

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Les Ballets Jazz de Montreal



**Les Ballets Jazz de Montreal**  
SUB Theatre  
February 7-11

by Patrice Struyk

When Les Ballets Jazz de Montreal breeze into SUB Theatre they have every intention of selling out the house. After all, they do everywhere else.

The 10 member dance troupe, classically trained in ballet, performs modern dance to jazz music. Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the company's style retains the freshness and vitality that was its original hallmark. This may be due in part to the continuing influence of the Artistic Director, Mme. Genevieve Salbaing. The only remaining one of the three founders

(another of whom was Eddy Toussaint, whose company was at SUB last year), Mme. Salbaing continues her vision.

Born in France, she danced in Casablanca and later came to Canada. Although schooled in the classical (French) style, Mme. Salbaing's inspirations are strictly North American. She says that her interest in modern dance styles was awakened when she saw the musical *West Side Story* and thought "this has potential." Plus, she loved jazz music, which she feels is slowly becoming universal.

At present, the company's music ranges from Duke Ellington to Moe Koffman to Roberta Flack. However, Mme. Salbaing indicates that there are "100's more" jazz artists whose music she'd like to choreograph.

Dance critics seem to echo one

another when referring to Les Ballets Jazz, always stressing the "youthfulness" of the company.

Mme. Salbaing's group ranges in age from 20-32 - comparable to other dance troupes. However, she feels this impression is a reaction to the way her dancers exude "...the joy of dancing, and so much energy. They are so lean and beautiful," she says.

Leanness is a prerequisite for admittance to the corps, as is well-rounded training, professionalism, musicality and personality. Some members have auditioned at the company's school, and others have been discovered on the road.

A thrilling moment came for Mme. Salbaing when Les Ballets Jazz performed at the same theatre in Casablanca in which she once danced. But then, every performance is thrilling for her. Catch the thrills here February 7-11.

### Soviet film adaptations of great literature

The Department of Slavic and East European Studies and the club "Shalom" are presenting a film festival of "Masterpieces of Literature in Soviet Cinema." The films will be shown Sunday evenings in SUB Theatre.

Tickets are \$4 at the door and \$2 for students and seniors.

The films and dates are as follows: *Lady With a Dog*, Feb. 12, 8:00 PM, *Crime and Punishment*, Feb. 26, 7:00 PM, *Nobleman's Nest*, Mar. 11, 7:30 PM, *War and Peace*, Mar. 18, 7:00 PM.

*Lady With a Dog* and *Belated Flowers* have English subtitles, and the other films are in Russian. For more information, call 432-3537.

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