

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

#19

Impermanence, World Premiere by Guillaume Côté and Zdenek Konvalina May 16, 2010

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

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April 22, 2010... The National Ballet of Canada today announced that Principal Dancers **Guillaume Côté** and **Zdenek Konvalina**'s collaborative new creation, *Impermanence*, will premiere at the 73rd annual Maggio Musicale Fiorentino in Florence, Italy on May 16, 2010.

Impermanence is a multimedia work choreographed and performed by Mr. Côté and Mr. Konvalina and features an original score by Mr. Côté. The work explores the life of William, a man who has lived a life full of love, loss, sorrow, acceptance and growth. Through choreography, music, projections and film, audiences are taken on a journey through William's memories and witness the emotional events of his past that have shaped him.

Mr. Côté and Mr. Konvalina first collaborated on the composition *White Light* in 2008. The National Ballet Orchestra performed Mr. Côté's work, which was inspired by a series of paintings by Mr. Konvalina.

Mr. Côté is a native of Lac-Saint-Jean, Québec. He studied at Canada's National Ballet School, joined The National Ballet of Canada in 1999 and has been a Principal Dancer since 2004. Mr. Côté is also a musician and composer and has composed music for a number of dance and theatre productions internationally. Mr. Côté was awarded a Gemini Award plus the Galileo 2000 "A life for music" Prize for his dance and musical collaboration in the documentary *Moving to His Music: The Two Muses of Guillaume Côté*.

A native of Brno, Czech Republic, Mr. Konvalina studied classical and contemporary ballet at Europe's Brno Conservatory. He was a Principal Dancer with the National Ballet of Moravia-Silesia and Houston Ballet before joining The National Ballet of Canada in 2006 as a Principal Dancer. Mr. Konvalina has won awards at several international ballet competitions, including the gold medal at the prestigious Helsinki International Ballet Competition in 2001. He has performed throughout Europe, America and Asia and has appeared in many gala performances, such as the Gala des Étoiles in Montréal, the Hommage aux Stravinsky, Stars of 21st Century and the World Ballet Festival.

Guillaume Côté is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Emmanuelle Gattuso & Allan Slaight.

Zdenek Konvalina is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Gretchen Ross.

The National Ballet of Canada's 2009/10 season is presented by CTV and The Globe and Mail.

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For more information, please contact:

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