



**Nils Christe**  
Choreographer

Born in Rotterdam where he created his first ballet for Netherlands Dance Theatre (NDT) in 1974. Creating 12 works during his time at NDT, one winning him the first prize at the Choreographic Competition in Cologne in 1979.

As a free-lance choreographer he worked with a great number of ballet and dance companies in Holland and abroad; including Dutch National Ballet, Introdans, Paris Opera Ballet, Royal Ballet of Flanders, Ballet du Capitole Toulouse, Wiener Staatsoper, Zurcher Ballett, English National Ballet, Royal Danish Ballet, Royal Swedish Ballet, National Ballet of Finland, Basler Ballett, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Komische Oper Berlin, Deutsche Oper Am Rhein Dusseldorf, Bayerische Staatsoper Munich, Ballettmainz, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, Washington Ballet, Queensland Ballet, Singapore Dance Theatre and Hong Kong Ballet.

From 1986 until 1993 he was the Artistic Director of the Scapino Ballet (Rotterdam). Creating seven new works including his first succesful story ballet, *Pulcinella*.

Nils Christe has choreographed to the music of many different composers and has choreographed for the operas *Dido* and *Aeneas*, *Aïda* and *Achnaton*.

Nils Christe received the Dutch 2005 Dansersfonds Merit Award.

By his side, rehearsal director Annegien Sneep, who has been his assistant since 1981.

Nils Christe has created 82 ballets and worked with 71 different companies in 26 countries throughout the world.



# *Before Nightfall*

## Choreographer notes

The aggressive ominous atmosphere that characterises Martinů's music, written on the eve of the second World War, is echoed in the movements choreographed by Nils Christe.

The title of the work refers to the war that is about to break out. The main theme centres around the uncertainty and dread inherent in the sense of imminent danger.

\*By permission of the publisher, Boosey and Hawkes (Canada) Limited.

**Music:**  
*Double Concerto for Two String Orchestras, Piano and Timpani* H. 271

I. Poco allegro  
II. Largo; Andante; Adagio  
III. Allegro; Poco moderato; Largo

Composed by: Bohuslav Martinů  
Performed by: Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra, Charles Mackerras  
These performances of Double Concerto by Bohuslav Martinů are given by permission of Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd, exclusive agents for Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers Ltd of London.

Polly Hilton rehearsing *Before Nightfall*.