



**Press Release
For immediate release**

Jean-Pierre Perreault's Work Comes to Life on the Bodies of Dance Students

Montreal, 13th January 2011 – The Fondation Jean-Pierre Perreault is proud to announce that it is taking up the invitation extended by five professional Canadian contemporary dance schools and the Canada Dance Festival. In addition, the Fondation is pleased to announce that it has created a web page about its documentation of activities around the *Soirée Jean-Pierre Perreault* held in the fall of 2009 at the initiative of the dance department of UQAM.

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Since 2008, LADMMI (Montreal), the School of Dance (Ottawa), the School of the Toronto Dance Theatre, the School of Contemporary Dancers (Winnipeg) and the École de danse de Québec have been presenting, in collaboration with the Canada Dance Festival, an ensemble piece directed by a Canadian choreographer. In 2008, this task was given to Tedd Robinson, and in 2010 to Ginette Laurin.

For the 2012 edition, a carte blanche invitation has been extended to the Fondation Jean-Pierre Perreault. The Fondation has been invited to develop (adapting a dance piece, stage design, lighting, costumes and music), from the repertory of work by Perreault, a piece for sixty dancers that will be divisible into five independent dance segments. This is an opportunity for young dancers to encounter the work of an important choreographer and to challenge themselves with a demanding artistic experience and group work. Over the course of the 2011-12 season, final-year students in the five dance schools will rehearse and then perform the segment of the work assigned for their year-end performance. They will then take part in the group work, whose world premiere will take place during the next edition of the Canada Dance Festival in Ottawa in June 2012.

By bringing together all the skills necessary to carry out this ambitious project, the Fondation will be developing a central part of its mandate to make accessible and pass on our dance heritage to new generations of dancers.

Revisiting the *Soirée Jean-Pierre Perreault*: the documentation experience is on-line!

At the invitation of the dance department of UQAM, Ginelle Chagnon, Vice-Chair of the Fondation and a former Perreault collaborator, led students in the Spectacle chorégraphique dirigé II course in the reconstruction and adaptation of three key works from the early years of Jean-Pierre Perreault's career: *Continental*, *Huit Minutes* and *Dernière Paille*. From 16th to 19th December 2009, 25 students had the opportunity to present the results of their work in a public performance at the Agora de la Danse Studio.

It is now possible to learn more about the documentation experience undertaken by the Fondation by consulting texts and video sequences at <http://www.fondation-jean-pierre-perreault.org/en/projects/soiree-jean-pierre-perreault-uqam-2009>.

Jean-Pierre Perreault (1947-2002)

Jean-Pierre Perreault, one of the most important Canadian choreographers and winner of several prestigious national awards, is recognized for the global conception of his works. Perreault is known for works such as *Rodolphe* (1983), *Joe* (1984), *Stella* (1985), *Nuit* (1986), *Flykt* (1991), created for the Ballet Cullberg, *Adieux* (1993), *La Vita* (1993), *Les Années de Pèlerinage* (1995), *Eironos* (1996), *L'Exil-L'Oubli* (1999), and a series of choreographic installations (1994, 1997 and 2000). A thoroughly committed artist, Perreault was responsible for the stage design, choreography, lighting and sound design of all his work. He placed fragile beings – intense, authentic and “Perreault-esque” – in a world of vast architectural spaces. Races, jumps, ruptures, sounds and rhythms are the features of Perreault’s style, a dance with deep roots in space and place and which, in part, creates its own music. Jean-Pierre Perreault’s work constantly brings us face to face with human nature.

Fondation Jean-Pierre Perreault

The Fondation Jean-Pierre Perreault preserves, manages and ensures continued access to the artistic legacy of the choreographer and visual artist Jean-Pierre Perreault. In addition, the Fondation makes its expertise on the work of Jean-Pierre Perreault available for research, artistic reconstructions and choreographic instruction in order to maintain the integrity of the work.

The Fondation Jean-Pierre Perreault thanks the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine du Québec, the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec and the Conseil des arts de Montréal for their financial support. The Fondation’s current activities focus on documenting and staging the work of Jean-Pierre Perreault and on rights management.

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