



NEWS RELEASE

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2009: a dizzying year for O Vertigo

Montreal, December 4, 2009 – From Montreal to Munich and from Milan to Guanajuato with stops in Marseilles and Tokyo, dance company O Vertigo has clocked thousands of kilometres this year, presenting two of Ginette Laurin's major works: *La Chambre Blanche* (re-creation 2008) and a remounted production of *La Vie qui bat* (1999).



Two choreographic works performed on four continents

O Vertigo began the year 2009 in Montreal at the Cinquième Salle of Place des Arts, giving ten sold-out performances of *La Chambre Blanche* (re-creation 2008). Catherine Lalonde of *Le Devoir* described this work as “a milestone of Quebec dance”. Following this success, the work was presented in Germany in Munich and Dusseldorf and in Milan at the Exister festival. In June, the re-creation was again acclaimed by audiences and critics, this time at the Festival de danse et des arts multiples de Marseille. After a short summer break, *La Chambre Blanche* went to Europe for the fifth time this year to be performed at the Oriente Occidente Festival in Italy, before leaving for Mexico to participate in the Festival Internacional Cervantino; O Vertigo had the honour of being one of the Quebec dance companies featured in a special program at this festival. Since its re-creation, *La Chambre Blanche* has had almost forty performances attended by thousands of spectators in Europe, Canada, and Mexico. Finally, the high point of this autumn was the premiere of the remounting of *La Vie qui bat* at Dance Triennale Tokyo, one of Japan's most prestigious dance festivals. This unique event brought together the dancers of O Vertigo and a Japanese percussion ensemble performing *Drumming* by Steve Reich.

The first feature-length film directed by Ginette Laurin

Directed by Ginette Laurin and produced by Amérimage-Spectra, *la chambre blanche* was presented to the public right after its completion in spring 2009, at the Golden Prague International Television Festival in the Czech Republic and at the Festival de danse et des arts multiples de Marseille. The short film *Coppia 2*, also directed by the choreographer, was shown this year at five festivals in Europe, North America and Asia, besides being broadcast by Bravo!

A workshop, and creation residencies

The international workshop held by O Vertigo for three weeks every year was as successful as usual, attracting thirty participants from nine countries. In addition, the artist's residency program at the Creation Center continued this year, hosting five choreographers from Quebec and Ontario: Anne-Marie Boisvert, Emma Waltraud Howe, Susie Burpee, Gérald Trentham, and Frédéric Marier.

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