

Pontus Lidberg, biography

Choreographer, filmmaker and dancer, Pontus Lidberg has firmly established himself as a creative and visionary artist, bringing dance and film together. His dance film, *The Rain* received numerous awards. *The New York Times* wrote “memorably, *The Rain* illustrates what filmed dance can say that staged dance cannot.”

As a choreographer for the stage, Lidberg has created works for dance companies including New York City Ballet, Martha Graham Dance Company, Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo, Semperoper Ballet Dresden, Royal Swedish Ballet, Le Ballet du Grand Théâtre de Genève, Balletboyz, Beijing Dance Theatre, and Morphoses, as well as for his own concert group, Pontus Lidberg Dance. Pontus Lidberg Dance has been presented by New York City Center’s Fall For Dance Festival, the Havana International Ballet Festival, the Spoleto Festival, The Joyce Theater, the Guggenheim Museum Works & Process and the National Arts Center of Canada, Ottawa.

His film *Labyrinth Within* won Best Picture at the Dance on Camera Festival in 2012. He was nominated for a New York Dance and Performance Award (Bessie) in Outstanding Visual Design, for his dance and film evening *WITHIN (Labyrinth Within)*—created during his 2012 tenure as Resident Artistic Director of Morphoses. *The New York Times* applauded this contemporary story ballet, “told without mime and driven by emotional and psychological textures... [Lidberg] sublimates the academic language of ballet, dissolving it into knotty partnering that manages, by and large, to avoid the churning clichés of much contemporary movement in the form. It is refreshing to see a ballet embracing the virtues of restraint.”

Raised in Stockholm, Sweden, Lidberg trained at the Royal Swedish Ballet School. He holds an MFA in Contemporary Performing Arts from the University of Gothenburg, Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts.