

Catherine Gaudet

After completing a bachelor's and a master's degree in contemporary dance at UQAM, Catherine Gaudet established from the outset a reputation as a choreographer with a strong, distinctive style. Slipping under the mask of social conventions, she tracks down the convulsive movements of the subconscious in the body, the micro movements that reveal emotions and sensations we try to hide. Obsessed by the quest for existential truth and well-being, she plunges into the meanderings of the psyche, finding beauty in flaws in contradictions. Her state of dance emerges from opposing forces that constrain and control her tormented characters. Her raw yet precise physicality is complemented by a theatricality that subtly combines absurd dramatic tensions with black humour.

She presented her first choreography in 2004, making her mark over the next two years with *Grosse fatigue* (2005)—acclaimed at the Arhus International Choreography Competition (Denmark)—and *L'arnaque* (2006).

In 2009 she delved into the effects of loss in her first long piece, *L'invasion du vide*. After participating in creative residencies in Brussels (2010) and Berlin (2011), she created *Je suis un autre* in 2012, in which she scratched beneath the surface of social façade to reveal the ambiguity of beings grappling with their contradictions. She pursued this intention in 2014 with *Au sein des plus raides vertus*, tapping this time into the concept of morality.

In 2016, on top of partaking in a residence at the Centre chorégraphique nation de Tours (France), she co-created *La très excellente et lamentable tragédie de Roméo et Juliette* with Jérémie Niel, which transposes the Shakespearean drama to a hermetic space full of sensual melancholy. In *Tout ce qui va revient* (2018), she reunites on one stage 3 solos from her repertoire, created in 2014 and 2015. This marked the end of a cycle. In Fall 2018, she presents in Montréal her last creation, *L'affadissement du merveilleux*. In 2021, she created the solo *Se dissoudre*, which deals with the perception of time as an illusory phenomenon, and presented *Les jolies choses*, her most recent creation for five dancers, at the Festival TransAmériques (FTA) 2022.

In parallel to her creative activities, she was a founding member of the company *L'organisme* from 2010 to 2019; co-director of the Centre de création *O' Vertigo* alongside Ginette Laurin, Mélanie Demers and Caroline Laurin-Beaucage; guest professor at the Département de danse de l'UQAM in 2018-2019 as well as a lecturer at the same institution, from 2019 to 2021. Catherine is currently the artistic and

general director of the Compagnie Catherine Gaudet, a member of Circuit-Est center chorégraphique, associate creator at DLD - Daniel Léveillé Danse and associate artist at the Agora de la danse.