

NEWS

For immediate release

LES GRANDS BALLETS CANADIENS DE MONTRÉAL AT FIFA *QUELQUES PAS À PARIS,* a documentary by Ezra Belotte-Cousineau



Photo: Ezra Belotte-Cousineau / Caritata, répétition.

Montréal, March 16, 2010 – Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal was invited to participate in Les Étés de la danse de Paris from July 21 to August 9, 2008. The company performed six works from its repertory that were extremely well received by officials in attendance as well as by the French media and by the large number of spectators who came to applaud the performances presented under the glass-covered dome of the Grand Palais. Film director **Ezra Belotte-Cousineau** followed the company's activity for a month and the result is *Quelques pas à Paris*, a documentary that will have its premiere at the 28th **International Festival of Films on Art (FIFA)** on March 23 in the Cinquième Salle of Place des Arts, at 6:30 p.m., and at the NFB Cinema on March 27 at 9 p.m. The film offers glimpses of the major happenings and official events during the Paris tour... and much more.

The documentary's original take on the tour follows the company dancers behind the scenes, during private moments at warmups, during the long hours of rehearsal on stage in the July heat, and at costume fittings, makeup sessions and daily morning classes. It shows the hectic time just before an evening performance, the dancers discovering Paris and discussing various details about choreography and the vocabulary of dance, their injuries, and the bonds that unite them – an essential factor for the company to shine.

One image after another unveils a behind-the-scenes look at the company along with excerpts from performances in front of the Parisian audience and inside views of the Grand Palais' enchanting glass dome under the Paris sky. Avoiding stereotypes, the documentary offers a hitherto unseen look at dancers, so that the ballet world is revealed anew to the general public and fans alike.

Ezra Belotte-Cousineau comes from the world of advertising. As artistic director, he has been responsible for conceiving and producing some 20 advertising campaigns in Canada, including those of Les GBCM. Invited to film the company's Paris tour, he became passionate about his subject. *Quelques Pas à Paris* is his first feature-length film.

Quelques pas à Paris — Director **Ezra Belotte-Cousineau** / Production **La petite caisse de Boubou – Catherine Beauchemin, Victorine Sentihles** and **Danielle Belotte-Cousineau** / Photos, editing, narration **Ezra Belotte-Cousineau** / Assistant editor **Hélène Bédard** / Original score **Erin Lang** and **Nicolas Clergue** / Music **Bam Production** / Logistical support in Paris **Élyse Pradelle**.

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