

## Chan Hon Goh Retires After 20 Years of Dance

On Stage  
Four Seasons Centre  
for the Performing Arts

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February 9, 2009... Principal Dancer **Chan Hon Goh** will retire in June 2009 after 20 years with The National Ballet of Canada.

"Chan has given us 20 years of beautiful and memorable performances at the National Ballet. Not only has she had a stellar career, she is a wonderfully kind and generous colleague with a professional etiquette and is a great model for young dancers," says **Karen Kain**, Artistic Director. "Chan brings her remarkable energy and dedication to all she puts her hand to, from the building of her business to the raising of her lovely family. I will greatly miss her on stage and off, and look forward to her exciting future."

Born in Beijing, China, Ms. Goh emigrated with her family to Canada, settling in Vancouver, where she studied in the professional programme at the Goh Ballet Academy. Upon graduation in 1988, she joined The National Ballet of Canada and has been a Principal Dancer since 1994.

During her remarkable career, Ms. Goh danced almost all the lead female roles in the classical repertoire, including Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake*, Princess Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty*, Tatiana in *Onegin* and title roles in *Giselle*, *Madame Butterfly* and *La Sylphide*. Recently, DanceView Magazine wrote "Goh is at the height of her powers, where technical ability and dramatic insight converge. Her dancing these days feels freer than ever; she is totally present and committed to what is unfolding on stage."

Ms. Goh is known for the vibrancy and elegance she brings to her extensive Balanchine repertoire. Multiple roles have been created for her at the National Ballet and she has been chosen to perform in the company premieres of works by contemporary choreographers John Neumeier, Christopher Wheeldon, and Jiří Kylián, among others.

A much sought-after international guest artist, Ms. Goh has appeared with numerous companies throughout Europe, Asia, Australia and North America. She was the first Canadian to receive the silver medal at the Genée International Ballet Competition in London, England and was a prize recipient at the Prix de Lausanne. In 2005, Ms. Goh received the New Pioneers Arts Award for her contributions to dance in Canada.

Ms. Goh is the founder of Principal by Chan Hon Goh™, a manufacturer and distributor of ballet footwear.

[Full biography of Chan Hon Goh >](#)

Karen Kain  
Artistic Director

## Media Release

The 2008/09 season is presented by CTV and The Globe and Mail.

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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