

## Monday, February 8, 2010

### National Ballet of Canada Announces The 2010/11 Season



Karen Kain, Artistic Director of The National Ballet of Canada, today announced the 2010/11 season which features Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Christopher Wheeldon, a new full-length story ballet co-produced with The Royal Ballet (UK), and company premieres by Wayne McGregor and Alexei Ratmansky.

"I greatly admire these three brilliant choreographers who honour the framework of classical ballet, who don't need to deconstruct the form completely to be interesting but who can respect tradition and still be creative," says Ms. Kain.

The 2010/11 season begins with James Kudelka's imaginative re-conception of the beloved story of Cinderella.

Less a conventional rags-to-riches fable than an allegory of individual growth and understanding through the reconciling force of love, this physically inventive ballet is funny yet romantic and takes full advantage of Prokofiev's vibrant score.



Cinderella runs November 11 – 20, 2010.

**Jiri Jelinek (the company's newest Principal Dancer, formerly with the Stuttgart Ballet) and Xiao Yu dance an excerpt from *Swan Lake* at the announcement.**

The Fall Season's mixed programme includes British choreographer Wayne McGregor's award-winning Chroma, created in 2006 for The Royal Ballet, featuring the music of The White Stripes.

The National Ballet is the only company in the world other than The Royal Ballet to perform this extraordinary ballet. Mr. McGregor is the Resident Choreographer of The Royal Ballet, Artistic Director of his own company, Random Dance, and the UK government's first-ever Youth Dance Champion.

George Balanchine's Serenade and Canadian choreographer Crystal Pite's Emergence, winner of four Dora Mavor Moore Awards, are also featured in the mixed programme November 24 – 28, 2010.



Following *The Nutcracker*, December 11, 2010 – January 2, 2011, the Winter Season opens on March 5, 2011 with *The Ninth International Competition for The Erik Bruhn Prize*.

The comic and touching *Don Quixote* by Nicolas Beriozoff, after Marius Petipa and Alexander Gorsky, returns March 12 – 20, 2011 after 10 years of absence from the National Ballet stage.



The Winter Season continues with a mixed programme featuring *Russian Seasons* by Moscow-born choreographer Alexei Ratmansky. Formerly the Artistic Director of the Bolshoi Ballet and now Artist-in-Residence at American Ballet Theatre, Mr. Ratmansky has risen to the top ranks of international dancemakers in a remarkably short time.

*Russian Seasons*, created for New York City Ballet in 2006, is a richly conceived blending of classical, folk and jazz idioms set to a touching score by compatriot Leonid Desyatnikov.

*Russian Seasons* makes its company premiere with Balanchine's *Theme and Variations* and *Apollo*, March 23 – 27, 2011.



**Noah Long and Tiffany Mosher perform an excerpt from *24 Preludes By Chopin* at the announcement.**

For the Summer Season, British Choreographer Christopher Wheeldon creates a new fulllength, two-act interpretation of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, a co-production between the National Ballet and The Royal Ballet (UK).

The combination of the well-known narrative with a commissioned score by British composer Joby Talbot and Mr. Wheeldon's sophisticated choreography promises to be one of the highlights of the season.

*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* will debut first in London in February 2011 and then in Toronto, June 4 – 12, 2011.



Filling out the Summer Season, along with *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, is a mixed programme featuring Balanchine's *Mozartiana*, Maurice Béjart's *Song of a Wayfarer*, not seen in Toronto for 24 years, and Twyla Tharp's *In The Upper Room*, June 15 – 19, 2011.

For the first time in 20 years, the company tours to Québec City as part of *Danse Danse* on October 13, 2010 and to Montréal, October 15 – 16, 2010, where the company last performed in 2003.

The company will present Marie Chouinard's 24 Preludes by Chopin and Ms. Pite's Emergence, which Ms. Kain describes as "a perfect pairing of ballets ideal for contemporary audiences in Québec."

The programme, along with Balanchine's Serenade, will then tour to the National Arts Centre in Ottawa, October 21 – 23, 2010.

Tickets: range from \$21.50 – \$201.

Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, 145 Queen Street West, Toronto  
Box Office: The box office is located at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts

(145 Queen Street West) or call 416 (toll free 1 866) 345 9595.

Tickets can also be purchased online at [national.ballet.ca](http://national.ballet.ca)

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