



PHOTO:

FESTIVAL
ARTS
SAINT-SAUVEUR

20
24

Presented by

SHAWBRIDGE

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL DES ARTS DE SAINT-SAUVEUR

A firm belief in the fundamental importance of culture in our society has brought the Festival des Arts de Saint-Sauveur into the ranks of major arts and culture events staged in Quebec and the rest of Canada each year. FASS is now the largest regional dance presenter in the country, both in terms of the number of large-scale shows it presents and the size of its attendance. For over 31 years, the Festival has welcomed the greatest artists of dance and music on the national and international scene in the enchanting setting of the village of Saint-Sauveur.

The Festival's artistic direction has been orchestrated by Guillaume Côté since 2014. His experience, along with the expertise acquired in his career as a dancer, composer and choreographer, have led him to affirm the mandate of the Festival while putting added emphasis on creation, diversity and support for Quebec artists.

Founded in 1992 as the Festival des Arts Hiawatha, the Festival was renamed the Festival des Arts de Saint-Sauveur in 1997. The Festival first received recognition at the Grands Prix du Tourisme des Laurentides awards, with a special mention as Cultural Event of the Year in 2000, and has received the "Grand Prix du Tourisme des Laurentides" in 2007, 2008 and 2014. In 2009 FASS was awarded the "Prix Ambassadeur culturel des Laurentides" in the Cultural Festivals and Events category.

In 2020, FASS won the Prix Opus in the "Diffuseur spécialisé de l'année" category. In 2022, FASS won the Ambassador Award at the Grands prix de la culture des Laurentides, which celebrates the performing arts in the Laurentians.

Under the leadership of Etienne Lavigne as Executive Director, it has contributed actively to laying the foundations of a genuine cultural hotspot with a reputation that extends well beyond the geographical boundaries of the Laurentians.

OUR MISSION

The Festival des Arts de Saint-Sauveur is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the discovery and presentation of the best choreographers, dancers and musicians. Through its eclectic, inclusive, accessible and original programming, the Festival seeks to support and inspire artists from Canada and around the world, and to introduce audiences to their work and passion in an intimate setting.

PROGRAM

VUKANI *(World Premiere July 2024)*

**CHOREOGRAPHY AND
ORIGINAL MUSIC**
Mthuthuzeli November

COSTUME DESIGN
Victoria Bek

LIGHTING DESIGN
Asami Morita

CAST
Graham Feeny, Lounes Landri, Jordan
Powell, Jie-hung Connie Shiau,
Zack Sommer, Madi Tanguay

LENGTH
20 min

Meaning to awaken, “Vukani” explores communion with the elders, a search for guidance, provoking the spirit to take over the body, and showing the way. South African choreographer Mthuthuzeli November deploys his unique choreographic language, informed by both traditional South African (Xhosa) dance and street dance as well as by the Western traditions of ballet and contemporary movement styles.

PAUSE

BACH DUET *(1974/2024)*

CHOREOGRAPHY
Twyla Tharp

STAGED BY
Shelley Washington

ORIGINAL LIGHTING DESIGN
Jennifer Tipton

LIGHTING ADAPTATION
Tsubasa Kamei

COSTUME DESIGN
Kermit Love

COSTUME RECONSTRUCTION
Santos Loquasto, Victoria Bek

MUSIC
J. S. Bach

CAST
Eleni Loving, Jake Tribus

LENGTH
6 min

Bach Duet grounds the ethereal music of Bach’s 78th Cantata in tangible action. The dance begins when one dancer spits on the floor, a common action for dancers looking to get more traction.

Bach Duet premiered at the Delacorte Theater of Central Park in New York City on September 5, 1974.

Gibney Company’s collaboration with Twyla Tharp was supported through the generosity of Joan and Jerry Lozinski.

PAUSE

THE FUGUE (1974/2024)

CHOREOGRAPHY

Twyla Tharp

STAGED BY

Shelley Washington

ORIGINAL LIGHTING DESIGN

Jennifer Tipton

LIGHTING ADAPTATION

Tsubasa Kamei

COSTUME DESIGN

William Ivey Long

COSTUME RECONSTRUCTION

Santos Loquasto, Carmen Gee,
Victoria Bek

CAST

Graham Feeny, Eleni Loving, Jie-hung
Connie Shiau

LENGTH

14 min

Modelled on “The Musical Offering” by Johann Sebastian Bach, *The Fugue* consists of a twenty-count theme which is developed into twenty variations. The theme is modified through a number of reversals, inversions, retrogrades and repetitions, re-sequencing and rhythmic manipulations. Each of the three dancers represents a musical register: bass, alto, soprano. The only sound is the dancers’ footfalls on an amplified stage.

The Fugue premiered at the University of Massachusetts Amherst on August 1, 1970.

Gibney Company’s collaboration with Twyla Tharp was supported through the generosity of Joan and Jerry Lozinski.

INTERMISSION

BLISS (2016/2022)



CHOREOGRAPHY

Johan Inger

STAGED BY

Yvan Dubreuil

SCENERY DESIGN

Johan Inger

COSTUME DESIGN

Johan Inger, Francesca Messori

COSTUME RECONSTRUCTION

Victoria Bek

LIGHTING DESIGN

Peter Lundin

LIGHTING ADAPTATION

Tsubasa Kamei

SET DESIGN

Johan Inger

MUSIC

Keith Jarrett, *The Köln Concert*
Part 1

CAST

Luke Csordas, Alicia Delgadillo,
Graham Feeny, Hannah Hardy, Lounes
Landri, Eleni Loving, Jordan Powell,
Jie-hung Connie Shiau, Eleanor
Simmons, Zack Sommer, Madi
Tanguay, Jake Tribus

LENGTH

27 min

For this large-scale ensemble piece, Swedish choreographer Johan Inger uses the legendary *Köln Concert* by jazz pianist Keith Jarrett; music that many consider to be the epitome of virtuoso improvisation. Rather than translating the music one-to-one into movement, it is more the feeling of Jarrett's iconic music—free, soaring and ecstatic—that Inger translates into beautifully crafted dance, sending not only listeners, but audience members into a state of bliss.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES, CHOREOGRAPHERS

MTHUTHUZELI NOVEMBER

Mthuthuzeli November is an award-winning choreographer and dancer born in Cape Town, South Africa. He started dancing at the age 15. He has made multiple award winning/nominated works since 2016, including the Laurence Olivier Award for INGOMA.

Mthuthuzeli has made works for British Grime artist, Stormzy, at Glastonbury Festival in 2019, Ballet Black, Royal Ballet, Ballet Zurich, The Washington Ballet, Northern Ballet, Charlotte Ballet, Luzerner Theatre, Cape Town City Ballet, Cape Town Opera, and Fall For Dance North. He was nominated for best soloist in a production by the Black British Theatre Awards. In 2022 he was nominated for Best Classical Choreography by the Critics Circle National Dance Awards for his work *The Waiting Game*, and in 2023 won best choreography for his work *Nina-By Whatever Means* at the Black British Theatre Awards.

TWYLA THARP

Since graduating from Barnard College in 1963, Twyla Tharp has choreographed more than 160 works: one hundred twenty-nine dances, twelve television specials, five Hollywood movies, four full-length ballets, four Broadway shows and two figure skating routines. She has also written three books. She received one Tony Award, two Emmy Awards, nineteen honorary doctorates, the Vietnam Veterans of America President's Award, the 2004 National Medal of the Arts, the 2008 Jerome Robbins Prize, and a 2008 Kennedy Center Honor. Her many grants include the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fellowship. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and an Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In addition to choreographing for her own company Twyla Tharp Dance, she has created dances for companies worldwide, where her works continue to be performed. Today, Ms. Tharp continues to create.

JOHAN INGER

The Swede Johan Inger (Stockholm, 1967) joined Nederlands Dans Theater 1 in 1990 and was a high-profile dancer of the company until 2002.

His debut as a choreographer (1995), also for Nederlands Dans Theater, quickly became promising with immediate recognition: for his ballets *Dream Play* and *Walking Mad* he received the Lucas Hoving Production Award in October 2001. *Walking Mad* was later also awarded the Danza & Danza Award 2005. Johan left Nederlands Dans Theater to take on the artistic leadership of Cullberg Ballet in Stockholm in 2003 where he created numerous works.

Since 2008, Johan works as a freelance choreographer and creates for many companies around the globe such as GoteborgsOperan, Ballet Basel, Swedish National Ballet, Compania Nacional de Danza, Aterballetto, Lyon Opera Ballet, Les Ballets de Monte Carlo, Ballet BC and, of course, Nederlands Dans Theater, holding the position as Associate Choreographer from 2009 to 2016. Between 2016 and 2023, among other creations, Johan also choreographed his own versions of the narrative pieces *Petrushka* (Ballets de Monte Carlo) and *Sleeping Beauty* (Aurora's Nap) for the Stuttgart Ballet, and full evenings such as *Carmen* (CND), *Peer Gynt* (Ballet Basel), *Don Juan* (Aterballetto) and *A Swan Lake* for SemperOper Ballett Dresden.

He was honoured in 2016 with the Benois de la Danse Prize for his *Carmen* (CND-Madrid), the piece *One on One* (NDT2), and with the Danza & Danza award for his piece *Bliss*, as well in 2020 for his *Don Juan* as best Italian production.

In 2022, Johan Inger also became artistic director of Take Off Dance, a training program for pre-professional dancers between the ages of 18 and 24 based in Sevilla.

GIBNEY COMPANY



PHOTO: WHITNEY BROWNE

Gibney Company, led by Artistic Director Gina Gibney and Director Gilbert T Small II, commissions and performs works by renowned and emerging choreographers from New York and around the world who are committed to exploring connections between the rigorous, often superhuman physicality of contemporary dance alongside responsive, humanistic storytelling. Presenting a broad range of aesthetics and techniques, Gibney Company has an unrelenting focus on artistic excellence and social integrity.

In January 2020, Gibney received a generous lead gift to support the transformation of its professional dance company. In the 2020-2021 season, the Company doubled in size and made its debut at The Joyce Theater. In the 2022-2023 season, the Company commissioned and premiered *Ghost Town* by Tiffany Tregarthen and David Raymond at its second season at The Joyce Theater; restaged and premiered Ohad Naharin's work *YAG 2022* at New York Live Arts; embarked on an eight-city U.S. tour including performances at DANCECleveland and TITAS/ DANCE UNBOUND; and premiered Johan Inger's *Bliss* at New York City Center's Fall for Dance Festival. The 2023-2024 season features one new commission by the choreographic team of Jermaine Spivey and Spenser Theberge; restaging of two works by Twyla Tharp, *The Fugue* and *Bach*

Duet; featured performance of Sonya's Tayeh's *OH COURAGE!* at the 20th Fall for Dance Festival; and international tour stops at prestigious festivals including Fall for Dance North in Toronto, Holland Dance Festival in the Netherlands, and Dance Victoria in British Columbia. The Company performed at The Joyce Theater in May 2024, and travels to three prestigious venues this summer: Festival des Arts de Saint-Sauveur, Chautauqua Institution and Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival.

Since its expansion, the Company has commissioned ten new works from a wide range of choreographers including Rena Butler, Mthuthuzeli November, Alan Lucien Øyen, Gustavo Ramirez Sansano, Jermaine Spivey and Spenser Theberge, Sonya Tayeh, Tiffany Tregarthen and David Raymond (*Out Innerspace*), and Yue Yin; and performed acclaimed repertory by Sharon Eyal, Johan Inger and Ohad Naharin.

Gibney Company's model for a 21st-century dance company supports sustainable careers for dancers and healthy working relationships for artists and collaborators. The company members, known as Artistic Associates, advance the quality of the organization's artistry through performance and deepen its community engagement through Moving Toward Justice Fellowships designed to address social issues and inequities in the dance field.

GINA GIBNEY

FOUNDER, CEO AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Gina Gibney, a nationally recognized leader and entrepreneur in the field of arts and social justice, is the Founder, Director, and CEO of Gibney, a New York City-based arts organization dedicated to dance and social action. Gina Gibney is known for pioneering innovative new programs which connect the arts with the broader community. Her work has impacted the lives of thousands of domestic violence survivors through programs like Move to Move Beyond, an evidence-based program that offers the transformative power of movement to survivors of gender-based violence and their families. Her Moving Toward Justice incubator uses art as a tool for activism and social impact with a focus on entrepreneurship, social engagement, and mobilization alongside artistry. Other innovative programs include the Dance in Process (DiP) Residency. One of the first programs of its kind, DiP provides extensive, holistic support for mid-career New York-based dance artists who are in the middle stages of work on a new project.

In 2008, Gina Gibney was inducted into the Vanity Fair Hall of Fame for “making art and taking action.” She has served as a Trustee of the national dance advocacy organization Dance/USA and received its Ernie Award in 2017 in recognition of her role as a change-maker in the field. She is a founding member of the Board of Directors of Dance/NYC and is a member of The Women’s Forum of New York. She was included in Dance Magazine’s 2017 list of The Most Influential People in Dance Today and was named to the Out100 2016 list of influential members of the LGBT community. In 2018 she received the Distinguished Alumni Award from her alma mater, Case Western Reserve University, and in 2019 was awarded the Floria Lasky Award from the Jerome Robbins Foundation and the Plus Factor Award from the string quartet ETHEL.

Gina Gibney is a frequent panellist and speaker on topics of dance, entrepreneurship, and arts-community partnerships. She holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Fine Arts from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH, where she graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa.

GILBERT SMALL II

GIBNEY COMPANY DIRECTOR

Gilbert T. Small II joined Gibney Company in 2020 as Curatorial Director of Training and Company Rehearsal Director and was promoted to Company Director in 2022. He is a mentor to many emerging artists in New York and abroad and serves as a guest faculty for institutions internationally, cultivating relationships and connections across many demographics and communities. Previously, Small was a leading artist with the internationally acclaimed Ballet British Columbia under the leadership of Emily Molnar. During his ten years with the company, he worked with choreographers William Forsythe, Crystal Pite, Medhi Walerski, Emily Molnar, and Cayetano Soto, and others, and took on the role of Rehearsal Director for the company's fall 2017 season. He received a Bachelor of Fine Art from SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Dance in 2009. While at Purchase, he studied abroad at Codarts in Rotterdam, an opportunity that shifted his perspective, pushing him to investigate and explore the multifaceted nature of the art form. Originally from Baltimore, Maryland, Small began his formal training at the Baltimore School for the Arts.



We recognize that we are on a millennial indigenous territory, a place of encounters and diplomacy, where people have been dancing for more than 15,000 years. We salute and thank the various peoples who have enriched this territory with their presence and their cultures, which today welcomes people from all over the world. We are grateful to be able to dance here and celebrate this land with the creative freedom we enjoy.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

The use of cameras and camcorders is strictly prohibited.

Out of respect for the performers and for their safety, please make sure that you have turned off your cell phones and any other devices that might make noise.

FASS Silent Auction

The annual FASS silent auction will be held from **July 24th to August 4th** in the Big Top's lobby and for the first time online!

Thanks to the generosity of many local businesses and artisans, visitors will be able to browse through dozens of items and exclusive surprises: cultural excursions, sports activity packages, travel getaways, works of art and much more.

This fundraising activity allows FASS to invite exceptional artists year after year.

A great opportunity to support FASS and spoil yourself!

The auction starts on July 24 at 6:30 p.m. and ends on August 4 at 7:55 p.m.

To visit the Silent Auction, follow this link:

<https://festivaldesarts.ca/en/spectacle/online-silent-auction/>

The Festival des Arts de Saint-Sauveur is grateful for the generous support of its precious donors.

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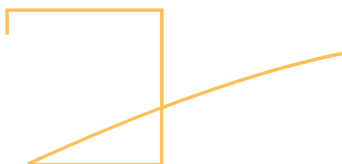
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