

Beauty is without compromise

**23 dance and theatre performances
+ a cycle of readings
+ an online program**

Embargoed until
April 27, 2021,
5 p.m.

Montreal, Tuesday, April 27, 2021—In these troubling times, the Festival TransAmériques is a unifying event that dares to embark on new paths, to find light and beauty where we least expect it. For the 15th edition of the FTA, to be held from **May 26 to June 12**, we hope that Montrealers will be able to attend **23 performances in theatres and public spaces, as well as a cycle of 3 readings**. The Festival will also offer a **virtual program** for the first time.

“Developed by a courageous and dedicated team in an atmosphere of uncertainty and anxiety, with an unwavering resolve to persevere, this 15th edition of the FTA still has question marks regarding the form it will take. There, in front of you, so that we can be tantalized together in the same space? Through a screen that will allow us to reach you everywhere, at any time of the day or night? Whatever may or may not be possible in May and June, we are ready to meet you. Our desire to share the dreams and doubts of all these artists from Montreal and around the world is deep and unbounded.”

—**Martin Faucher**, Artistic Director

This celebration of dance and theatre gives a voice to artists of all generations, who boldly point out where we have run aground. Their imaginations, filled with fantasy, insight and emotion, give us the courage and energy to continue our path with intelligence and love.

The return to the Festival stages of such emblematic figures as **Louise Lecavalier** and **Marie Brassard** with *Stations* and *Violence* will certainly enchant festivalgoers. Many new creations by artists with strong signatures are also slated: **Mélanie Demers** and *La Goddam Voie Lactée*, **2Fik** and *Romance ain't dead, 2Fik!*, as well as *Dog Rising* by **Clara Furey**, *La jamais sombre* by **Catherine Tardif**, **Michel F Côté** and **Marc Parent**, *The door opened west* by **Marc Boivin** and **Sarah Chase**, *Anything whatsoever* by **Katie Ward**, *SIERRRANEVADA* by **Manuel Roque**, and *Public/Private Parts ou L'Origine du monde* by **Gerard X Reyes**. *PHOSPHOS*, a fascinatingly illuminated performative space designed by **Paul Chambers**, will allow us all to meditate on the madness of the world.

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Violence © Marlene Gelineau Payette



New territories in the heart of the city will be explored by artists addressing questions of identity: **Rhodnie Désir** will present *BOW'T-Tio'tia:ke* in Old Montreal, while **Soleil Launière's** *Meshtitau* and **Lara Kramer's** *Them Voices* will unfold in the garden of the Musée d'art contemporain. **Sarah Dell'Ava** will unveil *O₂*, a choreographic oasis in which 25 amateur and professional performers invite us to fully savour the present moment.

Thanks to projections designed by **HUB Studio** for *La ville, des artistes*, large-scale portraits of FTA 2021 artists will hover over the Quartier des spectacles.

Theatre highlights include **Laurence Dauphinais** and **Maxime Carbonneau's** *Dans le nuage (First Draft)*; the trio of Syrian artists **Omar Abusaada, Mohammad Al Attar** and **Bissane Al Charif** with the poignant testimonies of *Aleppo. A Portrait of Absence*; French artist **Marion Siéfert**, who will offer us the free show *_jeanne_dark_* on Instagram; and Toronto artist **Jordan Tannahill**, who will give an augmented reading of *Declarations*, a vibrant ode to his terminally ill mother.

Three shows are returning to our stages: the theatrical-audio gem *Aalaapi* by a collective from Nunavik and Montreal; the invigorating *Anima / Darkroom* by **7Starr** and **Lucy M. May**; and **Sovann Rochon-Prom Tep's** *Un temps pour tout*, brilliant representations of street dance at FTA.

In these painful times we are all going through, demolition and reconstruction is among the themes of this 2021 edition. With *Worktable*, Wellington-born **Kate McIntosh** offers us a formidable solitary experience that is at once playful, liberating and creative, wherein the course of things can be tangibly changed.

The Port-Royal Readings question the power relationships that have defined us since the beginnings of New France, through the voices of Innu poet **An Antane Kapesh**, mythical writer **Réjean Ducharme** and essayist and playwright **Pierre Lefebvre**. Their texts *Je suis une maudite sauvagesse*, *La fille de Christophe Colomb* and *Le virus et la proie* all confront the mechanisms of oppression.

The pandemic must not prevent us from meeting our faithful audiences, who hunger for novelty and creativity. For the first time, the FTA is therefore offering a virtual program consisting of the **Port-Royal Readings** and the productions *Un temps pour tout* and *The door opened west*.

For the 15th edition of the FTA, **17 world premieres, 2 North American premières, and 14 FTA co-productions and 3 productions** will be presented in **16 venues from May 26 to June 12**.

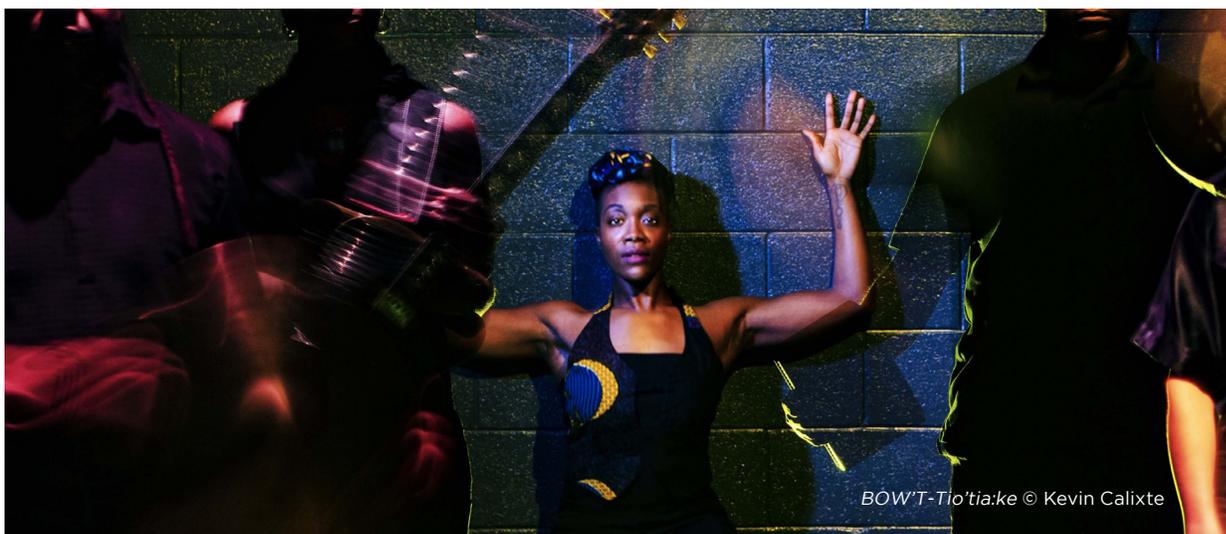
Watch video excerpts from the shows: fta.ca

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BOW'T-Tio'tia:ke © Kevin Calixte

THE SHOWS

_jeanne_dark_

Marion Siéfert

May 26 + 27. Instagram

Free. + 14

On Instagram, she is _jeanne_dark_, sixteen years old, Catholic family, embarrassed by her virginity. Using her phone, she speaks live. From the digital ashes emerge the paradoxes of a contemporary heroine.

North American première

Presented by Hydro-Québec with the support of Institut Français + Service de coopération et d'action culturelle du Consulat Général de France à Québec

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Aalaapi | ᐱᐱᐱᐱ

Collectif Aalaapi

May 26 to 29. Maison Théâtre

The exquisite tones and nuances of people who live north of the 55th parallel. A contemplative plunge into the intimacy of young Inuit women, *Aalaapi* reveals the North through the radio.

Presented in association with Maison Théâtre

Aleppo. A Portrait of Absence

Omar Abusaada + Mohammad Al Attar + Bissane Al Charif

June 1 to 12. Édifice Wilder - Espace danse, Studio - Théâtre des Grands Ballets

Aleppo, a city destroyed by war, rises from the ashes in the stories of its inhabitants. In tales told to one spectator at a time, precious knowledge is transmitted.

North American première

Presented with the support of Cole Foundation+ Goethe-Institut Montréal + Ministère fédéral des Affaires étrangères d'Allemagne in association with Fonds GB

Anima / Darkroom

7Starr + Lucy M. May

May 26 to June 4. Théâtre Prospero

The explosive force of 7Starr, a magnetic icon of krump. In a clash of darkness and incandescent light, powerful movement bursts forth. Galvanizing and liberating.

Presented in association with Théâtre Prospero

Anything Whatsoever

Katie Ward

May 27 to June 2. La Chapelle Scènes Contemporaines

Two scores are in play at the same time: that of the performer's body and that of the audience's words. Their co-presence weaves a collective idea, a blank page on which to rewrite our shared imaginations.

*Co-produced by Festival TransAmériques + World première
Codiffusion La Chapelle Scènes Contemporaines*

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BOW'T-Tio'tia:ke

Rhodnie Désir

Outdoor show. Free, reservation required

The final phase of the great adventure *BOW'T TRAIL*. In a Montreal location charged with memory, Rhodnie Désir explores the heritage of Afrodescendant peoples in a powerful hymn to resistance.

*Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World première
Presented in association with **Pointe-à-Callière, cité d'archéologie et d'histoire de Montréal***

Dans le nuage (First Draft)

Maxime Carbonneau + Laurence Dauphinais

June 7 to 11. Centre du Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui

As astrophysicist Carl Sagan did with the Golden Record in 1977, your challenge is to condense the essence of the human adventure. What will you choose? And how?

*Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World première
Presented in association with **Centre du Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui***

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Declarations

Jordan Tannahill

June 5 to 7. La Chapelle Scènes Contemporaines

Hundreds of short phrases reverberate through all aspects of existence. In a reading augmented by projections, Jordan Tannahill delivers this bewitching litany, a declaration of love to a terminally ill mother.

*Produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + Quebec première
Presented in association with **La Chapelle Scènes Contemporaines***

Dog Rising

Clara Furey

May 26 to 29. Édifice Wilder - Espace danse, Studio-Théâtre des Grands Ballets

Three celestial bodies launched into orbit vibrate in a lascivious and hypnotic ritual. *Dog Rising* explores the circulation of physical matter and the passage of vibrations through our bodies.

*Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World première
Presented in association with **Fonds GB***

Je suis une maudite sauvagesse / Eukuan nin matshi-manitu innushkueu

An Antane Kapeshe + Charles Bender

June 5 + 9 + 10. Place des Arts - Théâtre Jean-Duceppe

Torn away from the nomadic lifestyle, uprooted, and forced into outrageous living conditions on the reservations near Sept-Îles—the tragedies of the First Nations are lucidly and boldly condensed in the words of Innu author An Antane Kapeshe. Her scathing indictment of White people rages in an agile and meticulous prose.

Webcast available from June 4 to 21.

*Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World première
Presented in association with **Place des Arts***

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La fille de Christophe Colomb

Réjean Ducharme + Martin Faucher

June 8 to 10. Place des Arts - Théâtre Jean-Duceppe

This novel written in 1969, in verse, recounts the timeless and picaresque adventures of Colombe, the daughter of Christopher Columbus.

Webcast available from from May 26 to June 12.

*Produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World première
Presented in association with **Place des Arts***

La Goddam Voie Lactée

Mélanie Demers

June 3 to 6. Théâtre Rouge du Conservatoire

A pagan Mass as a reaction to the harshness of the world. Inspired by the constant mourning brought about by our age, the artist and five female performers reflect upon the notion of incompleteness.

*Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World première
Presented in association with **Théâtre Rouge du Conservatoire***

La jamais sombre

Michel F Côté + Marc Parent + Catherine Tardif

June 9 to 12. Édifice Wilder - Espace danse, Espace Orange

With Marc Parent as the architect of light, Michel F Côté as the designer of sound, and Catherine Tardif as the guardian of movement and the female body, *La jamais sombre* explores, between grace and fear, the ancient mysteries of chiaroscuro.

*Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World première
Presented in association with **Agora de la danse + Tangente***

La ville, des artistes

HUB Studio

Outdoor event. Free.

During the Festival, large-format portraits of artists come to life and hover over the city. Immense, soothing, they appear and come alive, then disappear into the shadows. The artists are here!

*Presented in association with **Partenariat du Quartier des spectacles***

Le virus et la proie

Pierre Lefebvre + Benoît Vermeulen

June 6 + 9 + 10. Place des Arts - Théâtre Jean-Duceppe

A letter from a citizen without power to a Prime Minister who wields it, this text is a direct address to injustice and a plea for humanity and poetry.

Webcast available from May 27 to June 13.

*Produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World première
Presented in association with **Place des Arts***

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Meshtitau

Soleil Launière

June 4 to 6. Jardin du Musée d'art contemporain

Uprooted too quickly, the trees, like the elders, have disappeared without passing on their knowledge. *Meshtitau* is an ode to ancestral roots and healing. A performance that invites us to repair the broken links with our land and ancestors.

Co-produced by Festival TransAmériques + World première
Presented in association with Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal

O₂

Sarah Dell'Ava

Outdoor show. Free, reservation required

*Embargoed until
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In the heart of the city, some twenty dancers weave a filter for our daily agitations. The gestures and songs that emerge are delicate, mysterious, sometimes wild. What if dance could repair the living?

Co-produced by Festival TransAmériques + World première
Co-presented by Partenariat du Quartier des spectacles

PHOSPHOS

Paul Chambers

May 26 to June 5. Édifice Wilder - Espace danse, Espace Bleu

In a performance space dominated by light, Paul Chambers establishes a porous boundary between matter and void, between heat and its absence, between wakefulness and sleep.

World première
Presented in association with Agora de la danse + Tangente

Public/Private Parts ou L'Origine du monde

Gerard X Reyes

June 10 to 12. Édifice Wilder - Espace danse, Espace Bleu
+18

Gerard X Reyes surrounds himself with artists, sex workers and educators who, like him, question the body and its representations. In a work midway between performance and video installation, the senses are aroused and tongues loosened.

Co-produced by Festival TransAmériques + World première
Presented by Fugues in association with Agora de la danse + Tangente

Romance ain't dead, 2Fik!

2Fik

June 2 to 9. Place des Arts - Cinquième Salle

On a dating site, the multidisciplinary artist embodies 100 characters, all of whom burn with an ardent desire. The public is invited to interact with them. A game of love and chance, in the era of avatars.

May include explicit content

Co-produced by Festival TransAmériques + World première
Presented in association with Place des Arts

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SIERRANEVADA

Manuel Roque

May 30 to June 7. Le Balcon - Église Unie Saint-James

In a bare space with no props save a blonde wig, an endurance prowess involves repeated jumps. The depletion of resources becomes a transformative experience.

*Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World première
Presented in association with **Le Balcon - Église Unie Saint-James***

Stations

Louise Lecavalier

June 9 to 13. Place des Arts - Théâtre Maisonneuve

In this intimate and high-spirited solo, the choreographer and dancer sets out on a dizzying odyssey in quest of her own personal truth. Lecavalier, in staggering fashion, displays the full range of her art.

*Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + Montreal première
Presented by **La Presse** in association with **Place des Arts***

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The door opened west

Marc Boivin + Sarah Chase

June 1 to 3. Édifice Wilder - Espace danse, Espace Orange

With modesty and sensitivity, Marc Boivin performs an autobiographical solo that sheds light on the mysterious architecture of memory.

Webcast available from June 12 to 29.

*World première
Presented in association with **Agora de la danse + Tangente***

Them Voices

Lara Kramer

May 27 to 29. Jardin du Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal

In the garden of the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal the choreographer explores the artist's body in relation to memory, and questions the impact of our past and present actions on future ancestors.

*Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World première
Presented in association with **Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal***

Un temps pour tout

Sovann Rochon-Prom Tep

June 4 to 7. Place des Arts - Théâtre Maisonneuve

Children and adults, come on in! In a cozy atmosphere, three hip-hop dancers and two musicians express themselves in a spirit of sharing. Raw, explosive, joyful.

Webcast available from May 28 to June 14.

*Presented in association with **Place des Arts***

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Violence

Marie Brassard

May 27 to June 2. Place des Arts - Théâtre Jean-Duceppe

In the virtual company of Japanese creators, Marie Brassard penetrates the mystery linking creation and destruction through music, images and words. Her most ambitious project to date.

Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World première
Presented by **ARTV** in association with **Place des Arts**

Worktable

Kate McIntosh

May 27 to June 10. UQAM Pavillon Sherbrooke - Salle polyvalente
Kids welcome (6 +)

The room you enter is full of heterogeneous objects, and it is up to you to decide how to tear them apart. A joyous invitation to restore the enchantment to matter, however banal it may seem. Playful and deeply creative.

Canadian première
Presented in association with **UQAM**

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FTA PLAYGROUNDS

Presented by **Hydro-Québec**

This year, the FTA Playgrounds will mend the damaged social rituals and reactivate essential knowledge. In the early mornings, tiny forms will emerge throughout the city. At the QG, artists, writers, thinkers, and citizens will nourish discussions, moderate debates, and share their rich creative journeys.

Free of charge and open to one and all, the FTA Playgrounds will be broadcast live and hosted online for the duration of the entire Festival. **Reservation is required for all activities taking place at the QG.**

Opening event: In the Footsteps of the Bearer of Grief

In 1985, during first edition of the FTA, Les Productions Ondinnok presented *He who bears the Grief of the World*. As part of its 35th anniversary celebrations, the company will reactivate key moments of this historic performance.

Greetings

In the early hours of the morning, a guest presents a ritual to mark new beginnings and show gratitude in a symbolic location in the city. To welcome and place one another. An offering to cultivate the small informal behaviours that have been neglected in confinement.

Presented in association with **Le Devoir**

The Inhabiting Life Encounters

An invitation to consider the visible as well as the invisible by coming into contact with bold, daring, and visionary ideas. Three encounters allow us to consider time on a larger scale than that of the individual, and to examine the present and the future through recovered ancient wisdom. With **Dalie Giroux, Pierrot Ross-Tremblay, Robert Lalonde** and **Jordan Tannahill**.

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Meet the Artists

Mohammad Al Attar: challenging history, healing memory: Author of *Aleppo. A Portrait of Absence*, the Syrian playwright recounts his journey as a writer in exile. In **BOW'T-Tio'tia:ke: Close Encounters**, Rhodnie Désir sits down with the knowledge holders who inspired her in this excavation of memory. **_jeanne_dark_ and the staging of self:** Marion Siéfert develops with her play a new kind of theatre: on stage and on Instagram. The show will be broadcasted at the QG, Marion Siéfert and Helena de Laurens will then join the audience via France for a discussion.

After some performances, the artists lend themselves to the game of encounters, at the edge of the stage. A team of animators from various backgrounds feed the dialogue.

Film

The documentary *Situation du théâtre au Québec*, directed by Jacques Gagné in 1969, presented at Maison Théâtre, is a veritable aesthetic and political project depicting the Quebec theatre scene of the late sixties.

This Life-Changing FTA

For 15 years, Martin Faucher has been travelling the world visiting various theatres. On his globetrotting journey, the art lover encounters historical events—from simple audience anecdotes to revolutionary upheavals.

Discover all the FTA Playgrounds

fta.ca/en/fta-playground

FTA 2021 ONLINE

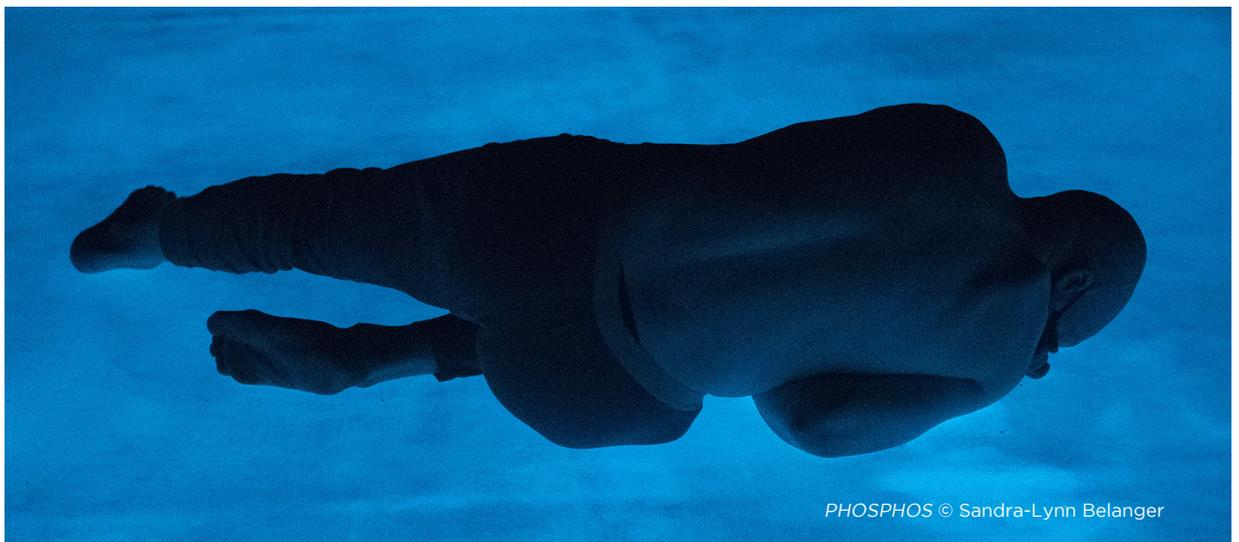
This year, the FTA will unfold online in multiple ways. The shows *Un temps pour tout* and *The door opened west* and the three Port-Royal Readings serie were recorded in theaters and will be webcast, between May 26 and June 28 (Package available). The FTA Playgrounds will be broadcast live and hosted online. And don't miss *_jeanne_dark_*, a show to be seen on Instagram.

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PHOSPHOS © Sandra-Lynn Belanger

TICKETS

April 27, 2021

Webcast events on sale. Package available.

May 11, 2021

All tickets for in theatre shows on sale.

Reservations for outdoor shows and FTA Playgrounds activities will open on that day.

Visit fta.ca

To comply with the distancing measures established by Public Health, venue capacities have been greatly reduced, therefore the **quantity of tickets on sale is very limited. Get ready!**

Any questions?

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The FTA wishes to thank, for their generous support

ITS PUBLIC PARTNERS CONSEIL DES ARTS ET DES LETTRES DU QUÉBEC + PATRIMOINE CANADIEN + SERVICE DE LA CULTURE DE LA VILLE DE MONTRÉAL + CONSEIL DES ARTS DU CANADA + CONSEIL DES ARTS DE MONTRÉAL + SECRÉTARIAT À LA RÉGION MÉTROPOLITAINE + TOURISME QUÉBEC + MINISTÈRE DE LA CULTURE ET DES COMMUNICATIONS + MINISTÈRE DU TRAVAIL, DE L'EMPLOI ET DE LA SOLIDARITÉ SOCIALE **ITS MAJOR PARTNERS** TOURISME MONTRÉAL + LA PRESSE + CAISSE DE DÉPÔT ET PLACEMENT DU QUÉBEC + HYDRO-QUÉBEC + PARTENARIAT DU QUARTIER DES SPECTACLES + ICI ARTV **ITS INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS** GOETHE-INSTITUT MONTREAL + MINISTÈRE FÉDÉRAL DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES D'ALLEMAGNE + INSTITUT FRANÇAIS + SERVICE DE COOPÉRATION ET D'ACTION CULTURELLE DU CONSULAT GÉNÉRAL DE FRANCE À QUÉBEC **ITS PRINCIPAL PARTNERS** FONDATION COLE + CŒUR DES SCIENCES DE L'UQÀM + FUGUES **ITS DIFFUSION PARTNERS** MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL + PLACE DES ARTS + UQÀM + THÉÂTRE ROUGE DU CONSERVATOIRE + ÉGLISE ST-JAMES - LE BALCON + MAISON THÉÂTRE + CENTRE DU THÉÂTRE D'AUJOURD'HUI + LA CHAPELLE SCÈNES CONTEMPORAINES + THÉÂTRE PROSPERO + POINTE-À-CALLIÈRE, CITÉ D'ARCHÉOLOGIE ET D'HISTOIRE DE MONTRÉAL + FONDS GB + AGORA DE LA DANSE + TANGENTE **ITS CULTURAL PARTNERS** CENTRE CULTUREL CANADIEN À PARIS + UNION DES ARTISTES + COMPÉTENCE CULTURE + TRANSFORMATION DANSE + PRODUCTIONS MENUENTAKUAN **ITS MEDIA PARTNERS** IMPACT MÉDIA + PUBLICITÉ SAUVAGE + PROMOTION PROPAGANDA **ITS ASSOCIATED PARTNERS** CAISSE DES JARDINS DE LA CULTURE + HÔTEL MONVILLE + GEORGE LAOUN OPTICIEN + LICKSTATS + BEANFIELD METROCONNECT

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Stations © André Cornellier