

# canadianstage

Canadian heavyweights CRYSTAL PITE and JONATHAN YOUNG return to Canadian Stage to explore hyper-relevant themes of politics and moral bankruptcy

## REVISOR

A Kidd Pivot Production

Created by **Crystal Pite + Jonathan Young**

March 7-16, 2019 – Bluma Appel Theatre

**“Devastating and powerful.” – *The Globe and Mail* (on *Betroffenheit*)**

**“Raw... Riveting drama... Virtuosoic dance.” – *The Guardian* (on *Betroffenheit*)**

Toronto, ON – Crystal Pite, one of the most celebrated choreographers working today and Kidd Pivot Artistic Director, reunites with acclaimed theatre artist and Electric Company Theatre Co-Founder Jonathan Young, to create *Revisor*, a wildly innovative dance/theatre hybrid that mixes classic farce, corruption, and the forces of radical change, on stage March 7-16, 2019 at the Bluma Appel Theatre.

Creators of the international sensation *Betroffenheit* (winner of 2017’s Olivier Award for Best New Dance Production) that played to sold out houses around the world, Pite and Young have once again created a work that is a masterful blending of text and dance.

“We could not be more excited to be welcoming back to our stage two of our country’s finest artists,” says Brendan Healy, Canadian Stage Artistic Director. “With *Revisor*, Young and Pite are bringing their wit, imagination and virtuosity to a set of themes that could not be more relevant to the political climate of today.”

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In *Revisor*, the bold physicality of Pite's choreography for eight dancers embodies the eviscerating wit of Young's script, recorded by some of Canada's finest actors. Inspired by an article Young read years ago about Russian theatre director Vsevolod Meyerhold's 1926 non-realist production of Nikolai Gogol's farce, *Revizor* (known in English as *The Government Inspector*), Pite and Young's central character is a revisor - someone who is responsible for the revision of legal texts. Using larger-than-life characters, subversive satire and humour in a plot that reinvents theatrical devices with anarchic absurdity, *Revisor* explores politics, deceit, tyranny, greed, willful blindness and complicity.

"The process with *Revisor* is a kind of feedback loop, similar to working with original music. Sometimes the text acts as a way of underscoring the physical: it is both musical and meaningful," explains Pite. "Similarly, to a musical score, the choreography can move analogously with the rhythm of the text and reflect its message, or it can be at odds with it, creating tension between what we're hearing and what we're seeing."

*Revisor* is on stage at the Bluma Appel Theatre from March 7-16, 2019. Performances run Thursdays at 8 PM, Fridays at 7 PM, Saturdays at 8 PM, and Sunday at 2 PM.

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## MEDIA NIGHT: MARCH 7

To receive further information or for an interview request, please contact  
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### ABOUT CANADIAN STAGE

Canadian Stage is one of the country's leading not-for-profit contemporary performing arts organizations. The company produces, presents, commissions, and collaborates with multiple partners on cross-disciplinary work with a focus on performance styles that integrate theatre, dance, film, visual arts and more. Sharing innovative and vibrant performance work from Canada and around the world, it stages performances at three Toronto venues: The Bluma Appel Theatre at Civic Theatres Toronto; The Berkeley Street Theatre; and the High Park Amphitheatre. In July 2018, award-winning theatre director Brendan Healy was appointed Artistic Director.

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## **ABOUT CRYSTAL PITE**

Now an internationally renowned choreographer, Pite is a former company member of Ballet BC and William Forsythe's Ballet Frankfurt. Since her choreographic debut with Ballet BC in 1990, she has created more than 50 works for companies such as The Paris Opera Ballet, The Royal Ballet, Nederlands Dans Theater I, Cullberg Ballet, Ballett Frankfurt, The National Ballet of Canada, Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal (Resident Choreographer, 2001-2004), Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet, and Ballet BC. The recipient of numerous awards for artistic excellence, including three Olivier Awards, most recently, the 2018 Grand Prix de la danse de Montreal (PDM), Pite is an Associate Choreographer of Nederlands Dans Theatre, Associate Dance Artist of Canada's National Arts Centre, and Associate Artist at Sadler's Wells, London. She holds an honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Simon Fraser University.

## **ABOUT JONATHAN YOUNG**

An admired veteran of stage and screen, Young is among Canada's most acclaimed theatre artists. Playwright-in-Residence at Kidd Pivot, he has collaborated on more than 20 original productions with Electric Company Theatre, of which he is co-founder, including *Tear the Curtain!* (a film/theatre hybrid for Arts Club Theatre and Canadian Stage), *No Exit* (a re-working of Jean-Paul Sartre's play performed in San Francisco at the American Conservatory Theatre), and *Studies in Motion* (Vancouver Playhouse, Edmonton Citadel, Theatre Calgary, Canadian Stage). Young was the recipient of the UK National Dance Award for his performance in *Betroffenheit*, as well as several Jessie Richardson Awards for acting and