



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Editors: Images are available upon request.

Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal returns to Philadelphia  
with three premieres by three world-class choreographers  
ushering in the New Year  
January 13-17

(Philadelphia, PA) Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal, one of Canada's most popular touring companies, performs a triple bill of works for the NextMove Series at the Prince Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street, January 13-17. Recognized worldwide for its artistry, technical virtuoso dancers and stellar repertoire, LBJM, under the direction of Louis Robitaille, combines the aesthetics of ballet while embracing other forms of dance.

Performances take place Wednesday, January 13 at 7:30pm; Thursday, January 14 at 7:30pm; Friday, January 15 at 8pm; Saturday, January 16 at 2pm and 8pm; and Sunday, January 17 at 3pm. Tickets cost \$20-\$57 and can be purchased in person at the Prince Theater Box Office, by phone 215-422-4580 or online <http://princetheater.org>. NextMove at the Prince is presented by Dance Affiliates, a leading presenter in world-class dance, under the direction of F. Randolph Swartz.

*Rouge*, by Rodrigo Pederneiras, choreographer for Brazil's Grupo Corpo, opens the program. This 10-section ensemble piece set to original music by the brothers Grand with a wink to Amerindian music is an ode and tribute to native peoples and their cultural legacy. Danced to the sounds based on the noises of a typewriter, *Mono Lisa* is performed by star dancer Celine Cassone partnered by University of the Arts graduate Mark Francis Caserta, Choreographed by Israel's Itzik Galili, this duet explores the relationship of a modern couple filled with seduction and fiery dynamics while showcasing Cassone's impressive extensions and unusual athletic lifts. The program closes with *Kosmos*, choreographed by Greece's rising star Andonis Foniadakis. Set to drum music by Julien Tarride, this powerful, high-octane, 35-minute company work is inspired by the frenetic pace of everyday life. "Performing at a sadistically fast pace, BJM dancers blazed through fitful and relentless choreography, dense with flailing arms, jumps, roundhouse kicks and falls. The stamina-busting choreography was something to marvel at for its sheer creativity and exhilarating brilliance."

(The Plain Dealer)

In addition to the performances, the company will conduct a free master class on Friday, January 15 at 1pm., University of the Arts, 211 S. Broad St. The company will offer two post performance chats for ticket holders on Thursday and Saturday (2pm) immediately following the performance. For outreach information contact [Annemarie@danceaffiliates.org](mailto:Annemarie@danceaffiliates.org)

### **About the Company**

Founded in 1972, LBJM has been under the artistic direction of Louis Robitaille since 1998. Characterized by versatility, virtuosity and the strong personalities of its 14 dancers, the company performs a large repertoire of contemporary works in a hybrid style generously inspired by the vocabulary of classical ballet. Crystal Pite, Azure Barton and Wen Wei Wang are among the Canadian choreographers invited to create dance pieces for LBJM, and the company also calls on emerging and established artists from other countries, individuals like Mauro Bigonzetti, Rodrigo Pederneiras and Andonis Fodianakis. As it approaches its 43rd anniversary LBJM has performed to over two million spectators in 66 countries.

### **Support for Dance Affiliates**

Dance Affiliates' inaugural NextMove Series is supported by the Friends of Dance (Affiliates), National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts, Philadelphia Cultural Fund, and the William Penn Foundation. State arts funding is received through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment of the Arts, a federal agency.

### **Dance Affiliates**

Founded in 1979 by artistic director Randy Swartz, Dance Affiliates is one of the nation's few remaining dance-only presenters. Dance Affiliates was known internationally for its award-winning annual Dance Celebration program co-presented with Annenberg Center which was Philadelphia's longest-running series of world-class contemporary dance for the past 32-years. Having presented more than 200 companies in 2,000 performances, Dance Affiliates provides a wealth of opportunities for the Philadelphia-area community to interact with visiting dance artists through master classes, residencies, artistic collaborations, symposiums, film screenings, workshops, special student programs and pre- and post-performance curtain talks. Through more than 600 outreach programs, 30,000 students and aspiring dancers have been served. Visit [www.danceaffiliates.org](http://www.danceaffiliates.org)

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**For More Information or Interviews:** Dance Affiliates, Anne-Marie Mulgrew  
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