



BOUCHARL DANSE

très loin

Choreography by Sylvie Bouchard



photo by Dahlia Katz

très loin

très loin is a visual and kinesthetic installation created in collaborative partnership with choreographer Sylvie Bouchard, visual artist Ed Pien, composer Phil Strong, dramaturg Anne-Marie Donovan, lighting designer André du Toit, and four performers: Michael Caldwell, Sierra Chin Sawdy, Pulga Muchochoma and Natasha Poon Woo.

très loin marries dance, visual art and sound to explore childhood trauma, dissociation, roads to recovery and the search for resilience. The piece looks closely at how our mind and body deal with the consequences of trauma, but most importantly, it portrays the incredible strength, courage and perseverance needed to surmount these experiences and to reintegrate parts of ourselves that get lost, or split off, when traumatic experiences take place.

In ***très loin***, the audience is seated around the space the dancers inhabit. The viewers are intimately close to the work and part of the experience, each person watching the story unfold from a different perspective. ***très loin*** invites audiences into a unique and sensory-filled art installation, an ethereal landscape where four divided parts are striving, with all their might, to become whole again.

“My most recent choreographic works look at the unconscious and at its disconcerting course. Dissociation is a normal response to an abnormal situation (abuse, violence, danger, etc.) and this state lingers in the body and mind of the survivor. With the creation of *très loin* comes the desire to touch on a more personal theme and celebrate our humanity, strengths and vulnerabilities while demonstrating how emotional support is essential to chart new ways of being after surviving a major trauma. This project gives me the opportunity not only to create a new work, but also to forge new ways to create, closer to artistic collaborators and performers.”

- Sylvie Bouchard, Artistic Director

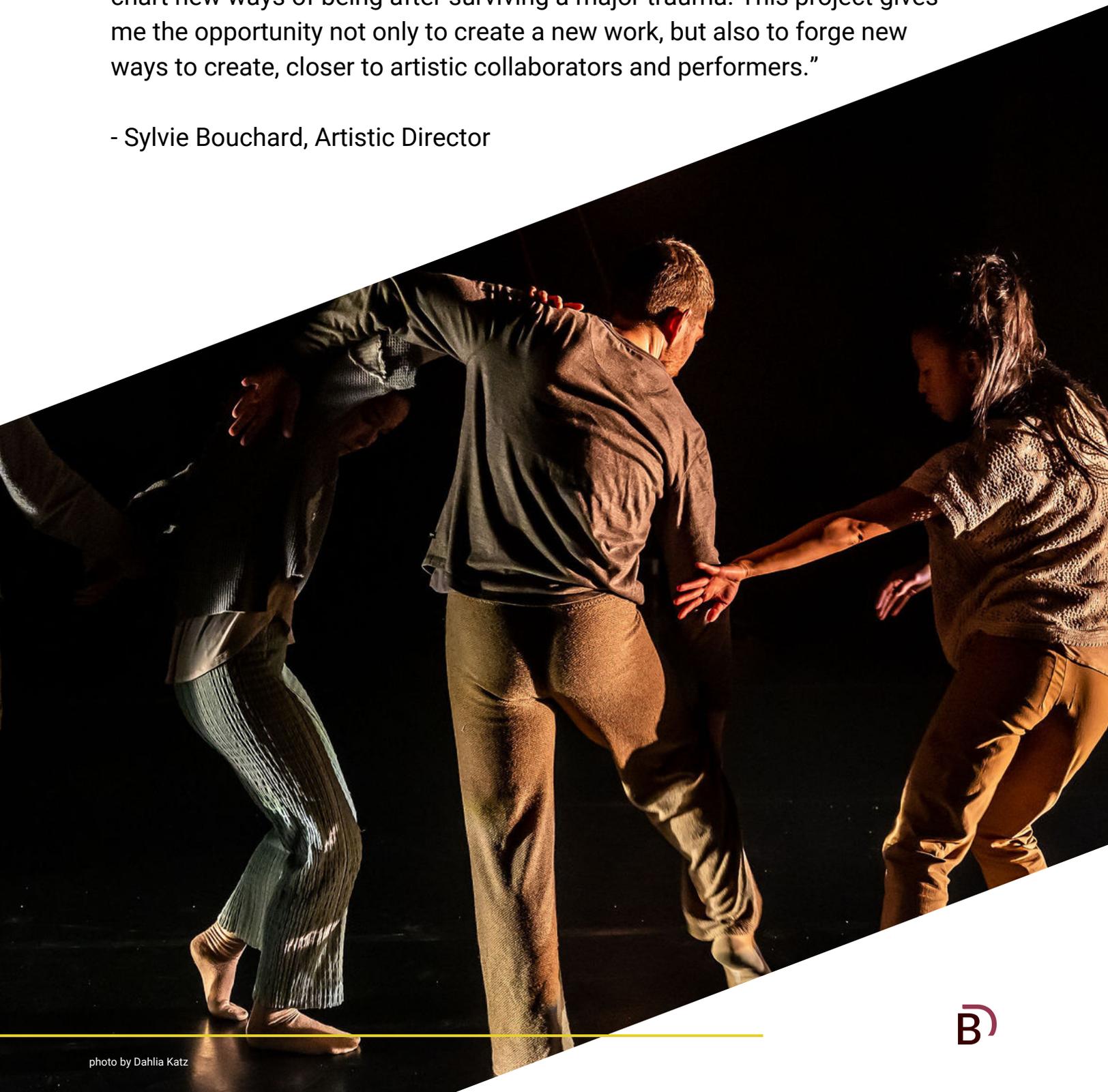




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Additional Information

Anticipated premiere in fall 2023. We are presently looking for co-presentation and / or residency partners.

très loin is 75-minute long and requires a minimum space of 30 x 40' (9 x 12m). There is one row of 50 chairs around the performance space - a second row can be added if required. Prior to the performance, the audience is invited to experience the installation, before taking their seat.

Ancillary outreach programming can be discussed, and a Study Guide will be available for high school students.

très loin can be performed either once or twice a day.

Video Links

Filmed at the Theatre Centre in Toronto in November 2021.

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch a 10 minute excerpt of the work-in progress.

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch the full work-in- progress.

Collaborators

très loin is a collaborative project where art forms interact, inspire and nourish one another.

Sylvie Bouchard, Choreographer

Ed Pien, Visual Artist

Phil Strong, Composer

André du Toit, Lighting Designer

Anne-Marie Donovan, Dramaturg

Cheryl Lalonde, Costume Designer

Katia Grubisic, Poet

Michael Caldwell, Performer

Sierra Chin Sawdy, Performer

Pulga Muchochoma, Performer

Natasha Poon Woo, Performer

Jeff Soucy, Stage Manager

About BoucharDanse

BoucharDanse is a Canadian contemporary dance company based in Toronto and conceived in 2009 by choreographer/performer Sylvie Bouchard, who is originally from Montréal. It is an incubator of new artistic concepts and projects that are developed through dynamic collaborations - an intrinsic value of the company. The company is devoted to artistic research, creation and presentation and is committed to foster innovative concepts and projects that intersect with a diversity of art forms. BoucharDanse is guided by a desire to make dance inviting to both experienced and novice audiences, proposing unique kinesthetic experiences both in theatre venues and in non-traditional spaces. Our repertoire includes in-theatre performances, site-specific performances, multi-art installations and smaller scale works (solos and duets) for which Sylvie acts as an interpreter or a choreographer, sometimes both.

The choreographic works of Sylvie Bouchard endeavor to address issues and struggles surrounding mental health and journeys through trauma. This reflects her deep desire to speak about mental health, to unpack stories of resilience, and through dance, to engage the public in this conversation.

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