

You are invited to the *The Winter's Tale* Dress Rehearsal!



Alumni and a guest are invited to attend the dress rehearsal of *The Winter's Tale*. Shakespeare's fascinating late work has always defied classification. Christopher Wheeldon, working again with designer Bob Crowley and composer Joby Talbot, the same key creative team who gave us the unforgettable *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, embraces the full range of the play's emotional life, lavishing some of his most inventive and exuberant choreography to date on the rich and captivating characters that populate Shakespeare's beguiling narrative.

Date: **Thursday, November 9, 2017**

Time (subject to change):

Doors Open: **6:30 pm**

Ballet Talk: **6:45 pm**

Dress Rehearsal: **7:30 pm**

Location: **Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts**

RSVP deadline: October 31, 2017

RSVP by phone: Call 416 (1 866) 345 9595 and provide your account number and name

** Maximum 2 tickets per Alumnus. Seating is limited and allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets will be available for pick up at the Four Seasons Centre entrance one hour before the performance. To have your tickets sent directly to you, please provide us with an email address and your tickets will be emailed to you to print at home no later than three days prior to the rehearsal.*

Jurgita Dronina and Evan McKie in *The Winter's Tale*. Photo by Karolina Kuras.

2017 In Memoriam

To read more please visit

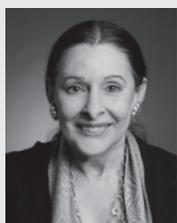
national.ballet.ca/Meet/Alumni/In-Memoriam



Avie Bennett
Board of Directors
(1928 - 2017)



**Harold (Brian)
Da Silva** | Dancer
(ca. 1932 - 2017)



**Penelope Reed
Doob** | Contributor
(1943 - 2017)



Peter Farmer
Designer
(1941 - 2017)



Teresa Mann
Dancer
(1934 - 2017)



Olga Priestman
Violinist
(1930 - 2016)

Long Service Honours with The National Ballet of Canada

Congratulations to Senior Manager, Interactive & Marketing Operations **Stephen Cunningham**, Assistant Carpenter/Fly Man **Geoff Kay**, Violinist **Nancy Kershaw**, Board Secretary **Pamela Ouzounian** and Principal Dancer **Xiao Nan Yu** who will be presented with a gold long service pin for 20 years at the 2016/17 Annual General Meeting on October 26, 2017.

A number of other milestone anniversaries will be recognized as follows: Violinists **Yakov Lerner** and **Joanna Zabrowarna**, Bassist **Robert Speer** and Principal Clarinetist **Max Christie** are recognized for 30 years of service. Principal Bassoon **Stephen Mosher**, Senior Ballet Master **Peter Ottmann** and 2nd Horn **Gary Pattison** will all be recognized for 40 years of service.

Retirements during the 2016/17 season included **Lise-Marie Jourdain**, Corps de Ballet after 15 years, **Robert Ferguson**, 2nd Trombone after 41 years, **Filip Tomov**, Violin after 37 years, **Larry Toman**, Viola after 39 years and **Barry Shour**, Chief Financial Officer after 19 years with the company.

Where Are You Now?

Email: alumni@national.ballet.ca

Mail: Attention:

Alumni at The Walter Carsen Centre

If you would like to share an update we would love to post a message on our website for your fans and other alumni to see. The National Ballet of Canada welcomes postings from all dancer, musician and staff alumni. Include your name (current name and maiden or stage name, if applicable), the years you performed or worked with the company, what you have done since you left, and what you are doing now. Please keep your message to 25 - 50 words (we reserve the right to edit submissions for length and clarity). Your email address or website can also be included alongside your posting.

Musicians Say Farewell

by Simon Olivero

Perhaps one of the most exciting moments of any ballet is that pause right before the curtain draws. A hush falls over the theatre as the chatter of the audience dies down and the disjointed sounds of musicians warming up in the pit go silent. In a moment, the lights will come up and the first chord will ring out to signal the start of the performance. While all eyes tend to focus on the dancers moving across the stage, a ballet would be nothing without music. Deep within the pit, the orchestra fills the theatre with rich melodies that guide the choreography and help carry out the narrative. For The National Ballet of Canada Orchestra, this can range from classical to contemporary music with works from composers like Tchaikovsky and Stravinsky to Talbot and Glass. Guiding the dancers, the orchestra plays a vital role in bringing to life each performance. This year, The National Ballet of Canada bade farewell to three members of its illustrious orchestra.

Robert Ferguson

Joining the company during the fall tour of 1976, trombone player Robert Ferguson earned a Bachelor of Music from Mount Allison University before moving to Toronto and auditioning for The National Ballet of Canada. Only 22 years old when he joined the company, he's spent the last four decades working through the ballet's full catalogue of music. Ferguson feels privileged to have spent his career pursuing his passion and describes the orchestra pit as a place of great camaraderie. One highlight was a magical night during the New York City tour of 1977 when the lights suddenly went out at the Metropolitan Opera during the second act of *La Fille mal gardée*. Wandering out into the darkness of Lincoln Square with the rest of the orchestra he realized that this was going to be so much more than an ordinary job.



Larry Toman

Violist Larry Toman joined the company in 1978. Earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts in musical performance from Purchase College in New York City (formerly the SUNY School of Performing Arts), he studied for four years under Harold Coletta, a renowned violist from the Bronx. Toman later moved to Toronto where he joined The National Ballet of Canada. He considers his time with the company a career highlight, touring through Europe in the late 1980s as well as through eastern and western Canada. In 1982, Toman recorded with Glenn Gould as solo viola on his last album, *Glenn Gould Conducts*. If he had to name one ballet score as his favourite, it would be Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* for the sheer beauty of the music.



Filip Tomov

Before immigrating to Canada, violinist Filip Tomov earned a Master's of Arts in violin performance from Sofia University in Bulgaria. In the years following his studies, he played with the Sofia State Philharmonic, Magdeburg and Leipzig Symphony Orchestra in Germany and the Orchestra Nacional de Cuba in Havana. In 1981, Tomov joined The National Ballet of Canada during a tour of western Canada under the late music director, George Crum. While he has enjoyed the full range of music the ballet has exposed him to, it's the classical ballets — particularly the work of composers Prokofiev, Tchaikovsky and Stravinsky — that he'll hold dear in his memory. Next up, Tomov plans to trade his violin in for a pair of sunglasses as he hits the beaches of the Caribbean.



Alumni Ticket Offer

National Ballet Alumni are able to purchase discounted tickets for all performances using their Alumni I.D. Card.

Cost: 50% off the regular price, as of 11:00 am the day before the performance.

Section: Any available seat as of 11:00 am the day before the performance, excluding Price Zones G and H.

For full details and information on how to take advantage of this offer visit national.ballet.ca/Meet/Alumni

Help Make History

The National Ballet Archives and the Erik Bruhn Library contain thousands of items that tell the stories of The National Ballet of Canada. The Archives' many collections continue to develop thanks to generous gifts. If you would like to help preserve the company's history, we gratefully accept donations of National Ballet related material including:

- » Letters
- » Professional papers
- » Memoirs/reminiscences/diaries
- » Films/videos/audio tapes (labeled)
- » Scrapbooks
- » Costumes/costume items
- » Photographs/photo albums (labeled)
- » Footwear

To make a donation of dance-related material please call the Archives at **416 345 9686 x365**.