

Frequently Asked Questions – Assemblée Internationale 2013

What is the Assemblée Internationale 2013?

- The Assemblée Internationale is a unique opportunity for ballet students and artistic faculty from around the world to come together to learn, collaborate, and share their creativity in an international forum.
- It is a unique event in that its premise is based on the principles of collaboration and partnership.
- From April 28th-May 4th 2013, participants from 18 international professional ballet schools will take part in an intensive seven days of classes, rehearsals, performances, forums and professional development for Artistic Directors. The AI13 will also include an innovative live-streaming project that will explore the use of new technologies in dance.
- The live-streaming project, as well as several other AI13 performances and student classes, will be shown live on NBS' website so that anyone can see and feel a part of the festival.

Where does the name “Assemblée Internationale” originate from?

- Before the first Assemblée Internationale took place in 2009, Canada's National Ballet School held a student competition and “Assemblée Internationale” was selected.

Where did the idea for the AI come from?

- To celebrate Canada's National Ballet School's (NBS) 40th anniversary in 1999, a conference called Not Just Any Body (NJAB) was held. NJAB brought together ballet school Artistic Directors from around the world to discuss some of the challenges they face.
- Ten years later, in 2009, NBS brought together some of the same people, and some new ones, to evaluate the kinds of changes that were made over the past decade. This conference was intended to be much more student-focused and meant to discuss the challenges prospective dancers face. Thus, NBS brought together Artistic Directors and their students to discuss these issues, and incorporated dancing into the conference.
- The idea for the Assemblée Internationale was born in 2009 (with 12 participating schools), and will take place again from April 28 to May 4, 2013 with students and artistic staff from 18 international professional ballet schools.

Who is participating in the AI13?

- Canada's National Ballet School will welcome students and artistic staff from 18 international professional ballet schools for the AI13.
- The schools invited to participate in the AI13 are those with which NBS has a long standing partnership (through exchanges with students and staff).
- The participating schools include:
 - The Australian Ballet School (Melbourne, Australia)
 - Canada's National Ballet School (Toronto, Canada)
 - Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet School (Winnipeg, Canada)
 - Codarts (Rotterdam, Netherlands)
 - Dutch National Ballet Academy (Amsterdam, Netherlands)
 - L'École supérieure de ballet du Québec (Montréal, Canada)
 - EESA/CPD de l'Institut del Teatre (Barcelona, Spain)
 - Houston Ballet's Ben Stevenson Academy (Houston, U.S.A.)
 - John Cranko Schule (Stuttgart, Germany)
 - The Juilliard School (New York City, U.S.A.)
 - National Ballet School (Havana, Cuba)
 - New Zealand School of Dance (Wellington, New Zealand)
 - Palucca School (Dresden, Germany)
 - Paris Opera Ballet School (Paris, France)
 - The Royal Ballet School (London, England)
 - The Royal Danish Ballet School (Copenhagen, Denmark)
 - San Francisco Ballet School (San Francisco, U.S.A.)
 - The School of The Hamburg Ballet (Hamburg, Germany)

How many students will be participating in the AI13?

- There will be a total of 185 students from the various participating ballet schools dancing in the AI13.
- Most of the participating schools are sending 6 students each, and there will be approximately 43 artistic and administrative staff from the different schools attending as well, in addition to several other VIP guests.

When/Where is the AI13 taking place?

- The AI13 is taking place from Sunday, April 28 to Saturday, May 4, 2013 at Canada's National Ballet School in Toronto, Canada
- AI13 performances are taking place at Canada's National Ballet School's Betty Oliphant Theatre (400 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 2G6 Canada)

Will there be any public performances during the AI13?

- Yes – there will be 4 public performances: 2 existing repertoire performances and 2 student choreography performances that will include blended casts of dancers from each of the schools' participants.

- Performances are taking place on the following days:
 - Tuesday, April 30, 2013 at 19:30 – Ballet: Traditionally Timeless -Program A
 - Wednesday, May 1, 2013 at 19:30 – Ballet: Traditionally Timeless –Program B
 - Friday, May 3, 2013 at 14:00 – Choreography: Fast Forward
 - Saturday, May 4, 2013 at 11:30 - Choreography: Fast Forward

How much do tickets to the AI13 performances cost?

- Admission for each performance is \$60 for adults and \$30 for students and seniors.

How can AI13 tickets be purchased?

- Tickets can be purchased by calling the Canada's National Ballet School Box Office at 416-964-5148 or by email at boxoffice@nbs-enb.ca. The Box Office is open weekly from Tuesday to Friday between 11:00 and 16:00 EST.

What performances will be included in the AI13?

- The AI13 will include existing repertoire pieces representative of each of the participating schools' culture, as well as student-created choreography, which will be performed by a blended cast of students from each of the participating schools.
- The AI13 will also include an innovative live-streaming project that will explore the use of new technologies in dance. Shaun Amyot, NBS Artistic Faculty member and choreographer, has collaborated with Michael Schumacher, an Amsterdam-based choreographer, to create a work titled *Stream* that will be performed by a blended cast of AI13 students present in Toronto and joined virtually through live streaming by dancers from the Dutch National Ballet Academy in Amsterdam.
- The live-streaming project, as well as several other AI13 performances and student classes, will be shown live on NBS' website so that everyone worldwide can see and feel a part of the festival.
- For a full list of the AI13 performances and schedule, please visit www.nbs-enb.ca/ai13.

How is the AI13 funded?

- Canada's National Ballet School is underwriting the entire event in order to advance broad, full, international participation.
- More than 90% of the total funding for AI13 has come from private donations, generously contributed by more than 60 individuals, corporations and foundations