

# @danceprompts

Guillaume Loslier-Pinard makes a dancefilm a day BY ANNE DION

Since June 12th, Montréal-based dance artist Guillaume Loslier-Pinard has been posting a dancefilm a day on the Instagram account @danceprompts. The project launched in response to studio closures during the COVID-19 pandemic and will run for an entire year.

Each video posted is an improvised response to Loslier-Pinard's daily prompt, which can be anything from dancing with your shadow to taking inspiration from words in a foreign language. Having compiled the prompts before filming, Loslier-Pinard is now working on getting them published in a book to be illustrated by dancer and visual artist Aliah Schwartz.

In the project's early days, the videos featured only Loslier-Pinard, who had used some of the CERB money he'd received to upgrade his phone to one with a higher quality camera. As the project picked up attention, the videos began to feature dancer and choreographer Lucy Fandel (Loslier-Pinard's girlfriend), their friends and, by August, strangers who'd reached out.

"A message I'm trying to get across is that anyone can dance," says Loslier-Pinard, "so that's a bit the opposite of saying 'Look at me, I'm so great, I'm dancing every day.' I think everybody can dance every day."

Aside from seeing Michael Jackson on MTV, Loslier-Pinard grew up without much exposure to dance. Having discovered his passion as an adult – he graduated from Concordia with a BFA in contemporary dance two years ago – the @danceprompts project emerged out of a search to find ways of maintaining a daily practice.



The biggest challenge, Loslier-Pinard says, has been engaging with social media, a space in which he is not wholly comfortable. "The goal of these social media companies is to hog our attention to make profit, not to be ethical or wary of people's mental health," he says. "There's something psychological about this practice of putting myself out there daily on the internet, about how it can impact your confidence to evaluate and watch yourself back." Given the isolation experienced by all during the COVID-19 pandemic, he felt there was no better way to reach people. All the same, he hopes to see a transition away from screens as soon as possible.

See Loslier-Pinard's dancefilms on Instagram @danceprompts.

Clockwise: Lucy Fandel and Loslier-Pinard, Rodrigo Alvarez, Lauranne Heuilot, Marie-Maxime Ross / Photos courtesy of Loslier-Pinard

ÉCOLE DE DANSE CONTEMPORAINE DE MONTRÉAL

BECOMING A CREATIVE INTERPRETER

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN CONTEMPORARY DANCE

Photo: Julie Artocho  
Dancer: Justine Dogenais-de Montigny

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FEBRUARY 5-6-7, 2021

Video Audition available before January 22, 2021

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