



Eric Beauchesne

Born in Québec, Eric grew up fishing and hunting before discovering dance at the age of 16. Graduate from École supérieure de danse du Québec, he has been on stage with Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, the Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe and Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal, as well as with Canadian contemporary dance icons such as La Fondation Jean-Pierre Perrault, Paul-André Fortier, Louise Lecavalier and Crystal Pite. Company member since 2004, Eric currently collaborates with Kidd Pivot as associate artistic director, and stages Pite's work on companies worldwide including National Ballet of Canada, Ballet Zürich, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Ballet British Columbia and, most recently Göteborg Operan. Eric has served as guest teacher and faculty for several organizations such as École de danse contemporaine de Montréal, Arts Umbrella Vancouver, Seattle Festival of Dance Improvisation and Dutch National Ballet Academy as well as rehearsal director for Nederlands Dans Theater. He currently resides in Holland and devotes much of his spare time advocating for climate action and sustainable practices in the dance world.

Workshops description

Crystal Pite / Kidd Pivot Workshop

This workshop focuses on the study and practice of movement methodology and repertory by choreographer Crystal Pite. Students will have the opportunity to develop their skills and embody artistic intelligence through improvisation and set choreography. The improvisation sessions will insist on revealing and uncovering articulations and timings in the body while the repertoire sessions will spotlight specific excerpts which the participants will be invited to learn, examine and experience.

Improvisation & methodology

The improvisation session focuses on discovering and revealing articulations and timings in the body. The class begins with a warm-up as participants articulate deeply through the body in stages, starting from the spine and working towards the extremities. Participants work at their own pace, exploring kinetic relationships both within their own bodies and to the space around them. The class is explorative and non-performative: its focus is on the play between analysis and instinct, and the use of improvisation both as a tool and an experience. This workshop is influenced by mindfulness techniques as well as by more than fifteen years of collaboration with choreographer Crystal Pite.

Repertory

This workshop is designed to allow dancers to be initiated to the work and artistry of choreographer Crystal Pite. The session spotlights specific excerpts which the participants will be invited to learn, examine and experience. Focus will be given to many aspects of her dance making such as clarity, articulation, speed, intense physicality, and the idea of being danced.