

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

Media Release

#31/58

Elena Lobsanova of The National Ballet of Canada and Cory Stearns of American Ballet Theatre Win The Erik Bruhn Prize Matjash Mrozewski Wins Inaugural Choreographic Prize

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

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March 19, 2009... **Elena Lobsanova**, 22, of The National Ballet of Canada and **Cory Stearns**, 23, of American Ballet Theatre won The Eighth International Competition for The Erik Bruhn Prize on Wednesday, March 18 at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts in Toronto. They each received a cash prize of \$7,500 and a sculpture by Jack Culiner. Canadian choreographer **Matjash Mrozewski** won the new Choreographic Prize for his work, *Dénouement*, and also received sculpture by Jack Culiner and a cash prize of \$2,000.

Elena Lobsanova, a member of the Corps de Ballet with the National Ballet, danced a pas de deux from *Le Corsaire* for the classical section and the newly commissioned work, *Dénouement*, by **Matjash Mrozewski** for the contemporary section of the competition with **Noah Long**.

Cory Stearns, a soloist with American Ballet Theatre, danced the Black Swan Pas de Deux from Act III of *Swan Lake* for the classical section and *End.*, a new work by **Marcelo Gomes**, for the contemporary section with **Isabella Boylston**.

Ten dancers in total from The National Ballet of Canada, American Ballet Theatre, Royal Danish Ballet, San Francisco Ballet and Stuttgart Ballet competed for the prestigious prize. Five choreographers competed for the Choreographic Prize which was new this year.

Principal Dancers **Chan Hon Goh** and **Aleksandar Antonijevic** hosted the evening. The National Ballet of Canada performed excerpts of Sabrina Matthews' *DEXTRIS* which made its world premiere as part of the National Ballet's winter mixed programme *Innovation* earlier this month.

[Biography of Elena Lobsanova >](#)

[More information about The Erik Bruhn Prize >](#)

The National Ballet of Canada's Winter Season continues with John Cranko's classic retelling of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts on stage until March 22, 2009.

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

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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:

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.

Website: national.ballet.ca.

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

The Eighth International Competition for The Erik Bruhn Prize is presented by John & Claudine Bailey.

Supporting Partner: Deloitte

Official Hotel of The National Ballet of Canada: Fairmont Royal York

Elena Lobsanova is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Sandra Faire and Ivan Fecan.

This production of *Romeo and Juliet* entered the repertoire of The National Ballet of Canada on February 8, 1995 and was totally underwritten by Walter Carsen, O.C.

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 James Moore, Minister, the Department of Canadian Heritage; the Government of Ontario; the Ontario Arts Foundation; the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

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