



# LE PATIN LIBRE

## MURMURATION

**CHOREOGRAPHY** Samory Ba, Alexandre Hamel, Pascale Jodoin

**PERFORMERS** Haley Alcock, Samory Ba, David Billiau, Taylor Dilley, Jennifer Edwards, Alexandre Hamel, Pauline Irman, Pascale Jodoin, Melanie Kajanne Källström, Isaac Alan Lindy, Kristýna Mikulášová, Maude Poulin, Oktawia Ścibior, Bethann Weick

**LIGHTING DESIGN** Yoann Tivoli

**MUSIC** Philippe Le Bon, Jasmin Boivin

**COSTUMERS** Charlyne Guay, Pascale Jodoin

**PRODUCTION DIRECTOR** Pascale Jodoin

**ARTISTIC ADVISOR** Yaron Lifschitz

**A CO-PRODUCTION WITH** National Creation Fund of the National Arts Centre, CanDance Creation Fund, Danse Danse, National Arts Centre, Dance House, Fall for Dance North and TO Live, La Rotonde and Théâtre de la Ville de Paris

**WITH SUPPORT FROM** Canada Council for the Arts, Conseil des arts et lettres du Québec, Conseil des arts de Montréal, Dance North Scotland, Le Dôme ice rink (Laon, France), Le Blizz ice rink (Rennes, France), City of Baie-Saint-Paul

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Penn Ice Rink

Friday, December 13 @ 7:30 PM

Saturday, December 14 @ 7:30 PM

There will be no intermission.

Support for Le Patin Libre on tour has been provided by the Canada Council for the Arts and the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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### **Le Patin Libre**

Founded in 2005 by competitive skaters looking to break free from the world of sparkles and medals, Le Patin Libre reimagines the traditional ice show with a contemporary twist. The company's first two works for five skaters, *Vertical Influences* (2014) and *Threshold* (2018), received critical acclaim, captivating audiences at art festivals, national stages and even winter carnivals. Le Patin Libre's style, defined by speed, virtuosity and seamless choreography, is both sophisticated and accessible, delighting, provoking and inspiring in equal measure.

### **Haley Alcock** (Performer)

Alcock is an ice dancer and micrometeorologist based in Montréal, Canada. After a decade-long hiatus from figure skating, Alcock was thrilled to rediscover their love for the ice through contemporary skating. Alcock joined Le Patin Libre in 2021. Alcock holds a BS and MS in atmospheric science from McGill University. A data scientist by day, they work at the University of Montréal researching how rapidly changing boreal forest, peatland and tundra ecosystems function as an integral part of the climate system.

### **Samory Ba** (Choreographer, Performer)

Ba is a skating-artist based in Paris, France. Formerly trained as a figure skater, he competed nationally and internationally for over 10 years. He then pursued a career as a professional skater, performing leading roles within several major "On Ice" productions. In 2010, after five years spent in the industry, Ba was interested in exploring skating as an artistically relevant art form rather than a popular entertainment, and he decided to quit his career to join Le Patin Libre. Ba has been exclusively involved with the company ever since. He is considered as one of Le Patin Libre's founding members.

### **David Billiau** (Performer)

Billiau is a skating-artist from Armentières, France. Billiau trained as a mechanic before discovering ice skating at the age of 18, after which he began practicing freestyle on his own. Those years of practice allowed him to present personal artistic research and short performances throughout France. In 2018, he met and auditioned for Le Patin Libre. He has performed in *Murmuration* since its premiere in 2022.

### **Taylor Dilley** (Performer)

Captivated by gliding and a member of Le Patin Libre since 2011, Dilley is proud to have been a creative part of several of the company's wide-touring productions. Previously, Dilley competed as an ice dancer and martial artist and worked with the National Ice Theatre of Canada. The movement discipline of all those practices clearly shaped his distinctive skating style. His current projects include exploring the modern performance potential of rock climbing and cofounding the Outdoor Artist Collective, which is spearheading an arts festival in northern British Columbia. Dilley believes sharing the things you love with your community has the power to uplift.

**Jenn Edwards** (Performer)

Edwards is a contemporary dance and skating artist/educator based in Labrador, Canada. Originally from Vancouver, she was a competitive figure skater before earning a BFA in dance from Simon Fraser University. She has danced in works by Flowmotion Dance Company, Tauschföhlung, Polynomials and Valence Movement, among others. Her choreography has been presented at festivals and mixed programs such as Dance: Made in Canada, Fusion Festival (Berlin), 12 Minutes Max and Vines Art Festival. Edwards also plays keys in an alt rock band, Ptarmageddon, and writes for *Dance International Magazine*. She was thrilled to join Le Patin Libre in 2018.

**Alexandre Hamel** (Artistic Director, Choreographer, Performer)

Hamel originally trained as a traditional figure skater. He competed on the international circuit, was once on Canadian championship podiums and accumulated a few provincial champion titles. He also skated professionally for Disney On Ice. He founded Le Patin Libre in 2005, desiring to use his passion for skating outside the constraints of competition and "On Ice" show-business. In the company, he holds several roles: artistic director, choreographer and performer. He is very committed to the importance of sharing contemporary performing arts with general audiences. Hamel is also successful as a documentary filmmaker, having won awards and been presented at film festivals in several countries.

**Pauline Irman** (Performer)

Irman was born in Geneva, Switzerland. Since the age of eight, she knew that she would grow on the ice and thrive through figure skating. Some 15 years later, here they are, her and her skates, crisscrossing the world accompanied by companions pursuing a common vocation. She aims to discover what this art still has to offer, inspire others to follow their heart and share her deepest values. In that way, she combines three of her main passions: travel, human connection and expression through movement!

**Pascale Jodoin** (Choreographer, Costumer, Production Director, Performer)

Jodoin originally trained as a traditional figure skater. She avoided a large part of the formatting imposed on young figure skating ladies because of her free-spirited attitude. She joined Le Patin Libre in 2009 after seeing a performance, auditioning, participating in workshops offered by the founding artists and dancing in underground ice parties organized by the collective. Beyond her duties as a creator and a performer, she manages a large part of the company's activities. Before being completely mobilized by Le Patin Libre, she also ran a small jewelry business and performed as a circus artist in Montréal.

**Melanie Kajanne Källström** (Performer)

Källström, a versatile freelance dancer and roller- and ice-skating artist, melds her figure skating roots from Sweden with street-style influences discovered in Oslo since 2016. Strengthening her expertise beyond her one-year dance education at Institute of the Arts Barcelona, she refines her skills through extensive training within hip-hop communities across the U.S. and Europe. The co-founder of Skate Jam Norway and Synthesice, she strives to establish a vibrant roller- and ice-skating community, uniting enthusiasts through music and dance in immersive events and workshops in Oslo. With Le Patin Libre, Källström is part of an exhilarating contemporary ice-skating production, fueling her passion for charting innovative artistic pathways.

**Isaac Alan Lindy** (Performer)

Lindy is a Philadelphia-based figure skater and performing artist working across dance, musical theatre and opera. He joined Le Patin Libre in 2018 and is thrilled to be on tour with *Murmuration*. Professional skating highlights include Holiday on Ice European tours (Line Captain, Ensemble), The Next Ice Age and IceLab Leipzig. As a dancer, Lindy has worked with Lyric Opera of Chicago, Opera Philadelphia, the Putty Dance Project and Anne-Marie Mulgrew and Dancers Company, and has performed at the Philadelphia Fringe Festival. Lindy holds a BA in urban studies from Vassar College. He is amped and frankly stunned to be performing at the rink where he took his first steps on the ice 27 years ago.

**Kristýna Mikulášová** (Performer)

Mikulášová grew up in the Czech Republic, trained there as a traditional figure skater and competed at national competitions. She also trained as a dancer and became a member of Dance Theatre Maximvs in Brno. In 2012, she graduated with honors from Trinity Laban in London with a BA in dance theatre, and from 2013, she started assisting at dance workshops of Joe Alegado at Impulstanz Festival and across Europe. Since 2018, she has been working with Le Patin Libre on *Murmuration*. Mikulášová currently lives in Switzerland where she works as a dance and skating coach and as a ski instructor.

**Maude Poulin** (Performer)

Poulin is an artist and skater, born in La Tuque, QC, Canada. She trained for nearly 12 years as a figure skating athlete. In 2008, she joined Le Patin Libre for a show in Vancouver, as part of the inauguration of the Olympic Ice Oval. She continued her competitive career for a few years before turning to studies in visual arts. In the autumn of 2021, following a call for auditions, she laced up her skates again and joined the troupe for its new creation, *Murmuration*.

**Oktawia Ścibior** (Performer)

Ścibior is a professional skating artist and choreographer, born in Warsaw, Poland. For 14 years, she was a competitive figure skater (bronze medal of the Polish Nationals in 2003). After finishing her career, she performed in various commercial ice shows. Passionate in dance, she obtained certification as a jazz dance instructor. In 2013, she met Le Patin Libre and discovered contemporary skating. In Paris in 2016, she founded the Slippery Art Project to promote contemporary skating. Since 2018, she has been collaborating with Le Patin Libre on the show *Murmuration*. In 2021, she created an award-winning video dance, *Rêverie*.

**Bethann Weick** (Performer)

Weick is a professional performer, choreographer and coach. A former competitive skater, she now revels in artistic skating of many genres. In addition to skating with Le Patin Libre, she has performed in the U.S. with Ice Dance International, Rosstyn Ice Shows and Rand Productions. Off the ice, Weick is a homesteader and lover of mountains, gardens, yoga and meditation. She is from New Hampshire.