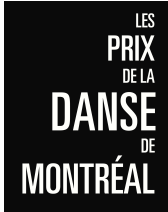


Louise Lecavalier, awarded the first PRIX DE LA DANSE DE MONTRÉAL



Montreal, November 29, 2011. LES PRIX DE LA DANSE DE MONTRÉAL (Montreal dance awards) were born of an initiative by Marie Chouinard with the support of other key players in the Montreal dance scene. Numerous creators, presenters and administrators responded with enthusiasm to the choreographer's appeal, sharing her desire to award dance artists of outstanding merit.

Anik Bissonnette had the honour of announcing the winner for 2011, Louise Lecavalier. Both the launch and awards ceremony for the PRIX DE LA DANSE DE MONTRÉAL were held at the Agora de la danse, attended by performers, choreographers and other members of the dance community.

Louise Lecavalier was chosen in honour of her bold and brilliant career. For years she has captivated audiences with her stunning energy and exceptional technique. A hard worker whose style combines ardour and fragility, her status as an international star has helped democratize and build recognition for modern dance. A special highlight of 2011 for Montreal dance lovers was Lecavalier's stellar performance in the doubleheader *Children* (2009) by Nigel Charnock and *A Few Minutes of Lock* (2009) by Édouard Lock, presented in April at Usine C.

The 2011 award includes a cash prize of \$5,000 graciously provided by the Compagnie Marie Chouinard.

LES PRIX DE LA DANSE DE MONTRÉAL

LES PRIX DE LA DANSE DE MONTRÉAL is a nonprofit organization with the mandate of promoting Montreal as an international centre for the creation and dissemination of dance, and of enhancing the vitality of individuals, organizations and institutions working in dance with the presentation of honours and distinctions. These will be awarded annually by an independent selection committee, to artists from here or elsewhere, provided they have presented a work onstage in Montreal during the previous season (between July 1 and June 30).

For further information:

Christel Durand

Communications Coordinator - COMPAGNIE MARIE CHOUINARD

514 843.9036 ext 15

cdurand@mariechouinard.com