

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

Media Release

#23/58

Winter Season Opens with World Premieres by Peter Quanz, Sabrina Matthews and Crystal Pite Ballet Talks Feature Dance Critic Clement Crisp March 4 – 8, 2009

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

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The Walter Carsen
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The National Ballet
of Canada
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Administration
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Charitable
Business Number
11905 1449 RR0001

February 2, 2009... The vibrancy and richness of contemporary Canadian choreography is portrayed in three world premieres by **Peter Quanz**, **Sabrina Matthews** and **Crystal Pite** in *Innovation*, which opens The National Ballet of Canada's Winter Season on March 4, 2009.

"Encouraging the creation of new ballets and the development of Canadian choreographers is an integral part of the company's history. With *Innovation*, we will introduce our audiences to the Canadian choreographic talent that is making itself known nationally and internationally," says **Karen Kain**, Artistic Director.

Peter Quanz's *IN COLOUR* features a commissioned score by Russian composer **Anton Lubchenko** and set and costume design by Canadian **Michael Gianfrancesco**, who has frequently designed for the Stratford Shakespeare Festival. Acclaimed in the field of ballet for his striking designs, Resident Lighting Designer **Christopher Dennis** creates the lighting for *IN COLOUR*.

dextris by Sabrina Matthews is set to music by **Antonio Vivaldi** and features five soloist singers, **Kathleen Brett**, **Teiya Kasahara**, **Marion Newman**, **Michael Colvin** and **Alain Coulombe**, who will perform on stage along with the 47-member Toronto Mendelssohn Choir. Costumes are by Canadian **Caroline O'Brien**, whose designs have appeared in works by national and international dancemakers, and lighting is designed by **Christopher Dennis**.

Crystal Pite's as yet untitled new work includes an original commissioned score by frequent collaborator **Owen Belton** and set design by **Jay Gower Taylor**, who has designed productions for Ms. Pite's company, Kidd Pivot. Vancouver-based designer **Linda Chow** creates the costumes and lighting is by another long-time collaborator, **Alan Brodie**, whose work has appeared in productions by the Canadian Opera Company, Canadian Stage Company and Soulpepper, among others.

Clement Crisp, renowned dance critic for the Financial Times in London, England, and National Post critic **Michael Crabb** lead the Ballet Talks prior to every performance of *Innovation*.

Innovation

Wednesday, March 4 at 7:30 pm
Thursday, March 5 at 7:30 pm
Friday, March 6 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, March 7 at 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Sunday, March 8 at 2:00 pm

Box Office
416 345 9595
Toll Free 1 866 345 9595
tickets@national.ballet.ca

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Tickets:
Price range is \$20 - \$200.

Discount rates are available for groups of 10 people or more. Rush seats are available on the day of performance in person at the box office for \$30. DanceBreak members aged 16 to 29 can purchase \$20 tickets on the day of the performance, depending on availability. Visit DanceBreak.ca.

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

IN COLOUR by Peter Quanz is a gift from THE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA.

World Premiere by Crystal Pite is generously supported by Gail Hutchison.

Performance Sponsor: CIBC (March 6)

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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