

Chorale Chorale Chorale Chorale

**A dance floor
lit up by
20 performers**

Film

29 minutes

SYLVAIN ÉMARD **DAN SE**



In the intriguing ambience of a nightclub, 20 dancers move to the rhythm of vibrant music, transfixed in a spellbinding ritual. Hands brush against each other, eyes meet, bodies swirl, embrace, merge together and separate in a collective momentum alternating between introspection and exaltation. The performers simultaneously transmit the raw, vital pleasure of dance to both the audience and each other.

Chorale bears witness to an evolving microcosm, swept up in a mass movement that is impossible to ignore. The trance-like state of the dancers shines through in this film-event, capturing their every movement at every turn.

Fascinated by night clubs and dance halls, Sylvain Émard created Rhapsodie, in 2022, a hypnotic tribute to dance as a visceral, instinctive, and liberating force that unfolds like a mantra. With Chorale, he has immortalized the dance piece on film.

Chorale

Director's statement

Chorale is a vortex, a space-time where only dance matters. The idea was to create a transcendent cinematic adaptation through an unrelenting rhythm and an immersive experience. At times, the camera weaves through the bodies, as if the spectator were part of them; at others, it rises to observe the group, revealing the characteristics of this new living organism made up of 20 “atoms.” The camera is in constant motion, gravitating around this collective, striving to understand and grasp it. We seek to de-mystify the connections that bind these particles, to enter their intimacy, to sketch their individuality and dissonances. Yet, through the pulses of music and light, it is always the strength of the collective that prevails. Is this trance endless?

Sandrick Mathurin



DIRECTOR

Sandrick Mathurin



Producer, director, in addition to being a photographer and cinematographer, Sandrick Mathurin has created more than a hundred videos for the cultural milieu. A graduate in communications – interactive media at Université du Québec à Montréal, he has signed for numerous trailers, videos of shows, documentaries and fictions. Known as a versatile creator sensitive to the needs of the artists, he strives to find the best narratives in order to craft stories that resonate with audiences.

From March to December 2013, his video project *Polarisations* adorned the architectural surface of the Grande Bibliothèque (BAnQ). His latest fiction short film *Décroche*, co-directed with Ludovic L'Heureux Devinat, has been screened at several international festivals. It was awarded for best North American short film award and for best male performance at the 2019 UK Short Film Festival.

CHOREOGRAPHER

Sylvain Émard



A major figure in Québec contemporary dance, Sylvain Émard founded his company, Sylvain Émard Danse, in 1990. From small forms to monumental pieces, from immersive installations to films, he explores the territory of human nature through the power of the body, creating some thirty works, presented on four continents.

A sensitive, rigorous, and inventive creator, he navigates with ease between different artistic spheres, as seen notably in his collaboration with Robert Lepage. Recipient of several prestigious distinctions, including the Jean A. Chalmers Award (1996) for his body of work and the Governor General's Performing Arts Award (2026), Sylvain Émard is also a co-founder of Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique.

Calendar

2025	DEC	Athens Video Dance Project [online], Athens, Greece
	NOV – DEC	InShadow Festival [exhibited as an installation], Lisbon, Portugal
	OCT	Inspired Dance Film Festival [online], Surry Hills, Australia
		The Plaza Theatre, Wilddogs International Screendance Festival, Calgary, Canada
	AUG	Independent Shorts Awards, August edition, Los Angeles, United States
		Indie Short Fest, August edition, Los Angeles, United States
	MARCH	Théâtre Outremont, La Nuit de la danse, International Festival of Films on Art (Le FIFA), Montréal, Canada
		WORLD PREMIÈRE, Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec, Festival of Films on Art (Le FIFA), Québec, Canada



● Watch the clip

● Watch the film

Awards

2025 Silver award for Best Screendance short, Independent Shorts Awards, August edition, Los Angeles, United States

Outstanding Achievement Award (screendance short) Indie Short Fest, August edition, Los Angeles, United States

Credits

ORIGINAL IDEA AND CHOREOGRAPHER Sylvain Émard

DIRECTOR Sandrick Mathurin

DANCERS Lou Amsellem, Sophie Breton, Charles Cardin-Bourbeau, Matéo Chauchat, Félix Cossette, Marilyne Cyr, Marie-Michelle Darveau, José Flores, Mathieu Hérard, Christopher LaPlante, Alexandre Morin, Erin O'Loughlin, Matthew Quigley, Raphaëlle Renucci, François Richard, Cara Roy, Mark Sampson, Marie-Philippe Santerre, Lila-Mae Talbot, Camille Trudel-Vigeant

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY Kes Tagney

LIGHTING DESIGN Sandrick Mathurin & Yann Lo Bono

EDITING Sandrick Mathurin

ORIGINAL SCORE Martin Tétreault & Poirier

COSTUMES Marilène Bastien

1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Yann Lo Bono

REHEARSAL COACH Kyra Jean Green

SOUND DESIGN Réservoir Audio

A production of Sylvain Émard Danse with the participation of Albédo.

With the support of Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec.



BIOGRAPHIES

COMPOSERS

Poirier

© Brun Destombes



A specialist in warm, electronic music, Canadian singer-songwriter / DJ / producer Poirier has had a prolific career with 12 albums in 25 years, including *Quiet Revolution* in 2024. An iconic figure on the Montréal and international scenes, his albums have been released by the record labels Ninja Tune and Wonderwheel Recordings. In 2016 he composed the music for the film *Boris sans Béatrice* by Denis Côté. After co-composing the music for Sylvain Émard's *Rhapsodie*, he wrote all the music for Sylvain's most recent creation *Magnetic Fields*.

Martin Tétreault



Martin Tétreault's began his career by composing the soundtrack for the theatre play *Tentations de Saint-Antoine* in 1985. His sound collage received a warm welcome, prompting him to continue experimenting, which led to his first solo performance in 1988. He then joined the Ambiances Magnétiques collective, and began collaborating with several presenters and music artists the world over. He developed an affinity with dance after working with Lynda Gaudreau, which led to projects with Hélène Blackburn and Sylvain Émard. He has also been involved in the visual arts for the past three decades.

COSTUMES

Marilène Bastien

© Laurie Dupuis



Marilène Bastien works as a set and costume designer. Contemporary dance is her preferred playground, and she has worked with several renowned choreographers, including Sylvain Émard (*Magnetic Fields*, *Choir*, *Rhapsodie*, *Preludes*). She has also been a costume designer for the Cirque du Soleil and the Cirque Éloize. Her work in opera includes productions presented in France (Limoges and St. Étienne) and in Québec City. She has worked in the theatre with the directors Nini Bélanger and Benoît Landry, and in 2015 was chosen as the protégée of Siminovitch Prize winner Anick La Bissonnière.

DANCERS

Lou Amsellem



After eight years as a competitive gymnast, the Montréal native Lou Amsellem discovered dance, studying hip-hop, tap dance, jazz and contemporary dance at Louise Lapierre Danse. In 2021 she graduated from the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal, where she worked with choreographers like Riley Sims, Heidi Strauss, Sébastien Provencher and Virginie Brunelle. In 2022 she joined Sylvain Émard Danse, and the following year performed with Daniel Léveillé Danse. Since 2018 she has been imparting her passion for dance by teaching in several schools.

Sophie Breton



© Jimmi Francoeur

Sophie Breton graduated from the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal in 2008. She then went on to work with choreographers such as Isabelle Van Grimde, Alan Lake, Frédéric Marier, Thierry Huard and Sasha Kleinplatz, in addition to being assistant director for Ginelle Chagnon, staging excerpts from dance works by Jean-Pierre Perreault. In 2012 she joined O Vertigo as a dancer for three years. She currently works with Virginie Brunelle, Sylvain Émard and Jacques Poulin-Denis.

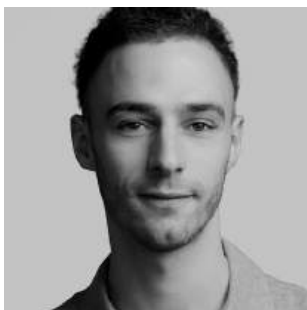
Charles Cardin-Bourbeau



© Jonathan Malenfant

Charles Cardin-Bourbeau was born in Whitehorse, Yukon, and completed his professional dance training at The School of Dance in Ottawa in 2013. That same year he joined Compagnie ODD, and from 2014 to 2016 was a performer with O Vertigo, directed by Ginette Laurin. He then danced with Compagnie Marie Chouinard from 2016 to 2018. Since then, he has worked with various dance and theatre companies. He has been with Émard Danse since 2020.

Matéo Chauchat



© Sylvie-Ann Paré

Matéo Chauchat is a contemporary dance artist and a cultural worker based in Montréal. After graduating from the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal in 2017, he worked with renowned choreographers like Martin Messier and Sylvain Émard. Since 2016, he has played an active role in creative projects and intergenerational cultural outreach activities by the artist Sarah Dell'Ava. In 2022, he joined the dance label CAPAS · Label de danse as a production manager, putting his expertise at the service of various productions and dance companies.

Félix Cossette



© Philippe Provancher

A 2014 graduate of the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal, Félix Cossette began his career at Destins Croisés, performing in *Loops*, *Liens*, et *Phenomena*, and was then part of the research process at Van Grimde Corps Secrets in projects like *Eve 2050* and *Mutations*. He also worked with Sylvain Émard Danse on the ensemble pieces *Preludes* and *Rhapsodie*, where the intrinsic force of the group evolves as a mass movement takes shape. After a lengthy respite following the school project *Sëlekt*, Félix plunged back into dance, working with Jacques Poulin-Denis and Grand Poney in the production *ON/OFF*.

Marilyne Cyr



© Hugo B. Lefort

Marilyne Cyr completed her training at the École supérieure de ballet du Québec in 2014, and went on to perform with RUBBERBAND, Andrea Peña & Artists, Ampleman Danse, Compagnie Marie Chouinard, Ballet Ouest de Montréal, Les 7 doigts de la main, Sylvain Émard Danse and Rhodnie Désir Créations. She has also collaborated with several emerging choreographers on the Montréal dance scene. She currently works as a performer and assistant choreographer for Andrew Skeels and PPS Danse, and also with Janie et Marcio.

Marie-Michelle Darveau



© Marie-Ève Dion

A native of Berthierville, Marie-Michelle graduated from The School of Dance in 2014. She is an established dancer, teacher, choreographer and cultural worker, and actively involved in the contemporary dance milieu, working with Janie et Marcio, Sylvain Émard Danse, Sinha Danse and Vanessa Brazeau. Her desire to diversify her stage experience has led her to perform at events, festivals, galas and on television, notably the television dance competition *Révolution*, season 4. Marie-Michelle also serves as dance development agent for Diffusion Hector-Charland, where she is in charge of the audience development project Pôle Territoire Danse.

José Flores



© Marie-Ève Dion

A 2017 graduate of the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal, José Flores, co-founder of the CORPUS Collective, directed the short film *RESURGO*. He is currently working on a stage version of the film, collaborating with the dance companies Bouge de là and Andrew Skeels Danse. He has performed over the past few years in diverse productions – *Saturday Night Fever*, *Mamma Mia* and *Annie* – to name but a few. He has worked with several dance companies and choreographers, including Ismaël Mouaraki, Virginie Brunelle, Harold Rhéaume, Sylvain Émard, La Tresse and Trip the Light Fantastic.

Mathieu Hérard



© Paola Valerio

Mathieu Hérard grew up in eastern France, and was introduced to the world of theatre at an early age, and to the visual arts. Eager to pursue professional training in the arts, he began his career at the Conservatoire de Strasbourg, after which he studied at the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal. In 2024 he performed at the FTA and at Tanzmesse with Sébastien Provencher, and danced for Sylvain Émard in many of his works. Motivated by humour and a desire to build bridges between dance and theatre, Mathieu recently created his first piece, *Mon Horoscope me trouve laide*.

Christopher LaPlante



© Raphael Xavier

Born and raised in Minnesota, Christopher LaPlante studied dance and began his professional career there. He performed with TU Dance before moving to Brooklyn to work with Raphael Xavier, an artist based in Philadelphia. He has been a dancer with Sylvain Émard Danse since 2019 (*Rhapsodie, Preludes, Choir, Chorale, Magnetic Fields*).

Alexandre Morin



© Hamza Abouelouafaa

A choreographer, dancer and teacher, Alexandre Morin is a graduate of the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal. As a performer he has danced for Sylvain Émard, Dominique Porte, Marie Chouinard, Sébastien Provencher and Chantal Caron. The 2023-2024 season was a decisive one for his company Other Animals, with presentations of *Anatomie d'un moteur* and *Cutting Through the Noise* at Agora de la danse, not to mention *Plasticity/Desires*, co-presented by MAI (Montréal, arts interculturels) and La Chapelle scènes contemporaines.

Erin O'Loughlin



© Valérie Boulet

Erin O'Loughlin is a performer, choreographer and teacher. She performs and tours nationally and internationally with the companies and choreographers Andrea Peña & Artists, Sylvain Émard, Margie Gillis and Parts+Labour_Danse. Alongside her co-creators, Erin has been creating and performing diverse works with La Tresse since 2014. She has taught dance at McGill University, École de danse de Québec and the Regroupement québécois de la danse, and has a B.A. in dance and international relations from the University of Calgary.

Matthew Quigley

© Aaron Jay Young



Matthew Quigley is a dancer and creative artist based in Montréal. He studied at the National Ballet of Canada, followed by further studies at the Juilliard School, where he obtained a B.A. in 2019. He worked in New York performing with the Stephanie Batten Bland company. In Montréal he has worked with La Tresse and with Sylvain Émard. He is also an active choreographer and recently presented his pieces *Dino* at Festival Quartiers Danses, and *Stagnantine* at Tangente as part of its LABdiff program.

Raphaëlle Renucci

© Stéphanie Brochard



Trained in classical music from an early age (cello and piano), Raphaëlle Renucci made the leap to dance, graduating from the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal in 2018. Since then, she has been working as a dancer and as a musician with diverse artists and companies such as Cirque du Soleil, Compagnie de danse Sursaut, Sylvain Émard Danse and others. Raphaëlle is also developing her circus arts skills, and works as a rehearsal director and assistant choreographer with various artists and on multidisciplinary projects. She has been a choreographer for the EXIT 505 troupe at Cégep du Vieux Montréal since 2023.

François Richard

© Bobby Leon



Born in Moncton, François Richard began his dance training at DancEast Dance Centre, followed by studies at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School. He has danced for several companies, notably Andrea Peña & Artists, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens and Atlantic Ballet of Canada. He was named best performer for his solo show *Je, Sans-Titre* at Festival Quartier Danses in Montréal, and also won the award for best choreography at the Hong Kong International Choreography Festival in 2018. François continues to pursue an active career as a performing artist in Montréal.

Cara Roy

© Ariane Faméart



Cara Roy is a contemporary dance artist based in Montréal. Born and raised in New Brunswick, she studied dance at the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal and then worked as a performer in a number of projects with Hélène Remoué, Sarah Dell'Ava, Lucy Fandel, Sylvain Émard and Isabelle Van Grimde. Cara also acts as a cultural facilitator for diverse communities, working with Tangente, Berceurs du temps, PPS Danse, Danse Carpe Diem, Théâtre aux Écuries, Corpuscule Danse, Espace Oriri, Agora de la danse, Estelle Claretton and Bouge de là.

Mark Sampson

© Jeffrey Rosenberg



Mark Sampson is an independent dancer and choreographer based in Montréal. Originally from Prince Edward Island, he studied with the National Ballet of Canada, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School and at the Juilliard School, where he received the Martha Hill Award. He has performed with BJM and Gauthier Dance, and in works by Ohad Naharin, Hofesh Shechter, Merce Cunningham, Aszure Barton, Virginie Brunelle, Sylvain Émard, Andonis Foniadakis and Sasha Waltz. Mark has presented his own choreographies at the Juilliard School and at Tangente.

Marie-Philippe Santerre

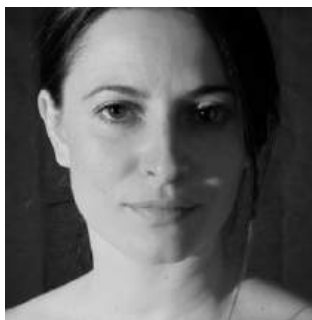
© Justine Latour



Marie-Philippe Santerre completed her B.A. in dance performance at the Université du Québec à Montréal in 2013. She promptly began working as a performer with choreographers like Sébastien Provencher, Helen Simard and Geneviève Jean-Bindley. She also danced and co-created various projects with Dans son salon. More recently, she danced for Sylvain Émard, Catherine Gaudet and Amélie Rajotte in different projects presented in Montréal and abroad, and has started to work on collaborations with Charles Cardin-Bourbeau, Alexandre Morin and Mille feux.

Lila-Mae Talbot

© Jean Soreil



Lila-Mae Talbot began her dance career at Grands Ballets Canadiens. She went on to work with RUBBERBAND for several years. At the same time, she collaborated with Declage Company in England, participated in the ImPulsTanz festival in Vienna and performed in Robert Lepage's opera *The Tempest*, choreographed by Crystal Pite. In recent years she has danced in productions by Andrew Skeels, Karine Ledoyen, Harold Rhéaume, PPS Danse, L'Illusion, Théâtre de marionnettes and Sylvain Émard, and also in reprises of works by Françoise Sullivan and Françoise Riopelle.

Camille Trudel-Vigeant

© Marie-Ève Dion



A 2017 graduate of the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal, Camille Trudel-Vigeant is an artist interested in blending different cultures into her art. That led her to work with the choreographer Ariana Pilar Sanchez on two pieces that incorporate traditional and contemporary dance: *Deux solitudes dans une même présence* and *Sérénades*. Camille has worked with Sylvain Émard since 2019 on two new works: *Preludes* presented in summer 2021, and *Rhapsodie*, presented at Danse Danse in 2022 and on a tour of Québec in 2024.

**The dancing
body does
not lie,
and truth
is too
rare to
be ignored.**

**S.É
D**

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