"This Dance is for the World and the World is for Everyone"

Photo by Chris Van der Burght

Dear Friends of PS21,

At a moment when much of the world is cut off from direct encounters with bracing live performances, the Brussels-based Les Ballets C de la B's motto for their epic work *Requiem Pour L.*, "This dance is for the world and the world is for everyone," serves as a *cri de coeur*,
reminding us of art's unique gift for sustaining us in difficult times.

Although we have been forced to cancel Les Ballets C de la B's scheduled June performances of Requiem, we are in conversation with the company about possible future dates. Director Alain Platel and the entire company are eager to bring their extraordinary work to our theater, and we are determined to welcome them to PS21.

In Requiem pour L., Platel and composer Fabrizio Cassol have transformed Mozart's Requiem in D minor for our current moment, respecting the work's classical origins while interweaving elements of jazz, opera, Indian, and African popular music. Led by Congolese artist-musician Rodriguez Vangama, fifteen instrumentalists and singers trace an emotional gamut that begins in grief and mourning, then rises through meditation to a crescendo of joyous exaltation. This new Requiem is living proof of Cassol and Platel's profound insight: that hidden within every masterpiece are revelations for future ages.
To view an excerpt from a 2018 performance of *Requiem pour L.* at the Maillon Théâtre de Strasbourg, and enchanting rehearsal sequences of the company's *Coup Fatale*, play the video below.

As a bonus, here are recommendations from *The Guardian (UK)* for online performances you will enjoy. Among them are several short works by Samuel Beckett, including *Fragments*, performed by the incomparable Kathryn Hunter.
Beckett by Brook • Samuel Beckett • Peter Brook & Marie-Hélène Estienne

*The Guardian* also recommends the National Theatre broadcasts, which you can stream on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com) on Thursdays starting April 2.

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**PS21 Grounds Are Open: Come for a Walk in Nature!**
Our theaters are temporarily dark, but our magnificent fields and orchards are open to the public. While many of the local conservation areas are overcrowded with visitors, PS21's 100 acres of land offer an idyllic escape. Ramble along our gravel driveway and meander through our woods, apple orchards and open fields. Adjoining Chatham's Crellin Community Park, the opportunities for leisure and solitude are unlimited.

Many of you have asked how you can help PS21 as we confront financial losses due to COVID-19. Whatever your means, every contribution is gratefully received and put to prompt use toward the costs of our future performances.

Your gift will help sustain PS21 and our artists during this challenging time, so that we can continue to bring art and inspiration to our community when we are together again. Thank you for your support!
PS21’s presenting programs are made possible in part by

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