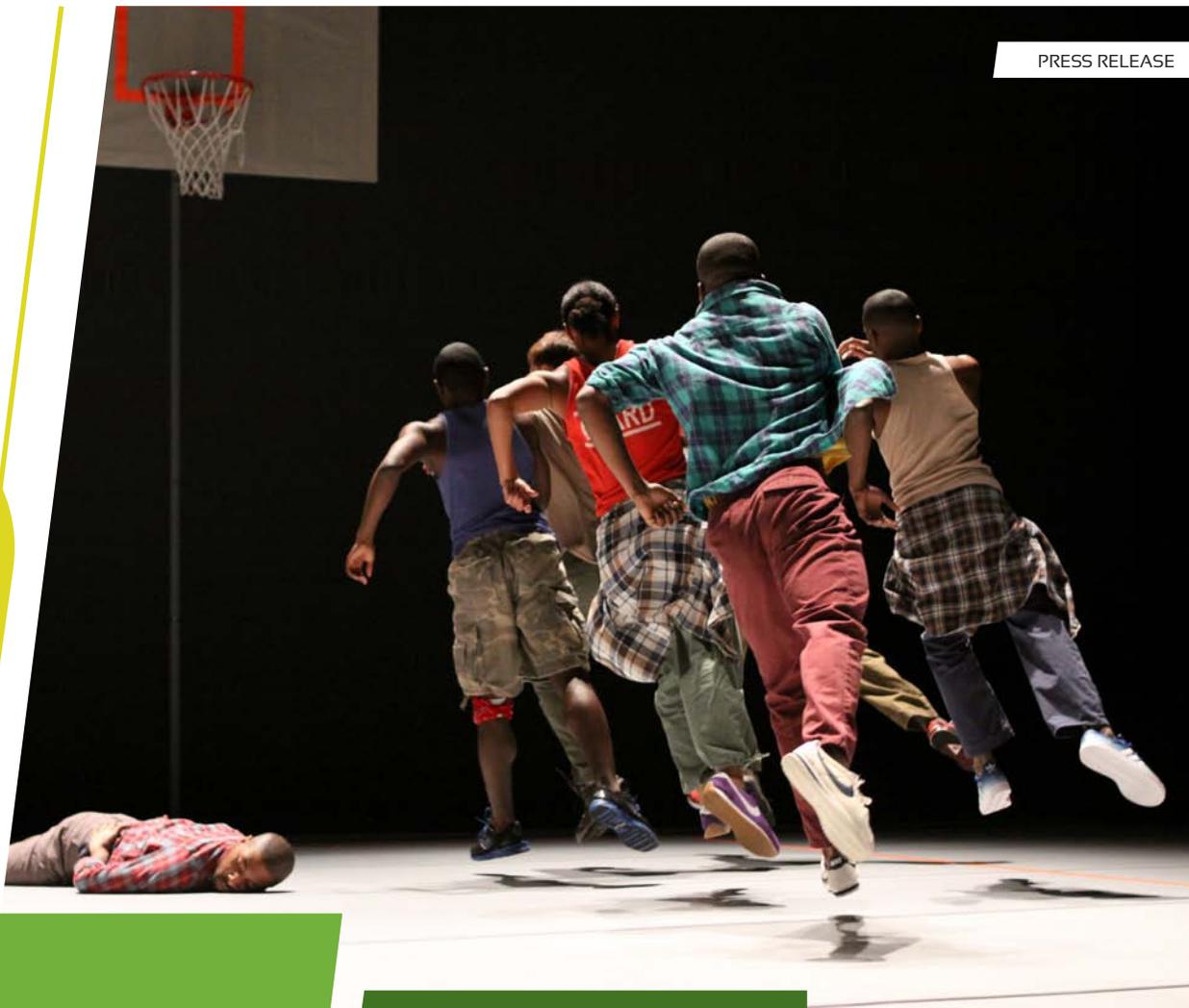


DANSE DANSE

2013 2014
SEASON



» United-States

ABRAHAM.IN.MOTION

Pavement

Kyle Abraham

MARCH 6 » 7 » 8, 2014

THÉÂTRE MAISONNEUVE

THE PERFECT OUTING FOR SPRING BREAK

DARLING OF THE NEW YORK SCENE COMING TO MONTREAL

Montreal, February 10, 2014 – Danse Danse will be presenting a rising star of the American contemporary dance scene. Kyle Abraham's company **Abraham.In.Motion**, will be making its Canadian première with ***Pavement*** on **March 6, 7 and 8 at Théâtre Maisonneuve at Place des Arts**. Praised as one of the brightest new talents in the age of Obama, the 36-year-old artist blends urban, modern and classical dance with theatre in this very moving portrait of 7 individuals in the black neighbourhoods of his native Pittsburgh. Presented in a highly personal style, his exploration of contemporary issues is accessible to a wide audience, and was rewarded in 2013 with a fellowship from the prestigious MacArthur Foundation. While major cultural institutions in the U.S. are in dire straits, sometimes a perfect gift comes our way during spring break. Urban, poignant, thrilling.

PAVEMENT (2012)

"In 1991, I was fourteen and entering the ninth grade at Schenley High School in the historic Hill District of Pittsburgh. That same year, John Singleton's film, *Boyz N The Hood* was released. For me, the film depicted an idealized "Gangsta Boheme" laying aim to the state of the Black American male at the end of the 20th century. Twenty years later and more than ten years into the 21st century, I am focused on investigating the state of Black America and a history the rein.

Reimagined as a dance work and now set in Pittsburgh's historically black neighborhoods, East Liberty, Homewood and the Hill District, *Pavement*, aims to create a strong emotional chronology of a culture conflicted with a history plagued by discrimination, genocide, and a constant quest for a lottery ticket weighted in freedom.

Looking primarily at Homewood and the Hill District, their histories run parallel. Both experienced a cultural shift in the 1950's when jazz legends like Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington performed at local theaters, and Billy Strayhorn spent most of his teenage years. A half a century later, those same theaters became dilapidated. The streets that once flourished on family run businesses and a thriving jazz scene, now show the sad effects of gang violence and crack cocaine."

— Kyle Abraham

"With his riveting blend of classical modern-dance styles, hip hop and ballet, Abraham has the choreographic chops and passion to move audiences with works that have emotional staying power." (*Pittsburgh City Paper*)





Pierre Des Marais and Clothilde Cardinal, Artistic Co-Directors

“Endowed with a finely honed social conscience, Kyle Abraham is a new voice in the American urban dance landscape who offers reflections on the social condition and history of black Americans. His very personal style is sure to win over Danse Danse aficionados as well as new publics.”

PAVEMENT WILL BE PRESENTED IN MONTREAL FROM MARCH 6 TO 8, 2014.

Tickets start at \$29 (includes service charge but not taxes) Place des Arts box office 514 842.2112, 1 866 842.2112

New: Youth Rate (age 30 and under) Get a 20% discount. Certain conditions apply.

Abraham.In.Motion on tour At the National Arts Centre in Ottawa with The Radio Show, on February 13th, 2014.

At the Centre culturel de l'Université de Sherbrooke with Pavement, on March 4th, 2014.



TALK ABOUT DANCE



MEET THE ARTISTS Friday, March 7, 2014 In the theatre following the performance



KYLE ABRAHAM, PRODIGAL SON

A choreographer, dancer and teacher, Kyle Abraham makes use of his training in classical music, visual arts and a multitude of dance styles from ballet to hip hop. These diverse influences give heft and depth to the elegant, evocative works. In 2009 Dance Magazine named him one of "25 to Watch", describing his work as "elastic and electric, luxuriating, rippling, poetically arranged with moments of perfect stillness that arrive amid splashes of expression. His choreography wriggles energy through the body, stretches it, suspends it, releases it."

Artist in residence at New York Live Arts for 2012-2014, he received rave reviews for Another Night, created for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. In recent years he has generated enormous interest in the dance world and has received numerous, distinctions as a dancer and choreographer. After receiving the 2012 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award, the Bessie for outstanding performance in dance for his work in The Radio Show and 2 prestigious fellowships, he was honoured, in 2013, by the MacArthur fellowship, which comes with a five-year grant worth \$625,000.

His choreography has been presented throughout the United States and abroad in Germany, Jordan, Ecuador, Ireland and Japan. In 2008 one of his installations was presented as part of Springboard Danse Montréal.

ABRAHAM.IN.MOTION

Kyle Abraham founded the company Abraham.In.Motion (A.I.M) in 2006 in order to create highly emotional interdisciplinary works that delve into identity in relation to personal history. Often inspired by themes of adversity, behaviour and human relations, he creates strong visual elements and combines a sensual and provocative vocabulary with carefully designed soundtracks to emphasize the relationship between dance and music. By including in his company dancers from various dance disciplines and diverse backgrounds, he is able to unite their individual strengths, creating a unique energy and movements that are fresh and unique.

His first work for A.I.M, Fading into Something Tangible, was followed by pieces such as The Radio Show, an abstract narrative about lost and disrupted communications; A Ramp to Paradise, which tells the true story of an underground black gay club in New York; and Live!, The Realist MC, inspired by Pinocchio's plight to be a 'real boy' in an industrial dystopia. Created in 2012, Pavement focuses on a group of friends struggling to stay together as their community falls apart. Abraham.In.Motion is a proud supporter of Dancers Responding to AIDS.



NEXT PRESENTATION

CLOUD GATE DANCE THEATRE OF TAIWAN

Songs of the Wanderers

Lin Hwai-min // Théâtre Maisonneuve

MARCH 27 » 28 » 29, 2014

The fabulous Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan is back! Directed by the internationally renowned choreographer Lin Hwai-min, the company offers a visually stunning ritual in movement that embraces quietude, sculptural poses and frenzy. A grand moment of grace.

Visit the Danse Danse website for additional information on dance pieces and the dance companies being featured: video excerpts, interviews, photos, full credits and various related hyperlinks.

dansedanse.ca



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Conseil des Arts du Canada Canada Council for the Arts

