to better meet the artists' needs.

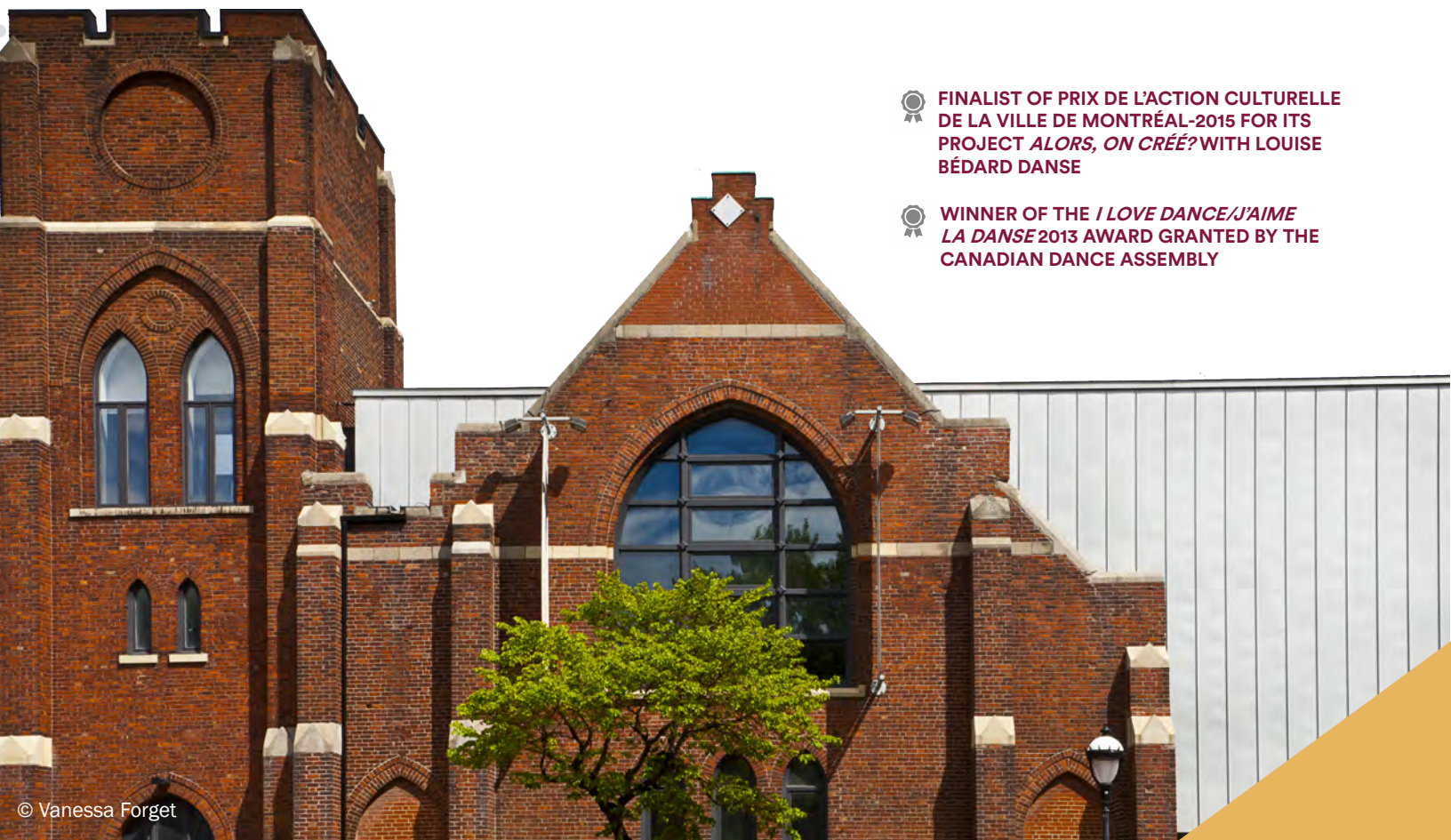
Encounters, public rehearsals and performances as well as cultural mediation projects contribute to the visibility of the discipline, allowing the general public to discover the specificity of the creative process in dance.



**FINALIST OF PRIX DE L'ACTION CULTURELLE
DE LA VILLE DE MONTRÉAL-2015 FOR ITS
PROJECT *ALORS, ON CRÉE?* WITH LOUISE
BÉDARD DANSE**



**WINNER OF THE *I LOVE DANCE/J'AIME
LA DANSE* 2013 AWARD GRANTED BY THE
CANADIAN DANCE ASSEMBLY**



FRANCINE GAGNÉ

ARTISTIC AND GENERAL DIRECTOR

Working in the contemporary dance milieu since 1986, Francine Gagné is a founding member of Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique and assumes its artistic and general direction since 1999. Self-taught manager, her continuous involvement towards the organization has led it to develop phenomenally. Starting as a director with a budget of \$ 80 000, she now manages more than \$ 800 000 and the team of two people now counts ten. Since taking charge, she ensured the financial balance of the organization, reinforced its Board of Directors and created endowment funds amounted to more than \$ 200 000.

The professional training and development programing she proposes offers Québec dancers formations with internationally renowned teachers. She also develops mentorship and residency programs for young choreographers as well as new international exchanges programs with Italy, Spain, France, Germany and Croatia.

Since the organization moved in édifice Jean-Pierre-Perreault in 2008, new challenges presented themselves. Francine Gagné carried out the renovation project, which budget amounted to 2 million dollars, and did so without exceeding the costs and in due time. Concerned with the outreach of the choreographic center's activities into the community, she develops cultural mediation projects. Her expertise in resource sharing led her to become consultant for several organizations wanting to gather companies in

new locations. She got involved in different advisory committees, notably in the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec and the Canada Council for the Arts. Passionate about the art of the movement, Francine Gagné worked with numerous choreographers as a dancer and as a rehearsal director before taking over the general and artistic direction of Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique. Her interest for the meeting between movement and living music led her to work with different musicians for dance and music improvisations and choreographic creation events.



MISSION

Artistic project based on the willingness and collective commitment of its members, Circuit-Est fulfills its mission:

- ▶ Organize, develop and manage the choreographic center in order to support and stimulate the research, creation, artistic development, dissemination, and promotion of contemporary dance;
- ▶ Provide shared studio space for creation and experimentation as well as services to its members—contemporary dance companies and choreographers—while respecting the distinctive artistic and organizational mandate of each;
- ▶ Offer services and space for creation, advanced training, and artistic development adapted to the needs of professionals in the dance community;
- ▶ Develop collaborative projects focused on the evolution and visibility of contemporary dance with local and international organizations;
- ▶ Cultivate the awareness of dance for citizens.



HISTORIC

In 1987, Louise Bédard, Sylvain Émard, Francine Gagné, Lucie Grégoire, Carole Ip, Rodrigue Jean, Jocelyne Sarrazin, Richard Simas, Lee Anne Smith and Tedi Tafel created Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique and adapted two large studios which were to be devoted entirely to contemporary dance and choreographic creation [espace Saint-André].

Ten years later, with the operating support of the three arts funding councils of Montréal, Québec and Canada, Circuit-Est acquired a permanent paid staff. This was a boost for the organization's operations and development capabilities and the expansion of the choreographic centre became a need.

In February 2007, Québec's Ministère de la Culture et des Communications awarded the édifice Jean-Pierre-Perreault to Circuit-Est, providing an opportunity to deal more effectively with the needs of dance creators. At the same time, the administrations of six of its members could be housed under one roof as of January 2008; this would allow for an accelerated exchange of knowledge, expertise, and experience among them.

ÉDIFICE JEAN-PIERRE PERREAULT

The Anglican Church of Saint-Thomas, built in 1907 and closed in 1949, was used for a few years by a theatre company, Les Compagnons de Saint-Laurent, and was reverted to its religious vocation in 1953. The Fondation Jean-Pierre Perreault purchased the church in the mid-1990s and transformed it into a choreographic space.

The foundation was forced to close the choreographic centre in November 2004. It was only in January 2008 that Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique moved into the édifice Jean-Pierre-Perreault, which also houses the Jeanne-Renaud and Peter-Boneham studios, its administrative offices, and those of eight of its members.



PAST 5 YEARS

2013 - 2018

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

5 cultural mediation projects

11 specific cultural activities

INTERNATIONAL RESIDENCIES

44 choreographers

14 international exchanges in **7** countries

(Germany, Canada, Croatia, Spain, France, Italy and Switzerland)

For 5 years

SUPPORT TO ARTISTS

52 artists

Support for advanced training: **15** dancers

Studio residency: **31** choreographers

Technical Residency: **7** choreographers

STUDIOS

90 % of occupancy

51 228 hours



CIRCUIT-EST IN IMAGES

ÉDIFICE JEAN-PIERRE-PERREAULT



© Vanessa Forget



© Vanessa Forget



© Vanessa Forget

STUDIOS



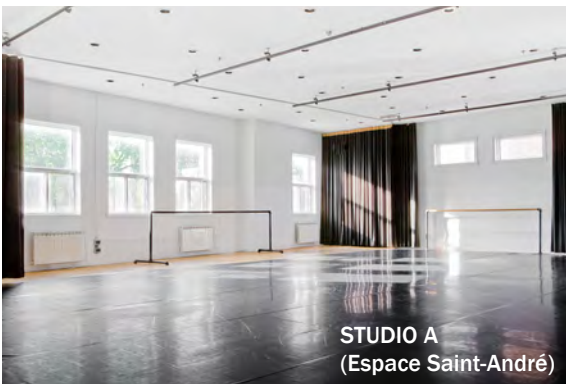
JEANNE-RENAUD STUDIO
(Édifce Jean-Pierre-Perreault)

© Vanessa Forget



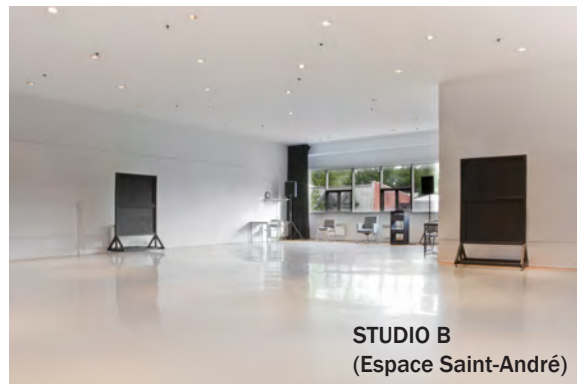
PETER-BONEHAM STUDIO
(Édifce Jean-Pierre-Perreault)

© Vanessa Forget



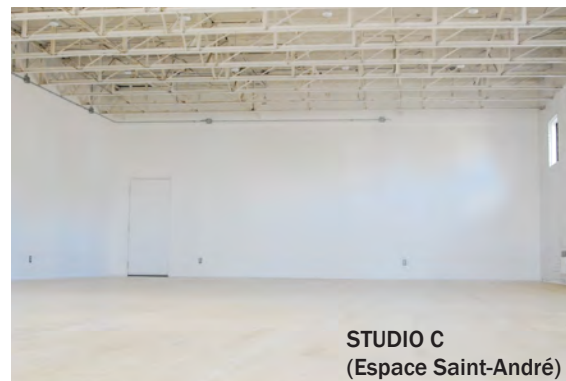
STUDIO A
(Espace Saint-André)

© Vanessa Forget



STUDIO B
(Espace Saint-André)

© Vanessa Forget



STUDIO C
(Espace Saint-André)

© Sigrid Hueber

CIRCUIT-EST IN IMAGES

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING



© Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique



© Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique

RESIDENCIES



© Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique



© Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



© Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique



© Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique

WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT CIRCUIT-EST

Louise Lecavaller © Massimo Chiaradia



"Circuit-Est is for me a wonderful place for creation, and I am personally "addicted" to the large studio Jeanne-Renaud where I finalised the creation of So Blue and Mille Batailles. There is equipment and everything we need, and I like the fact that Circuit-Est is kind of isolated from the performance centres, since it is located in the East. It looks like a secret place but it gathers many talented choreographers, and the place itself is magnificent, even before we fill it with dance, sound and light. I feel good there. It is not a show box. It is a mysterious box filled with multiple possibilities."

Louise Lecavaller, Artistic Director (Fou Glorieux)

"Circuit-Est has undoubtedly been determinant in my artistic career. It is a stimulating place conducive for the exchange of ideas where there is a sense of belonging and where artists are listened to. It is an essential organization for research and creation, a place which is constantly evolving just like our dance milieu."

Sylvain Émard, Co-General and Artistic Director (Sylvain Émard Danse)



Sylvain Émard © Cindy Boyce

Carole Laure © Le Soleil, Erick Labbé



"In addition to offering exceptional studios to contemporary dance artists, Circuit-Est shows its openness by allowing other creators to invest the place. I had the opportunity to shoot scenes from my last movie in this place that I love and, above all, I benefited from the support of the choreographic centre's wonderful team. Thank you!"

Carole Laure, Filmmaker

"When we are a self-employed people, we are free and masters of our destiny. But we are also nomade and homeless, in some ways. Sometimes we ramble between two meetings or two rehearsals. Circuit-Est is an open place where it is possible to settle, to be supported, to be in a community. It's a crossroad where we can dance and think. For me, it is where I anchor."

Mélanie Demers, General and Artistic Director (MAYDAY)



Mélanie Demers © Sabrina Reeves

Margie Gillis © V. Tony-Hauser



Circuit-Est plays a major role in creation, vision, support and innovation in the community, as it is driven by its passion and devotion to dance. I am so grateful for these 30 years of excellence. Thank you! Bravo! Bravos!

Margie Gillis, Artistic and Executive Director (La Fondation de danse Margie Gillis)

CONTACT



© Vanessa Forget

Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique

Administrative offices
Jeanne-Renaud and Peter-Boneham studios
Édifice Jean-Pierre-Perreault
2022, Sherbrooke East St.
Montréal (Québec) H2K 1B9

Telephone: 514 525-1569
Fax: 514 525-8575
info@circuit-est.qc.ca
www.circuit-est.qc.ca

Studios A, B and C
Espace Saint-André
1881, Saint-André St.
Montréal (Québec) H2L 3T9