

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

Media Release

#10/58

The Seagull Makes North American Premiere November 14 - 23, 2008

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

Mailing Address
The Walter Carsen
Centre for
The National Ballet
of Canada
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Toronto, Ontario
Canada M5V 3K4

Administration
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Charitable
Business Number
11905 1449 RR0001

October 14, 2008... The National Ballet of Canada presents the North American premiere of *The Seagull*, choreographed by Hamburg Ballet's Director and Chief Choreographer **John Neumeier** and based on the play by **Anton Chekhov**. *The Seagull* runs from November 14 – 23, 2008 at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts.

Mr. Neumeier's ballets are among the most vividly and arrestingly dramatic works in the modern repertoire. For Mr. Neumeier dance is, above all, dramatic situations and psychological conflicts translated into subtle choreographic form.

"*The Seagull*, incredibly beautiful to look at, offers the richest tapestry of Neumeier's choreographic output so far", says Horst Koeigler (Dance Magazine, 2002).

The Seagull (2002) adheres to the central themes in Chekhov's play – love, the artist in love, the love of art, as well as intergenerational struggle. Mr. Neumeier has shifted the occupations of the characters from actresses and writers to dancers and choreographers. A diverse and suggestive score by such composers as **Dmitri Shostakovich, Evelyn Glennie, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky** and **Alexander Scriabin** provides the musical framework for this dramatic and provocative work.

The Seagull

Friday, November 14 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, November 15 at 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Sunday, November 16 at 1:00 pm
Wednesday, November 19 at 7:30 pm
Thursday, November 20 at 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Friday, November 21 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, November 22 at 7:30 pm
Sunday, November 23 at 2:00 pm

Tickets:
Prices range from \$20 - \$200.

Discount rates are available for groups of 10 people or more. Rush seats are available on the day of performance in person at the box office for \$30. DanceBreak members aged 16 to 29 can purchase \$20 tickets on the day of the performance, depending on availability. Visit DanceBreak.ca.

Venue:
Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, 145 Queen Street West, Toronto.

Box Office:

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The box office is located at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts (145 Queen Street West) or call 416 (toll free 1 866) 345 9595. Tickets can also be purchased online at national.ballet.ca.

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The 2008/09 season is presented by CTV and The Globe and Mail.

BMO Financial Group presents *The Seagull*.

The Seagull is generously supported in part by an anonymous friend of the ballet.

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The National Ballet of Canada gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of the Canada Council for the Arts; the Ontario Arts Council; the City of Toronto through the Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Department; The Government of Canada through the Honourable Josée Verner, Minister, the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Government of Ontario; the Ontario Arts Foundation; the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

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