

# **POLICY OF ECO RESPONSIBILITY**

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## **PREAMBULE**

This policy of eco-responsibility follows a pilot project led by Mandoline Hybride in 2019, in which the organization measured for the first time the culmination of its carbon emissions related to transport, as well as adopting concrete measures to eliminate food waste, non-recyclable waste and single use containers during its events. Drawing from this eye-opening experience, in 2020, the company is formalizing its actions and commitments as part of an evolving policy, adopted by its board of directors. Inspired by similar approaches in other fields, MH's policy of eco-responsibility has been designed to respond specifically to the issues that affect the company's activities in the cultural sector.

## **SPIRIT OF POLICY**

The spirit of this policy is one of collegiality and shared learning. Therefore, Mandoline Hybride's board of directors seek-out exchanges and sharing of expertise in order to feed its thinking. Although imperfect, this document aims to put clear commitments into action, while striving to identify its flaws through a self-education process, and remaining open to feedback from within the community. Thus, Mandoline Hybride hopes to encourage other organizations to put forward their own commitments, even if they may be modest or still in development. This will make it possible to collectively cultivate a critical awareness, to have a better understanding of the current environmental issues, and to develop various tools to guide the implementation of our values.

Furthermore, this policy is intended to be accessible. In writing it, we avoided the use of specialized, technical language, substantiated historical context or footnotes providing further information. An appendix is available for anyone wishing to know more on our sources of inspiration and our research in environmental thinking. For any questions on Mandoline Hybride's policy of eco-responsibility or to open a discussion on a specific subject, please contact us by email: [comm@mandolinehybride.com](mailto:comm@mandolinehybride.com).

## **MISSION OF THE ORGANIZATION**

Mandoline Hybride's mission is the development of contemporary art, with dance as its anchor. Since its foundation in 2007, its research, creation, dissemination and mentorship projects, aim to (re) think the place and scope of art in society, from critical perspectives. The development of emerging artists, a special attention being given to the inclusion of diverse voices, as well as the importance of the renewal of the practice are the organization's priorities. Under the direction of Priscilla Guy and in collaboration with guest artist-curator Karla Etienne (2021-2023), the company fulfills its mandate through 4 permanent components:

### **1 – Regards Hybrides**

Founded in 2012 by Priscilla Guy and Claudia Hébert, the project aims to promote the expression, development and outreach of practices and discourses that border between dance and cinema. With its web platform, its international biennial and its range of services for artists and presenters, Regards Hybrides is the only project of its kind in Canada.

### **2 – Salon58**

Established in 2018 by Priscilla Guy and Benoit Paradis in Marsoui in the Gaspé Peninsula, Salon58 is dedicated to hosting artists in residence and the programming of intimate concerts. Focused on artistic experimentation and proximity to the audience, the project promotes encounters on a human scale in rural and remote regions

### 3 – FURIES

Under the artistic direction of Priscilla Guy and Sébastien Provencher, FURIES is a contemporary dance festival based in Marsoui in the Gaspé Peninsula, which highlights striking and distinctive choreographic forms.

### 4 – Associate Production

Since its foundation, Mandoline Hybride has acted as associate producer for several artists and collectives within the Quebec dance scene: Priscilla Guy (2007-2022), Catherine Lavoie-Marcus (2012-2020) Sébastien Provencher (2015-2019), Catherine Lafleur (2017-2018), Chloé Bourdages-Roy (2018), Collectif Danza Descalza (2018-2019), Emilie Morin (2020), Elizabeth Millar (2020). Mandoline Hybride takes on the role as associate producer according to the needs of the community.

### Ethical And Political Commitments

Mandoline Hybride acts as a leader with regards to ethical issues in the arts, particularly those concerning the challenges of decolonization and diversification of artistic programming, as well as the attention given to the work of women<sup>1</sup>, non-binary and / or marginalized people. With clear commitments, the company hopes to help reduce inequalities and advance the artistic community towards healthier practices. This present policy is entered in a continuum for a better ecology, beneficial for all. To learn more about Mandoline Hybride: [www.mandolinehybride.com/en/about/](http://www.mandolinehybride.com/en/about/).

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<sup>1</sup> All those who identify as a woman.

## **POLICY OBJECTIVES**

### **1 – Reduction Of Ecological Footprint**

Mandoline Hybride's policy of eco-responsibility first aims to reduce the overall ecological footprint of the company. It is organized around four main focuses, which make it possible to address the impacts of our choices around consumption, food waste and composting, responsible production practices, reuse of materials, recycling, land and air transport, the local economy, urban and rural issues, the socio-economic impacts of our choices and digital technology, etc.

### **2 – Community Emulation**

The policy equally aims to serve as a point of departure for other cultural organizations that would like to draw inspiration from it. We hope to generate a collective reflection on our shared responsibilities in light of the environmental situation and health of the different ecologies, within which we are all working.

### **3 – Dissemination Of An Evolving Tool**

Mandoline Hybride's policy of eco-responsibility is seen as a constantly evolving tool. As a vector of change on a human level, this document is to be modified, improved and renewed continuously through different ways in the short and long term. This flexibility is a key element to the reflection that underlies this policy. With its evolving nature, Mandoline Hybride's policy of eco-responsibility can be transformed in response to new environmental protection practices and recommendations from the community.

### **4 – Sustainability Of Actions**

Finally, the policy aims to perpetuate and standardize the organization's eco-responsible actions. In sharing the policy with all members of production in Mandolin Hybride projects and joining it to partnership agreements signed with other entities; its values will be promoted and applied throughout the years to come, regardless of the personnel in place.

## **POLICY APPLICATION : 5 MAIN FOCUSES**

### **FOCUS 1 – Adoption Of A Zero Waste Mentality**

Continuing its efforts in recent years, Mandoline Hybride is committed to adopting a "zero waste" mentality in the production of all its events (RIRH biennial, Soirées Salon58, FURIES).

#### **CRITERIA:**

- Eliminate the use of disposable containers;
- Reduce food waste;
- Compost and recycle.

#### **ACTIONS AND STRATEGIES:**

- Hire an on-site catering service to avoid transporting cooked food in containers that are not be reusable;
- Use food items to their full extent (e.g. vegetable peels to make broth, leftover fruit purees for desserts, leftover bread for croutons, etc.);
- Send surplus food to food banks or to agencies of local food recovery;
- Avoid the purchase of over packaged products;
- Promote the purchase of organic and fair trade products;
- Favor buffet service rather than prepared lunch boxes so that each person takes only what they want to consume;
- Compost all table scraps and recycle all recyclable materials;
- Use tableware rental services rather than buying containers sold as "Eco-cups" or so-called compostable lunch boxes.

### **FOCUS 2 – Reduction Of Paper Printing And Reuse Of Materials**

Whether for promotional materials, internal/external communications, or in set design, Mandoline Hybride commits to examine its consumption in a responsible manner.

#### **CRITERIA:**

- Reduction of printing;
- Repair, reuse or recycling of materials.

#### **ACTIONS AND STRATEGIES:**

If the elimination of programs in their entirety is difficult, favor a general printed program format rather than small evening specific programs for each activity.

- Sharing of digital documents during meetings of the board of directors;
- Production of targeted promotional material and reduction of overall printing quantities;
- Repairing and recovering objects, costumes or materials from one production to another;
- Encouraging the use of recycled materials in the design of sets and costumes.

### **FOCUS 3 – Adaptation Of Transport Practises**

Since 2019, the company records the mileage traveled by car, truck, boat, train or plane by its primary members, the artists of their touring productions, the artists in residence at Salon58, the artists programmed for FURIES, as well as international artists who participated in the biennale des RIRH. Mandoline Hybride is committed to doing the same in 2022 and 2023, as well as reducing the number of trips significantly.

#### **CRITERIA:**

- Travel reduction;
- Strategic transport organization;
- Compensation for CO2 emissions.

#### **ACTIONS AND STRATEGIES:**

- List the kilometers traveled as part of its activities in order to provide an overall picture and make comparisons from one year to the next;
- Rethinking travel by combining different initiatives in one trip, or furthermore, postponing some trips to a later year to limit the number of trips in the same year;
- Encourage greener modes of travel, even if this leads to longer travel times (e.g. train or bus rather than plane);
- Diversify the company's activities so that they are less focused on international exchanges and travel, and more on local development;
- Allocate a portion to the budget to offset the company's carbon emissions via buying carbon credits, with the knowledge that this will only be a complementary action to the overall transformation of the company's practices.

### **FOCUS 4 – Local Consumption And Local Economy**

Working mainly in Montreal and in the Gaspé Peninsula, Mandoline Hybride has developed a culture of local consumption adapted to each of its events. Its various partnerships are expected to strengthen and multiply in the coming years.

#### **CRITERIA:**

- Reduce the distance traveled by consumer goods;
- Foster the local economy.

#### **ACTIONS AND STRATEGIES:**

- For RIRH in Montreal - local suppliers of beers, wines and other beverages, purchases of food at the Jean-Talon market via local farmers, etc.;
- For Salon58 and FURIES in the Gaspé Peninsula - partnerships with the microbrewery Malbord and other suppliers of local products (juice, flowers, vegetables).

### **FOCUS 5 – Reduction Of Digital Footprint**

In a spirit of digital sobriety, while considering the imperatives linked to Mandoline Hybride's activities which require the contribution of new technologies, we wish to pay a particular attention to our digital footprint. We are starting this important process which will be developed by concrete and immediate actions:

#### **CRITERIA:**

- Eliminate as much data from the cloud as possible;
- Reduce our use of online data;
- Imagine sustainable alternatives to move further toward digital sobriety.

#### ACTIONS AND STRATEGIES:

- Once a year, delete as many messages as possible from team and board member email boxes;
- Remove any image or logo from the team's email signatures and encourage Board members to adopt this practice;
- Use wi-fi or cable internet connection as much as possible rather than LTE, 4G/5G network;
- Avoid 5G when using cell phones (when available);
- Encourage audio conversations rather than audio and video conversations, when possible;
- Remove as many non-public archive videos as possible from our Vimeo account and archive them on an external hard drive;
- Change web browser settings to avoid automatic video playback;
- Change the playback settings on applications (YouTube, Vimeo, etc.) to lower the video quality when possible<sup>2</sup>;
- Reduce the duration of free viewing of our videos on Mandoline Hybride's Vimeo account;
- Budget a contribution to offset the company's carbon emissions linked to its digital footprint through the purchase of carbon credits, knowing that this can only be a complementary action to a global transformation of the organization's habits;
- Extend the life of team members' electronic devices, rather than purchasing new ones, whenever possible, and encourage a second life for older devices;
- Shoot video in HD rather than 4K, when possible;
- Compress videos before transferring them to colleagues, when possible;
- Offer training in digital sobriety to the team;
- Do not purchase "smart" and connected appliances or objects; instead, favor appliances and objects that consume less energy;
- Turn off your computer or put it in extended sleep mode if it is not used for more than an hour.

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<sup>2</sup> More information on this subject in this article from Le Devoir (FR):  
<https://www.ledevoir.com/videos/661191/internet-queelles-sont-les-consequences-environnementales-des-videoconferences>.

## COMMITMENT

CONSIDERING THE CONTENT OF THIS POLICY OF ECO-RESPONSIBILITY, Mandoline Hybride undertakes to:

- **Apply** the policy across all its projects;
- **Disseminate the policy** widely in order to open discussions with the arts community and to encourage other organizations to develop their own policy;
- **Create a permanent committee** within its board of directors dedicated to this policy. This committee will monitor technological advances in order to reduce energy expenditure in general (electricity, lighting, heating, etc.) and to include new measures in the policy with regard to these issues in particular. The committee will also begin to reflect on the ecological impacts of digital development, data storage and the use of the Drive by the company;
- **Update the policy** at each meeting of its board of directors throughout 2020-2021, through the recommendations of the standing committee and the Mandoline Hybride team. The policy will be available in PDF format in its most recent version in September 2020, January 2021 and May 2021 on the website - [www.mandolinehybride.com](http://www.mandolinehybride.com);
- Begin a process of **training members** of the Mandoline Hybride team with a view to obtaining eco-responsible certification by the end of 2021.



## ANNEXE

### Eco-responsibility kit and tools for the cultural milieu

RQD - Eco-responsible dance practices kit

<https://www.quebecdanse.org/ressources/trousse-pratiques-ecoresponsables-danse/> (FR)

### Examples Of Eco responsible Policies

Recyc-Québec

<https://www.recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/politique-eve-ecoresponsables.pdf> (FR)

University of Quebec in Montreal

[https://instances.uqam.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/47/2018/05/Politique\\_no\\_37.pdf](https://instances.uqam.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/47/2018/05/Politique_no_37.pdf) (FR)

Quebec's fauna foundation

[https://fondationdelafaune.qc.ca/documents/File/Politique%20evenement%20ecoresponsable%20\(PEE\).pdf](https://fondationdelafaune.qc.ca/documents/File/Politique%20evenement%20ecoresponsable%20(PEE).pdf) (FR)

The Lanaudière food festival

<http://www.fetesgourmandes.ca/PDF/politique-decoresponsabilite.pdf> (FR)

Quebec association of palliative care

<https://www.aqsp.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/politique-eco-responsabilite.pdf> (FR)

Ecoresponsability Guide – Earth Day Canada

[https://jourdelaterre.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Guide\\_Ecoresponsabilite\\_JourdeLaTerreCanada.pdf](https://jourdelaterre.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Guide_Ecoresponsabilite_JourdeLaTerreCanada.pdf) (FR)

### Zero Waste Mentality And Recycling/Reuse

Definition, timeline and other infos on the Quebec zero waste association's website

<https://www.aqzd.ca/> (FR)

Center for creative reuse at Concordia University

<https://www.cuccr.ca/>

### Carbon Credits

Guide by the David Suzuki's foundation

<https://davidsuzuki.org/science-learning-centre-article/purchasing-carbon-offsets-a-guide-for-canadian-consumers-businesses-and-organizations/>

A text on carbon credits, on why they are not a magic solution and must be complementary to a serious eco-responsible approach

<https://www.lapresse.ca/actualites/enquetes/201910/14/01-5245396-ou-sont-les-arbres-des-credits-carbone.php> (FR)

Article from Équiterre : How to better understand carbon credits

<https://www.equiterre.org/geste/geste-du-mois-davril-2019-mieux-comprendre-la-compensation-carbone> (FR)

Planetair - Supply of carbon credits certified Gold Standard

<https://planetair.ca/>

Arbre Évolution - Solidarity cooperative located in Bas-St-Laurent, instigator of the "Social reforestation program"

<https://www.arbre-evolution.org/> (FR)

The Ecoresponsible program

<https://www.ecoresponsable.net/la-certification-ecoresponsable-4-niveaux/>

Digital carbon footprint calculator (web browser extension)

<https://positivr.fr/internet-un-outil-pour-calculer-son-empreinte-carbone-sur-le-web/>

## Digital Sobriety

Ecoist Club - social impact project raising awareness of digital ecology issues

<https://ecoistclub.com>

Insertech Angus - a non-profit integration enterprise that trains unemployed young adults, while giving a second life to computer equipment recovered from companies

<https://www.insertech.ca>

Click Clean (2017) - Site that lists applications that use greener servers

<http://www.clickclean.org/international/en/>

Eco-Responsible Certification

<https://www.ecoresponsable.net/la-certification-ecoresponsable-4-niveaux/> (FR)

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Mandoline Hybrid 2020-2022