

2010/11 Season Announced

New Full-Length Ballet – *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Christopher Wheeldon
Company Premieres by Wayne McGregor and Alexei Ratmansky
Tour to Québec

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

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The National Ballet
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Registration Number
11905 1449 RR0001

February 8, 2010... **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

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.

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**.

Audience and
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tickets@national.ballet.ca



Heather Ogden, Piotr Stanczyk, Sonia Rodriguez, Aleksandar Antonijevic, Bridgett Zehr, Guillaume Côté, Xiao Nan Yu, Zdenek Konvalina, Greta Hodgkinson. Photos by Sian Richards.



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

For the Summer Season, British Choreographer **Christopher Wheeldon** creates a new full-length, 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.

The National Ballet of Canada's 2010/11 Season

Touring

24 Preludes by Chopin & Emergence

October 13, 2010, Grand Théâtre de Québec, Québec City

October 15 – 16, 2010, Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts, Montréal

24 Preludes by Chopin & Emergence & Serenade

October 21 – 23, 2010, National Arts Centre, Ottawa

Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, Toronto

Fall Season

Cinderella

November 11 – 20, 2010

Chroma & Serenade & Emergence*

November 24 – 28, 2010

Holiday Season

The Nutcracker

December 11, 2010 – January 2, 2011

Winter Season

The Ninth International Competition for The Erik Bruhn Prize

March 5, 2011

Don Quixote

March 12 – 20, 2011

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*Theme and Variations & Apollo & Russian Seasons**
March 23 – 27, 2011

Summer Season

*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland**
June 4 – 12, 2011

Mozartiana & Song of a Wayfarer & In The Upper Room
June 15 – 19, 2011

+ North American Premiere * Company Premiere

Tickets:
Price range is \$21.50 – \$201.

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 2010/11 season is presented by CTV and The Globe and Mail.

Cinderella, Don Quixote, Theme and Variations, Apollo and Mozartiana are gifts from THE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA.

BMO Financial Group presents *Chroma & Serenade & Emergence*.

Emergence is generously supported by Gail Hutchison.

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.

The Ninth International Competition for The Erik Bruhn Prize is presented by John and Claudine Bailey.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland is generously supported in part by an anonymous friend of the ballet.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland is presented as part of Luminato, Toronto Festival of Arts + Creativity.

In The Upper Room is a gift from Walter Carsen, O.C.

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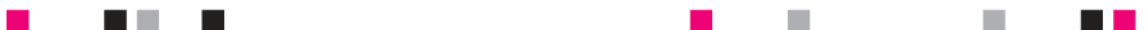
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The National Ballet of Canada gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of the Canada Council for the Arts; the Ontario Arts Council; the City of Toronto through the Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Department; the Government of Canada through the Honourable James Moore, Minister, the Department of Canadian Heritage; the Government of Ontario; the Ontario Arts Foundation; the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

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Media are invited to download photos of The National Ballet of Canada's 2010/11 season at <http://national.ballet.ca/media/MediaImageGallery/coppermine/index.php>

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