

DANSE CARAÏBES / CARIBBEAN DANCE

FIRST CARIBBEAN DANCE FESTIVAL

La Havana / March 2008

As part of the development of the CARAIBES EN CREATIONS programme, CULTURESFRANCE is launching, in partnership with the Cuban Culture Ministry / 'Consejo Nacional de las artes escenicas' (National Council for Performing Arts) the first edition of a dance biennial in the Caribbean.

This meets the need for regional dance to acquire international visibility.

The idea of holding this first biennial in Cuba is to present a wide range of choreographic creation in the Caribbean, to bring together the dance players in this region with a platform of contacts and meetings. Finally, it will give the artistes heightened visibility vis-à-vis dance and performing arts professionals. It is organised in partnership with the Cuban Culture Ministry.

Future editions of the "Danse Caraïbes" biennial will be held at different locations in the Caribbean.

COMPETITION RULES

The "Danse Caraïbes" biennial is organised around a contemporary creative competition open to all choreographers living in one of the Caribbean island states (including the French department in America) or in Surinam, French Guiana or British Guiana.

Companies are invited to submit their applications before 30th November 2007.

The competition will be held before a professional jury which will award prizes for:

- a solo work, interpreted by the choreographer;
- a joint piece, presented by a choreographer.

The prizewinners will be sent on a grand tour in 2009 with the French cultural network in Central America and the Caribbean.

The artistic committee will select the candidates from videos or from shows seen on stage, paying very special attention to:

- innovation, technical ability and the originality of the choreographers' approach;
- the development of a changing choreographic language;
- the quality and force of the interpretation;
- the use of the theatrical space;
- the appropriateness of the music to the dance (live or recorded);
- how the question of costumes, hair styles and make-up is dealt with.

COMPETITION ENTRY

Article 1

The competition is open to companies and choreographers living and working in the Caribbean region. The choreographers must be at least eighteen years old at the time of the competition.

Article 2

The application file can be completed in French, English or Spanish. It must include:

- the competition entry form appended to these rules;
- a handwritten letter clearly stating the candidate's acceptance of the terms of these rules;
- a short biography of the author-choreographer and the background of the company for choreographers entering the "Joint piece" section;
- a brief introduction to the act;
- the list of the act's interpreters and participants;
- a technical document with as much detail as possible if the act has already been produced on stage, or a list of the desired technical elements if this is not the case;
- three photographs (black and white or colour) with the words "free from copyright for CULTURESFRANCE" on the back, intended for the international press (photocopies are not accepted);

- a video or DVD recording to enable the artistic committee to appraise the work done by the company (opt for static wide shots which give a more accurate view of the act, rather than a recording that tries to follow the dance closely while ignoring what is going on around);
- a timetable of the company's scheduled performances before April 2008 for the proposed act or another production.

These documents will not be returned to the candidates.

The complete file should be sent before 30th November 2007 to:

CULTURESFRANCE
Département Afrique et Caraïbes en Créations
"Danse Caraïbes"
1 bis avenue de Villars
75007 Paris / France.

The files can be deposited before 15th November 2007 in the French cultural centres which will ensure they are passed on to CULTURESFRANCE by 30th November 2007.

One copy of the applications should be sent by e-mail to the following addresses:
dansecaraibes@culturesfrance.com
and
hm@culturesfrance.com.

THE COMPETITORS AND THE WORKS PRESENTED

Article 1

The competition entry should be in the name of the choreographer who created the proposed work. The author's name will take precedence over that of the company involved in the project for candidates applying for the "Joint piece" section. A choreographer can enter both the competition categories: "Joint piece" and "Solo".

Article 2

Each competition entry for the "Joint piece" category should be backed by a legally-established company in possession of a bank account. Individual entries can be chosen for interpreter-choreographers applying for the "Solo" category.

Article 3

The choreographic production presented in the competition must comply with the following:

- for solos, maximum duration of 10 to 15 minutes;
- for the joint pieces, maximum duration of 20 to 30 minutes. The number of participants in a production should not exceed 6 people (including musicians). Special cases, where there are more than 6 people, will be subject to special scrutiny by the artistic committee.

The scheduled performance dates for the piece presented in the company's country of residence or where it is touring should be transmitted to CULTURESFRANCE, so that the artistic management can, if possible, see the act performed live on stage.

Article 4

Candidates for the competition finals will be selected by an artistic committee that will meet in December 2007.

Following this meeting:

- ten companies at the most, from any of the countries, will be pre-selected to take part in the "Danse Caraïbes" choreographic competition, in the "Joint piece" category. A maximum of two companies per country can be finalists in this category;
- five choreographer-interpreters will be chosen to participate in the "Danse Caraïbes" choreographic competition, in the "Solo" category. A maximum of two choreographer-interpreters per country can be finalists in this competition category.

Article 5

The chosen candidates will be informed during the month of January 2008.

Each company selected in the "Joint piece" category will receive financial help for its production, totalling **euros 2,000**, to help it prepare for its participation in the competition.

All the pre-selected companies are also requested to ask the French cultural centre in their town for help towards the production of the piece in preparation for the competition.

Article 6

The competition finals will take place during the first edition of "Danse Caraïbes", which will be held in La Havana at the end of March 2008 (dates to be confirmed).

Article 7

The companies and choreographers undertake to accept the programme drawn up and the technical resources implemented by the organising structure to ensure that the competition proceeds smoothly.

Minimum technical specifications will be prepared by the event's technical director and sent out to the companies who should put in their specific requests as soon as possible.

THE COMPETITION PRIZES

Article 8

The prizes for the "Joint piece" and "Solo" categories will be awarded at the end of the event.

A company in the "Joint piece" category as well as the "Solo" prizewinner will be sent on a grand tour in 2009 with the French cultural network in Central America and the Caribbean, and will receive help towards producing another project.

The jury will also provide help towards production to one of the companies in the "Joint piece" category.

THE JURY AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RESULTS

Article 9

The competition jury present in La Havana will award the prizes. This will be an international jury, comprising key figures from the world of dance, artistes and culture specialists.

The participants will be given the list of jury members. The organisers reserve the right to change this list in the event of force majeure.

The jury will meet behind closed doors to choose the prizewinners. It is not obliged to award any prizes. The jury's decisions are final and do not have to be backed by a reason.

The results will be announced at the latest forty-eight hours after the presentation of the final work in the competition.

Article 10

By entering the competition, each choreographer undertakes to be present or to be represented by a member of his/her company, when the results are announced.

FILM RECORDINGS AND AUDIOVISUAL RIGHTS

Article 11

The companies' performances will be filmed and recorded. These recordings can be used, free of any copyright, by the event organisers and their partners, for their own promotion and information campaigns.

Any commercial use and broadcasting lasting longer than three minutes must be the subject of a contract defining, in particular, the rights of the author-choreographer.

FUNDING THE COMPANIES' PARTICIPATION

Article 12

Funding for the festival and the dance competition will be provided by CULTURESFRANCE / Africa and Caribbean Creative Arts Department, in partnership with the Cuban Culture Ministry and other private and public partnerships that can be arranged for this project.

The participating companies will not receive any fees for performances that are part of the competition.

Travelling and accommodation expenses relating to their participation in the event will be covered by the organisation.

Article 13

The organisers' liability can be incurred for corporeal, material and moral damages caused by or suffered by the participants only in the event of serious offence attributable to the material conditions of the organisation. Any other guarantee must be covered by the different companies.

The companies will be covered for any accidents occurring during the performances.

Article 14

The organisers cannot be held responsible for any damage caused to the items accompanying the registration file nor for their loss.

MISCELLANEOUS CLAUSES

Article 15

The companies undertake not to use on the stage any materials, products (in particular inflammable) or any other element that could cause damage to equipment and to people.

Article 16

The companies undertake to include the words: "With the backing of CULTURESFRANCE, Africa and Caribbean Creative Arts Department", for the help obtained from the organisers on any promotion and press document relating to the selected work.

CANDIDATES' LEGAL OBLIGATIONS AND DISPUTES

Article 17

All the candidates agree to the clauses of these rules, for which only the French text is valid in the event of a dispute.

Article 18

In the event of a dispute relating to the application of the clauses of these rules or arising during the candidates' participation in the competition, the Paris law courts are acknowledged to have exclusive jurisdiction.

Article 19**Filing the rules:**

The "Danse Caraïbes" competition rules are filed at the offices of SCP Peraldi Jezequel Pinheiro, associate bailiffs, 44 rue Poliveau, 75005 Paris, France.

Any request sent in after the close of the operation will not be taken into account.



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March 2008

-- COMPETITION ENTRY FORM --

Category: Joint piece: Solo:

Name and first name of the work's choreographer-author:

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Choreographer's date of birth:

.....

Name of the company (*for the "Joint piece" category*):

.....

Address of the company (*or the choreographer for the "Solo" category*):

.....

P.O. Box: Town: Country:.....

Tel. n°: Mobile phone n°: Fax:

E-mail: Internet site:

Year when the company was founded:

Name and first name of administrative manager:.....

Title of the work presented in the competition:.....

Date of creation: Duration: minutes

Part to be completed for those candidates entering the "Joint piece" category:

- Number of participants on the tour: (dancers, musicians, technicians, actors)

- Is the choreographer present on the stage? yes no

- Names of participants (state whether they are dancers, musicians or actors...)

1/

2/

3/

4/

5/

6/

List the company's last three productions (*for applicants for the "Solo" category, list the choreographer's last 3 productions*):
(name, year of creation, duration, number of participants)

1/.....
.....
.....

2/.....
.....
.....

3/.....
.....
.....

Has the work already been shown in festivals, in this country or abroad? If so, give the name of the act, the name of the festival and the year.

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This entry form should be attached to the file and sent in before:
30th November 2007, CLOSING DATE, to:

CULTURESFRANCE
Département Afrique et Caraïbes en Créations
Danse Caraïbes
1 bis, avenue de Villars
75007 Paris

Tel: + 33 (0)1 53 69 39 50
Fax: +33 (0)1 53 69 83 98

The files can also be deposited at the French cultural centres by 15th November 2007 at the latest, from where they will be sent on to CULTURESFRANCE by 30th November 2007.

For any information on the competition:
dansecaraibes@culturesfrance.com
and on the event:
www.culturesfrance.com