

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

Chan Hon Goh

Principal Dancer

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

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Born in Beijing, China, Chan Hon Goh received her dance training in Vancouver, British Columbia at the Goh Ballet Academy. Ms. Goh began performing principal roles with the Goh Ballet Company while still in her teens. She joined The National Ballet of Canada as a member of the Corps de Ballet in 1988, was promoted to Second Soloist in 1990, to First Soloist in 1992 and to Principal Dancer in 1994.

Ms. Goh's lead roles include Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake*, Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, Tatiana in *Onegin*, The Sugar Plum Fairy in *The Nutcracker*, Princess Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty*, Nikiya in *La Bayadère*, Lise in *La Fille mal gardée*, Kitri in *Don Quixote*, Katherina in *The Taming of the Shrew*, Titania in *The Dream*, Cio-Cio San in *Madame Butterfly* and the title role in *Giselle*.

Ms. Goh created the role of Hélène in *An Italian Straw Hat* (2005) and Spring in *The Four Seasons* (1997), as well as roles in *A Disembodied Voice* (1999), *The Actress* (1994), *Musings* (1991), and *Pastorale* (1990), all choreographed by James Kudelka, and John Neumeier's *Now and Then* (1993). She danced in the company premieres of Mr. Kudelka's *Désir* (1998), *Cruel World* (1996) and *Terra Firma* (1997), George Balanchine's *Mozartiana* (1997) and *Stravinsky Violin Concerto* (2004), Frederick Ashton's *Symphonic Variations* (1996), Antony Tudor's *The Leaves are Fading* (1991), John Cranko's *Concerto for Flute and Harp* (1990) and Jerome Robbins' *In the Night* (2007).

Other major roles include the Sylph in Erik Bruhn's *La Sylphide* and principal roles in Makarova's *Paquita* and Bournonville's *Napoli*. She has danced in many Balanchine works including the lead role in Diamonds from *Jewels*, the lead roles in *Theme and Variations*, *Symphony in C* and *Serenade*, the role of Terpsichore in *Apollo* and the Sanguinic Variation in *The Four Temperaments*.

Contemporary works in Ms. Goh's repertoire include Kenneth MacMillan's *Song of the Earth*, *Elite Syncopations*, Glen Tetley's *La Ronde*, Jiří Kylián's *Dream Dances* and *Forgotten Land*, John Alleyne's *Septet* and *Tristan and Isolde* and Christopher Wheeldon's *Polyphonia*.

In 2006, Ms. Goh danced with The Suzanne Farrell Ballet in the European premiere of Ms. Farrell's re-staging of *Balanchine's Don Quixote*. In 2003, Ms. Goh was a guest with The Suzanne Farrell Ballet during their US tour. In 2002, Ms. Goh performed in the Vail International Gala as well as with The Suzanne Farrell Ballet for which she received critical acclaim.

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In August 2001, Ms. Goh travelled to Australia to perform with the Queensland Ballet in the International Ballet Gala and in 1999, Ms. Goh performed at Singapore Dance Theatre where she created the title role in Jean-Paul Comelin's *Giselle*.

In 1998, she was a guest artist with the Royal Danish Ballet, performing the role of Odette/Odile in Peter Martins' *Swan Lake*. In 1997, she performed the *balcony pas de deux* from *Romeo and Juliet* at the 20th Anniversary Gala for Washington Ballet. Ms. Goh performed a pas de deux from *Cruel World* at the CrusAID gala in Birmingham, England in 1997 and Festival des Arts in St. Sauveur, Quebec in 2002 and 2003. Ms. Goh was a guest artist with Singapore Dance Theatre and with Hong Kong Ballet, performing the role of The Sugar Plum Fairy in *The Nutcracker*.

Ms. Goh's autobiography *Beyond the Dance: A Ballerina's Life* was a finalist nominee for the 2003 Norma Fleck Award and the 2005 Rocky Mountain Book Award.

Together with her husband, Che, Ms. Goh founded Principal by Chan Hon Goh™, a manufacturer and distributor of ballet footwear. In 2005, she was awarded the Chinese Canadian Entrepreneur Award for Most Innovative Entrepreneur.

While in school, Ms. Goh received the Solo Seal Award. In 1986, she was a prizewinner at the Prix de Lausanne International Competition of Dance in Switzerland. In 1988, she was the first Canadian ever awarded the silver medal at the prestigious Adeline Genée Competition in London, England. Also in 1988, Chatelaine Magazine named her as one of their "Women of Achievement" for the year. In 2005, Ms. Goh was the recipient of the New Pioneers Award for contributions made to society by immigrants.

www.chanhongoh.com