



## 'Travel is an Art' PONANT Collection: Artists in Residence on the Baltic Sea



Rediscover the world from a new perspective, sharing emotions with others and meeting personalities passionate about their art. This summer PONANT transforms *Le Dumont d'Urville* into an artists' residence and welcomes aboard three dancers, including ballerina Eugénie Drion, and artistic director Albane Drion.

Alternating verdant green forests, glowing amber and sparkling cut stones, the horizon captivates and fascinates, as do the facades of iconic Baltic capitals and towns reflected in the sea. From *Le Dumont d'Urville* guests can admire this ballet between nature and architecture, while another spectacle plays out on the decks of the ship. This summer from 3 to 10 August *Le Dumont d'Urville* will be the setting for an exceptional artist-in-residence programme.

### Artists on Deck

This creative interlude provides time to conceive a unique piece of work imagined and created by Eugénie Drion, a Paris Opéra dancer, and Albane Drion, artistic director. In collaboration with dancer Florian Astraudo and multi-disciplinary artist, Dionysios Karachalios, together they will craft a series of artistic photographs capturing magical moments of dance, on board and ashore between Helsinki and Copenhagen.



*"It is with great pleasure and renewed creative energy that we return for our third artist residency with PONANT, this time on Le Dumont d'Urville in Baltic waters to pursue our artistic research into fragmentation,"* says an enthusiastic Eugénie Drion.

## An Immersive Dance Experience

This highly unusual initiative is part of the 'Travel is an Art' collection in PONANT's enrichment programme. During the voyage, these four outstanding artists will be sharing their passion with guests.

The dance project will not only be brought into being as the ship sails along, but also at meetings with guests. From the moment they board, the welcome reception will set the stage for the first improvised performance. Guests will then be able to take part in beginner dance and movement sessions and attend an informal interview in the theatre with all the artists, before admiring one final farewell performance at the end of the residency.

### [Iconic Capitals & Towns of the Baltic](#)

Helsinki – Copenhagen, onboard *Le Dumont d'Urville*. From 3 to 7 August 2024 – 8 days, 7 nights.  
From €5,790.

## ABOUT EUGENIE DRION

---

A dancer since the age of 5, Eugénie Drion trained at the Paris Opera Ballet School, winning the Prix Jeunes Espoirs 2014 thanks to hard work and determination. She has performed in the great classical ballets, including *Swan Lake*, *Giselle* and *Bayadère*. She has also been in world premières such as Forsythe's *Blake Works I* and contemporary pieces like Ohad Naharin's *Sadeh21*. Always keen to share her craft with others, in 2018 she founded the association *Independanse*, an artists' collective that aims to promote dance and the arts to a wide range of audiences.

## ABOUT ALBANE DRION

---

An art direction graduate of the prestigious Penninghen school in 2022, Albane works at McCann for major luxury brands. Her personal work is focused on research around the concept of fragmentation. With her sister Eugénie Drion, she is founder of *indé.studio*, a branch of the *Independanse* association. Albane visually explores the movement/expression relationship from her stand point as photographer, director and graphic designer, as being the high point of the final result as much by the way she directs the music as she does each image.

## ABOUT PONANT

---

*Explore to Inspire*: explore to better understand, learn, share and protect. PONANT has been committed to more responsible tourism, and purposeful voyages of exploration for 35 years. Aboard a fleet of 13 French-flagged small ships, fitted with the latest environmental technologies, the journey of exploration is always elegant, authentic and inspiring. For more information [www.ponant.com](http://www.ponant.com)

Press contacts: Laure Foulatier +33(0)6 07 14 84 43 | Justine Fraticelli +33(0)4 88 91 35 56 | [presse@ponant.com](mailto:presse@ponant.com)

#PonantExplorations #Exploretolnspire

© Photo credits: ©PONANT – Albane Drion

