

Shaping Vibrant Futures

20 Dance and Theatre Shows at FTA

From May 22
to June 5 2024

Montreal, March 19, 2024 — From May 22 to June 5, 2024, the 18th edition of Festival TransAmériques will immerse audiences in a unique sensory and artistic experience. Featuring 20 shows from over a dozen countries, including nine co-productions, eight world premieres, and eight North American premieres, the bold, radiant performances presented at the Festival will enhance our capacity to come together and to invent new families and bright futures for ourselves.

Curated by co-artistic directors Martine Dennewald and Jessie Mill, the Festival transcends the boundaries between art forms. Artists from around the world will explore love and eroticism, the manifold powers of theatre, and the potential inherent in video games and artificial intelligence. Indigenous art, knowledge, and thought will again be showcased at FTA, serving up once more a vibrant celebration of artistic vitality in Quebec and far beyond.

“Whether in making love to flowers or to the cosmos, the impulse towards life is ever present in this year’s shows. Plants talk, a dog sings, a griot defies the machine. Altogether, the artists seem to be telling us that nothing is universal: neither fundamental family ties, nor the truths of History, nor the binarity of old and new, still less that of genders... If this planet we live on is on fire, shouldn’t we rely on different kinds of relationships and learn to use other languages as fast as we can?”
— Martine Dennewald and Jessie Mill, co-artistic directors

Confidential until
5:30 p.m. on
March 19, 2024

Weaving Lives

To open the Festival, Lebanese choreographer **Ali Chahrouh** draws on song, music, and dance to extoll the power of maternal love. *Told by My Mother* is a stunning family portrait that depicts a Lebanon riven by loss. In 2018, **Gurshad Shaheman** won over FTA audiences with *Pourama Pourama*. He returns this year with *Sur tes traces*, a bi-national work co-created with **Dany Boudreault** in which the two friends engage in a fascinating game of comparative portraiture, shifting between Tehran and Lac-Saint-Jean. Also highly anticipated is the return of Ivorian choreographer **Nadia Beugré**—she is back at FTA with *Prophétique (on est déjà née.es)*, which transports us to a hair salon in Abidjan. Six majestic divas expose the reality lived by trans people in this teeming metropolis, with a generous helping of coupé-décalé and voguing.



Told by My Mother
© Christophe Raynaud de Lage



Prophétique (on est déjà née.es) © Werner Strouven

Press relations:
Rugicomm

Marie-Pier Lauzon
450 821 6377
marie-pier@rueicomm.ca



The Power of Theatre

A leading figure in the current revival of European theatre, **Rébecca Chailon** has created a sociopolitical satire with an irresistible punk spirit in *Carte noire nommée désir*, in which she explodes fantasies and clichés attached to black women’s bodies. **Safia Nolin** and **Philippe Cyr** aim to transcend hate by reappropriating insults directed toward the singer-songwriter for use as material in *Surveillée et punie*, a musical work about freedom of expression and its limits. Through the power of fiction, Portuguese director **Tiago Rodrigues**, who is also director of the Festival d’Avignon, delivers a remarkable theatrical experience that grapples with searing moral dilemmas. *Catarina and The Beauty of Killing Fascists* portrays a family that resists the dictatorship by killing fascists. **Jérémie Niel** directs legendary filmmaker **Pierre Perrault**’s play *Au cœur de la rose*, a fable with mythic undertones. Full of longing for elsewhere and desire for freedom, it invites the audience to discover a subtly strange but essential work from Quebec’s theatre repertoire.

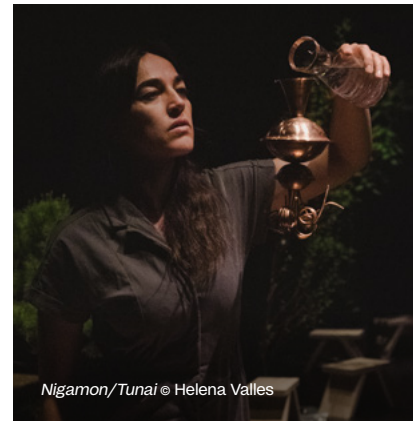
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Exceptional Choreographers

Long-awaited by Montreal audiences, U.S. choreographer **Faye Driscoll** presents her latest, OBIE-Award-winning work, *Weathering*, following its huge success in New York. A multi-sensory living sculpture embodied by ten magnetic performers, this dazzling work poses urgent questions about the impact of climate change on human life. In *Rinse*, Australia’s **Amrita Hepi** delivers spirited choreographic interplay, drawing on her research and lived experience of dance and the body as sites of memory and resistance. Winner of the 2022 Grand Prix de la danse de Montréal, **Catherine Gaudet** brings the world premiere of her latest work, *ODE*, to FTA. A cast of ten solar dancers perform a pop-pagan procession that takes aim at false pretences.

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The World Garden

Yup’ik choreographer **Emily Johnson**, an activist and leader of the Indigenous artistic communities in Turtle Island, creates true performance-gatherings. The stunning *Being Future Being: Inside/Outwards* invites the audience to take part in creating a just, Indigenized future. In *Nigamon/Tunai*, French-Anishinaabe artist **Émilie Monnet** and her collaborator **Waira Nina**, an important political and cultural figure from Colombia’s Inga Nation, deliver a poetic manifesto forged by their friendship. As comrades in the struggles against the mining companies that are devastating their lands, they create connections between their respective communities’ knowledge and resistance strategies. Also, in order to hold a space for environmental thinking that embraces Indigenous knowledge, FTA will host its third **Decolonial Ecology Day** on the theme of the forest with contributions from various artists and thinkers.

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The Flowering of Eroticism

Choreographer **Sébastien Provencher** has chosen the chapel and garden of the Cité-des-Hospitalières as the setting for *Floreus*, an exquisitely tender ode to eroticism that reconnects with the sacred aspect of nature. The work is inspired by Canadian visual artist Zachari Logan's gorgeous depictions of flowers. In *UNARMOURED*, **Clara Furey** pursues her cycle of repetitive, energetic dance pieces in a work that reclaims eroticism, turning the body into a site of cosmic allegiance, sensual and liberated. On stage, four superb performers are accompanied by electronic music composed by Tomas Furey.

Gearing Up for the Future

Gorgeous Tongue by **Lara Kramer** draws on lineages, memories, and songs from the past, which serve to usher in a new world. The Oji-Cree and Mennonite choreographer shares her singular language with Nêhiyaw/Métis performer Jeanette Kotowich in a compelling solo piece. At the invitation of the Montreal company PME-ART, multidisciplinary artists **Kamissa Ma Koïta** and **Elena Stoodley** call on their Afro-descendant heritages and the ancestral technologies of dance and song to resist the dangers of artificial intelligence in a spirit of joy, in *Survival technologies*. In *The Cloud*, **Alexis O'Hara**, **Atom Cianfarani**, and their dog **Brutus** take the opposite approach by allying themselves with the machine. This queer, science fiction-influenced anti-capitalist performance tackles the environmental catastrophe related to digital storage head on while interrogating our behaviour with a touch of humour.

Theatre or Video Game?

No need to choose between your favourite pastimes—now you can enjoy theatre and video games at the same time! **Patrick Blenkarn** and **Milton Lim** from Vancouver invite you to *asses.masses*, an epic gaming event in which the audience plays a herd of revolutionary donkeys. Combining a variety of styles and video game genres, this unique interactive experience raises questions about both theatre and democracy.

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The Multitudinous City: Two Free Outdoor Shows

Monumental and captivating, *Multitud* by Uruguayan artist Tamara Cubas is **FTA 2024's major free outdoor show**, which will be performed downtown at the Place des Festivals in the Quartier des Spectacles. As night falls, this work will set in motion 75 citizens of all ages and backgrounds in an act of tremendous power and emotional impact. In contrast to this multitude of bodies, *I am from Reykjavik* is a more intimate but equally moving performance created through dialogue with the city. Britain's **Sonia Hughes** will visit three different Montreal neighbourhoods to build a small house over seven hours: a living and welcoming sculpture, a ceremony and a demonstration at the same time.

Video excerpts of the shows are available at fta.ca.

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Multitud © Rafael Arenas

FTA PLAYGROUNDS

Presented by CDPQ

The extensive free programming in FTA Playgrounds features some 50 activities for everyone to enjoy: talks, debates, workshops to get you moving, conversations with artists, and the infamous FTA parties at the Quartier général.

Decolonial Ecology Day : The Forest

This day is devoted to forests—places that are essential to the flourishing of beings, cultures, and the vital forces of imagination and resistance. Environmental engineer **Abraham Francis** will give the opening remarks. **Émilie Monnet** and **Waira Nina** will address the threats to the forests, from the Amazon to the boreal one. Sociologist and writer **Philippe Néméh-Nombré** considers the forest as a space of reinvention and resilience in discussion with Paule Mackrous (aka **Pattie O'Green**), a forester, art historian, and ecofeminist author.

In Conversation

Choreographer Ali Chahrour's artistic approach, rooted in his hometown of Beirut, explores ways to represent the most intense emotions on stage. He will talk with Syrian actress and singer **Hala Omran** to explore a question they ask themselves again and again: why do we create art? Long-time collaborators **Rébecca Chaillon** and **Amandine Gay**, who both adopt an Afro-feminist, queer approach in their work, discuss what kind of tools, actions, and care are needed to find other ways of being, living, and creating. Director of the Festival d'Avignon, **Tiago Rodrigues** will be joined by theatre students to share their dreams about art, literature, politics, and the theatres of the future. For 20 years, the Festival Quatre Chemins has been held in Port-au-Prince, a city faced with threats of all kinds. The event's director, **Guy Régis Jr.**, will tell the story of this minor miracle in conversation with documentarian **Joseph Hillel**.

Pre-show Events

The **Decolonial Love Circle** offers a space for decolonial reflection to descendants of colonized peoples, activists and thinkers. For once the circle will open to all, to build decolonial alliances and communities. **APASQ** celebrates its 40th anniversary and presents a vibrant portrait of **Angelo Barsetti**, a legendary make-up artist and photographer. The Université populaire des arts de la marionnette invites **Patrick Blenkarn** and **Milton Lim**, creators of *asses.masses*, and digital puppeteer **Paola Huitrón** to take part in a discussion on artistic innovation.

Get Moving

Activate every cell in your body with Nadia Beugré in this physical activity inspired by her work *Prophétique (on est déjà né.es)*. **Audience Warm-Up**: before some performances, artists will offer a customized warm-up to sharpen your senses.

Post-show Talks

After some performances, stay a while and enjoy a public conversation with the artists.

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FTA Playgrounds for professionals

Presented by **Caisse Desjardins de la Culture**

These activities for theatre and dance professionals feature workshops, including one with **Rébecca Chaillon**, the launch the Cliniques dramaturgiques book: **Curieux manuel de dramaturgie pour le théâtre, la danse et autres matières à changement**, a talk about the Decolonization Rider elaborated by Yup'ik artist **Emily Johnson**, a panel about ecoconscience in the performing arts and a discussion to shed light on technical directors' essential work.

THE 20 SHOWS

From May 22
to June 5 2024

Opening Show

كما روتها أمي — **TOLD BY MY MOTHER**

Ali Chahrour

Beirut

Monument-National - Salle Ludger-Duvernay

May 22 to 24

Drawing on song, music, and dance, Lebanon's Ali Chahrour extolls the power of maternal love in this poignant account of stories lived through by his family.

North American premiere - Presented in association with **Monument-National**

Two Outdoor Free Events

MULTITUD

Tamara Cubas

Montevideo

Place des Festivals

May 23 to 25

Seventy-five people of all ages and backgrounds take over the public space each evening to perform a live choreographic score that reflects the world, combining chaos with the euphoria of togetherness.

North American premiere- Presented by **Hydro-Québec** with the support of **Partenariat du Quartier des spectacles**

I AM FROM REYKJAVIK

Sonia Hughes

Manchester

Locations to be announced

June 1 to 4

A simple invitation to meet becomes an opportunity to rethink the world—to gain a new perspective on the city from within a small house for great souls.

North American premiere - Presented in association with **Luminato Festival (Toronto)**

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marie-pier@rueicomm.ca

Rhse © Sarah Annie Navarrete



Dance shows

BEING FUTURE BEING: INSIDE/OUTWARDS

Emily Johnson

Catalyst, Lenapehoking/New York

Espace Libre

June 2 to 5

Yup'ik artist Emily Johnson creates performance gatherings. *Being Future Being: Inside/Outwards* invites audiences to become part of creating a radically-just and Indigenized future.

Canadian premiere - Presented in association with **Espace Libre**

FLOREUS

Sébastien Provencher

LORGANISME, Montréal

Chapel of Cité-des-Hospitalières

May 30 to June 2

An exquisitely tender ode to eroticism and an appeal to reconnect with the sacred aspect of nature, *Floreus* is a delightfully contemplative and unsettling work that awakens the senses and opens up the heart.

Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World premiere - Presented in association with **Cité-des-Hospitalières en transition**

ODE

Catherine Gaudet

Compagnie Catherine Gaudet, Montreal

Place des Arts - Théâtre Jean-Duceppe

June 1 to 4

In *ODE*, a pop-pagan procession orchestrated by the masterful hands of choreographer Catherine Gaudet, ten radiant performers take aim at false pretenses in a deceptively simple landscape.

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

PROPHÉTIQUE (ON EST DÉJÀ NÉ.ES)

Nadia Beugré

Libr'Arts, Abidjan + Montpellier

Monument-National - Salle Ludger-Duvernay

May 28 to 30

In a hair salon in Abidjan, six majestic divas reveal their explosive truths as trans people in Ivory Coast. A dynamite show that's pure Nadia Beugré!

North American premiere - Presented by **Fugues** with the support of **Institut Français + Consulat général de France à Québec** in association with **Carrefour international de théâtre (Québec) + Monument-National**

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ODE © Julie Artacho



RINSE

Amrita Hepi

Melbourne + Bangkok

Théâtre Rouge du Conservatoire

May 25 to 30

With playful wit and style, Amrita Hepi explores dance as a source of memory and resistance, interweaving movements and words, stories, rhythms and dance techniques.

Canadian premiere - Presented in association with **Conservatoire d'art dramatique de Montréal**

SURVIVAL TECHNOLOGIES

Kamissa Ma Koïta + Elena Stoodley

PME-ART, Montreal

Édifice Wilder - Espace danse, Espace Bleu

May 30 to June 3

Kamissa Ma Koïta and Elena Stoodley lead the latest creation from PME-ART. Concerned by artificial intelligence, they turn to dance—the ultimate tool of resistance and emancipation with a radically joyful approach.

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

UNARMOURED

Clara Furey

Bent Hollow Compagnie, Montreal

Usine C

May 29 + 30

In *UNARMOURED*, Montreal choreographer Clara Furey and her collaborators reclaim eroticism on their own terms, turning the body into a site of cosmic allegiance, sensual and liberated.

Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + North American premiere - Presented in association with **Usine C**

WEATHERING

Faye Driscoll

New York + Los Angeles

Usine C

June 3 to 5

Somewhere between choreography and installation, *Weathering* is a multi-sensory performance welded together by ten unique performers. This stunning, radiant work is a unique expression of both the disasters and the transformations haunting our times.

Quebec première - Presented in association with **Usine C**

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Weathering © Maria Baranova

Theatre Shows

ASSES.MASSES

Patrick Blenkarn + Milton Lim

Vancouver

Centaur Theatre

May 25 + June 1

Canadian artists Patrick Blenkarn and Milton Lim invite us to an exhilarating day of gaming. In this interactive experience, audience members play out the epic journey of a herd of revolutionary donkeys.

Quebec premiere - Co-presented by **Centaur Theatre**

From May 22
to June 5 2024

AU CŒUR DE LA ROSE (GÉNÉALOGIE D'UNE TRISTESSE)

Pierre Perrault + Jérémie Niel

Pétrus, Montreal

Espace Libre

May 25 to 29

Jérémie Niel tackles Pierre Perrault's timeless play from 1958. Told in a distinctive vernacular, the story's mythic undertones unfold on a stage filled by powerful video images and soundscapes.

Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World premiere - Presented in association with **Espace Libre**

CARTE NOIRE NOMMÉE DÉsir

Rébecca Chaillon

Dans le ventre, Montreuil + Creil

Usine C

May 23 to 26

A leading figure among European theatre's new voices, Rébecca Chaillon celebrates Black women in a visceral ceremony of reappropriation embracing both pop culture and spirituality.

North American premiere - Presented by **Cole Foundation** with the support of **Institut Français + Consulat général de France à Québec** in association with **Usine C**

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CATARINA AND THE BEAUTY OF KILLING FASCISTS

Tiago Rodrigues

Lisbon + Avignon

Place des Arts - Théâtre Jean-Duceppe

May 26 to 28

Is killing a fascist a crime or a legitimate act of resistance? Worldviews collide in renowned Portuguese director Tiago Rodrigues' bracing political theatre.

North American premiere - Presented by **La Presse** with the support of **Institut Français + Consulat général de France à Québec** in association with **Place des Arts**

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Au coeur de la rose © Fabrice Gaëtan





dance
+ theatre

NIGAMON/TUNAI

Émilie Monnet + Waira Nina

Productions Onishka, Montréal/Tio'tià:ke/Mooniyaang + Yurayako

ESPACE GO

May 23 to 30

In the heart of a forest of sound, artists Émilie Monnet and Waira Nina deliver a poetic manifesto forged by friendship that advocates protecting water, land, stars, and ancestral knowledge.

Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World premiere - Co-presented by **ESPACE GO**

SUR TES TRACES

Dany Boudreault + Gurshad Shaheman

La Messe Basse + La Ligne d'Ombre, Roberval + Tehran

Centre du Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui

May 30 to June 1

Gurshad Shaheman and Dany Boudreault each hand over the keys to his existence to the other for a fascinating game of intimate story-telling where East meets West.

Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + North American premiere - Presented by **Hôtel ZERO1** in association with **Centre du Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui**

SURVEILLÉE ET PUNIE

Philippe Cyr + Safia Nolin

Montreal

Théâtre Prospero

May 31 + June 1

Safia Nolin and Philippe Cyr, united by their ambition of transcending the hate directed at the singer, bravely put on an extraordinary musical creation. Armed with her guitar, Safia Nolin finally reclaims the space that others seek to deny her.

World premiere - Presented in association with **Théâtre Prospero**

THE CLOUD

Atom Cianfarani + Alexis O'Hara

Et tu, Machine, Sainte-Marguerite-du-Lac-Masson

La Chapelle Scènes Contemporaines

May 29 to June 1

A radical interdisciplinary journey, *The Cloud* is a politically engaged, joy-seeking performance set against the backdrop of environmental catastrophe. You'll never look at data or animals the same way again!

Co-produced by **Festival TransAmériques** + World premiere - Co-presented by **La Chapelle Scènes Contemporaines**

Performance

GORGEOUS TONGUE

Lara Kramer

Lara Kramer Danse, Montreal/Tio'tià:ke/Mooniyaang

Édifice Wilder - Espace danse, Espace Orange

May 31 to June 3

Channeling dreams, stories, and songs, *Gorgeous Tongue*, created by Anishinaabe choreographer Lara Kramer and performed by Jeanette Kotowich, embodies and celebrates Indigenous futurity.

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

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WELCOME TO OUR HQ

Free admission at all times

Agora Hydro-Québec du Cœur des sciences de l'UQAM

175, ave. Président-Kennedy / Place-des-Arts metro

The Festival's Headquarters welcomes all festivalgoers! By day it is a place for encounters, for debating ideas. After the shows, it becomes a fun place to drink, eat and dance!

TICKETS

From May 22
to June 5 2024

From March 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Discount packages on sale

From March 26 at noon

All single tickets on sale

Reduced rates for 30 and under, 65 and over and performing arts professionals. Special rates for 18-25 year-olds available on selected shows

Discount packages are the most affordable way to enjoy the Festival

4 shows and more + **20% off**

8 shows and more + **30% off**

12 shows and more + **35% off**

How to purchase discount packages and single tickets

Online: fta.ca

By phone: **514 844 3822**

March 20 to May 21

Tuesday to Thursday, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

May 22 to June 5

Every day, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Confidential until
5:30 p.m. on
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The Festival TransAmériques wishes to thank its partners for their generous support.

PUBLIC PARTNERS CONSEIL DES ARTS ET DES LETTRES DU QUÉBEC + CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS + CANADIAN HERITAGE + TOURISME QUÉBEC + CONSEIL DES ARTS DE MONTRÉAL + VILLE DE MONTRÉAL + SECRÉTARIAT À LA RÉGION MÉTROPOLITAINE + MINISTÈRE DE LA CULTURE ET DES COMMUNICATIONS + MINISTÈRE DU TRAVAIL, DE L'EMPLOI ET DE LA SOLIDARITÉ SOCIALE **MAJOR PARTNERS** LA PRESSE + HYDRO-QUÉBEC + TOURISME MONTRÉAL + PARTENARIAT DU QUARTIER DES SPECTACLES + COLE FOUNDATION + CDPQ + POWER CORPORATION DU CANADA + HÔTEL ZÉRO1 **MAIN PARTNERS** L'APPARTEMENT HÔTEL + LOJIQ - LES OFFICES JEUNESSE INTERNATIONAUX DU QUÉBEC + INSTITUT FRANÇAIS + CONSULAT GÉNÉRAL DE FRANCE À QUÉBEC + FONDATION TÉLUS POUR UN FUTUR MEILLEUR + RANDSTAD **ASSOCIATE PARTNERS** CAISSE DES JARDINS DE LA CULTURE + DANSE-CITÉ + LES PRODUCTIONS MENUENTAKUAN + GOETHE INSTITUT MONTRÉAL + MINISTÈRE FÉDÉRAL DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES D'ALLEMAGNE + LES GRANDS BOIS + APL + BEANFIELD METROCONNECT **MEDIA PARTNERS** RADIO-CANADA + FUGUES + PUBLICITÉ SAUVAGE + PROMOTIONS PROPAGANDA + CULT MTL + CULTURE CIBLE + CINÉMAS BEAUBIEN, DU PARC ET DU MUSÉE + ESSE **COPRESENTERS** ESPACE GO + LA CHAPELLE SCÈNES CONTEMPORAINES + CENTAUR THEATRE **PRESENTATION PARTNERS** PLACE DES ARTS + UQAM - CŒUR DES SCIENCES + ÉCOLE NATIONALE DE THÉÂTRE DU CANADA + USINE C + THÉÂTRE PROSPERO + ESPACE LIBRE + AGORA DE LA DANSE + TANGENTE + CENTRE DU THÉÂTRE D'AUJOURD'HUI + CONSERVATOIRE D'ART DRAMATIQUE DE MONTRÉAL + CITÉ-DES-HOSPITALIÈRES EN TRANSITION + LUMINATO FESTIVAL TORONTO + CARREFOUR INTERNATIONAL DE THÉÂTRE DE QUÉBEC **SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERS** RECYC-QC + ÉCOSCENO + COMMUNAUTO + GO ZÉRO + CQEUR + PLANETAIR + BIXI

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marie-pier@rugicomm.ca