



## **Canada's National Ballet School Announces Spring Showcase 2018 Repertoire**

TORONTO, ON (April 19, 2018) - Canada's National Ballet School (NBS) is pleased to announce the repertoire for its upcoming Spring Showcase 2018 performances, taking place from Wednesday, May 9th to Saturday, May 12th at the Betty Oliphant Theatre in Toronto, ON.

For over five decades NBS' Spring Showcase has been a renowned annual performance tradition at the School, and an invaluable training tool for students in NBS' full-time Professional Ballet Program. This year's program features two world premieres created by NBS alumni, James Kudelka, OC and Robert Binet. Two traditional classical works complete the vibrant blend of works.

James Kudelka's (NBS class of 1973) 'SCHOOL' has been created over the course of this academic year and will see almost the entire student body on stage. Robert Binet's (NBS class of 2009) 'Three Images of Hope' features a cast of 20 senior students and is made up of three dances, one of which was performed to acclaim at the Orchard Gala in Tokyo, Japan in February, 2018. Bournonville's pas de sept from 'A Folk Tale' highlights all the characteristics of the Bournonville style including brilliant footwork, easy carriage of the upper arms and the choreographer's unique capacity to convey 'joie de vivre'. Marius Petipa's pas de deux from Paquita, Act III elegantly showcases a thrilling display of technical virtuosity.

"NBS' annual Spring Showcase provides Professional Ballet Program students the opportunity to develop the diversity of movement vocabulary essential for meeting the needs of today's professional ballet companies," says Mavis Staines, Artistic Director and CEO of NBS. "I am delighted that this year's program includes two new creations; and that these are coming from cherished NBS alumni at different stages of their careers. James Kudelka's trademark courage to 'push boundaries' is clearly evidenced through his decision to create on the largest cast in the history of NBS' Spring Showcase. And an excerpt from Robert Binet's Three Images of Hope, has already received critical acclaim in Tokyo, Japan. NBS students are whole-heartedly committed to realizing these outstanding choreographers' visions. The classical works featuring the Pas de Deux from 'Paquita' and an excerpt from Bournonville's 'Folk Tale' also are deeply inspiring for the students. I am thrilled to welcome back renowned Bournonville specialist Henning Albrechtsen (also an NBS alumni) to set 'Folk Tale'."

Spring Showcase 2018:

- Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday May 9, 10, 11, and 12 at 7:30 p.m. There is also a matinee performance on Saturday May 12 at 2:00 p.m.
- Box Office opens to the general public Monday, April 23

- Box office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Purchase tickets by email, [boxoffice@nbs-enb.ca](mailto:boxoffice@nbs-enb.ca), or by phone at 416 964 5148
- Performances take place at the Betty Oliphant Theatre, 404 Jarvis St., Toronto
- Ticket prices: \$60 for adults, \$30 for students (with valid student ID) & seniors
- NBS' Spring Showcase is presented by Estee Lauder Companies.
- Lead supporter of NBS' Guest Artists Program is The Koerner Foundation.

### **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. NBS alumni can be found as dancers, teachers, choreographers and artistic directors in over 80 dance companies and schools around the globe. NBS is at the forefront of professional ballet schools in delivering a wide and diverse range of community programs that improve health and quality of life for people of all ages and abilities. The excellence of the Professional Ballet Program is reflected in all of NBS' programs. For more information, please visit [www.nbs-enb.ca](http://www.nbs-enb.ca).

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### **MEDIA CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**Cailin Collett** | *Communications Manager*  
Canada's National Ballet School | L'École nationale de ballet du Canada  
400 Jarvis Street | Toronto ON Canada M4Y 2G6  
D: 416.964.3780 x2117 | M: 416.892.9839  
[cailin.collett@nbs-enb.ca](mailto:cailin.collett@nbs-enb.ca)  
[www.nbs-enb.ca](http://www.nbs-enb.ca)