

## BEIJING CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATER

*PRESS RELEASE*

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BEIJING CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATER  
ANNOUNCES PRODUCTION AND PREMIERE OF *PRISM*

June 23, 2009 (BEIJING)

Beijing Contemporary Dance Theater (BCDT) is in the process of creating an original dance work for the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. The new work *Prism* (棱镜) will premiere on August 28<sup>th</sup> at the People's Liberation Army Theater.

The Beijing Municipal Government has selected the performance by BCDT as one of only 12 performances for the official celebration of the anniversary. Of the 12 diverse artistic performances, only BCDT's involves the work of international artists.

The new work will feature three new modern dance pieces by three accomplished international guest choreographers: Nadine Thouin of Canada; Louise Midjord of Denmark; Pontus Lidberg of Sweden.

Ms. Thouin of Canada is well-known internationally for her bold and creative contemporary dance works. Her remarkable career includes work not only in dance but also in film, music, and drama. In 1999, Canadian embassies and consulates recognized her as a cultural ambassador to Asia. Her creation *Bone* (2002), the first multidisciplinary co-production between Canada and China, was the subject of a documentary film broadcast on Bravo TV which obtained the Jury's Prize at the Lincoln Center in New York as part of *Dance On Camera's* world tour and continues to be screened internationally. She has a long history of work in Asia and China. Her new work will be titled *White*. Her website is [www.go-on.ca](http://www.go-on.ca)

Ms. Midjord of the Royal Danish Ballet brings a strong background in classical ballet. She has a rich repertoire, and has won high awards at many international dance festivals. Her creative works have won her a place as an important artist in the contemporary dance scene in Europe. Her piece will be called *Map of Me (and You)*.

Mr. Lidberg brings a strong sense of lyricism with dance movements at once sensitive and precise, bringing together the charms of classical ballet and modern dance. He works in film as well, and amongst his best-known works is *Rain* (2007), for which he has received numerous awards around the world, including an "Outstanding Achievement in Choreography for Film" at the Dance Media Honors in Los Angeles and "Best Film" at the London International Dance Film Festival. Mr. Lidberg's contribution is entitled *Luminous*. His website is [www.lidberg.se/pontus](http://www.lidberg.se/pontus)

The three new works together will comprise *Prism*—a three-sided glass which refracts white light, breaking it into a spectrum of colors.

The collaboration over the summer, culminating in the performance on August 28, marks the first annual international collaboration for the brand new Beijing Contemporary Dance Theater. Though the dance company performed its first piece in December 2008, it already boasts a rich repertoire of 5 pieces and is happy to be working together with a truly global creative team so early in its existence.

“This exchange offers a fantastic learning opportunity for both sides,” says Artistic Director of the BCDT Wang Yuanyuan. “The bringing together of such talented choreographers from Europe and North America with our Chinese dancers and crew allows all of us to learn from one another. A prism also suggests seeing things from different angles, and we hope in our creative expressions and processes we can help each other see from the other side. The arts can serve as great diplomacy—a direct field for understanding and compassion between peoples.”

*Prism* will be performed from August 28 – 29 at the People’s Liberation Army Theater.

Beijing Contemporary Dance Theater was formed in April 2008 with its opening performance of *Diary of Empty Space* playing at the Tianqiao Theater in December 2008. As the first troupe of contemporary ballet in China, the Beijing Contemporary Dance Theater brings together the veteran talents of Wang Yuanyuan (Artistic Director and Choreographer); Tan Shaoyuan (Set Design); and Han Jiang (Lighting Design).

Complete and up-to-date information about the company in English and Chinese can be found at [www.bjcdt.org](http://www.bjcdt.org)

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### Upcoming Performances

*August 28 - 29*

#### **Modern Dance & Ballet: Prism (棱镜)**

The Beijing Contemporary Dance Theater presents three original dance works by accomplished international choreographers from Canada, Denmark, and Sweden. Tickets at 6417.7845 or [www.piao.com.cn](http://www.piao.com.cn). RMB 100 - 580; student tickets at RMB 50. 7:30 PM PLA Theater. More info at [www.bjcdt.org](http://www.bjcdt.org).