

The Institut français regularly organizes **Focus** and invites, with the French Cultural network, international professionals to discover the latest trends and artists of the French creation. During 4 days meetings between artists, professionals from the cultural field as well as from the local authorities, French and foreign programmers complete the performances program.

### **Why a Dance and Garden Focus ?**

Contemporary creations in gardens, parks, or remarkable monuments has considerably developed in recent years. From the Chamarande Domaine to the Plastic Dance Flore Festival in the Potager du Roi garden in Versailles, there are numerous examples of artists and works of live entertainment coming out of the stages to invest outdoor and natural spaces. Those performances, often light with less technical constraints, can reach a different audience.

On the occasion of the *Tours d'Horizon Festival* organized by the National choreographic of Tours, directed by Thomas Lebrun, the Institut français chose the opportunity to associate with the National choreographic center of Orleans directed by Maud Le Pladec as well as with the National Monument Center, within its program *Monuments in movement*, which each year propose to some artists – visual art as well as performing art – to create a piece for a specific historical monument or garden. The choice of the Centre-Val de Loire Region was quite obvious with its many outstanding gardens and castles.

### **The program**

Performances will take place in Tours and Orleans (two cities along the Loire River).

Two meetings will be held in Orleans

- . June 8 : meeting with 5 choreographer who work on the theme of dance and gardens
- . June 10 : professional meeting with some of the directors of *Nos lieux communs* network as well as with programmers from the Region Centre-Val de Loire

### **Practical arrangements**

The number of participants will not exceed 25 international programmers in order to facilitate discussions between the professionals and the artists. This Focus aims the following profiles :

1. Programmers developing – or that wish to develop – outdoor performances (gardens, parks, historical monuments, cloisters, city places etc..)
2. A wish to invite French choreographers within the next two years.
3. Programmers having already some links – or that wish to develop some links with French professionals or order to initiate new collaborations
4. The wish to invest original themes in order to promote performing art toward a new public

Could you please send us, before April 6<sup>th</sup> the following information:

- . a bio
- . a description of your theater/festival with the main axes
- . some examples of performances programmed (a focus or a theme etc..)
- . your expectations toward this Focus

The French Institute will confirm the invitation of the selected professionals once all files received before April 10, 2018. Teams may have a prior exchange with some of them. Selected programmers will be invited to register online between April 18 to 27, 2018).