

Prix de Lausanne 2017

John Neumeier Lifetime Achievement Award

International competition for young dancers - Théâtre de Beaulieu

Lausanne January 4th, 2017: John Neumeier will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award for his dedication to the education in dance and for his long collaboration with Prix de Lausanne.

As part of its 45th edition, the Prix de Lausanne wishes to honour the work of choreographer John Neumeier. All of the contemporary variations offered to this year's candidates are exclusively his creations. For the many years of collaboration with the choreographer and his devotion to the education of young dancers, the Prix de Lausanne has the great pleasure to award John Neumeier with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

John Neumeier: *"Since its foundation in 1973, the Prix de Lausanne has developed into the most important student dance competition in the world. Although a thorough technique must be the basis for qualification in the competition, classical virtuosity should not be the goal of the Prix. Rather, it is the ability to use this acquired technique for the expression and projection of honest human emotions as well as individual potential that should be the qualifying criterion for jury members judging competing students. This set of values is what makes the Prix de Lausanne unique, positive and of true worth for the development of the dance world universally.*

The competition offers an exceptionally well-balanced mixture of artistic ideals and practical help in developing young dancers' careers through the many scholarships which are awarded each year.

The Prix has, I feel, the responsibility to support individual talent and encourage young dancers to explore and reflect aspects of the human condition, suggesting in their work the noblest aspirations and possibilities of mankind. This was the defining credo Elvire and Philippe Braunschweig had in mind, I believe, when they established the Prix de Lausanne 44 years ago."

Shelly Power: *"I chose Mr. Neumeier as the first Prix de Lausanne life time achievement recipient because his contributions to the evolution of the dance world are monumental. Mr. Neumeier's dance language is deeply human and based in a foundation of solid classical and contemporary movement.*

We are honored to offer candidates the unique experience of learning his choreography which is done across the globe. This is important for students because his movement is timeless and what they learn today will be done for years to come. I can't think of a better way to expose candidates to a vast dance vocabulary than through one of his twelve solos that he generously offered. We are truly grateful to Mr. Neumeier and look forward to honoring him for his contributions to students learning and supporting their journey to professional careers."

John Neumeier will receive the award during the Prize ceremony of the 45th edition of Prix de Lausanne on Saturday February 4th, 2017 at Théâtre de Beaulieu.

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Created in 1973, the Prix de Lausanne is an annual international competition for young dancers aged 15 to 18. Its goal is to discover, promote and support the world's finest young talents. 68 of the world's most prestigious dance schools and companies, such as the Royal Ballet in London, the Vaganova Ballet Academy in St. Petersburg, the San Francisco Ballet School and the Australian Ballet, are associated with the Prix de Lausanne and support its activities.

One of a kind, the Prix de Lausanne represents an exceptional platform for discovering youthful talent. It is open to dance professionals who can observe and establish contacts with the candidates, thereby transforming Lausanne into the world's capital for young dancers during the week of the competition.