

Karen Kain  
Artistic Director

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## Ballet Babies

On Stage  
Four Seasons Centre  
for the Performing Arts

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September 21, 2009... The National Ballet of Canada announced today that two ballerinas with the company are expecting their first child. Both Principal Dancer **Greta Hodgkinson** and husband First Soloist **Etienne Lavigne** and Second Soloist **Alejandra Perez-Gomez** and husband Theo Edmands are expecting in January 2010.

Last season saw the arrival of three babies at the National Ballet to First Soloists **Tanya Howard** and **Rebekah Rimsay** and Second Soloist **Lisa Robinson**.

Ms. Hodgkinson will return to the National Ballet in 2010 for *Onegin*, which features a glorious new design by **Santo Loquasto**, and is currently teaching company classes at the Walter Carsen Centre in Toronto. Ms. Perez-Gomez plans to return for the 2010/11 season. Currently, Ms. Perez-Gomez is leading *Exploring Ballet* workshops in classrooms across the GTA, will participate in our *Creating a Song*, *Creating a Dance* workshops in Waterloo, Ontario in November 2009 and will moderate YOU dance performances at the Betty Oliphant Theatre at Canada's National Ballet of Canada as well as assist in the in-school workshops.

Ms. Hodgkinson has been a Principal Dancer with The National Ballet of Canada since 1996. She has performed every leading role in the classical repertoire to critical acclaim and her talents extend to the contemporary repertoire as well. Ms. Hodgkinson has had numerous roles created for her by world renowned choreographers and worked closely with such dance icons as William Forsythe, Jiří Kylián, Glen Tetley and John Neumeier. As a guest artist, Ms. Hodgkinson has appeared with The Kirov Ballet (International Ballet Festival Mariinsky), Teatro alla Scala, The Australian Ballet and Stuttgart Ballet, among others. She will appear as Margot Fonteyn in the Bravo! TV docudrama *Nureyev*, due to air in 2009.

Ms. Perez-Gomez joined The National Ballet of Canada in 1998 and was promoted to Second Soloist in 2006. With the company, Ms. Perez-Gomez has danced Carabosse in *The Sleeping Beauty*, Lady Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet* and Baba in *The Nutcracker*. Her repertoire also includes *The Four Seasons*, *The Four Temperaments*, *Désir*, *Opus 19/The Dreamer*, *Stravinsky Violin Concerto*, *Jewels* and *There, below*. Ms. Perez-Gomez has created roles in Matjash Mrozewski's *Wolf's Court* and *A Delicate Battle* and James Kudelka's *An Italian Straw Hat*, *The Contract (The Pied Piper)*, *The Firebird* and *Swan Lake*. She recently performed in the world premieres of Peter Quanz's *IN COLOUR* and Crystal Pite's *Emergence* and the company premieres of John Neumeier's *The Seagull* and Dominique Dumais' *Skin Divers*.

The National Ballet of Canada's 2009/10 season opens with *The Sleeping Beauty* on November 13, 2009 and continues with a mixed programme featuring a world premiere by Aszure Barton & *The Four Temperaments* & *Glass Pieces*, which opens on November 25, 2009.

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

Audience and  
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*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.

The National Ballet of Canada dedicates the 2009/10 season performances of *The Sleeping Beauty* in memory of Mona Campbell.

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

*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.

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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