

Sylvain Senez

Sylvain Senez is Founding Co-Artistic Director of Belle Spirale Dance Projects and has been active on the professional Canadian dance scene for over 45 years. He danced as a soloist with Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, Judith Marcuse Dance Company, Coleman Lemieux Company and a principal artist at Ballet BC. Sylvain also appeared in *The Strange Adventure of Myself*, a full-length solo created for him by Serge Bennathan.

During his 9 seasons with Les Grands Ballets, Sylvain toured internationally and was original cast in many new creations, with highlights including James Kudelka's *In Paradisum* and also the title role in Kudelka's *Dracula*. From 1991 to 2016 he worked with Ballet British Columbia as a dancer, Ballet Master and Rehearsal Director where he has had the privilege of working and assisting for the remounts and creations of many internationally renowned choreographers. With Ballet BC he danced lead roles in works by John Alleyne, William Forsythe, Serge Bennathan, and Jiri Kylian among others.

Sylvain is a stager/repetiteur for Medhi Walerski's ballets, has assisted him for a number of his creations, and was original cast in the role of Father Capulet in Walerski's *Romeo and Juliet* creation for Ballet BC.

He has choreographed for the Ballet BC choreographic workshop, Dancing on the Edge and the Vancouver Opera. He is an accomplished ballet teacher and rehearsal director having worked with The State Ballet of Georgia in Tbilisi, Ballet Kelowna, Charlotte Ballet, Tokyo's K-Ballet, Arts Umbrella, Harbour Dance, Voirelia, Danse a la carte and Modus Operandi.

As a photographer specializing in dance and portraiture, he has continued to pursue and expand this artistic interest by exploring videography, film and stage design. He worked on Rachel Meyer's productions of *Quartet*, *Transverse Orientation* and *Mama... do we die when we sleep?*

His stage design of Alexis Fletcher's *light in the rafters* led him to collaborate with the stunning art work of Tiko Kerr. He also designed and built the set for Fletcher's full length solo *assemble* and her full length duet with Arash Khakpour *All my being is a dark verse*, as well as Belle Spirale's *UNIVERSUS* premiered at the Vancouver Playhouse in March 2025. Sylvain is a 2024 DORA Award Nominee for "Outstanding Achievement in Scenic Design for Dance"