

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

#24/58

2009/10 Season Announced

Great Classics *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Swan Lake*
Oregon Featuring a Glorious New Design
Two World Premieres by Aszure Barton and Jorma Elo
One Company Premiere

February 9, 2009... **Karen Kain**, Artistic Director of The National Ballet of Canada, today announced the 2009/10 season. The season features the return of great classics, *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Swan Lake*, world premieres by two exciting choreographic talents, a company premiere as well as *Oregon*, featuring a glorious new design.

The 2009/10 Season

The Sleeping Beauty is a ballet that epitomizes, perhaps better than any other, the meaning of classical ballet and it opens the 2009/10 season on November 13, 2009. **Rudolf Nureyev's** *The Sleeping Beauty* was refurbished and restored to its original splendour to open The National Ballet of Canada's inaugural season in the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts.

"*The Sleeping Beauty* has an important place in the history of The National Ballet of Canada. Rudolf Nureyev set his famous version of the work on our company in 1972, an event that is still a famous milestone in our artistic evolution," says Ms. Kain. "It gives me great pleasure to bring the work back this year to allow people the chance once again to revel in the riches and timeless artistry it contains."

The Fall Season's mixed programme features a new work by one of the most poised and exciting choreographers today, Edmonton-born **Aszure Barton**. Ms. Barton's energetic, often riotously complex and utterly uncategorizable dances, commissioned by, among others, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Martha Graham Dance Company and Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal, have drawn praise and superlatives from all quarters. **George Balanchine's** refined neo-classical *The Four Temperaments* and **Jerome Robbins'** vigorously modernist *Glass Pieces* are also featured November 25 – 29, 2009.

Following *The Nutcracker*, December 12, 2009 – January 3, 2010, the Winter Season opens on March 3, 2010 with **Marie Chouinard's** brilliantly provocative *24 Preludes by Chopin*, **James Kudelka's** touching and elegant *The Four Seasons* and the company premiere of **Jerome Robbins'** captivating solo work, *A Suite of Dances*.

The full-length work for the Winter Season will be Mr. Kudelka's enthralling interpretation of *Swan Lake*, on stage March 11 – 21, 2010, throughout March Break. Never sacrificing any of the ballet's allure, symbolic fascination and power, Mr. Kudelka re-thinks the tale for a contemporary audience.

The Summer Season features a new work by Finnish choreographer **Jorma Elo**, a highly sought-after choreographer who has created works for numerous ballet companies in both Europe and North America. Mr. Elo's choreography is renowned for its speed and

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

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physicality, its intricate fusion of the classical and contemporary and for the extraordinary but rewarding demands it makes on dancers. This new work will be presented with Jerome Robbins' exuberant and entertaining *West Side Story Suite* and his exquisite *Opus 19/The Dreamer* June 4 – 13, 2010.

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The 2009/10 season closes with one of the National Ballet's most popular full-length story ballets, **John Cranko's** *Onegin*, featuring beautiful new sets and costumes by **Santo Loquasto**, one of today's most illustrious designers. *Onegin* is on stage June 19 – 25, 2010.

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The company will tour to the National Arts Centre in **Ottawa** with *The Sleeping Beauty* November 5 – 7, 2009 for three performances. Other touring dates will be announced later.

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416 345 9686

The National Ballet of Canada's 2009/10 Season at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts:

Fax
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Fall Season
The Sleeping Beauty
November 13 – 22, 2009

Website
national.ballet.ca

World Premiere by Aszure Barton[†] & *The Four Temperaments* & *Glass Pieces*
November 25 – 29, 2009

Holiday Season
The Nutcracker
December 12, 2009 – January 3, 2010

Winter Season
24 Preludes by Chopin & *A Suite of Dances** & *The Four Seasons*
March 3 – 7, 2010

Swan Lake
March 11 – 21, 2010

Summer Season
West Side Story Suite & World Premiere by Jorma Elo[†] & *Opus 19/The Dreamer*
June 4 – 13, 2010

Onegin
June 19 – 25, 2010

[†] World Premiere * Company Premiere

Tickets:
Price range is \$20 - \$210.

Discount rates are available for groups of 10 people or more. Rush seats are available on the day of the performance in person at the box office for \$30. DanceBreak members aged

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16 to 29 can purchase \$25 tickets on the day of the performance, depending on availability. Visit DanceBreak.ca.

Venue:

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.

Website: national.ballet.ca.

The 2009/10 season is presented by CTV and The Globe and Mail.

The Sleeping Beauty is made possible by generous contributions from Margaret & Jim Fleck, The Catherine & Maxwell Meighen Foundation, Sandra & Jim Pitblado, Gretchen Ross and Nancy Pencer & Michael Benjamin.

BMO Financial Group presents *World Premiere* by Aszure Barton* & *The Four Temperaments & Glass Pieces*.

The Four Temperaments is a gift from THE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA.

Glass Pieces is a gift from THE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA.

TD Waterhouse presents *The Nutcracker*.

The Nutcracker is made possible by generous financial support from production underwriters Sandra & Jim Pitblado, Lawrence & Ann Heisey and an anonymous friend of the National Ballet.

24 Preludes by Chopin is a gift from THE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA.

The Four Seasons is a gift from THE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA.

Swan Lake is made possible by generous financial support from production underwriters Sandra & Jim Pitblado and Margaret & Jim Fleck.

West Side Story Suite is generously supported by Walter Carsen, O.C., Ira Gluskin & Maxine Granovsky Gluskin, Judy Korthals and Sandra & Jim Pitblado.

The new commissioned World Premiere by Jorma Elo is a gift from THE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA.

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Opus 19/The Dreamer is made possible by a generous contribution from David and Torunn Banks.

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ONLINE IMAGE LIBRARY:

Media are invited to download photos of The National Ballet of Canada's 2009/10 season at <http://national.ballet.ca/media/MediaImageGallery/coppermine/index.php>

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