

Performer and choreographer Yvon Soglo, alias Crazy Smooth,  
named the CCOV's next long-term artist in residence!

**Montreal, May 14, 2019**\_Paul Caskey, executive director of the *Centre de Création O Vertigo* - CCOV, is pleased to announce the appointment of Yvon Soglo, alias Crazy Smooth, artistic director and choreographer of *Bboyizm* Dance Company, as the next artist to benefit from the CCOV's long-term residency program. Crazy Smooth succeeds Dana Gingras, choreographer of *Animals of Distinction*, who will present her new work *FRONTERA* this fall on some of Canada's most prestigious stages! The launch of the *FRONTERA* tour marks the start of a new two-year research and creation cycle, beginning in September 2019 and featuring an artist from the hip-hop culture: Yvon Soglo, alias Crazy Smooth.



Photo : Becki Peckam (Bold Creative)

“On behalf of the board of directors and the entire CCOV team, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Crazy Smooth as the CCOV's second long-term artist in residence. His application impressed the selection committee by the excellence of his professional career and artistic approach. By selecting an artist from the hip-hop culture, the CCOV is pleased to provide increased visibility to hip-hop and related artistic forms, which play a key role in the dynamism of the Quebec dance community.”  
Paul Caskey, CCOV Executive Director

Crazy Smooth was the first B-boy to receive a full grant from the Canada Council for the Arts to study B boying and other forms of street dance in New York, Philadelphia and Orlando. Hailed as one of Canada's top street dancers, he founded his own company, Bboyizm, in 2004. To date, the company has presented three stage shows and over 100 performances across Canada, from New Brunswick to British Columbia by way of Quebec, Ontario and Alberta.

Designed to give choreographers the resources to devote themselves 100% to creating a work that marks a significant turning point in their career, the long-term residency will allow Crazy Smooth to continue his artistic evolution by bringing street culture to the stage.

“Crazy Smooth and *Bboyizm* have effortlessly bridged the distance from the street to the stage. Fusing influences of street dance and hip-hop into a modern dance context, they are creating a new extremely physical world that is theatrical, virtuosic and urban at its very core. Touring with performances, workshops and outreach activities throughout Canada, Bboyizm has built a profile and following from coast to coast to coast.”  
Jeanne Holmes, Artistic Producer, Canada Dance Festival

In line with its commitment to working with outstanding artists from a wide range and diversity of contemporary dance forms, the CCOV celebrates the arrival of Crazy Smooth! Through this emissary of street dance, the CCOV wishes to participate actively in disseminating this art form, a true vector of expression, identity, respect and tolerance—values that are central to our organization. Impressed by Yvon Soglo / Crazy Smooth’s artistic vision and the excellence of his career as a dancer and choreographer, the CCOV is proud to welcome one of Canada’s leading national and international ambassadors of hip-hop. The appointment of Crazy Smooth as the CCOV’s second long-term artist in residence is a great way to highlight the 15th anniversary of his dance company, *Bboyizm*, and confirm the sustainability of the Centre de Création O Vertigo’s flagship program.

### About Crazy Smooth / *Bboyizm*

Dancing since 1997, Crazy Smooth is one of Canada’s top street dancers, performers, choreographers, instructors, judges, and community leaders. He is founder and creative director of Bboyizm, an award-winning street-dance company that has been instrumental in the preservation and growth of street dance in Canada and internationally. Founded in 2004, Bboyizm is Canada’s premier street-dance company. The company is committed to promote and preserve the foundation, authenticity, and essence of all street dances. Bboyizm believes that authentic self-expression enables an individual – and by extension, a community – to realize its full potential. In addition to performances, the company provides a complete street dance experience that includes outreach and street-dance programs in schools and communities across Canada.

### About the *Centre de Création O Vertigo*

The *Centre de Création O Vertigo* – CCOV is a centre for reflection, research and creation in contemporary dance, an incubator of ideas and talent. Its mission: to offer dance artists access to its studios and support the creation of choreographic works through short-term residencies offered to about 20 choreographers per year, or through its flagship program: the two-year long-term residency. The CCOV also promotes artistic outreach and exchange by presenting activities that are open to the public.

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