

# PARIS MARAIS DANCE SCHOOL

Passion, excellence and artistic development

**Founded in 2012 by two former principal dancers, Maggie Boogaart (NL) and Ghislain de Compreignac (FR), Paris Marais Dance School (PMDS) has quickly established itself as an international reference in the professional training of classical and contemporary dancers.**

The school is housed in the studios of the Marais Dance Center, in the heart of Paris, close to the famous Pompidou Center in Paris.



Photo : Juan Manuel Abellan

Photo : Paul Clichy

## A unique neo-classical and contemporary dance-Graham alliance

The two classical and contemporary disciplines are approached together, through two main techniques, that of Balanchine in classical ballet, and that of Martha Graham, fundamental technique of contemporary dance.

This combination gives today's dancers the richest technique to tackle an international career with the current great choreographers, with a brilliant style.

Regular teaching includes flow / release / contact techniques, improvisation in contemporary dance, and courses of variations and pas-de-deux in classical ballet.

## A modern pedagogy, demanding and benevolent

The founders of the school attach particular importance to human values, respect for people, respect for the body, listening, and benevolence. These principles, combined with the teaching of solid technical and artistic training, allow participants to develop self-confidence and achieve progress in all areas of their lives, and also to be chosen by choreographers.

## Passion, pleasure, sharing the art of dance!

For all courses, regardless of the level or goal of the participant, passion and the pleasure of dancing are priorities. Even amateurs who come once a week in classes open to all will experience the pleasure of dancing, progressing and developing self-confidence.

These courses also provide children and adolescents with self-control, respect, discipline and a sense of effort, which greatly contributes to their personal development.

## An amateur sector, for all ages and levels

PMDS offers classes open to all levels and ages.

The children's lessons are accessible from 4 years old with the awakening and the initiation to the dance. Classical ballet and classical floor bar classes begin at age 8 and follow the same organization as the conservatories, though with a faster progression.

The course offer for children is exceptionally developed (28 lessons per week) and allows them to take several classes per week, supplemented by classical floor barre classes and point shoes classes. Adult classes are also held in the morning and evening.

## Professional training of excellence

The Paris Marais Dance School is a reference training for talented young dancers who are destined to join a professional dance company. The initial professional training, accessible on hearing, with arranged schedules is addressed to the 12-18 years old.

The upper cycle for 17 to 21 year olds, is concentrated on 2 years, the Young Ballet constituting the 2nd year and last year.

### Intensive training on 11 months a year, with 4 intensive workshops

The intensive program runs for 11 months, from September to the end of July, with 15 to 20 lessons and rehearsals of 1h30 per week depending on the level, with 12 workshops and 4 intensive workshops per year which conclude with performances with repertoire pieces and creations.

### International outlets

The training allows young dancers to join classical, neo-classical or contemporary dance companies internationally. Since the first class in 2012, PMDS students have joined companies in the UK, USA, Czech Republic, Bulgaria and France.

### Excellence: training national and international dancers

The clear objective of vocational training is to train young dancers to make them successful auditions in France and internationally. For this, different aspects are developed:

- a limited number of students, to give individual daily attention to students

- the quest for perfection and technical performance, always given to artistic expression
- development of human qualities, communication, good professional practices
- knowledge of the artistic world and companies at the international level.

### Art: artistic sense, interpretation, creativity

Technique without art remains a dead letter. The artistic development of each student is paramount. It goes through the perfect understanding of the many artistic subtleties of classical ballet and is fulfilled in the work of interpreting the classical, neo-classical and contemporary repertoire and the work of creation. The program allows to:

- benefit from the experience and the technical and artistic reflection of professors recognized for their artistic demand, precision, virtuosity, speed and creativity
- to discover the benefits of the combination of major techniques (Russian, Balanchine, Graham)
- discover the repertoires of Martha Graham and George Balanchine and the great choreographers of the 20C. In terms of creativity, the program teaches:
  - choreographic composition
  - improvisation
  - musical and choreographic analysis, to prepare dancers to collaborate creatively with choreographers and to create their own creations.

## The teaching staff

**Maggie Boogaart**, a state-certified teacher, former international soloist and choreographer, former director of the Dragon Productions Company, a teacher accredited by the Martha Graham School of New York for the teaching of the technique and Graham repertoire, a graduate of London Contemporary School and Martha Graham School, teaches teen (from age 14) and adult dance classes.

**Ghislain de Compreignac**, State-certified professor, former principal of the Ballet du Nord (Balanchine repertoire), former dancer of the Royal Ballet of Wallonia, the Ballet du Rhin, the French Ballet Theater of Nancy, the Joseph Russillo Ballet Theater, teaches teen (from 12 years old) and adult dance classes.

**Nathalie Bochenek**, a State-certified teacher and former soloist at the Ballet du Nord (Balanchine repertoire) teaches children's lessons, ground bar and spikes.

**Ségolène Gessa**, a state-certified teacher, former soloist of the Karine Saporta company, teaches awakening and initiation classes for children from 4 to 7 years old.

**Visiting professors**, coming from different backgrounds, regularly bring other styles, techniques, ways of working that enrich the students and improve their open-mindedness and adaptability.

## Management

Maggie Boogaart and Ghislain de Compreignac, co-founders of the school in 2012, together manage the school.

## Licensing

PMDS grants license to a few affiliated schools to share its methodology, its knowledge and its practice. The annual fee is a percentage of the annual revenue of the school, with a retainer.

---

**Press Contact PMDS**

**Ghislain de Compreignac**

[compreignac@pmds.fr](mailto:compreignac@pmds.fr)

<http://www.paris-marais-dance-school.org/fr/>

+33 6 37 90 99 80



@PARISMARAISDANCESCHOOL



@pmdsfrance