

THE  
NATIONAL  
**Ballet**  
OF CANADA

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Hope Muir  
Artistic Director



2024  
25

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ON SALE NOW!**

Guillaume Côté's Final Season



# GUILLAUME CÔTÉ BIDS ADIEU

## Celebrating a Brilliant Career and an Exceptional Artist

Principal Dancer and Choreographic Associate Guillaume Côté is one of the finest artists of his generation and has influenced the creative identity of The National Ballet of Canada for 26 years. His brilliant international career encompasses multiple areas of the art form, reflecting his unique talent as a performer, choreographer, director, composer and musician. Guillaume retires from the National Ballet this season with an unforgettable legacy and equally bright future.

Born in Lac-Saint-Jean, Québec, Guillaume joined the National Ballet in 1998 and was promoted to Principal Dancer in 2004. His vast repertoire includes created roles in beloved ballets by James Kudelka and the title role in Alexei Ratmansky's *Romeo and Juliet*.

Guillaume assumed the pioneering role of Choreographic Associate in 2013 and has contributed an innovative body of work to the repertoire, including *Le Petit Prince* and *Frame by Frame* with Robert Lepage.

Today, Guillaume is Artistic Director of his own visionary company, Côté Danse, and Festival des Arts de Saint-Sauveur. His multidisciplinary collaborations include the award-winning films *Lost in Motion* and *Lulu* directed by Ben Shirinian – a partnership Guillaume is revisiting for his final performances in June.

Congratulations, Guillaume, on your extraordinary and ever-evolving life in dance!



*The End* (2003).



With Artists of the Ballet in *Opus 19/The Dreamer* (2007).



With Heather Ogden in *Nijinsky* (2018).



*Cinderella* (2004).



*Apollo* (2006).



With Former Principal Dancer Greta Hodgkinson in *A Month in the Country* (2014).



With Former Principal Dancer Xiao Nan Yu in *The Merry Widow* (2007).



With Former Principal Dancer Elena Lobanova in *Romeo and Juliet* (2011).

# ARTISTRY AND AMBITION

Join Us for the 2024/25 Season!

Our 2024/25 season demonstrates the artistry and ambition of The National Ballet of Canada today, as we balance our classical legacy with heightened innovation and involvement with the international dance community. I have sought richness and complexity across movement and music, new collaborations that extend our creative lineage and, above all, to bring a sense of freshness, familiarity and meaning to our stage.

The season opens with a signature work in Sir Peter Wright's *Giselle* and moves through different forms of storytelling, both traditional and new. On the legacy side, we are participating in global celebrations of Sir Frederick Ashton and Antony Tudor, whose work and influence are integral to our repertoire. We will also revisit Karen Kain's *Swan Lake* on the heels of the documentary film, *Swan Song*.

The balance of the season constitutes new work and acquisitions from living choreographers whose brilliance attests to the vitality of dance today. I'm thrilled to present the Canadian premiere of

famed choreographic duo Sol León and Paul Lightfoot's *Silent Screen*, the world premiere of Marco Goecke's *Morpheus' Dream*, the North American premiere of David Dawson's *The Four Seasons* and the North American premiere of Christian Spuck's stunning *Anna Karenina*.

This season marks the farewell of an outstanding artist in Principal Dancer Guillaume Côté, who will retire with a solo he is creating with filmmaker Ben Shirinian. Guillaume is part of an all-Canadian programme featuring world premieres by Jennifer Archibald and our newest Choreographic Associate Ethan Colangelo, curating a season that is both visionary and reflective.

Thank you so much for joining us.



Hope Muir  
Joan and Jerry Lozinski Artistic Director



# SEASON AT A GLANCE

NOV 9–16  
2024

**SILENT SCREEN** *Canadian Premiere*  
**& BODY OF WORK**  
**& RHAPSODY** *Canadian Premiere*  
*Sol León & Paul Lightfoot / Guillaume Côté / Frederick Ashton*

NOV 20–24  
2024

**GISELLE**  
*Sir Peter Wright*

DEC 6–31  
2024

**THE NUTCRACKER**  
*James Kudelka*

FEB 26–MAR 2  
2025

**THE FOUR SEASONS** *North American Premiere*  
**& MORPHEUS' DREAM** *World Premiere*  
**& THE LEAVES ARE FADING**  
*David Dawson / Marco Goecke / Antony Tudor*

MAR 8–22  
2025

**SWAN LAKE**  
*Karen Kain*

MAY 30–JUN 5  
2025

**ADIEU: A CELEBRATION OF GUILLAUME CÔTÉ**  
**BOLÉRO** *Guillaume Côté*  
**& INTO THE FADE** *World Premiere*  
*Guillaume Côté & Ben Shirinian*  
**WITH** *World Premieres by*  
**ETHAN COLANGELO & JENNIFER ARCHIBALD**

JUN 13–21  
2025

**ANNA KARENINA** *North American Premiere*  
*Christian Spuck*

# NEW FOR 2024/25!

## New Subscription Options

Our new subscription packages offer great discounts and more flexibility! Explore the options in the following pages and create the perfect subscription for you.

## Updated Seating Map

You will notice some changes to the seating map. Some sections have been revised based on demand and to give more streamlined pricing options on all levels of the theatre.

## Great Subscriber Benefits

Each package is different but all subscribers receive great benefits including:

- ▶ The best seats – Subscribers are always seated first
- ▶ FREE and easy exchanges if your plans change
- ▶ Customizable payment plans to suit YOUR budget needs
- ▶ Early access to purchase extra tickets to all performances including *The Nutcracker* before the public onsale
- ▶ Exclusive offers from local restaurants and businesses with your Subscriber Discount Card

## Secure the Best Seats Now!



# PREMIUM SUBSCRIPTION

Your Premium Subscription Discount is Equal to One Free Ballet!

## PREMIUM SUBSCRIPTION

 SEE ONE BALLET FOR FREE!

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- ▶ Priority seating before all other Subscribers and single ticket buyers
- ▶ Savings of 40% for Students, Seniors and Children on Saturday Matinee Premium Subscription
- ▶ Premium rush – save 50% off extra tickets the day before the performance. Invite friends or see other casts!

Zone	Adult	Student/ Senior/ Child	Sat Matinee Student/ Senior/Child
A	\$1,338	\$1,206	\$960
B	\$1,110	\$999	\$798
C	\$942	\$849	\$678
D	\$723	\$651	\$522
E	\$459	\$414	\$330

	Wed Evening 7:30 pm	Thu Evening 7:30 pm	Fri Evening 7:30 pm	Sat Matinee 2:00 pm	Sat Evening 7:30 pm	Sun Matinee 2:00 pm
<b>SILENT SCREEN &amp; BODY OF WORK &amp; RHAPSODY</b>	Nov 13	Nov 14	Nov 15	Nov 16	Nov 09	Nov 10
<b>GISELLE</b>	Nov 20	Nov 21	Nov 22	Nov 23	Nov 23	Nov 24
<b>THE FOUR SEASONS &amp; MORPHEUS' DREAM &amp; THE LEAVES ARE FADING</b>	Feb 26	Feb 27	Feb 28	Mar 01	Mar 01	Mar 02
<b>SWAN LAKE</b>	Mar 12	Mar 13	Mar 14	Mar 08	Mar 08	Mar 09
<b>ADIEU: A CELEBRATION OF GUILLAUME CÔTÉ</b>	Jun 04	Jun 05	May 30	May 31	May 31	Jun 01
<b>ANNA KARENINA</b>	Jun 18	Jun 19	Jun 13	Jun 14	Jun 14	Jun 15

# CURATED PACKAGES

Not Sure What to Choose?  
We've Carefully Curated  
Four Packages for You!

See all package options at [national.ballet.ca](http://national.ballet.ca).

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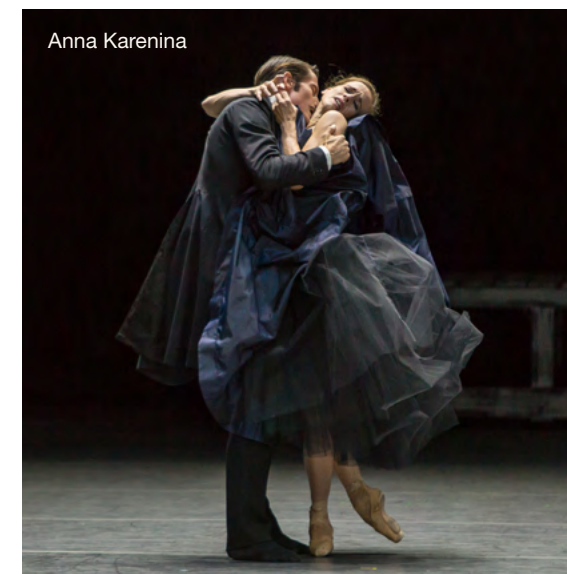
## GLORIOUS CLASSICS

Three Breathtaking Full Company Productions

 SECURE YOUR SEATS TO THE MOST POPULAR BALLET

- ▶ Enjoy two of the greatest classic ballets of all time: *Giselle* and *Swan Lake*
- ▶ Choose the holiday favourite *The Nutcracker* or the North American premiere of Christian Spuck's stunning *Anna Karenina*
- ▶ Save up to 20%

					Zone	Weekend	Weekday
Option	Production	Sat Evening	Sun Matinee	Weekday Evening			
A	<b>GISELLE</b>	Nov 23 at 7:30 pm	Nov 24 at 2:00 pm	Thu, Nov 21 at 7:30 pm	<b>A</b>	\$702	\$633
	<b>NUTCRACKER</b>	Dec 07 at 7:00 pm	Dec 08 at 1:00 pm	Tue, Dec 10 at 7:00 pm	<b>B</b>	\$582	\$525
	<b>SWAN LAKE</b>	Mar 15 at 7:30 pm	Mar 16 at 2:00 pm	Tue, Mar 11 at 7:30 pm	<b>C</b>	\$495	\$441
B	<b>GISELLE</b>	Nov 23 at 7:30 pm	Nov 24 at 2:00 pm	Thu, Nov 21 at 7:30 pm	<b>D</b>	\$378	\$339
	<b>SWAN LAKE</b>	Mar 15 at 7:30 pm	Mar 16 at 2:00 pm	Tue, Mar 11 at 7:30 pm	<b>E</b>	\$240	\$213
	<b>ANNA KARENINA</b>	Jun 21 at 7:30 pm	Jun 15 at 2:00 pm	Fri, Jun 20 at 7:30 pm			



# VISIONARY CREATIONS

**OUTSTANDING VALUE!**

## Three Stunning Contemporary Programmes

- ▶ Enjoy three highly anticipated company premieres
- ▶ See a variety of choreographic styles and innovative designs
- ▶ Save up to 35%

Production	Sat Evening 7:30 pm	Sun Matinee 2:00 pm	Fri Evening 7:30 pm
<b>SILENT SCREEN</b>	Nov 16	Nov 10	Nov 15
<b>THE FOUR SEASONS</b>	Mar 01	Mar 02	Feb 28
<b>ANNA KARENINA</b>	Jun 21	Jun 15	Jun 20

Zone	Weekend	Weekday
<b>A</b>	\$537	\$498
<b>B</b>	\$444	\$411
<b>C</b>	\$363	\$336
<b>D</b>	\$282	\$261
<b>E</b>	\$177	\$165



The Four Seasons



Silent Screen

# FAMILY TIME

**CHILDREN 13 AND UNDER SAVE 20%!**

## Three Spectacular Story Ballets

- ▶ Sunday afternoon performances
- ▶ Perfect for the entire family
- ▶ Children 13 and under save an additional 20% on the subscription price

Production	Sun Matinee
<b>GISELLE</b>	Nov 24 at 2:00 pm
<b>THE NUTCRACKER</b>	Dec 08 at 1:00 pm
<b>SWAN LAKE</b>	Mar 16 at 2:00 pm

Zone	Adult	Child
<b>A</b>	\$702	\$546
<b>B</b>	\$582	\$453
<b>C</b>	\$495	\$384
<b>D</b>	\$378	\$294
<b>E</b>	\$240	\$186

# THURSDAY MATINEE

**BEAT WEEKEND TRAFFIC!**

## The Perfect Afternoon Escape

- ▶ Four matinee performances
- ▶ Same seats for all performances
- ▶ Save 50%

Production	Thu Matinee 2:00 pm
<b>GISELLE</b>	Nov 21
<b>THE FOUR SEASONS</b>	Feb 27
<b>SWAN LAKE</b>	Mar 13
<b>ANNA KARENINA</b>	Jun 19

Zone	Adult
<b>A</b>	\$535
<b>B</b>	\$443
<b>C</b>	\$377
<b>D</b>	\$289
<b>E</b>	\$183

# SUPER FLEX

## Create Your Own Subscription With the Ultimate Flexibility

- ▶ With this new package, you can mix and match productions AND price zones for a truly customized subscription
- ▶ The more ballets you choose, the more you save!

3 ballets  
**SAVE 10%**

4 ballets  
**SAVE 12%**

5 ballets  
**SAVE 15%**



### STEP 1

Decide how many ballets you would like to see – 3, 4 or 5



### STEP 2

Choose any show from the 2024/25 performance calendar including *The Nutcracker* (see pages 32 – 33)



### STEP 3

Mix & match your price zones to sit in different areas of the theatre and customize your subscription to suit your budget



### STEP 4

Sit back and enjoy the beautiful productions you have selected!



# HOW TO ORDER

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All subscription prices include HST and service charges.

No additional charges will be added.

All dates, programmes, casting and pricing are subject to change without advance notice.

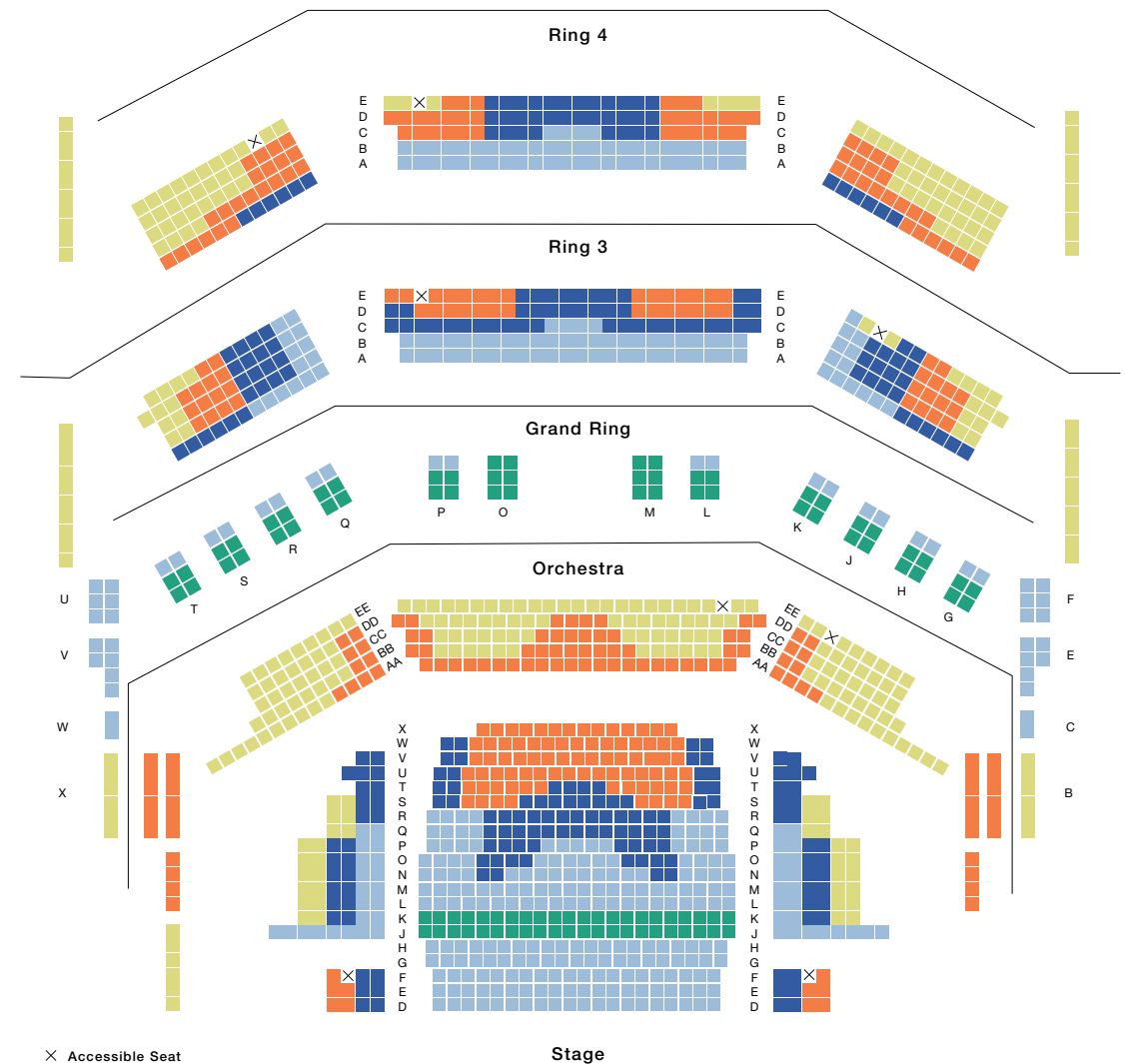
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A child is considered 13 and under and must be accompanied by a paid adult Subscriber. Please note that ballet performances are not suitable for most children under five. Babies in arms will not be admitted. Student Subscribers must present valid identification and seniors must be 65 or older and provide identification for proof of age.

# SUBSCRIBER SEATING MAP & PRICE ZONES



The 2024/25 seating map has been updated with revisions to some of the price zones.



## PRICE ZONES:



All performances take place at Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, located at 145 Queen Street West (at University Avenue).

**FOUR SEASONS CENTRE**  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

All prices are in CDN funds and include 13% HST, \$2.00 Creative Capital Fund and \$4.25 Capital Improvement Fund.



NOV 9–16, 2024

## Silent Screen Canadian Premiere

Choreography: Sol León and Paul Lightfoot  
Music: Philip Glass  
Set Design: Sol León and Paul Lightfoot  
Costume Design: Sol León and Paul Lightfoot,  
realized by Joke Visser and Hermien Hollander  
Lighting Design: Tom Bevoort  
Film Concept: Lightfoot León  
Film Realisation: Metropolis Film and Dicky Schuttel

*Silent Screen* is generously supported by The Producers' Circle.

## Body of Work

Choreography: Guillaume Côté  
Music: Ludwig van Beethoven  
Costume Design: Krista Dowson  
Lighting Design: Jeff Logue

## Rhapsody Canadian Premiere

Choreography: Frederick Ashton  
Music: Sergei Rachmaninoff  
Costume Design: William Chappell  
Costume Design Re-Created: Natalia Stewart  
Lighting Design: Peter Teigen

Lead philanthropic support for *Rhapsody* is provided by The Isobel Allen New Creations Fund.

# SILENT SCREEN & BODY OF WORK & RHAPSODY

*Sol León & Paul Lightfoot / Guillaume Côté / Frederick Ashton*

Featuring the music of Philip Glass, *Silent Screen* brings renowned choreographer Sol León and her creative partner Paul Lightfoot to The National Ballet of Canada for the first time, extending the company's lineage with Nederlands Dans Theater. In this 2005 creation, large screens provide a cinematic backdrop for the dancers, who join the flow of images as silent figures in a dreamlike state. Gradually the scene expands and contracts, as though viewed through a camera lens, finishing where it began.

*Body of Work*, by Principal Dancer Guillaume Côté, is a dramatic solo he created for the Governor General's Performing Arts Awards

gala in 2014. Côté will dance this work again to celebrate his dual passions of performance and choreography in his final season with The National Ballet of Canada.

The Canadian premiere of *Rhapsody* is part of Ashton Worldwide, an international festival celebrating Sir Frederick Ashton on the 120th anniversary of his birth. *Rhapsody* is perfectly suited to the talent in the company today, particularly the virtuosic leading roles Ashton created for Mikhail Baryshnikov and Lesley Collier. It's a tour de force of classical technique set to Sergei Rachmaninoff's *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*.

# GISELLE

Sir Peter Wright

NOV 20–24, 2024

One of the most exquisite ballets in the classical canon, *Giselle* has captivated audiences with its haunting story of love and forgiveness since the Paris premiere in 1841. The National Ballet of Canada has a particularly long legacy with *Giselle*, having performed Sir Peter Wright's celebrated staging since 1970, set to the music of Adolphe Adam.

*Giselle* is a quintessential expression of 19th-century Romanticism, with its focus on nature, emotion and the supernatural. In a quaint village, Giselle, a young peasant, falls in love with Albrecht, a nobleman disguised as a commoner. Tragedy ensues when Giselle discovers Albrecht is engaged to someone else and, in a fit of sorrow, she takes her own life. In death, Giselle is summoned to join the Wilis, the spirits of betrayed women who haunt the forest by night, seeking revenge. But Giselle's love is so pure that Albrecht is spared.

The title role of *Giselle* is a touchstone for ballerinas the world over and this production is a showcase for women's artistry, from ruthless Myrtha to her ghostly band of Wilis. A sublime and foundational work, *Giselle* features Desmond Heeley's hand-painted costumes and sets, with lighting by Gil Wechsler.

## Giselle

Choreography and Production: Sir Peter Wright after the choreography of Jean Coralli and Marius Petipa (Based on the book by Vernoy de Saint-Georges, Gautier and Coralli)

Music: Adolphe Adam, arranged by Joseph Horovitz

Set and Costume Design: Desmond Heeley

Lighting Design: Gil Wechsler

*Giselle* was produced as a memorial to the late William P. Walker and was made possible through the courtesy of many generous friends of the National Ballet.

# THE NUTCRACKER

James Kudelka

DEC 6–31, 2024

A cherished part of the holidays since 1995, *The Nutcracker* is choreographed by James Kudelka and designed by Santo Loquasto with lighting by Jennifer Tipton. The glorious sets and costumes are the perfect backdrop to a journey steeped in wonder, playfulness and dreams and reflect the rich detail of Tchaikovsky's famous score.

The adventure begins in rural 19th-century Russia, where siblings Misha and Marie attend a holiday party in their decorated barn. The guests include the children's nurse Baba, the stable boy Peter and the mysterious Uncle Nikolai, who distracts Misha and Marie from their arguing with gifts both wonderful and strange. A dancing horse, enormous bears and a host of furry creatures add to the festivities and unite the guests in spirited dance. For Marie, the most enchanting gift of all is the Nutcracker doll, which she brings to the nursery that night.

What follows is a beautiful excursion into the imagination, with the Nutcracker coming to life to battle the Mouse Tsar and guide the children through a glittering land of snow to the palace of the Sugar Plum Fairy, where they enjoy beautiful dancing and delicacies from around the world. The magical experience is also a coming of age for Misha and Marie, who discover a new sense of friendship along the way.

**iA**   
Financial Group  
presents

## The Nutcracker

Choreography and Libretto: James Kudelka

Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Set and Costume Design: Santo Loquasto

Lighting Design: Jennifer Tipton

*The Nutcracker* is made possible by generous financial support from production underwriters Sandra Pitblado, C.M. & Jim Pitblado, C.M., Lawrence & Ann Heisey and an anonymous friend of the National Ballet.

FEB 26 – MAR 2, 2025

## The Four Seasons North American Premiere

Choreography and Concept: David Dawson  
Music: Max Richter  
Set Design: Eno Henze  
Costume Design: Yumiko Takeshima  
Lighting Design: Bert Dalhuysen

Lead philanthropic support for *The Four Seasons* is provided by The Anna McCowan-Johnson New Creations Fund and The Penelope Reed Doob Fund for New Creations.

## Morpheus' Dream World Premiere

Choreography: Marco Goecke  
Music: Keith Jarrett and Lady Gaga  
Costume Design: Thomas Lempertz  
Lighting Design: Udo Haberland

Produced and Commissioned by The National Ballet of Canada

Lead philanthropic support for *Morpheus' Dream* is provided by The Gail Hutchison Fund.

## The Leaves are Fading

Choreography: Antony Tudor  
Music: Antonín Dvořák  
Costumes: Patricia Zipprodt  
Scenery: Ming Cho Lee  
Lighting: Jennifer Tipton

*The Leaves are Fading* is a gift from The Volunteer Committee, The National Ballet of Canada.

# THE FOUR SEASONS & MORPHEUS' DREAM & THE LEAVES ARE FADING

David Dawson / Marco Goecke / Antony Tudor

The North American premiere of David Dawson's *The Four Seasons* builds on the success of his *Anima Animus* and offers a larger platform for his brilliant contemporary voice. Taking its cue from Max Richter's extraordinary re-composition of Antonio Vivaldi's music, *The Four Seasons* manifests the emotion and themes in the score, serving as a bridge between past and future and an answer from the future to the past.

The world premiere of *Morpheus' Dream* marks The National Ballet of Canada's first creative partnership with German choreographer Marco Goecke, who staged *Le Spectre de la Rose* in

Toronto in 2014. A restless duet, Goecke's new work dissolves the boundary between waking and dreams in a sultry soundscape by pianist Keith Jarrett, punctuated by the distinctive vocals of Lady Gaga.

The National Ballet will honour the 50th anniversary of Antony Tudor's *The Leaves Are Fading* with our first staging of this work since 1995. Tudor was a forerunner of modern ballet in the 20th century and *The Leaves are Fading*, set to music by Antonín Dvořák, is exemplary of his elegant style. A woman looks back on her life, as summer turns to fall, with the seasons a mirror for the certainty of change.

# SWAN LAKE

Karen Kain

MAR 8–22, 2025

The National Ballet of Canada is thrilled to return to Karen Kain's *Swan Lake* from a renewed position of strength and stability, diving back inside the creative journey featured in the 2023 documentary, *Swan Song*.

*Swan Lake* is the pre-eminent classical ballet, renowned for its lyricism, musicality and luminous choreography. Kain's reimagination honours Erik Bruhn's version and holds closely to the 1895 revival by Marius Petipa, Lev Ivanov and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, in which a sorcerer condemns Odette to live as a swan until true love sets her free. Yet, Kain puts new emphasis on Odette's humanity, portraying her as a captive woman who falls in love with Prince Siegfried and forms deep connections with other women at the lakeside, all of whom are under Rothbart's control. The story unfolds with exquisite musicality, from the stillness of the lakeside to the knife edge of Odile's pas de deux, the trick that dooms Odette forever.

Gabriela Týlešová captures the sinister beauty of *Swan Lake* in her fairy-tale sets and costumes, with lighting by Bonnie Beecher. In the lakeside scenes, the women's bare legs – a first for our legacy repertoire – symbolize their humanity and celebrate their diverse identities.

## Swan Lake

Directed and Staged by: Karen Kain, C.C., LL.D., D.Litt., O.Ont.

Choreography: Karen Kain, Christopher Stowell  
and Robert Binet after Erik Bruhn, Lev Ivanov  
and Marius Petipa

Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Set, Property and Costume Design: Gabriela Týlešová

Lighting Designer: Bonnie Beecher

Projection Designer: Sean Nieuwenhuis

Produced and Commissioned by The National Ballet of Canada.

Lead philanthropic support for *Swan Lake* is provided by The Walter Carsen New Creations Fund, with generous underwriting from Richard M. Ivey, C.C., an anonymous friend of the National Ballet, Susan Scace & Arthur Scace, C.M., K.C. The Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation, Gail Drummond & Bob Dorrance, Nancy Pencer, Sandra Pitblado, C.M. & Jim Pitblado, C.M., Gretchen Ross & Donald Ross, O.C., Anne-Marie Canning, Anna McCowan-Johnson & Donald K. Johnson, O.C., Tim & Frances Price, The Volunteer Committee of The National Ballet of Canada, Kevin Garland & Roger Garland, C.M. and Aaron & Heather Regent. Additional support provided by The Producers' Circle.

The National Ballet also acknowledges support for *Swan Lake* provided by Sylvie Allard & Brian O'Keefe, Judi Conacher, Sherry & Edward Drew, The H. John McDonald Foundation and Julie Medland.

MAY 30 – JUN 5, 2025

## Boléro

Choreography: Guillaume Côté  
Music: Maurice Ravel  
Costume Design: Yannik Larivée  
Lighting Design: Jeff Logue

## Into the Fade **World Premiere**

Co-Created by Guillaume Côté and Ben Shirinian  
Choreography: Guillaume Côté  
Film Director: Ben Shirinian

## New Work by Ethan Colangelo **World Premiere**

Choreography: Ethan Colangelo

## New Work by Jennifer Archibald **World Premiere**

Choreography: Jennifer Archibald

# ADIEU: A CELEBRATION OF GUILLAUME CÔTÉ

## BOLERO & INTO THE FADE

Guillaume Côté / Guillaume Côté & Ben Shirinian

## WORLD PREMIERES BY

Ethan Colangelo / Jennifer Archibald

Principal Dancer Guillaume Côté bids adieu to the company he has called home for 26 years in a programme devoted to Canadian talent. Guillaume is creating a solo in collaboration with filmmaker Ben Shirinian that is perfectly suited to the occasion – a meditation about standing on the Four Seasons Centre stage for the last time that will reflect both the exhilaration of this last moment and the sadness of saying goodbye. As an added tribute, Artistic Director Hope Muir has also programmed Guillaume's *Boléro*.

In a powerful expression of continuity, Côté shares this programme with our newest Choreographic Associate, Ethan Colangelo. Trained at Canada's National Ballet School and The Juilliard School,

Colangelo made his choreographic debut with the National Ballet in 2022 with *as seen from before* and in 2023, he created *fractured* for The International Competition for The Erik Bruhn Prize. This new work comes at a time of growing acclaim for Colangelo's distinctive aesthetic.

Toronto-born Jennifer Archibald closes the programme with her first creation for the National Ballet. A graduate of The Alvin Ailey School and the Maggie Flanigan Acting Conservatory, she is now Resident Choreographer for Cincinnati Ballet. Archibald's new work will reflect her signature fusion of Hip Hop, contemporary dance, classical ballet, street dance and funk.

# ANNA KARENINA

Christian Spuck

JUN 13 – 21, 2025



The North American premiere of *Anna Karenina* initiates an exciting new partnership between The National Ballet of Canada and Christian Spuck, Germany's world-renowned creator of narrative ballets. *Anna Karenina* introduces the best of Spuck's modern yet theatrical style and distills Leo Tolstoy's richly themed novel about morality, social reform, family and passion.

At the heart of that story is Anna, an aristocratic woman whose extramarital affair with Count Vronsky both liberates and condemns her. The affair is a revelation for Anna but she is ostracized for her desire, stripped of her status, separated from her child and finally driven to suicide. Hers is a glamorous society rife with inequities and Tolstoy its exacting surveyor. Spuck's production, which he created for Ballett Zürich in 2014, offers a vivid and accessible portrait of Anna's world.

Sumptuous 19th century costumes balance deliberate restraint in the set design while cinematic projections mirror Tolstoy's emphasis on trains, with their complex associations of progress, derailment and danger. The curated score to *Anna Karenina* is comprised of selections from several composers including Sergei Rachmaninoff and Witold Lutoslawski, reflecting the complexities and intricacies of Tolstoy's tragic story. This is a bold and elegant *Anna Karenina* by one of Europe's foremost choreographers.

## Anna Karenina North American Premiere

Choreography: Christian Spuck

Music: Sergei Rachmaninoff, Witold Lutosławski,  
Sulkhan Tsintsadze and Josef Bardanashvili

Stage Design: Christian Spuck & Jörg Zielinski

Costume Design: Emma Ryott

Lighting Design: Martin Gebhardt

Video Design: Tieni Burkhalter

Sound Collages: Martin Donner

Lead philanthropic support for *Anna Karenina* is provided by The Walter Carsen New Creations Fund, with additional support provided by The Producers' Circle.

The Producers' Circle (2025): Gail & Mark Appel, John & Claudine Bailey, Laura Dinner & Richard Rooney, Gail Drummond & Bob Dorrance, Ira Gluskin & Maxine Granovsky Gluskin, The William & Nona Heaslip Foundation, Anna McCowan-Johnson & Donald K. Johnson, O.C., Judy Korthals & Peter Irwin, Mona & Harvey Levenstein, Jerry Lozinski, O.C. & Joan Lozinski, O.C., The Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain, C.C., Julie Medland, Sandra Pitblado, C.M. & Jim Pitblado, C.M., The Jack Weinbaum Family Foundation and Alexander Younger & Sarah Richardson.



# FALL & HOLIDAY SEASONS

NOV  
2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
					Silent Screen	
					7:30 pm	2:00 pm
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		Silent Screen & Body of Work & Rhapsody				
		7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	2:00 pm 7:30 pm	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Giselle				
		7:30 pm	2:00 pm 7:30 pm	7:30 pm	2:00 pm 7:30 pm	2:00 pm

DEC  
2024

				6	7	8
				The Nutcracker		
				7:00 pm	2:00 pm 7:00 pm	1:00 pm 5:30 pm
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	The Nutcracker					
	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	2:00 pm 7:00 pm	1:00 pm 5:30 pm
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	The Nutcracker					
	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	2:00 pm 7:00 pm	1:00 pm 5:30 pm
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	The Nutcracker					
	11:00 am 3:00 pm			2:00 pm 7:00 pm	2:00 pm 7:00 pm	1:00 pm 5:30 pm
30	31					
	Nutcracker					
	1:00 pm					

# WINTER & SUMMER SEASONS

FEB/  
MAR  
2025

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
		26	27	28	1	2
		The Four Seasons & Morpheus' Dream & The Leaves are Fading				
		7:30 pm	2:00 pm 7:30 pm	7:30 pm	2:00 pm 7:30 pm	2:00 pm
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
					Swan Lake	
					2:00 pm 7:30 pm	2:00 pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Swan Lake					
	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	2:00 pm 7:30 pm	7:30 pm	2:00 pm 7:30 pm	2:00 pm
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Swan Lake					
	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	2:00 pm 7:30 pm	

MAY/  
JUN  
2025

			29	30	31	1
				Adieu: A Celebration of Guillaume Côté		
				7:30 pm	2:00 pm 7:30 pm	2:00 pm
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Adieu				
		7:30 pm	7:30 pm			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
				Anna Karenina		
				7:30 pm	2:00 pm 7:30 pm	2:00 pm
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		Anna Karenina				
		7:30 pm	2:00 pm 7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	

# WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU!

Join Us as a Subscriber at the Four Seasons Centre



Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts is one of Toronto's most beautiful venues and was built specifically for ballet and opera with the best acoustics and sightlines.



## AT THE THEATRE

- ▶ Enjoy the spectacular City Room before the show and at intermission.
- ▶ There are bars and concessions throughout the facility serving a variety of beverages and snacks.
- ▶ Beat the queue and pre-order your intermission refreshments! You can also take beverages into the theatre.
- ▶ Coat check is available in the lower level with washrooms on all levels except the ground floor.
- ▶ If you have any questions, visit us at the courtesy desk in the main lobby of the City Room beside the front doors!



## ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH BALLET TALKS

- ▶ Join us 45 minutes before the performance in the Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre for Ballet Talks.
- ▶ These intimate and interesting artist conversations give you unique insight in the production you are about to see.



## ACCESSIBILITY

- ▶ Four Seasons Centre is fully accessible and is equipped with wheelchair seating on all levels, except the Grand Ring and Ring 5.
- ▶ A limited number of parking spaces in the underground parking garage are reserved for patrons requiring a wheelchair location. Please contact Audience and Donor Services about these spots when booking your tickets.
- ▶ A limited number of hearing assistive devices are available.
- ▶ Osgoode Subway Station has an elevator that takes patrons directly to the Four Seasons Centre lobby.



# BECOME A MEMBER TODAY

Enhance Your Subscription Experience



Now is a great time to become a member of The National Ballet of Canada! Donate today and you'll join a vibrant community of ballet enthusiasts who receive unique benefits including:

- ▶ Events with National Ballet artists
- ▶ Invitations to dress rehearsals and backstage tours
- ▶ Access to our member lounges at the theatre

As a member you will be a champion of the arts in our community. Support our dancers and help us create and share world-class dance with as wide an audience as possible. Join the excitement!

## EXPLORE THE MANY BENEFITS OF BEING A NATIONAL BALLET DONOR



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Image 1: Guillaume Côté in *The End*.

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Image 2: Guillaume Côté in *Cinderella*.

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Image 3: Former Principal Dancer Xiao Nan Yu and Guillaume Côté in *The Merry Widow*.

Image 4: Guillaume Côté with Artists of the Ballet in *Opus 19/The Dreamer*.

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Image 5: Guillaume Côté and Heather Ogden in *Nijinsky*. Photo by Erik Tomasson.

Image 6: Guillaume Côté in *Apollo*.

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Image 7: Former Principal Dancer Greta Hodgkinson and Guillaume Côté and in *A Month in the Country*.

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Pages 4-5: Hope Muir. Photo by Karolina Kuras.

Page 7: Tina Pereira in the wings during *The Nutcracker*.

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Page 8: Artists of the Ballet from the wings in *Swan Lake*.

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Page 10: Heather Ogden with Artists of the Ballet from the wings in *Giselle*. Photo by Michael Slobodian.

Page 11: Left – Jurgita Dronina and Harrison James with Artists of the Ballet in *Swan Lake*. Photo by Karolina Kuras.

Right – Alexander Jones and Katja Wünsche of Ballett Zürich in *Anna Karenina*. Photo by Gregory Batardon.

Page 12: Left – Artists of Het Nationale Ballet in *The Four Seasons*. Photo by Eric Gerritsen. Right – Bianca Teixeira

and Matteo Dilaghi of Bayerisches Staatsballett in *Silent Screen*. Photo by Nicholas MacKay.

Pages 14-15: Artists of the Ballet in the wings during *Swan Lake*. Photo by Karolina Kuras.

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Page 34: Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts during *Swan Lake*. Patrons in the lobby. Photos by Karolina Kuras.

Page 35: From top to bottom – Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts Courtesy Desk. Robert Binet and John Hart at the Ballet Talk for The International Competition for the Erik Bruhn Prize. Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts lobby. Photos by Karolina Kuras.

Pages 36-37: National Ballet Donor Events. Photos by Bruce Zinger.

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**SILENT SCREEN** Canadian Premiere  
**& BODY OF WORK**  
**& RHAPSODY** Canadian Premiere

*Sol León & Paul Lightfoot / Guillaume Côté / Frederick Ashton*

**GISELLE**

*Sir Peter Wright*

**THE NUTCRACKER**

*James Kudelka*

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**& MORPHEUS' DREAM** World Premiere  
**& THE LEAVES ARE FADING**

*David Dawson / Marco Goecke / Antony Tudor*

**SWAN LAKE**

*Karen Kain*

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