

THE
NATIONAL
Ballet
OF CANADA

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

60
years

Elite Syncopations
& Song of a Wayfarer
& Chroma

June 13 – 17, 2012

Presented by

KPMG

Ballet Notes



Elena Lobanova and
Jiří Jelinek in *Chroma*.

Photo by Bruce Zinger.

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Karen Kain
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Celia Franca, C.C., Founder

George Crum, Music Director Emeritus

Karen Kain, C.C.
Artistic Director

Kevin Garland
Executive Director

David Briskin
Music Director and
Principal Conductor

Rex Harrington, O.C.
Artist-in-Residence

Magdalena Popa
Principal Artistic Coach

Lindsay Fischer
Artistic Director,
YOU dance / Ballet Master

Peter Ottmann
Senior Ballet Master

**Mandy-Jayne
Richardson**
Senior Ballet Mistress

Aleksandar Antonijevic, Guillaume Côté,
Greta Hodgkinson, Jiří Jelinek, Zdenek Konvalina*,
Heather Ogden, Sonia Rodriguez, Piotr Stanczyk,
Jillian Vanstone, Xiao Nan Yu, Bridgett Zehr*

Kevin D. Bowles, Lorna Geddes, Tomas Schramek,
Hazaros Surmeyan

Keiichi Hirano, Tanya Howard*, Stephanie Hutchison,
Etienne Lavigne, Patrick Lavoie, Elena Lobsanova,
McGee Maddox, Stacey Shiori Minagawa,
Tina Pereira, Jonathan Renna, Rebekah Rimsay,
Robert Stephen, Brett van Sickle

Jordana Daumec, Naoya Ebe, Chelsy Meiss,
Alejandra Perez-Gomez, Jenna Savella

Danyla Bezerra, Ryan Booth, Skylar Campbell, Adji Cissoko,
Shaila D'Onofrio, Krista Dowson, Nadine Drouin, Jackson Dwyer,
Giorgio Galli, Selene Guerrero-Trujillo, Emma Hawes,
Juri Hiraoka, Kathryn Hosier, Rui Huang, Lise-Marie Jourdain,
James Leja, Alexandra MacDonald, Elizabeth Marrable,
Ji Min Hong, Shino Mori, Tiffany Mosher, Andreea Olteanu,
Brendan Saye, Christopher Stalzer, Joseph Steinauer,
Dylan Tedaldi, Nan Wang, Aarik Wells, Sarah Elena Wolff

RBC Apprentice Programme / YOU dance: James Applewhite,
Jack Bertinshaw, Esabelle Chen, Daniel Cooke,
Francesco Gabriele Frola, Larissa Khotchenkova,
Myoko Koyasu, Lisa Lanteri, Nayara Lopes, Asiel Rivero.

Lorna Geddes
Pointe Shoe Manager /
Assistant Ballet Mistress

Joysanne Sidimus
Guest Balanchine
Répétiteur

**Ernest Abugov
Jeff Morris**
Stage Managers

Shelby-Jai Flick
Stage Manager, YOU dance

*Guest Artist
*Maternity Leave

Orchestra

Violin 1

Benjamin Bowman,
Concertmaster
Lynn Kuo,
Assistant Concertmaster
Anne Armstrong*
Jennie Baccante
Nancy Kershaw
Sonia Klimasko-Leheniuk
Csaba Koczó
Yakov Lerner
Jayne Maddison
Joanna Zabrowarna
Paul Zevenhuizen

Violin 2

Dominique Laplante,
Principal Second Violin
James Aylesworth
Sheldon Grabke*
Xiao Grabke
Hiroko Kagawa*
Ron Mah
Aya Miyagawa
Filip Tomov
Sonia Vizante*

Violas

Angela Rudden, *Principal*
Theresa Rudolph Koczó,
*Assistant Principal**
Valerie Kuinka, *Acting*
Assistant Principal
Jonathan Craig*
Johann Lotter
Nicholaos Papadakis*
Beverley Spotton
Larry Toman

Cellos

Maurizio Baccante,
Principal
Marianne Pack
Olga Laktionova
Andrew McIntosh
Elaine Thompson
Jill Vitols*
Paul Widner

Basses

Hans J.F. Preuss, *Principal*
Tom Hazlitt*
Paul Langley*
Robert Speer
Cary Takagaki

Flutes

Leslie J. Allt, *Principal*
Maria Pelletier
Shelley Brown, *Piccolo*

Oboes

Mark Rogers, *Principal*
Karen Rotenberg
Lesley Young, *English Horn*

Clarinets

Max Christie, *Principal*
Colleen Cook, *Bass*
Clarinet
Gary Kidd, *Bass Clarinet**
Emily Marlow*
Aiko Oda*

Saxophone

Rob Carli, *Soprano**
Wallace Halladay, *Alto**

Bassoons

Stephen Mosher, *Principal*
Jerry Robinson
Elizabeth Gowen,
Contra Bassoon

Horns

Gary Pattison, *Principal*
Vincent Barbee
Derek Conrod
Scott Wevers

Trumpets

Richard Sandals, *Principal*
Mark Dharmaratnam*
Norman Engel*
Robert Weymouth

Trombones

David Archer, *Principal*
Robert Ferguson
David Pell,
*Bass Trombone**
Peter Collins,
*Bass Trombone**

Tuba

Sasha Johnson, *Principal*

Harp

Lucie Parent, *Principal*
Lori Gemmill*

Timpany

Michael Perry, *Principal*

Celeste & Keyboard

Edward Connell

Percussion

Mark Mazur, *Acting*
Principal
Timothy Borton*
John Brownell*
Mark Duggan*
Kristofer Maddigan

Orchestra Personnel

**Manager and Music
Administrator**
Jean Verch

**Assistant Orchestra
Personnel Manager**
Raymond Tizzard

Librarian

Lucie Parent

* On Leave of Absence

* Additional Musician



The 2011/12 season is presented by  **THE GLOBE AND MAIL** 

Wednesday, June 13 at 7:30 pm

Thursday, June 14 at 7:30 pm

Friday, June 15 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, June 16 at 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm

Sunday, June 17 at 2:00 pm

Elite Syncopations & Song of a Wayfarer & Chroma

Presented by



Elite Syncopations

Choreography: **Kenneth MacMillan**

Staged by: **Karen Kain, C.C. and Peter Ottmann**

Music: **Scott Joplin and Others**

Sunflower Slow Drag is arranged by **D.S. de Lisle**, edited by **Gunther Schuller**;

Elite Syncopations and *Stop-Time Rag* are arranged by **George Sponhaltz**;

The Cascades is arranged by **E.J. Stark**, edited by **Gunther Schuller**;

Ragtime Nightingale, *Bethena*, *Friday Night* and *Cataract Rag*
are arranged by **Robert Docker**.

The Golden Hours is used by arrangement with **Hollis Music Inc.**

Costume Design: **Ian Spurling**

Lighting Design: **William Bundy**

Répétiteurs: **Peter Ottmann and Lorna Geddes**

By arrangement with the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

Reproduced from the Benesh Notation Score by **Monica Parker**.

Premiere: The Royal Ballet, Covent Garden, London, UK, October 7, 1974

The National Ballet of Canada Premiere: November 10, 1978

Musicians for *Elite Syncopations*

Piano/Conductor: **Ormsby Wilkins**

With **Benjamin Bowman**, **Dominique Laplante**, **Angela Rudden**, **Maurizio Baccante**,
Hans J.F. Preuss, **Kristofer Maddigan**, **Leslie Allt**, **Max Christie**, **Richard Sandals**,
Robert Weymouth, **David Archer** and **Sasha Johnson**

Sunflower Slow Drag
(Scott Joplin with Scott Hayden)
The Company

Elite Syncopations
(Scott Joplin)
The Company

The Cascades
(Scott Joplin)
Adji Cissoko, Jordana Daumec, Jillian Vanstone (June 13, 16 eve)
Juri Hiraoka, Jenna Savella, Stacey Shiori Minagawa (June 14, 17)
Adji Cissoko, Jordana Daumec, Chelsy Meiss (June 15)
Juri Hiraoka, Jenna Savella, Chelsy Meiss (June 16 mat)

Hot-House Rag
(Paul Pratt)
Brett van Sickle, Christopher Stalzer, Patrick Lavoie, Keiichi Hirano (June 13, 15, 16 eve)
Dylan Tedaldi, Robert Stephen, Jonathan Renna, Keiichi Hirano (June 14, 17)
Dylan Tedaldi, Robert Stephen, Patrick Lavoie, Keiichi Hirano (June 16 mat)

Calliope Rag
(James Scott)
Jordana Daumec (June 13, 15, 16 eve)
Jenna Savella (June 14, 16 mat, 17)

The Ragtime Nightingale
(Joseph F. Lamb)
The Company

The Golden Hours
(Max Morath)
Jillian Vanstone and Patrick Lavoie (June 13, 16 eve)
Stacey Shiori Minagawa and Jonathan Renna (June 14, 17)
Chelsy Meiss and Patrick Lavoie (June 15, 16 mat)

Stop-Time Rag
(Scott Joplin)
Xiao Nan Yu (June 13, 15, 16 eve)
Greta Hodgkinson (June 14, 16 mat, 17)

The Alaskan Rag
(Joseph F. Lamb)
Adji Cissoko and Christopher Stalzer (June 13, 15, 16 eve)
Juri Hiraoka and Robert Stephen (June 14, 16 mat, 17)

Bethana – A Concert Waltz
(Scott Joplin)
Xiao Nan Yu and McGee Maddox* (June 13, 15, 16 eve)
Greta Hodgkinson and Etienne Lavigne* (June 14, 16 mat, 17)

Friday Night
(Donald Ashwander)
Keiichi Hirano

Cataract Rag
(Robert Hampton)
The Company

Song of a Wayfarer

Choreography: **Maurice Béjart**

Staged by: **Maina Gielgud**

Music: **Gustav Mahler**

Baritone: **Peter Barrett**

Lighting Design: **Alan Bunett**

Répétiteur: **Magdalena Popa**

Premiere: The Ballet of the 20th Century, Forest National, Brussels, Belgium, March 11, 1971

The National Ballet of Canada Premiere: February 14, 1980

Zdenek Konvalina, Guillaume Côté* (June 13, 15, 16 eve, 17)

Aleksandar Antonijevic*, Piotr Stanczyk* (June 14, 16 mat)

Chroma

Choreography: **Wayne McGregor**

Staged by: **Antoine Vereecken**

Music: **Joby Talbot and Jack White, The White Stripes**

Set Design: **John Pawson**

Costume Design: **Moritz Junge**

Lighting Design: **Lucy Carter**

Répétiteurs: **Rex Harrington and Peter Ottmann**

Premiere: The Royal Ballet, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London, November 17, 2006

The National Ballet of Canada Premiere: November 24, 2010

Aluminum[†]

Cloudpark^{††}

The Hardest Button to Button[†]

Blue Orchid[†]

'...a yellow disc rising from the sea...'^{††}

Transit of Venus^{††}

Hovercraft^{††}

[†]Music composed by Jack White. Published by Peppermint Stripe Music/EMI Music Publishing Limited. New arrangement by Joby Talbot and orchestration by Christopher Austin.

By arrangement with Novello & Company Limited on behalf of EMI Music Publishing Limited.

^{††}Music composed and Arranged by Joby Talbot. Published by Chester Music Limited.

By arrangement with Chester Music Limited.

Aleksandar Antonijevic, Greta Hodgkinson, Zdenek Konvalina, Elena Lobsanova,

Tina Pereira, Jonathan Renna*, Sonia Rodriguez, Brendan Saye, Robert Stephen,

Dylan Tedaldi, (June 13, 15, 16 eve)

Adji Cissoko*, Giorgio Galli, Jiří Jelinek, McGee Maddox, Chelsy Meiss*, Heather Ogden,

Piotr Stanczyk, Dylan Tedaldi, Brett van Sickle, Xiao Nan Yu (June 14, 16 mat, 17)

*Debut

Notes on the Ballets

Elite Syncopations

Since its company premiere in 1978, Kenneth MacMillan's *Elite Syncopations* has become one of the most enduringly popular works in The National Ballet of Canada's repertoire. This exuberant and humorous ballet conjures up, with effervescent wit and comic irreverence, a bygone world of social dances and jaunty, exhibitionist virtuosity. It is a free-form fantasy on situations and social dances of dance-halls in the early years of the 20th century: the dance contest, the cakewalk, the slow drag and the stop-time. Here MacMillan, best known for his psychological dance-drama, shows his gift for comedy.

The ballet is full of virtuoso displays and provides an admirable opportunity for the National Ballet's dancers, brilliantly costumed in hand-painted body tights by designer Ian Spurling, to reveal the light-hearted sides of their personalities to the music of Scott Joplin and other composers of the ragtime era.



(Above) Karen Kain in *Elite Syncopations* (1978).
Photo by Andrew Oxenham.

(Left) Xiao Nan Yu and Rex Harrington in *Elite Syncopations* (2003).
Photo by Andrew Oxenham.

Song of a Wayfarer

Set to Gustav Mahler's moving, luminous song-cycle, Maurice Béjart's *Song of a Wayfarer* is a duet for two male dancers. Created for Rudolf Nureyev and Paolo Bortoluzzi in 1971, it was thereafter long associated with Nureyev. A deeply affecting rumination on the themes of youthful despair and fate, it is one of Béjart's most often revived works and has been in the National Ballet's repertoire since 1980. A young man and another figure, variously described as his double, his conscience or his destiny, struggle together before finding a final reconciliation.



Frank Augustyn and
Tomas Schramek in
Song of a Wayfarer (1981).
Photo by David Street.



Piotr Stanczyk with Artists of the Ballet.

Photo by Bruce Zinger.

Chroma

The acclaimed British choreographer Wayne McGregor revels in the amalgamation of the unlikely. His multi-disciplinary works emerge from those experimental frontiers where the theoretical merges with the physical and dance pushes up against and interacts with film, the visual arts, architecture, technology and science. The results are never less than astonishing and *Chroma*, created for The Royal Ballet in 2006, is no exception.

Chroma was created in close collaboration with the architect John Pawson, who designed the set. Says McGregor of the partnership: "Often in my own choreographies I have actively conspired to disrupt the spaces in which the body performs. Each intervention, usually some kind of addition, is an attempt to see the context of the body in a new or alien way. On reading John Pawson's *Minimum*, I was captivated by this notion of subtraction, the 'essential' space, which seems to reduce elements to make visible the invisible. Intriguingly, although Pawson's designs do give definition to space(s), they are somehow always boundary-less. This potential 'freedom space' would be an extraordinary environment for a new choreography, where the grammar and articulation of the body is made crystal clear, graphic and unmediated. It could be a space where the body becomes absolutely architectural. At the same time, in creating volume(s) of tone for the choreography to inhabit, the body can behave as a frequency of colour – in freedom from white: *Chroma*."

The world premiere of *Chroma* earned rave reviews as well as the Critics' Circle National Dance Award for Best Choreography, Laurence Olivier Award for Best New Dance Production, South Bank Show Award for Dance and two additional Laurence Olivier Award nominations in 2007. The National Ballet premiered *Chroma* in 2010 also to rave reviews and standing ovations.

Chroma is set to a score by British composer Joby Talbot, which includes Talbot's unique orchestrations of three songs by The White Stripes, alongside four of his own original compositions. The work pits the angular, rough-edged music and the choreographer's energetic, exacting style against a stark, minimalist architectural space, allowing the audience to see the nature of physical movement in an entirely new and invigorating light.