



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CANADA DANCE FESTIVAL

May 3<sup>d</sup> 2007

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## Breakin' it down – HIP HOP 360 Revealed!

Event Dates / June 19 - 23 2007

[www.canadadance.ca](http://www.canadadance.ca)

Tickets on Sale NOW

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OTTAWA, ON (May 3, 2007) — Canada's leading presenter of contemporary dance, the Canada Dance Festival (CDF) will break with tradition this summer with its first thematic event, *HIP HOP 360*, set to ignite the streets of Ottawa/Gatineau from June 19-23, 2007. The hip hop convergence is a five-day **national / cross-cultural / multi-arts gathering of youth** involved in the dance, music, rap and graffiti art that encompasses the hip hop community.

Live at the National Arts Centre and at various outdoor locations in the Ottawa-Gatineau region, audiences will be rocked by the gravity-defying skills of over 50 professional and emerging breakers (breakdancers) from across the country.

Headlining the ground-breaking event on Wednesday June 20<sup>th</sup> 2007 will be a performance by Montreal's world-renowned Rubberbanddance Group (RBDG). RBDG is famous for its ability to fuse the urban energetic style of bboying (breakdancing) together with the disciplined technique of contemporary ballet. The intricate balance between both ingredients culminates in a perfect union of street and stage performance, which will inevitably serve as the artistic bridge for HIP HOP 360, uniting aficionados of concert dance with the real artists and advocates of street culture.

Thursday and Friday, the style of performance transform into non-stop expressions of power, respect, and attitude as the seven invited bboy/bgirl crews from across Canada take to the stage at the National Arts Centre in our Bboy/Bgirl showcases. On Thursday June 21<sup>st</sup>, the spotlight will shine on Toronto's popular bboy trio, Bag of Trix; whose style and bboy delivery is as diverse as the crew members' cultural backgrounds. Following their lead, we meet the fierce but fun energy of Ottawa's all bgirl crew, DeCypher Cru along with the strength and daring acrobatics of a Montreal hybrid crew, Illmask. At the closing of the Thursday night showcase, audiences will witness the power of Edmonton's Freshly Squeezed, an all aboriginal crew known for the way they infuse traditional dance with bboy footwork, tricks and combinations.

On Friday June 22<sup>nd</sup>, the vibe kicks off with the oldest and one of the most respected crews in Canada, The Canadian Floor Masters, joined by their friends and counterparts, the Funk Thieves. Holding down the middle of Friday's showcase will be Newfoundland's first bboy crew, East Rock Crew. The focus then navigates to the opposite end of the country when audiences get energized by the raw energetic stylings of Vancouver's Dead Reckoning Crew.

However, HIP HOP 360 is not just a show but an opportunity to celebrate and experience the explosive power of the hip hop phenomenon. Ottawa should be prepared for so much more than the hype performances at the National Arts Centre, including:

- Advanced and Beginner bboy/bgirl (breakdance) workshops with the masters of the bboy/bgirl domain.
- Several "on the street" dance events that are free to the public.  
June 20, 21, 22 : Noon to 1 p.m.  
World Exchange Plaza, Canadian Museum of Civilization, Parliament Hill.
- House of PainT's 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary block party celebrating the four elements of hip hop culture (Graffiti Art, Bboy/Bgirl movement, MCing, and DJing)  
Free (Brewer Park/Dunbar Bridge)
- The Canadian Preview of the docu-film "Inside the Circle," which tells the story of two strikingly talented b-boys and how their lives are affected by the raw power of a grassroots hip-hop movement.

The Canada Dance Festival is proud to highlight breakdancing's place in the contemporary dance repertoire by acknowledging the technique, culture, and art inherent in its boundless movement and high-powered sound. Join the CDF this June as it ignites the spirit of hip hop culture by exposing the National Capital Region to the contagious electricity of bboying/bgirling!

Canadian Preview of "Inside the Circle" will be screened on Tuesday June 19<sup>th</sup> at Library and Archives Canada at 7:00 p.m. Tickets for the film screening are \$6 - \$9.

Rubberbandance Group performs in the Theatre of the National Arts Centre on Wednesday June 20 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$37.50/\$42.50 for adults and \$22.50 for students (upon presentation of a valid student ID card). Receive a \$5 discount on tickets purchased before May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Bboy/Bgirl Showcase #1 and Bboy/Bgirl Showcase #2 will be performed in the Studio of the National Arts Centre on Thursday June 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Showcase tickets are \$22.50 for adults and \$12.50 for students.

Packages of all four HIP HOP 360 shows are available at a 20% discount exclusively at the NAC box office.

Tickets are available at the NAC Box Office (in person) and through Ticketmaster (with surcharges) at (613) 755-1111 or online at [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca)

To register for dance workshops please call 613-947-7000 ext. 576  
For additional information, visit the Canada Dance Festival website at [www.canadadance.ca](http://www.canadadance.ca)

- 30 -

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