

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

#15

Casting Announced for *24 Preludes by Chopin & A Suite of Dances & The Four Seasons*

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

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The National Ballet
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Charitable
Registration Number
11905 1449 RR0001

February 23, 2010... **Karen Kain**, Artistic Director of The National Ballet of Canada, today announced the casting for *24 Preludes by Chopin & A Suite of Dances & The Four Seasons*, which opens the Winter Season on March 3, 2010 at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts.

The National Ballet recently performed **Marie Chouinard**'s startlingly beautiful *24 Preludes by Chopin* at the Cultural Olympics in Vancouver and received praised for "bringing its gold-medal game", [Maclean's Magazine](#). The ensemble cast will feature **Jordana Daumec, Tanya Howard, Stephanie Hutchison, Patrick Lavoie, James Leja, Noah Long, Stacey Shiori Minagawa, Tiffany Mosher, Andreea Olteanu, Marissa Parzei, Jonathan Renna, Rebekah Rimsay, Sonia Rodriguez, Christopher Stalzer, Robert Stephen, Brett van Sickle** and guest artist **Matjash Mrozewski**.

Principal Dancers **Zdenek Konvalina** and **Guillaume Côté** will make their debut in the solo role in **Jerome Robbins'** *A Suite of Dances*. Created in 1994 for Mikhail Baryshnikov, *A Suite of Dances* glides through a variety of moods, from the nonchalant to the introspective to the ecstatic, addressing both the audience and the baroque sensuousness of Bach's music with the same studied abandon. Featured onstage will be Canadian cellist **Winona Zelenka**.

James Kudelka's intensely moving and intimately involving *The Four Seasons* is a powerful exploration in dance and music of the seasons of a man's life. Making their debuts this season in the role of A Man are Principal Dancer **Guillaume Côté**, First Soloist **Patrick Lavoie** and Second Soloist **Noah Long**. Corps de Ballet member **Chelsy Meiss** makes her debut as Spring and Principal Dancers **Xiao Nan Yu** and First Soloist **Stephanie Hutchison** make their debuts as Winter. Also featured is Violin Soloist **Mayumi Seiler**.

The opening night cast of *The Four Seasons* will feature Principal Dancer **Aleksandar Antonijevic** as A Man, First Soloist **Jillian Vanstone** as Spring, Principal Dancer **Sonia Rodriguez** as Summer, First Soloist **Rebekah Rimsay** as Autumn and Principal Character Artist **Victoria Bertram** as Winter.

The opening night pre-show Ballet Talk will be given by Artist-in-Residence **Rex Harrington** 45 minutes prior to the curtain.

Principal Casting

A Suite of Dances

Zdenek Konvalina (March 3, 4 at 7:30 pm/March 6, 7 at 2:00 pm)

Guillaume Côté (March 5, 6 at 7:30 pm)

The Four Seasons

A Man

Aleksandar Antonijevic (March 3, 6 at 7:30 pm)

Guillaume Côté* (March 4 at 7:30 pm/March 7 at 2:00 pm)

Patrick Lavoie* (March 5 at 7:30 pm)

Noah Long* (March 6 at 2:00 pm)

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Spring

Jillian Vanstone (March 3, 6 at 7:30 pm/March 6 at 2:00 pm)

Tina Pereira (March 4 at 7:30 pm/March 7 at 2:00 pm)

Chelsy Meiss* (March 5 at 7:30 pm)

Summer

Sonia Rodriguez (March 3, 5, 6 at 7:30 pm)

Heather Ogden (March 4 at 7:30 pm/March 7 at 2:00 pm)

Tanya Howard (March 6 at 2:00 pm)

Autumn

Rebekah Rimsay (March 3, 6 at 7:30 pm)

Stephanie Hutchison (March 4 at 7:30 pm/March 7 at 2:00 pm)

Xiao Nan Yu (March 5 at 7:30 pm)

Jenna Savella (March 6 at 2:00 pm)

Winter

Victoria Bertram (March 3, 4, 6 at 7:30 pm/March 7 at 2:00 pm)

Stephanie Hutchison* (March 5 at 7:30 pm)

Xiao Nan Yu* (March 6 at 2:00 pm)

* Debuts Casting is subject to change.

24 Preludes by Chopin & A Suite of Dances & The Four Seasons

Wednesday, March 3 at 7:30 pm

Thursday, March 4 at 7:30 pm

Friday, March 5 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, March 6 at 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm

Sunday, March 7 at 2:00 pm

Tickets:

Prices range from \$20 to \$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 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.

**Audience and
Donor Services**

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24 Preludes by Chopin and *The Four Seasons* are gifts from THE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA.

A Suite of Dances is a gift from The Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation.

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Performance Sponsors: KPMG (March 4 at 7:30 pm) and CTV and The Globe & Mail (March 5 at 7:30 pm)

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Guillaume Côté is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Emmanuelle Gattuso & Allan Slaight.

Zdenek Konvalina is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Gretchen Ross.

Tanya Howard is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Nancy Pencer.

Noah Long is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Sandra Faire & Ivan Fecan.

Jenna Savella is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Elvio & Marlene DelZotto.

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- 30 -

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