

Canada's National Ballet School to Host 18 International Ballet Schools for Assemblée Internationale 2013

TORONTO, ON (April 24, 2013) – Canada's National Ballet School (NBS) will host the second Assemblée Internationale (AI 13) festival in Toronto from April 28th to May 4th, 2013, and will welcome students and artistic staff from eighteen international professional ballet schools. AI 13 participants will take part in an intensive week of classes, performances, forums and professional development activities providing a rich educational experience and further building relationships within the international dance community.

The 2013 event will build on the success of the inaugural Assemblée Internationale, held in 2009 with twelve participating schools, to mark NBS' 50th anniversary. Once again AIMIA will be Presenting Partner of the AI 13, and has generously donated more than 6 million Aeroplan Reward Miles to bring international students to the festival.

Students from this year's participating schools will perform both a piece of existing repertoire, representative of their school's culture, as well as a student-created choreography, which will be performed by a blended cast of students from each of the partner schools. Additionally, 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 AI 13 students present in Toronto and joined virtually through live-streaming by dancers from the Dutch National Ballet Academy in Amsterdam. *Stream*, as well as several other AI 13 performances and student classes, will be broadcast live through NBS' website so that anyone can see and feel a part of the festival.

"Canada's National Ballet School is thrilled to once again be welcoming students and artistic staff from the international ballet community for the Assemblée Internationale 2013," said Mavis Staines, NBS' Artistic Director. "The AI 13 brings together exceptionally talented, committed young dancers and offers them the opportunity to learn from one another, collaborate together and share their creativity and passion for ballet in an international forum. This unique event demonstrates NBS' continued leadership in promoting dance training and education, both in Canada and abroad, as we carry out the School's mission of 'Moving the World.'"

The full list of schools participating in the AI 13 is as follows:

The Australian Ballet School (Melbourne)
Canada's National Ballet School (Toronto)
Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet School
Codarts (Rotterdam)
Dutch National Ballet Academy (Amsterdam)
L'École supérieure de ballet du Québec (Montréal)
EESA/CPD de l'Institut del Teatre (Barcelona)
Houston Ballet's Ben Stevenson Academy
John Cranko Schule (Stuttgart)

The Juilliard School (New York City)
National Ballet School (Havana)
New Zealand School of Dance (Wellington)
Palucca School (Dresden)
Paris Opera Ballet School
The Royal Ballet School (London)
The Royal Danish Ballet School (Copenhagen)
San Francisco Ballet School
The School of The Hamburg Ballet

For more information about the Assemblée Internationale or Canada's National Ballet School, please visit: <http://www.nbs-enb.ca/ai13/>.

About Canada's National Ballet School

Established in 1959, Canada's National Ballet School is a world leader in the training of professional dancers and teachers. Dedicated to moving the world by teaching and celebrating dance, NBS is committed to promoting the art of dance through community engagements in addition to offering

recreational and professional programs. NBS graduates can be found as dancers, choreographers, artistic directors, teachers and administrators in over 65 dance companies worldwide, and in even more schools around the globe.

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For More Information:

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