

The National Ballet of Canada and the Stratford
Shakespeare Festival Take *Romeo and Juliet* from
the Classroom to the Richard Bradshaw
Amphitheatre
March 12, 2009 at 1:15 pm

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

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March 9, 2009... The National Ballet of Canada and the Stratford Shakespeare Festival collaborate with four intermediate and secondary school classes and teachers to create innovative and non-verbal interpretations of *Romeo and Juliet* that will be performed in the Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts on March 12, 2009 at 1:15 pm as the Ballet Talk.

This unique project brings an innovative approach to enhancing teachers' and students' appreciation for Shakespeare and introduces them to the collaborative process artists use.

"The *Romeo and Juliet* project gives students the invaluable experience of working directly with artists from the worlds of both dance and drama, fostering a life-long appreciation of the art forms," says **Karen Kain**, Artistic Director. "Programmes such as this also provide much-needed support to teachers in our community who have the important role of leading and inspiring our younger generations."

After three classroom sessions with artists from each discipline and additional hard work carried on by their teachers, students from Claude Watson School for the Arts, Mayfield S. S., Rosedale Heights School for the Arts and Cawthra Park S. S. will perform their scenes in the Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre and then attend the performance of John Cranko's ballet.

Pre-show Ballet Talks for all other performances of *Romeo and Juliet* will be lead by Artist-in-Residence **Rex Harrington** and will begin 45 minutes prior to the performance.

Romeo and Juliet opens this Wednesday, March 11 and runs to March 22.

Romeo and Juliet

Wednesday, March 11 at 7:30 pm
Thursday, March 12 at 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Friday, March 13 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, March 14 at 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Sunday, March 15 at 2:00 pm
Thursday, March 19 at 7:30 pm
Friday, March 20 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, March 21 at 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Sunday, March 22 at 2:00 pm

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

Tickets:
Prices range from \$20 - \$200.

Buy 4 orchestra tickets for the March 19 or March 20 performances of *Romeo and Juliet* and save 48% with the **March Break 4-Pack**.

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 \$20 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 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.

KPMG is the Performance Sponsor for March 13 at 7:30 pm.

CTV is the Performance Sponsor for March 14 at 7:30 pm.

Fairmont Royal York is the Performance Sponsor for March 19 at 7:30 pm.

Gatsby Valet is the Performance Sponsor for March 21 at 7:30 pm.

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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