

National Ballet of Canada
470 Queens Quay West
Toronto, Ontario
M5V 2Y3

November 29, 2011

Dear participant,

Dance is an ephemeral and intangible art form and it is therefore a challenge to preserve it. By researching new ways of documenting dance we learn how to better capture the important contribution dancers have made to Canada's cultural life.

We are looking for volunteers to participate in a recorded 15 minute long interview that will be used to establish an audio archive. We will ask dancers to speak out loud what they are thinking during a specific scene of *The Nutcracker*. We aim to capture a different angle of a dancer's artistic process and artists' unique voices. In addition, we hope to use the recordings to create a musical study of how dance relates to music.

In return, your work will be preserved in the National Ballet of Canada archive and at Dance Collection Danse, Canada's national dance archive and publisher. We are also volunteering to learn how to better support dance research, and we greatly appreciate your participation. If we receive funding for our project, we will commit to compensating you for your time.

Mitch Renaud and Carlyne Clare are the main researchers launching this project. Mitch is a composer whose works have been presented in various venues around Toronto. His work engages with the intersection points between the arts and is uses intermedia means to realize these works. He is active as a concert organizer and has collaborated with local poet Lara Bozabalian on multiple projects.

Carlyne is an archivist with Dance Collection Danse and has also worked on archival projects for the New York Public Library of the Performing Arts, Alvin Ailey Archive, La Fondation Jean-Pierre Perreault, and Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. She has presented her research on modern dance and First Nation's dance archiving at academic conferences in Canada and the USA. She has also performed in 135 showings of the Nutcracker with Ballet Ovest de Montreal and Les Grands Ballets Canadiens.

If you are interested in participating in an interview please express your interest at carolyneclare@gmail.com. We will arrange to conduct the interviews at mutually convenient location.

Thank you for your consideration.
Best regards,
Carolyne Clare and Mitch Renaud