

HELEN SIMARD

514-569-5463, helen.simard@gmail.com

EDUCATION

ACADEMIC

2014 UQAM, MA, Danse, Montréal, QC

2000 Concordia University, BFA, Contemporary Dance, Montréal QC

CONTINUED TRAINING & WORKSHOPS

19-22 **Interdisciplinary Writer's Lab** (Playwright's Workshop Montreal), Montréal, QC

19 **rehearsal direction apprenticeship** (Sophie Michaud, Angélique Wilkie, Jesse Stong), Montréal, QC

19 **dramaturgy** (Playwright's Workshop Montreal), Montréal, QC

18 **playwriting** (National Theatre School), Montreal, QC

11-12 **théâtre néo-futuriste** (Mathieu Leroux, Les néos), Montréal, QC

10 **bouffon** (École Philippe Gaulier), Paris, France

09-10 **clown/jeu** (L'école de clown et comédie Francine Côté), Montréal, QC

04 **Pilates Instructor Certification** (Structural Studies Institute), Montréal, QC

97-16 **Breaking** (self directed practice and continued learning through numerous professional workshops), various locations

TEACHING

PRE-PROFESSIONAL

2023 **Creative Process I**, Department of Contemporary Dance, Concordia University, Montréal, QC

2022 **Choreography I**, Department of Contemporary Dance, Concordia University, Montréal, QC

2022 **Interprétation V**, École de danse contemporaine de Montréal, Montréal, QC

2022 **Creation Laboratory**, Transformation Danse, Montréal, QC

2022 **Spectacle DEC II**, École National du Cirque, Montréal, QC

2022 **Choreography II**, Department of Contemporary Dance, Concordia University, Montréal, QC

2021 **Semaine de création**, École National du Cirque, Montréal, QC

2020 **Composition chorégraphique II**, École de danse contemporaine de Montréal, Montréal, QC

2019 **Interprétation V**, École de danse contemporaine de Montréal, Montréal, QC

2017 **Interprétation V**, École de danse contemporaine de Montréal, Montréal, QC

2016 **Introduction à la danse contemporaine**, département de danse, Université du Québec à Montréal, QC

2010-2015 **Teaching & Research Assistant**, département de danse, Université du Québec à Montréal, QC

WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS (UNIVERSITY LEVEL)

04/21 Grant writing, **Concordia University**, Montréal, QC

02/21 Choreographic Creation for Web Streaming, **Concordia University**, Montréal, QC

09/15 L'esthétique du street dance: clés de compréhension, **Université du Québec à Montréal**, Montréal, QC

03/15 Contemporary break fusion workshop, **York University**, Toronto, ON

01/15 Gender and Street Dance Practices, **York University**, Toronto, ON

11/14 L'esthétique du b-boying: un art vivant et incarné, **Université du Québec à Montréal**, Montréal, QC

04/14 Breaking in Montréal: An art in a state of ongoing evolution, **Concordia University**, Montréal, QC

03/14 Le break à Montréal: Un art en mutation rapide, **Université du Québec à Montréal**, Montréal, QC

10/13 Breaking workshop, **Université du Québec à Montréal** (DAN 1001 Initiation à la danse), Montréal, QC

10/12 Breaking workshop, **Université du Québec à Montréal** (DAN 1001 Initiation à la danse), Montréal, QC

10/09 Breaking workshop, **University of Lethbridge**, Lethbridge, AB

03/09 Breaking workshop, **Concordia University**, Montréal, QC

PUBLICATIONS

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Simard, H. (2022). Is She B-boying or B-girling? Understanding how B-girls Negotiate Gender and Belonging. In M. Fogarty & I. Johnson (Eds.), *Oxford Handbook of Hip-Hop Dance*. New York: Oxford University Press.

CURRICULUM VITAE: HELEN SIMARD

Harbonnier-Topin, N., Simard, H. (2015). Towards a constructive interaction between somatic education and introspective verbalization. In S. Whatley, N. Garrett Brown, & K. Alexander (Eds.), *Attending to Movement: Somatic Perspectives on Living in this World*, (pp. 237-248). Axminster: Triarchy Press.

Simard, H. (Ed.). (2015). *Envisioning the Practice: International symposium on performing arts curation*. Conference proceedings, Montréal, QC.

Simard, H. (2014). *Breaking down the Differences Between Breakdancing and B-boying: A Grounded Theory Approach*. (Unpublished Masters Thesis). Université du Québec à Montréal.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Simard, H. (2016, May). *B-girls Battling: Gender and Competition in Street Dance Culture*. Paper presented at the 2016 Popular Studies Association of Canada Conference. Montreal, QC.

Simard, H. (2015, July). *So Cute or So Nasty? Contrasting Discourses of Masculinity and Femininity Surrounding B-girls (Female Breakdancers)*. Paper presented at the 2015 KISMIF Conference. Porto, Portugal.

Simard, H. (2015, May). *B-girl Terra: Renegotiating Gender Online and on the Dancefloor*. Paper presented at the 2015 Popular Studies Association of Canada Conference. Niagara Falls, ON.

Harbonnier-Topin, N., Simard, H. (2013, July). *Towards a Constructive Interaction Between Somatic Education and Introspective Verbalization*. Workshop given at the 2013 Dance and Somatic Practices Conference. Coventry, UK.

Simard, H. (2013, April). *Dance There Be Rock: A choreographic analysis of the AC/DC documentary "Let There be Rock"*. Paper presented at the 2013 Congress on Research in Dance Special Topics Conference. Los Angeles, USA.

Simard, H. (2012, November). *What's in a Name? Bgirling, Bboying, and the construction of gender*. Paper presented at the 2012 Congress on Research in Dance Conference. Albuquerque, USA.

Simard, H., Hodac, E., Martinez, B., & Martinez, L. (2012, June). *The Inner Workings of Crew Politics: A discussion with the Mighty Zulu Kingz*. Round table discussion animated at the 2012 Canadian Society for Dance Studies Conference. Montréal, QC.

ARTISTIC PRODUCTIONS (SELECTED CREDITS)

WE ALL FALL DOWN | INTERDISCIPLINARY CREATIONS

2019-PRESENT

Role: Co-Artistic & Executive Director/Choreographer

Tout s'effondre (In development)

Financial Partners: Canada Council for the Arts, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, Conseil des arts de Montréal

Residencies: Cas Public, Centre de Création O'Vertigo, École de danse contemporaine de Montréal

When Your Baby Dies (In development)

Financial Partners: Canada Council for the Arts, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, Playwrights' Workshop Montreal

Residencies: Playwrights' Workshop Montreal, Agora de la danse, L'Annexe-A, Théâtre du Tandem, Musée d'art de Rouyn Noranda, Studio Flak, Diagramme gestion culturelle

Quand je ferme mes yeux (2024, forthcoming)

Financial Partners: Agora de la danse, Canada Council for the Arts, Cas Public, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec

Residencies: Agora de la danse, Cas Public, Théâtre Hector-Charland

- 2024 (forthcoming) Agora de la danse, Montréal, QC

Because You Never Asked (2023, forthcoming)

Financial Partners: Canada Council for the Arts, Conseil des arts de Montréal, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec

Residencies: Segal Centre for Performing Arts, Montreal Arts Intercultural, Cas Public

- 2023 (forthcoming) M.A.I., Montréal, QC

Papillon (2020)

Financial Partners: Canada Council for the Arts, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, Conseil des arts de Montréal, Danse-Cité, Diagramme gestion culturelle

Residencies: Centre de Création O'Vertigo, Carrefour culturel Notre-Dame-des-Prairies, Danse à la Carte, La Chapelle, Maison de la culture Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Playwrights' Workshop Montreal, Théâtre Hector-Charland

- 2020 La Chapelle, in coproduction with Danse-Cité, Montréal, QC

INDEPENDENT CHOREOGRAPHER

Role: Choreographer/Producer

REQUIEM POP (2019)

Financial Partners: Canada Council for the Arts, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, Agora de la danse, Studio 303, Playwrights' Workshop Montreal

Residencies: Agora de la danse, Studio 303, Université du Québec à Montréal, Mainline Theatre

Can You Hear Me? (2017)

Production Partner: 100lux

IDIOT (2017)

Production Partner: La Chapelle Scènes Contemporaines

Residencies: La Chapelle, Université du Québec à Montréal, Mainline Theatre

NO FUN (2015)

Production Partner: Tangente

Residencies: Université du Québec à Montréal, Mainline Theatre

On the Subject of Compassion (2011)

Production Partner: Piss in the Pool

The Dancing Doll (2010, co-created with Jennifer Casimir)

Potential Energy = F20 (1999)

Production Partner: Tangente

SOLID STATE BREAKDANCE

2000-2012

Role: Co-Artistic Director/Choreographer/Performer

2012 **Brèves Allures** (commission for the Montreal Symphony Orchestra): Montréal (3 performances)

2010 **BoneYard** (commission for Alias Dance Project): Toronto (12 performances)

2009 **Breakdance for Solo Cello**: Montréal, Lethbridge, Toronto, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, St-Albert, Penticton (36 performances)

2006 **Take It Back**: Montréal, Toronto, Laval, Winnipeg, Vancouver, St-John's, Lausanne (Switzerland) (41 performances)

2004 **It's not you...It's me...**: Montréal, Toronto, Sherbrooke, St-Sauveur, Winnipeg, Kingston, London (England) (45 performances)

2003 **Etch A Sketch**: Montréal, Kingston, Amqui (30 performances)

2002 **Showdown**: Montréal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Guelph (37 performances)

2001 **Pas de Baskets**: Montréal (4 performances)

INTERPRETATION

Andrée Martin

Role : Interpreter

2015-2016

Abécédaire du corps dansant — A (Action) : Agora de la danse, Montréal

Les néos- théâtre néo-futuriste

Director : Mathieu Leroux

Role : Interpreter

2011-2012

Scrap (2012): Espace Libre, Montréal

Cirque du Soleil

Director : Michel Laprise, Choreographer : Mukhtar Omar Sharif

Role : Interpreter

2009

One Drop Foundation (2009): Washington DC

Tusket Dance

Choreographer Tammy Forsythe

Role : Interpreter

2003-2004

The Backtrack (2003): Festival international de nouvelle danse, Montréal

The Backtrack part 2: Slink down one sexy step at a time (2004): Montréal, Vancouver

House of Pride

Choreographer : Martha Carter

Role : Interpreter

2000-2002

Xdance (2001): Espace Jean-Pierre Perreault (Montréal), Banff Centre for the Arts (Banff), Canadian Dance Festival (Ottawa)

Xfairytale (2001): Vidéo danse

The Spell Remains (2002): research in studio

REHEARSAL DIRECTION/DRAMATURGY (selected credits)

2023 (forthcoming) **FLUX**, Elie-Anne Ross, Tangente Danse
2022 **Ad-hoc Dimension**, Maxine Segalowitz, Tangente Danse
2022 **À bout de bras**, David Albert-Toth & Emily Gualtieri (Parts+Labour Danse), Agora de la danse
2022 **Transelucide**, Mecdy Jean-Pierre, Tangente Danse
2022 **NIGHTLIGHT**, George Stamos, Agora de la danse
2021 **What Will Come**, Sébastien Provencher & Julia B. Laperrière, Tangente Danse
2021 **Efer**, David Albert-Toth & Emily Gualtieri (Parts+Labour Danse), Danse Danse
2021 **6.58: Manifesto**, Andrea Pena & Artists, Agora de la danse
2021 **Ever Endeavor (film)**, Alexandra Landé (Ebnfloh), National Arts Centre
2021 **6.58: Manifesto (film)**, Andrea Pena & Artists, Agora de la danse
2021 **La possibilité du néant**, Alexandra Landé (Ebnfloh), Danse Danse
2021 **We are Ghosts, or Are We? (webdiffusion)** Andrea Pena & Artists, Université du Québec à Montréal
2020 **New research**, Andrea Pena & Artists
2020 **Because You Never Asked**, Roger White
2019 **B-side**, Alexandra Landé (Ebnfloh)
2019 **Interface**, Travis Knights & Greg Selinger
2019 **Quand je serai grande, je serai (guitariste de) Michael Jackson**, Marie Mougeolle, Tangente Danse
2019 **Fil Rouge**, Emmanuelle LePhan (Tentacle Tribe, Festival 100lux
2019 **In-Ward**, Alexandra Landé (Ebnfloh), Montréal Arts Intercultural
2018 **Ghost**, Tentacle Tribe, Danse Danse
2018 **Summertime**, Marie-Pier Laforge-Bourret, Tangente Danse
2018 **Sexpectations**, Maxine Segalowitz,
2017 **Children of Chemistry**, Sébastien Provencher, Tangente Danse
2017 **THREESIXNINE**, Tentacle Tribe, Danse Danse
2017 **Binding Identity**, Victoria Mackenzie, Tangente Danse
2017 **Origami Mami**, Emmanuelle LePhan (Tentacle Tribe), Festival 100lux
2016 **One Day Sooner & When the Clock Strikes Me**, Greg Selinger, Festival 100lux
2016 **Fractals of You**, Tentacle Tribe, Danse Danse
2016 **Creative Extremist**, Greg Selinger, Montreal Arts Intercultural
2016 **La mort est une question de temps de verbes**, Marie-Pier Laforge-Bourret, Université du Québec à Montréal
2015 **The Stories Project**, Victoria Mackenzie, Festival 100lux
2014 **Nobody Likes a Pixelated Squid**, Tentacle Tribe, Danse Danse

AWARDS/GRANTS/BURSARIES

ARTISTIC AWARDS

2018-2021 **Best of Montreal Reader's Poll - Top 5 Best Choreographers**, CULT Mtl
2018 **Best Choreography** (Winner), Dance Side of the Moon, Montreal Fringe Festival
2018 **Creativity Award** (Nominated), Dance Side of the Moon, Montreal Fringe Festival
2016 **Buddies in Bad Times Award for Risk and Innovation** (Nominated), NO FUN, SummerWorks Festival
2014 **Creativity Award** (Winner), NO FUN, Montreal Fringe Festival
2014 **Best Choreography** (Nominated), NO FUN, Montreal Fringe Festival
2008 **Best Dance/Music Show** (Winner), Take It Back, Winnipeg Fringe Fest
2008 **Audience Choice Award** (Nominated), Take it Back, Dancing on the Edge

ACADEMIC AWARDS

2013 **Doctoral research fellowship** (FRQSC)
2012 **Pierre Lapointe Scholarship** (Fondation de l'UQAM)
2012 **Iro-Valaskaki-Tembeck Scholarship** (Fondation de l'UQAM)
1996-1999: **Crane Fund Bursary** (Concordia Bursaries)

ARTISTIC GRANTS

GRANTS TO INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS

2022 **Market Access Strategic Fund**, Quand je ferme mes yeux, Canada Council for the Arts
2022 **Concept to Realization**, Quand je ferme mes yeux, Canada Council for the Arts
2021 **General Grant Program**, The Pivot, Conseil des arts de Montréal
2021 **Explore and Create**, Tout s'effondre, Canada Council for the Arts
2021 **Professional Development**, The Pivot, Canada Council for the Arts
2021 **Market Access Strategic Fund**, Papillon, Canada Council for the Arts
2020 **Explore and Create**, when your baby dies, Canada Council for the Arts
2020 **Digital Originals**, Alone/Together, Canada Council for the Arts
2020 **Explore and Create**, Quand je ferme mes yeux, Canada Council for the Arts
2019 **Recherche et création**, Papillon, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
2019 **Explore and Create**, when your baby dies, Canada Council for the Arts
2019 **Market Access Strategic Fund**, REQUIEM POP, Canada Council for the Arts
2019 **Market Access Strategic Fund**, REQUIEM POP, Canada Council for the Arts
2019 **Professional Development**, Canada Council for the Arts
2018 **Concept to Realization**, Papillon, Canada Council for the Arts
2018 **Production et reprise**, REQUIEM POP, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
2018 **Concept to Realization**, REQUIEM POP, Canada Council for the Arts
2017 **Explore and Create**, REQUIEM POP, Canada Council for the Arts

GRANTS TO ARTS ORGANIZATIONS | WE ALL FALL DOWN

2022 **CAM en tournée**, Papillon, Conseil des arts de Montréal
2022 **Arts Across Canada**, Papillon, Canada Council for the Arts
2022 **Concept to Realization**, Papillon (L'envolée), Canada Council for the Arts
2022 **General Grant Program**, Tout s'effondre, Conseil des arts de Montréal
2022 **Recherche et création**, Tout s'effondre, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
2022 **Recherche et création**, Because You Never Asked, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
2021 **Recherche et création**, when your baby dies, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
2021 **Présentation de spectacles en distanciation physique**, Papillon, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
2021 **Quand l'art prend l'air**, Papillon L'envolée, Conseil des arts de Montréal
2021 **General Grant Program**, Because You Never Asked, Conseil des arts de Montréal
2021 **Production Reprise**, Papillon, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
2021 **Recherche et création**, Quand je ferme mes yeux, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
2020 **Production Reprise**, Papillon (We All Fall Down), Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
2020 **General Grant Program**, Papillon, Conseil des arts de Montréal

GRANTS TO ARTS COLLECTIVES | SOLID STATE BREAKDANCE

2009 **Déplacement**, Breakdance for Solo Cello, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
2009 **Recherche et création**, Breakdance for Solo Cello, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
2009 **Production in Dance**, Breakdance for Solo Cello, Canada Council for the Arts
2008 **Audience and Market Development**, Take It Back, Canada Council for the Arts
2006 **Audience and Market Development**, It's Not You, It's Me, Canada Council for the Arts
2005 **Flying Squad Organizational Development**, Canada Council for the Arts
2004 **Visiting Foreign Artist Program**, Canada Council for the Arts
2002 **Production in Dance**, Etch-A-Sketch, Canada Council for the Arts

JOURNALISM

RADIO

2011-2017 **Co-Host**, *Danscussions*, CHOQ.ca, Montreal, QC
2006 **Co-Host**, *Movement Museum*, CKUT 90.3 FM, Montreal, QC

MAGAZINE

Simard, H. (2020, February 13th). The Courage to be Kind. *The Dance Current* (online). Available online at <https://www.thedancecurrent.com/review/courage-be-kind>

Simard, H. (2019, November/December). Organic Mechanics: Emmanuelle LePhân and Elon Hoglund. *The Dance Current*, 22(6), 22-25.

CURRICULUM VITAE: HELEN SIMARD

- Simard, H. (2019, November 12th). Repetition is a Form of Change. *The Dance Current* (online). Available online at <https://www.thedancecurrent.com/review/repetition-form-change>
- Simard, H. (2019, March 1st). In the Cypher. *The Dance Current* (online). Available online at <https://www.thedancecurrent.com/review/cypher>
- Simard (2018, January/February). Domesticating Dance: Magical encounters in everyday spaces. *The Dance Current*, 21(1), 36-42.
- Simard, H. (2017, September/October). Complex Textures: how Simon Renaud perceives dance. *The Dance Current*, 20(5), 9-10.
- Simard, H. (2017, July/August). Roots and Growth: Considerations for the future of street dance in Canada. *The Dance Current*, 20(4), 44-49.
- Simard, H. (2017, April 19th). Slippery Identities. *The Dance Current* (online). Available online at <http://thedancecurrent.com/review/slippery-identities>
- Simard, H. (2017, January/February). In the Shadows. *The Dance Current*, 20(1), 42-49.
- Simard, H. (2016, July/August). Moving Bodies: How does the centrality of bodily experience affect interdisciplinarity in dance? *The Dance Current*, 19(4), 38-41.
- Simard, H. (2016, May/June). Moving Beyond the Pas-de-Deux. *The Dance Current*, 19(3), 42-49.
- Simard, H. (2015, November/December). The Inner Beat: Cai Glover of Cas Public. *The Dance Current*, 18(6), 20-23.
- Simard, H. (2015, spring). Curating Difference? The Curator's Role in Challenging Stereotypical Representations of the Body and Identity in Contemporary Dance. *Canadian Theatre Review*, 162, 88-89.
- Simard, H. (2014, February 3rd). La danse urbaine est-elle crédible? Réflexion autour de Tribune 840 #24. *Artichautmag.com: Le magazine des étudiant-e-s en art de l'UQAM*. Available online at <http://artichautmag.com/la-danse-urbaine-est-elle-credible/>

CULTURAL MEDIATION

2013-present **Freelance Animator**, facilitating post-show artist talks at Tangente, Agora de la danse, M.A.I., Usine C, Montreal, QC

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- 2021 **Jury Member**, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, Montréal, QC
- 2020-present **Jury Member**, Conseil des arts de Montréal, Montréal, QC
- 2020-present **Editorial Advisory Committee**, The Dance Current, Toronto, ON
- 2019-present **Co-Artistic Director & General Manager**, We All Fall Down | Interdisciplinary Creations, Montréal, QC
- 2018-2020 **Advocacy Committee Member**, Canadian Dance Assembly, Ottawa, ON
- 2018-2020 **President**, Board of Directors, Mainline Theatre, Montréal, QC
- 2016-2018 **Board Member**, ELAN (English Language Arts Network), Montréal, QC
- 2015-2018 **Board Member**, Mainline Theatre, Montréal, QC
- 2011-2013 **Student Representative**, MA Program Committee, UQAM Dance Department, Montréal, QC
- 2011-2013 **Treasurer**, Ascendance (MA Student Association), UQAM Dance Department, Montréal, QC
- 2005-2012 **Co-Artistic Director**, Solid State Breakdance, Montréal, QC
- 2004-2008 **Owner**, Studio Sweatshop, Montréal, QC
- 2000-2005 **Founding Member**, Solid State Breakdance Collective, Montréal, QC