

International Theatre Institute ITI

World Organization for the Performing Arts



International Dance Day 2026 – 29 April

Biography of Crystal PITE, Canada

Choreographer

English (original)

Canadian choreographer Crystal Pite is a former company member of Ballet British Columbia and William Forsythe's Ballett Frankfurt.

In a choreographic career spanning 35 years, Pite has created more than sixty works for companies such as The Royal Ballet, Nederlands Dans Theater, The Paris Opera Ballet, and The National Ballet of Canada. She is known for works that courageously address themes such as trauma, addiction, conflict, consciousness and mortality; her bold and original vision has earned her international acclaim and inspired an entire generation of dance artists.

She is an Associate Artist at three institutions: Nederlands Dans Theater, Sadler's Wells (London) and Canada's National Arts Centre. She has an honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Simon Fraser University, is a Member of the Order of Canada and holds the honour of Officier de l'Ordre of Arts et des Lettres from France.

In 2002, she formed Kidd Pivot in Vancouver, a company that strives to distill and translate universal questions into artworks that connect us to essential parts of humanity. World-renowned for radical hybrids of dance and theatre, Kidd Pivot tours internationally with critically-acclaimed works such as *Betroffenheit*, *Revisor*, and *Assembly Hall* (co-created with Jonathon Young), *The Tempest Replica*, *Dark Matters*, *Lost Action*, and *The You Show*.

Pite's many awards include the 2022 Governor General of Canada's Performing Arts Award, the 2011 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award and the Canada Council's 2012 Jacqueline Lemieux Prize. In 2017, she received the Benois de la Danse for her creation *The Seasons' Canon* at the Paris Opera Ballet. In 2018, she received the Grand Prix de la danse de Montréal. She is the recipient of five Sir Laurence Olivier awards for creations with Kidd Pivot and The Royal Ballet.