

MAD HOT Wonderland Gala Repertoire Announced

Features Excerpts from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*
Greta Hodgkinson Debuts in *Dying Swan*

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

Mailing Address
The Walter Carsen
Centre for
The National Ballet
of Canada
470 Queens Quay West
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M5V 3K4

Administration
416 345 9686

Fax
416 345 8323

Website
national.ballet.ca

Charitable
Registration Number
11905 1449 RR0001

May 20, 2011... Artistic Director **Karen Kain** today announced the repertoire for **MAD HOT Wonderland**, The National Ballet of Canada's annual million-dollar fundraising gala on June 21, 2011 at 6:30 pm at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts.

MAD HOT Wonderland's one-hour gala performance includes excerpts from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, which makes its North American premiere on June 4, as well as works by company members **Guillaume Côté** and **Robert Stephen**. The excerpts feature Principal Dancer **Sonia Rodriguez** as Alice, First Soloist **Keiichi Hirano** as The Knave of Hearts, Principal Dancers **Piotr Stanczyk** as The White Rabbit, **Jiří Jelinek** as The Caterpillar as well as members of the Corps de Ballet in the Flower Garden scene.

Corps de Ballet members **Shino Mori** and **Naoya Ebe** perform *Passacaglia* created by Second Soloist **Robert Stephen** for the The Ninth International Competition for The Erik Bruhn Prize which took place in March 2011. Mr. Stephen was awarded the Audience Choice Award for the piece.

No. 24 by Guest Artist-in-Residence **Guillaume Côté** features Principal Dancer **Aleksandar Antonijevic** and Second Soloist **Elena Lobsanova**. Originally created for the National Ballet's Choreographic Lab in 2010, *No. 24* recently garnered the third prize at the prestigious Ballet Society Hanover's 25th International Competition in Germany in April 2011.

Principal Dancer **Greta Hodgkinson**, who celebrates her 20th anniversary this season, dances the solo performance of the *Dying Swan* by Mikhail Fokine.

The evening continues with a special post-performance celebration in the lobby featuring MAD HOT tea party themed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres amidst a life-sized chess game. Gala patrons then move to the stage for a gourmet dinner created by chef **Mark McEwan**, followed by dancing with the National Ballet dancers.

MAD HOT lottery tickets are now available for \$50 each or 3 for \$100. For more information and to purchase tickets, call 416 345 9595.



Karen Kain
Artistic Director

MAD HOT Wonderland

Tickets:

Mad HOTTIE ticket: \$1,500

Gala performance, reception, dinner and dancing

Performance PLUS ticket: \$55 - \$133 (includes HST)

Gala performance and reception

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: madhotgala.com

MAD HOT Lead Sponsor: CIBC

MAD HOT Media Sponsors: CTV and The Globe and Mail

MAD HOT Lottery License Number: 3869

The 2010/11 season is presented by CTV and The Globe and Mail.

Thomson Reuters presents *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

Lead philanthropic support for *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* provided by an anonymous friend of the National Ballet with additional support generously provided by The Catherine & Maxwell Meighen Foundation, Richard M. Ivey, C.C., Rosamond Ivey, Robert & Judith Lawrie and Wallace & Margaret McCain.

The company would like to thank the following donors who have made a generous contribution in support of a particular role:

Richard M. Ivey, C.C. for Alice
Gretchen Ross for the Queen of Hearts
David & Torunn Banks for the King of Hearts
Fiona Garland & Andrew Bentley for the Flamingos
Nancy Pencer for the Cheshire Cat

Generously supported by The Monument Trust in memory of Simon Sainsbury.

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Generous philanthropic support from Sir Simon and Lady Robertson, Sarah and Lloyd Dorfman, Robert and Kathleen Wallace, Celia Blakey, Sue Butcher, Marina Hobson MBE, Peter Lloyd, Kristina Rogge and Richard and Victoria Sharp.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland is presented as part of Luminato, Toronto Festival of Arts and Creativity.

The Ninth International Competition for the Erik Bruhn Prize is presented by John and Claudine Bailey.

The National Ballet of Canada Choreographic Lab is made possible by the generous support of Lucille & Urban Joseph.

Guillaume Côté is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Emmanuelle Gattuso & Allan Slaight. Zdenek Konvalina is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Gretchen Ross.

Keiichi Hirano is sponsored through *Dancers First* by an anonymous donor.

Elena Lobsanova is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Sandra Faire & Ivan Fecan.

Robert Stephen is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Mr. Thor Eaton & The Honourable Nicole Eaton, Senator.

Shino Mori is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Catherine & Ian Delaney.

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 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; and the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund.

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For more information, please contact:

Catherine Chang
Senior Public Relations Manager

416 345 9686 x302

cchang@national.ballet.ca

national.ballet.ca

Christina McGrath
Publicity Coordinator

416 345 9686 x332

cmcgrath@national.ballet.ca

national.ballet.ca

