

MEDIA Release



★★★★ "Vertical Influences will blow your mind." – The Guardian (UK)

"A little revolution" - La Presse (Canada)

O'BRIEN GROUP ARENA DOCKLANDS SAT 15-SAT 22 OCTOBER (NO SHOW MONDAY)

Sat 15 & Sun 16 7.30pm Tue 18-Sat 22 6pm & 8pm

1 hr 10 mins, no interval \$59 / \$49 Students \$25

www.festival.melbourne #melbfest Dance // Canada

Australian Exclusive

VERTICAL INFLUENCES Le Patin Libre

Choreographers
Alexandre Hamel, Pascale Jodoin, Samory Ba, Jasmin Boivin
& Taylor Dilley

The subversive wit of street dance and the technical virtuosity of contemporary dance make a fine cocktail, but you've just got to try it on ice.

Canada's **Le Patin Libre** is the only company in the world to realise the possibilities opened up to contemporary dance when a pair of ice-skates enters the frame. The results will exhilarate this October as they make their Australian premiere as part of Melbourne Festival with **Vertical Influences**.

Five performers turn their backs on sequins and scorecards in favour of adrenaline-pumping athletics and theatrical sophistication. The breathtaking momentum of the skating body combined with the freedom of the choreographic imagination results in forms untethered by gravity, like lightning over a frozen lake.

Performing a special double bill, in *Influences* the performers play with how our body language can influence others, even with just a casual glance. In the second piece *Vertical*, audiences are invited to view the artists up close, with seating on the ice.

Le Patin Libre (free skate) is a contemporary ice skating company from Montréal, Canada. Founded in 2005 by ex high-level figure skaters, their new form of ice dancing pushes the boundaries way beyond the traditional confines. They formed with the intention of transforming their athleticism into a mean of free expression. Far from sparkles, stereotypes and champions' demos, the creations of Le Patin Libre propose real works of art exploiting the amazing choreographic and theatrical potential of glide.



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