

L'ÉCOLE
SUPÉRIEURE DE
BALLET
DU QUÉBEC

Press Release
For immediate publication

From l'École supérieure to the Nederlands Dans Theater 2

Montréal, October 25, 2016 — As Montréal prepares to receive its first visit in more than 20 years from the Nederlands Dans Theater, in the Netherlands, Ève-Marie Dalcourt, a young dancer trained by L'École supérieure de ballet du Québec, is launching her career with the Nederlands Dans Theater 2. A graduate of the professional program at the only francophone institution in North America to provide world-class ballet training, Ève-Marie was the only dancer recruited by the company following an internship at The Hague this past summer.

For 19-year-old Ève-Marie, this is a dream come true and, for L'École supérieure, it's the tremendous pride of seeing one of its graduates star on the international stage. "I am extremely pleased for Ève-Marie, who is fulfilling her artistic ambitions," stated Anik Bissonnette, Artistic Director of L'École supérieure, adding: "At l'École supérieure, she acquired sound classical technique and developed an openness to contemporary proposals, two characteristics shared by performers with the Nederlands Dans Theater. Today, the NDT is a beacon in the world of dance as it showcases the most gifted choreographers and attracts the most talented dancers."

During her time at L'École supérieure, Ève-Marie developed a strong base in ballet, performing, among others, the part of Odette in *Swan Lake* in the school's last annual show presented in the Pierre-Mercure Hall in May 2016. She also explored contemporary choreographies as a featured performer in original creations. Ève-Marie further distinguished herself through the determination, commitment and enthusiasm she brought to school activities. In fact, in 2015, Ève-Marie earned the Danse Danse award for her perseverance.

About Anik Bissonnette

As principal dancer of Montréal's Grands Ballets Canadiens for close to 17 years, Anik Bissonnette distinguished herself both at home and abroad, receiving critical acclaim for her classical technique as well as her great musical sensibility. Her career has been marked by significant distinctions, including the titles of Officer of the Order of Canada (1995) and Knight of the National Order of Québec (1996). She was awarded the Denise-Pelletier Prize in 2008 as well as the Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2014. Concurrently, she served as President of the Regroupement québécois de la danse for six years. Since taking the helm of l'École supérieure de ballet du Québec in 2010, Anik Bissonnette has devoted her energies to communicating her knowledge to a new generation of dancers worthy of the finest dance companies in Québec, Canada and the world.

About l'École supérieure de ballet du Québec

L'École supérieure de ballet du Québec has made it its mission to train dancers and creators meeting the highest criteria in the world of professional dance and, in the process, promote the recognition, outreach and development of dance. Founded in 1952 by Ludmilla Chiriaeff and incorporated in 1966 at the request of Québec's Ministère des Affaires culturelles, it is the standard in Québec for teaching and professional training in the field of classical dance.

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