

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

Media Release

#33/58

Romeo and Juliet Almost 85% Sold at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa Karen Kain to host opening night Ballet Talk Master Class by Tomas Schramek

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

Mailing Address
The Walter Carsen
Centre for
The National Ballet
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Charitable
Business Number
11905 1449 RR0001

April 7, 2009... The National Ballet of Canada tours to the National Arts Centre in Ottawa April 16 – 18, 2009 with *Romeo and Juliet*. Ticket sales are strong with performances almost 85% sold.

The National Ballet performed *Romeo and Juliet* at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts in Toronto in March to capacity audiences and critical acclaim: "Music, dance and theatre = magic! The whole evening was enchanted... zinging with energy" (*The Globe and Mail*, 2009).

Artistic Director **Karen Kain** will speak about *Romeo and Juliet* at a special opening night Ballet Talk on April 16 in the National Arts Centre's Le Salon. The talk is free for all ticket holders. The National Ballet of Canada will present a Master Class led by Tomas Schramek, Assistant Ballet Master and Principal Character Artist, open to the public for a fee of \$15 on April 18 at 10:30 am in the National Arts Centre's Rehearsal Hall. For more information, please visit www.nac-cna.ca.

The opening night performance on April 16 will feature Principal Dancers **Heather Ogden** and **Guillaume Côté** in the title roles.

This ballet captures the heart of Shakespeare's timeless story of star-crossed lovers with choreography by **John Cranko**, a dramatic score by **Sergei Prokofiev**, sets and costumes by Canadian designer **Susan Benson** and lighting design by **Robert Thomson**.

Principal Casting

Juliet	Heather Ogden (April 16 at 8:00 pm) Greta Hodgkinson (April 17 at 8:00 pm) Sonia Rodriguez (April 18 at 8:00 pm)
Romeo	Guillaume Côté (April 16 at 8:00 pm) Aleksandar Antonijevic (April 17 at 8:00 pm) Zdenek Konvalina (April 18 at 8:00 pm)
Mercutio	Piotr Stanczyk (April 16 at 8:00 pm) Richard Landry (April 17 at 8:00 pm) Keiichi Hirano (April 18 at 8:00 pm)

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Benvolio	Keiichi Hirano (April 16 at 8:00 pm) James Leja (April 17 at 8:00 pm) Richard Landry (April 18 at 8:00 pm)
Tybalt	Kevin D. Bowles (April 16 at 8:00 pm) Etienne Lavigne (April 17 at 8:00 pm) Jonathan Renna (April 18 at 8:00 pm)
Paris	Patrick Lavoie (April 16, 18 at 8:00 pm) Brett van Sickle (April 17 at 8:00 pm)
Lord Capulet	Etienne Lavigne (April 16 at 8:00 pm) Tomas Schramek (April 17, 18 at 8:00 pm)
Lady Capulet	Alejandra Perez-Gomez (April 16 at 8:00 pm) Stephanie Hutchison (April 17, 18 at 8:00 pm)
Nurse	Lorna Geddes (April 16, 18 at 8:00 pm) Victoria Bertram (April 17 at 8:00 pm)

Romeo and Juliet

Friday, April 17 at 8:00 pm
Saturday, April 18 8:00 pm
Sunday, April 19 at 8:00 pm

The National Ballet of Canada performs *Romeo and Juliet* in Southam Hall of the National Arts Centre on Thursday April 16, Friday April 17, and Saturday April 18, 2009 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$46, \$64, \$74, and \$81 for adults, and \$24.25, \$33.25, \$38.25, and \$41.75 for students (upon presentation of a valid student ID card). Tickets are available at the NAC Box Office (in person) and through Ticketmaster (with surcharges) at 613-755-1111; Ticketmaster may also be accessed through the NAC's website at www.nac-cna.ca.

Subject to availability, full-time students (aged 13-29) with valid [Live Rush](http://www.nac-cna.ca)™ membership may buy up to 2 tickets per performance at the discount price of \$11 per ticket. Tickets are available online (www.nac-cna.ca) or at the NAC box office from 2 p.m. on the day before the performance until 6 p.m. on the day of the show or 2 hours before a matinee.

Groups of 10 or more save 15% to 20% off regular ticket prices to all NAC Music, Theatre and Dance performances; to reserve your seats, call 613-947-7000 ext.384 or e-mail grp@nac-cna.ca.

For additional information, visit the NAC website at www.nac-cna.ca.

Website: national.ballet.ca.

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

This production of *Romeo and Juliet* entered the repertoire of The National Ballet of Canada on February 8, 1995 and was totally underwritten by Walter Carsen, O.C.

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VIA Rail Canada is the Official Transportation Sponsor of the Ottawa Tour.

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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