

Peterborough New Dance Presents

COLEMAN LEMIEUX & COMPAGNIE

Laurence Lemieux's  
Varenka, Varenka!

Market Hall Theatre  
February 13, 2003

# VARENKA, VARENKA!

Choreography:	Laurence Lemieux
Performers:	Bill Coleman, Laurence Lemieux
Composer & onstage musician:	Vladimir Sidorov
Set design:	David Gaucher
Lighting design:	Pierre Lavoie
Lighting director and stage manager:	Jean Philippe Trépanier
Costume design:	Sofi Dagenais
Costumes Construction:	Nell Coleman
Voice on the soundtrack:	Vitaly Kovalenko
Sound design:	Jean Pierre Côté

## Choreographer's note:

Inspired by Dostoevsky's first novel *Poor Folk*, I wanted to put on the stage and in movement the two heroes of this novel; Makar Devuskin and Varenka Dobrossioli. I used the French text as a basis for the choreographic structure of the dance, and the Russian text as a springboard for the rhyme of this danced language. Some of these texts are found in the soundtrack performed by the Russian actor Vitaly Kovalenko. I have chosen to not translate these texts in French (or English) to preserve the authenticity of the rhythm of the Russian language. For those who do not understand Russian, (most of us) let yourself rock to the music of the text, and simply try to get the emotion inherent in the text. This emotion is the inspiration of *Varenka, Varenka!* — Laurence Lemieux

## Thank you:

To Denis Marleau and André Markowicz for the very powerful workshop of exploration of Dostoevsky's texts at the Théâtre Français of the National Arts Center in Ottawa. Thank you also to Georges Lemieux, Vladimir Sidorov, David Gaucher, Pierre Lavoie, AnneBruce Falconer, Mylène Robillard, Vladimir Galakhov, Natalia Kozlova, Vitaly Kovalenko, Igor Kozyr, Paul-Antoine Taillefer, the staff at Danse Cite, and Bill Coleman.

The creation of *Varenka, Varenka!* was made possible through a series of residencies at the Fondation Jean-Pierre Perreault, the Mussorgsky Theatre in St Petersburg, Pigeons International and the Maison de la Culture Plateau Mont-Royal, and at L'Agora de la Danse.

Immediately following tonight's performance, Bill Coleman will receive the Canada Council for the Arts' Jacqueline Lemieux prize for 2002. Please remain seated during the short presentation, and then join us for the reception afterwards... featuring the musical stylings of Enriqué "Roy" Claveer and surprised guests.

*Chimp*, and in 1998 the opera *Zurich 1916*; both for the Banff Arts Festival. In November of 1997 he was art director for Raymond Saint-Jean's film version of *Cabaret Neige Noire*, and the critically acclaimed production of *La Salle des Loisirs* by Raynald Robinson for Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui. In 1998 he did the technical drawings for *La Damnation de Faust* of Hector Berlioz directed by Robert Lepage, *Uncle Vanya* by Anton Tchekhov for the Gate Theatre in Dublin which premiered at the Lincoln Center, New York. David designed *La Vie est un Songe* by Pedro Calderon, christening the new home of Theatre du Nouveau Monde, for which he also designed Goldoni's *La Serva Ammosa*, and *Waiting for Godot* at the Centaur Theatre. David also works as a designer for Le Cirque du Soleil.

## PIERRE LAVOIE

Pierre Lavoie fell in love with dance after a summer spent in training at the Banff Centre School of Fine Arts (1982). He has worked in the milieu ever since; first in Toronto as a stage manager with modern dance companies, then in Montreal with Les Grands Ballets Canadiens and the Margie Gillis Dance Foundation. From 1986 to 1992 he worked closely with Nicholas Cernovitch, then resident lighting designer for both Montreal companies. Lavoie has taught scenography at the Ecole Supérieure de danse du Québec and at the Ateliers de Danse Moderne de Montreal, and he has trained dance stage managers at Banff for many summers. Lavoie has been working as a stage manager and lighting designer for Coleman & Lemieux for the past three years.

## JEAN PHILIPPE TRÉPANIÉ

Jean Philippe has put his mastery of lighting technique to the service of New Dance, creating the lighting for over 200 dance productions. He has made luminous contributions to companies such as O Vertigo, Fortier Danse Création and Montréal Danse, and for independent choreographers such as William Douglas, José Navas, Daniel Léveillé, Joe Laughlin, Bill Coleman, Laurence Lemieux and numerous others. In 1992, the Canada Council awarded Jean Philippe the Jacqueline Lemieux Prize as well as a travel grant, which permitted him to go to the United States and Europe for an extended period of research. Jean Philippe is currently the technical director for the Scotiabank Dance Centre, and is working on different projects with companies across the country.

COLEMAN LEMIEUX & COMPAGNIE is funded by:  
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**BIOGRAPHIES**

**LAURENCE LEMIEUX**

Born in Quebec City, Laurence Lemieux received her training at the School of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens in Montreal, and at the School of the Toronto Dance Theatre. In 1986 she joined the Toronto Dance Theatre and danced in the works of David Earle, Peter Randazzo, Patricia Beatty, and Christopher House. During her years at Toronto Dance Theatre (1986-1994), while teaching in the School's professional program, Lemieux choreographed and presented her own work. *Crosswalk*, a haunting minimalist solo she performed at the Canada Dance Festival in 1994, typified what has become her choreographic trademark: a gentle nostalgia offering subtle glimpses into her past. *Amber Silence*, *La Mer*, *Les Limbes*, *Déserteurs* and *Nuit de la St-Jean*, all delve into the realm of memory and deliver a mysterious atmosphere and evocative mixture of characters. In 1997, she choreographed *Hiver Dernier* for Toronto Dance Theatre, and created a group work as part of a choreographic lab with Peter Boneham for Toronto's Dancemakers. Laurence has also danced for James Kudelka, Margie Gillis, Tere O'Connor, William Douglas, Benoit Lachambre, Bill Coleman, and Jean-Pierre Perreault. In 1998, she performed *Cryptoversa*, a solo created by Christopher House, at the 1998 *Dancers for Life* event, for which she won a Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding Dance Performance. In January 2001 *Over Lockerbie*, a solo commissioned by dancer/choreographer Michael Trent, premiered at Artword Theatre in Toronto, and her dance work *Novembre* premiered in New York City, in September 2001. Her latest work, *Varenka*, *Varenka!* premiered in Montreal in January 2003.

**BILL COLEMAN**

Born in Berwick, Nova Scotia in 1961, Bill Coleman studied dance at the Doreen Bird School of Dance in London. His professional career started in 1979 with Sir Anton Dolin of the Dublin City Ballet. Since then, Bill has created over 50 works and performed with Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane & Co., Tere O'Connor Dance, Wiesbaden Ballet, Toronto Dance Theatre, The Martha Graham Dance Company, William Douglas Dance, Jean-Pierre Perreault and others. In New York in 1988, he received the Jerome Foundation's First Light Award for *Baryshnikov: The Other Story*. His other works include: *Zorro* (nominated for a Dora Mavor Moore Award); *Shane*, *Glory Days*, *Monsters Midway* ("a sideshow to inspire laughter and tears ... a drug-induced dream choreographed by Fellini," according to the Toronto Star) and *Heartland*, a solo which inspired the filmmaker Laura Taler to create a documentary on Coleman's work and life. *Heartland*, the film, was awarded Best Dance Film at the Toronto Moving Pictures Festival of Dance on

Film and Video, and Best Experimental Film at Toronto's HOT DOCS. Bill has also been commissioned to create dances for Toronto Dance Theatre, Dancemakers, Canadian Children's Dance Theatre, Balletworks of New York, and the solo artist Felicia Norton. Coleman regularly collaborates with diverse groups and communities in the creation of one-of-a-kind theatrical events. These have included working with the Ojibway community of Heron Bay, the International Trade Club of Toronto, Pedahbun Lodge Residential Addiction Treatment Centre, and various schools. In 1996, Coleman created *Welcome Back, Buffalo Bill*, a three-act wild west show with Vietnam veteran and pow wow dancer Boye Ladd. His latest work, *Convoy PQ. 17* premiered in St-Petersburg, Russia August 31, 2001 and is the subject of the Russian documentary film 'Letter to a friend'. Bill's work has been presented in Scotland, Italy, Singapore, and Russia, throughout the United States and Canada, and most notably, Peterborough, Ontario. He is the recipient of the 2002 Jacqueline Lemieux Award from the Canada Council for the Arts.

#### VLADIMIR SIDOROV

Vladimir Sidorov was born in Volgograd, Russia in 1970. The concert bayanist graduated first in his class with a Master's Degree in Music from the Astrakhan State Conservatory (Russia), in 1994. He was one of only three music students graduating that year, to be granted the designation of "concert performer". As a young student of music, Vladimir competed in and won top prizes at local and regional bayan competitions. He is a 1993 laureate of a Bayan Competition organized by all of the Russian Conservatories and held in Astrakhan. He gained international exposure when he was invited to give recitals in Hungary, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in 1997. Vladimir Sidorov's repertoire ranges from classical to contemporary and includes his personal interpretations. Many of the works he plays are his own transcriptions written for the bayan. In addition to performing solo, Vladimir has played with various ensembles in Russia and Canada. His goal is to promote the Russian school of bayan in the West and to demonstrate the vast potential of the bayan as a serious concert instrument.

#### DAVID GAUCHER

Since 1987 David Gaucher has participated in numerous productions in Montreal for the cinema and the stage. David works mainly with contemporary authors such as Michel Tremblay, Brad Fraser and David Mamet. He is well known in Montreal for pushing the limits of exciting theatrical and technical boundaries in an innovative fashion. In 1994 his extravagant set design for *Ubu Roi* by Alfred Jarry won him a "prix du public" for best scenic design and an invitation to the 1995 Prague Quadrennial. In 1996 he designed the set of the world premiere of the opera *Kafka's*

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Artistic Producer Bill Kimball

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## Peterborough New Dance Upcoming Events

Ecstatic Dance Workshop with Barbara Dametto \$8

Saturday Feb 15 2:30-5pm St. John's Anglican Church 99 Brock Street

Freetong Players from Sierra Leone

March 9, 8:00 pm Showplace Peterborough

COBA (Collective of Black Artists)

March 21, 8:00 pm Showplace Peterborough

Emergency Eleven

March 26-29 Market Hall Theatre

For more info,  
reservations, etc.

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Ongoing:

Intermediate Modern Dance Classes with Penelope Thomas and percussionists  
Kirsten Addis and Brian Sanderson. Wednesdays 5:30-7St. John's Anglican Church,  
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