

THE Group Tix Company in co-operation with Keith Prowse Ticketing

THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA

2009/2010

The Sleeping Beauty

November 13—22, 2009

Based on the well-known fairy tale, *The Sleeping Beauty* is the greatest of the Tchaikovsky-Petipa collaborations and epitomizes the meaning of classical ballet. Revised by Rudolf Nureyev in 1966, it was immediately recognized as a landmark interpretation and, when set upon the National Ballet in 1972, it became one of the most significant milestones in the company's history, mingling showmanship with craft, spectacle with subtlety.



Great Hodgkinson and Guillaume Cote in *The Sleeping Beauty*. Photo: Bruce Zinger

24 Preludes by Chopin & A Suite of Dances & The Four Seasons

March 3—7, 2010

Marie Chouinard's *24 Preludes by Chopin* entralls with its physicality, delicacy and oblique humour, revealing her to be one of the most exhilaratingly daring choreographers of today. Jerome Robbins' *A Suite of Dances*, a work for a solo dancer set to excerpts from Bach's starkly magisterial cello suites, glides from the carefree to the pensive to the ecstatic. James Kudelka's *The Four Seasons* is nothing less than a modern masterpiece. Set to Vivaldi, the work employs virtuosic solo and ensemble parts to brilliant effect.



Tiffany Mosher and Noah Long in *24 Preludes by Chopin*. Photo: Sian Richards

West Side Story Suite & World Premiere by Jorma Elo

June 4—13, 2010

Jerome Robbins' *West Side Story Suite*, based on seven of the song and dance numbers from his 1957 Broadway collaboration with Leonard Bernstein, captures the love story at the heart of the famed musical. Finnish choreographer Jorma Elo's work is renowned for its speed and physicality and its intricate fusion of the classical and contemporary. His new work will be his first for the National Ballet. Set to Prokofiev's *Violin Concerto No. 1 in D Major*, *Opus 19/The Dreamer* is typical of Robbins, marrying the elegance and precision of the classical with the playfulness and impetuosity of the everyday.



Artists of the Ballet in *West Side Story Suite*. Photo: Cylla von Tiedemann.

World Premiere by Aszure Barton & The Four Temperaments & Glass Pieces

November 25—29, 2009

Edmonton-born Aszure Barton, one of the most exciting choreographers working today, creates pieces that are energetic, complex and utterly impossible to categorize. Her new work for the National Ballet is one of the season's most eagerly anticipated events. George Balanchine is the gold standard of modern choreography. His 1946 work *The Four Temperaments* is one of his most beautifully accomplished and admired ballets, set to an evocative score by Paul Hindemith. Jerome Robbins fashioned an aesthetic that was equal parts classicism and indigenous American vernacular as exemplified in his breathtaking 1983 work *Glass Pieces*, set to a haunting minimalist score by Philip Glass



Bridgett Zehr in *Glass Pieces*. Photo: Cylla von Tiedemann

Swan Lake

March 11—21, 2010

First performed in Moscow in 1877, *Swan Lake* has ever since been an indispensable part of the classical ballet repertoire. Its mythical appeal, Tchaikovsky's glorious music and the intricate yet fervent elaborations of its choreography combine to make it one of the monuments of European tragic art. James Kudelka's 1999 version retains the ballet's strange allure, symbolic fascination and power, re-working the material for a contemporary audience.



Heather Ogden and Guillaume Cote in *Swan Lake*. Photo: David Cooper

Onegin

Glorious New Design!

June 19—25, 2010

In his 1965 ballet adaptation of Pushkin's famed verse novel, John Cranko employs his distinctive choreographic style to capture the original story's emotional intensity and tragic ironies with striking fidelity. Cranko has shaped a timeless, layered examination of the themes of passion, honour and regret, set to a Tchaikovsky score that provides the perfect musical context for the ballet. This production will feature new sets and costumes by one of today's most illustrious contemporary designers, Santo Loquasto.



Aleksandar Antonijevic in *Onegin*. Photo: Cylla von Tiedemann