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# CHOIR

An immersive installation

by **Sylvain Émard Danse**

co-created with **mirari**

  
**Sylvain Émard**  
DANSE



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## CHOIR

A 360-degree immersive structure, 12 performers projected on a human scale, a layered, interwoven sound recording. The installation [Choir](#) is an invitation to plunge into dance, to hear it, to experience it from within.

## GENESIS

The installation [Choir](#) was inspired by [Prelude #1 – The Circle](#), the first chapter of the in-situ diptych [Preludes](#), a work for 20 dancers that is presented outdoors. Danse Danse joined forces as a partner of [Preludes](#), presenting the show on the esplanade at Place des Arts in October 2021. Nature's most widespread symbol, the circle, an organic form of gathering, evokes a spirit of communion and sharing.

## THE INSTALLATION

[Choir](#) is a pulsating round dance that plunges the spectator into the centre of the art form. Surrounded by a 360-degree screen of 30 feet in diameter, the public observes the flowing movements of 12 dancers stream, like a circular wave. The sound layers are interwoven to magnify reality: footsteps, breathing and music, everything places visitors in the very heart of the work, in the intimacy of the performance. The amplified sounds, combined with the life-size performers, create a hypnotic state as the dance ritual unfolds. In a soundscape featuring a composition by Éliane Radigue, a pioneer of electronic music, this contemporary ceremonial, ranging from contemplation to exaltation, envelops the enthralled audience.

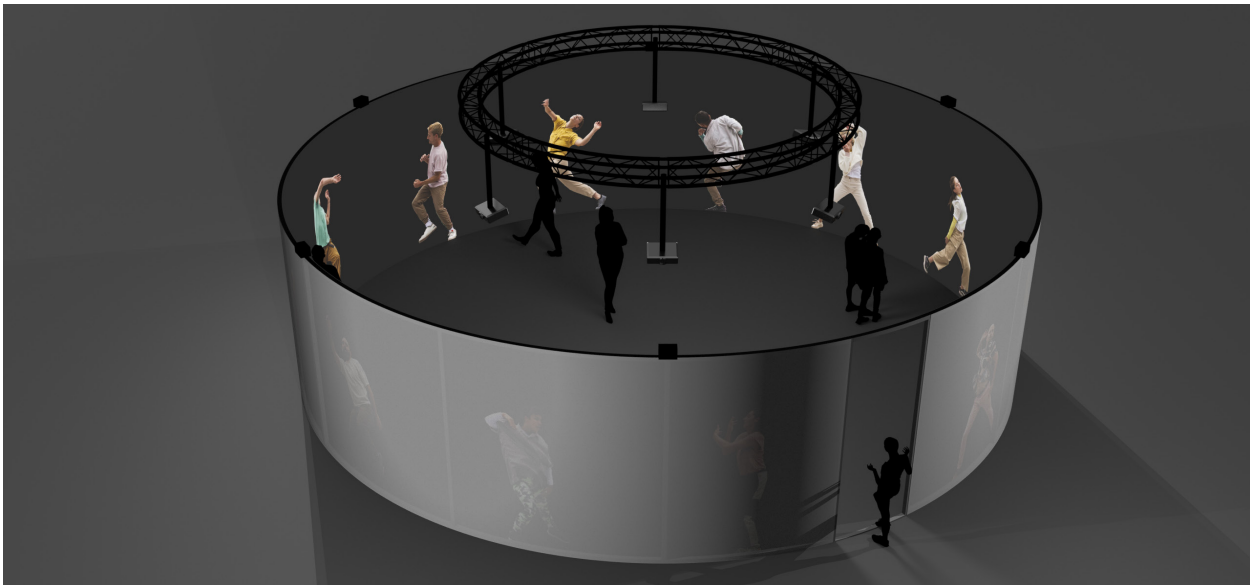
The immersive experience of [Choir](#), a collaboration between Sylvain Émard Danse and mirari, allows the audience to see dance differently, to seize its slightest jolt. The 15-minute choreography unfolds in a loop. The trance effect emanating from this sequence of uninterrupted movements influences the audience, who are in turn captivated by this unique pagan rite.

For a glimpse of the work, please watch its [teaser](#).



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## SCALE MODELS





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## CALENDAR

August 2024, Festival Lumifest Repentigny, Canada

June and July 2024, Le Diamant, Québec, Canada

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Original idea** Sylvain Émard

**Concept and creation** Sylvain Émard and Thomas Payette/mirari

**Production** Sylvain Émard Danse

**Choreographer** Sylvain Émard

**Director** Thomas Payette/mirari

**Director of photography 360°** Dominic St-Amant

**Dancers** Sophie Breton, Charles Cardin-Bourbeau, Matéo Chauchat, Marie-Michelle Darveau, Janelle Hacault, Mathieu Hérard, Kyra Jean Green, Christopher LaPlante, François Richard, Cara Roy, Marie-Philippe Santerre, Camille Trudel-Vigeant

**Music** Éliane Radigue

**Set designer** Xavier Mary/mirari

**Lighting designer** François Marceau

**Soundscape** Mathieu Doyon/mirari assisted by Frédéric Auger

**Costume designer** Marilène Bastien

**Technical directors** François Marceau and Caroline Turcot/mirari

**Executive producer** Hugues Monfroy/mirari

**Production director** Roxane Cadillon/mirari

**Touring technical director** Clara Desautels

**Head of video** Dominique Hawry

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## SYLVAIN ÉMARD DANSE

A prolific and internationally respected artist, Sylvain Émard created his own dance company Sylvain Émard Danse in 1990, quickly establishing a reputation for a very original style. Highly theatrical at first, his work soon evolved into a more formal approach to dance. Ever since [Ozone, Ozone](#) (1987), his first solo, up to [Rhapsodie](#) (2022), a work for 20 dancers, he has been exploring the territory of human nature through the force and strength of the body. His repertoire now includes over thirty original pieces that have had a resounding impact all over the world.

## MIRARI

[mirari](#) is a studio that specializes in creating spaces, installations and artworks that transform the way people see the world. With extensive experience in performing arts techniques, mirari questions the issues facing our society, turning them into a sensitive narrative that brings a poetic touch to the performance site. The studio has staged several projects in theatres, public spaces and large-scale events here and elsewhere, creating unique links between Montréal and Japan, by way of New Zealand, Europe and Peru.

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