

**PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release

**PPS Danse revisits Ionesco,  
for young and old alike!**

***THE CHAIRS***

**An astonishing version that combines dance, theatre and music!**



**Montreal, December 1st, 2013** - A very old man, a very old woman, a mute Orator and some chairs, lots of chairs! This astonishing version of Eugène Ionesco’s play *The Chairs* has been staged and choreographed by **Pierre-Paul Savoie**, based on an adaptation for children by **Lise Vaillancourt**. For young and old alike, this show will be presented in the Cinquième Salle at Place des Arts as part of the PDA Junior series on December 14 and 15.

Following his choreographic adaptation of Jacques Prévert’s *Tales for Naughty Children* and *Danse Lhasa danse* – a choreographic tribute to the singer Lhasa De Sela – choreographer and director Pierre-Paul Savoie continues to develop his artistic vision with this singular combination of dance, theatre and music that inhabits a world somewhere between dream and reality. *The Chairs* is a tragic one-act farce, a major work by Eugène Ionesco. As adapted by the dramaturge and novelist Lise Vaillancourt, *The Chairs* maintains all the strength of its Theatre of the Absurd premises, but in a form and language that are accessible to children.

The story begins as two nonagenarians (played by dancers **Heather Mah** and **Sylvain Lafortune**) are looking for relief from their tedious lives and their isolation. In the hope of giving their lives some meaning, they invent a whole lineup of invisible guests. “Jostling” to get in are a colonel, a Sleeping Beauty, a group of children, animal

reporters, and even the King himself! At the end of this absurd commotion, animated by a constant shifting of chairs that take over the stage and are used by and endlessly moved about by the ghostly guests, we finally get to meet the Orator, the person everyone has come to hear. This mute character, co-created and performed by the dancer **David Rancourt**, speaks to us through the language of dance and the music of **Benoît Côté**. Without uttering a word but through the strength and beauty of movement, the Orator delivers a universal message that conveys what both the old man and children hope for the world.

Pierre-Paul Savoie is known for multidisciplinary works of strong images and timely issues, progressively exploring interactions between dance and theatre. Here he delves into the strength of our imagination. In this open space, the dance and the script – and the chairs! – meet to create a clownish poetry that is both comical and marked by depth, tenderness and humanity.

**The Chairs**, a new production by PPS Danse, is presented in collaboration with Place des Arts. See it as a family on December 14 and 15, 2013 in the Cinquième Salle of Place des Arts.

**The Chairs**

**Saturday, December 14 at 7:00 pm**

**Sunday, December 15 at 11:00 am**

Regular price: \$16.18 (service fee included, taxes not included)

Recommended age: 8 years or older

Information and reservations: [laplacedesarts.com](http://laplacedesarts.com)

Box office: 514 842-2112

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