

The Seagull Unfolds November 14 Principal Casting Announced Hamburg Ballet's Ivan Urban to Guest

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

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The Walter Carsen
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October 29, 2008... **Karen Kain**, Artistic Director of The National Ballet of Canada, announced today the principal casting for the North American premiere of *The Seagull*. The performances run from November 14 to 23 at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts.

The opening night cast will feature **Zdenek Konvalina** in the role of Kostya, **Greta Hodgkinson** as Arkadina, **Aleksandar Antonijevic** as Trigorin and **Sonia Rodriguez** as Nina.

Guest Artist **Ivan Urban**, Principal Dancer with Hamburg Ballet, will dance the role of Kostya on November 15, 20, 23 at 2:00 pm and on November 21 at 7:30 pm. Born in Gomel, Belarus, Mr. Urban has danced principal roles in many ballets by John Neumeier including Telemachos in *Odyssee*, King Koll/Fortinbras in *Hamlet* (1997 version), Eros in *Bernstein Dances*, Serge Diaghilev in *Nijinsky* and Frederick the Great in *Tod in Venedig* as well as in Time after Time from *Bartók-Bilder*, *Messias*, *Winterreise*, *Préludes CV* and Nocturnes from *Lieder der Nacht*. Recently, he performed the role of Kostya in *The Seagull* (2007) and Jago in *Othello* (2008). Yukichi Hattori created a solo for Mr. Urban in *Wege* in 2005.

Principal Casting:

Kostya	Zdenek Konvalina (Nov. 14, 15, 19, 20, 22 at 7:30 pm) Ivan Urban [†] (Nov. 15, 20, 23 at 2:00 pm/Nov. 21 at 7:30 pm) Keiichi Hirano (Nov. 16 at 1:00 pm)
Arkadina	Greta Hodgkinson (Nov. 14, 15, 19, 20, 22 at 7:30 pm) Xiao Nan Yu (Nov. 15, 20, 23 at 2:00 pm/Nov. 21 at 7:30 pm) Heather Ogden (Nov. 16 at 1:00 pm)
Trigorin	Aleksandar Antonijevic (Nov. 14, 15, 19, 20, 22 at 7:30 pm) Piotr Stanczyk (Nov. 15, 20, 23 at 2:00 pm/Nov 16 at 1:00 pm/Nov. 21 at 7:30 pm)
Nina	Sonia Rodriguez (Nov. 14, 15, 19, 20, 22 at 7:30 pm) Elena Lobsanova (Nov. 15, 20, 23 at 2:00 pm/Nov. 21 at 7:30 pm)

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

Jillian Vanstone (Nov. 16 at 1:00 pm)

† Guest Artist

[More information about characters >](#)

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The Seagull

Friday, November 14 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, November 15 at 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Sunday, November 16 at 1:00 pm
Wednesday, November 19 at 7:30 pm
Thursday, November 20 at 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Friday, November 21 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, November 22 at 7:30 pm
Sunday, November 23 at 2:00 pm

Tickets:

Prices range from \$20 – \$200.

Discount rates are available for groups of 10 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, subject to 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.

BMO Financial Group presents *The Seagull*.

The Seagull is generously supported in part by an anonymous friend of the ballet.

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

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 Josée Verner, Minister, the Department of

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

Media Release

Canadian Heritage; the Government of Ontario; the Ontario Arts Foundation; the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

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