

GALA
BÉNÉFICE
2024

LES
GRANDS
BALLETS



2024 Benefit Evening

CO-CHAIRLED BY **MR. MATHIEU TALBOT**, VICE PRESIDENT, BUSINESS SERVICES GROUP AND CORPORATE BANKING AT DESJARDINS, AND **MR. MARTIN TREMBLAY**, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AT SOLOTECH

Montreal, May 9, 2024 – Les Grands Ballets Canadiens will welcome 260 distinguished guests from the business community will gather on **Thursday, May 16th** for their annual Benefit Evening. The co-chairmanship is being held for the first time by **Mr. Mathieu Talbot**, Vice President of Business Services Group and Corporate Banking at Desjardins, and **Mr. Martin Tremblay**, President and Chief Executive Officer of Solotech. Symbolizing a fruitful collaboration between the artistic and business realms, this event is essential for both the development and sustainability of the cultural sector. The presence at the event of Ms. Katia Mead, daughter of Ludmilla Chiriaeff, will also be an opportunity to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the visionary founder of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, whose legacy continues to inspire.

This intimate and exclusive evening in the home of Les Grands Ballets will begin with a cocktail reception, followed by a gourmet dinner in the company's Studio-Theatre, enhanced by performances by the dancers of Les Grands Ballets. Guests will experience, among other things, an exquisite interpretation of a pas de deux from *Giselle*, an iconic ballet that explores themes of love, betrayal, and redemption with poignant intensity, choreographed by Ivan Cavallari, Artistic Director of Les Grands Ballets.

With a fundraising goal of \$475,000, the gala not only allows participants to enjoy an unparalleled evening of gastronomy and celebration, but also to directly contribute to the development of the company, ensuring a sustainable future for dance and the arts in Quebec. A silent auction will conclude the fundraising activities carried out during the evening.

Grands Ballets Benefit Evening

May 16, 2024 at 6PM

Atrium et Studio-Theatre GB
1435 rue De Bleury, Montréal

More information: <https://grandsballets.com/en/support-us/annual-gala/>

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens would like to thank:

HONORARY CO-CHAIRS

Mathieu Talbot

Vice President of Business Services Group and Corporate Banking
Desjardins Group

Martin Tremblay

President and Chief Executive Officer
Solotech

PARTNERS

Clarins
Roche Bobois
SAQ
Solotech

PARTICIPANTS

Grand donors tables - \$50, 000

Desjardins
Solotech
RBC

Donors tables - \$25, 000

Blakes
Fednav
Germain Hotels
KPMG
McCarthy Tétrault
National Bank
Scotia Bank
TD Bank Group

Classic tables - \$15, 000

Air Canada
BFL Canada
BMO Groupe financier
Deloitte
Desjardins Entreprises Montreal
EY
Hydro-Québec
IG Wealth Management
L-Acoustics / SFM
Normandin Beaudry

ABOUT THE CO-CHAIRS



Mathieu Talbot

**Vice President of Business Services Group and
Corporate Banking
Desjardins Group**

"On behalf of the Desjardins Group, I am honored to co-chair this magnificent evening in support of an internationally renowned institution and pillar of dance in Quebec, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens. (...) Thank you to the artists, choreographers, and dancers for offering us a new perspective on the world through the universal and unifying language of dance. You embody rigor, excellence, and elegance, inspiring us all."

Mathieu Talbot has been Vice President of Business Services and Corporate Banking at Desjardins since 2021. In this role, he provides leadership in business development and portfolio management for the business banking sector at Desjardins, covering small to large enterprises across Canada and in certain regions of the United States. Under his leadership, his team oversees Corporate Financing, National Accounts, Real Estate Financing Group, Bank Syndication, Institutional Financing, as well as providing support for structuring across Desjardins' commercial sector. In 2022, the Sustainable Financing group, the Tech and Innovation group, and the specialized Agriculture team were added to his responsibilities.

Prior to his current role, Mathieu served as General Manager and Head of Corporate Banking at Desjardins Capital Markets for over 5 years. During this time, he was responsible for business development, management, and leadership of the large corporate financing team, as well as actively contributing to various strategic initiatives within the Capital Markets group.

Throughout his various roles at Desjardins since 2011, Mathieu has held positions such as General Manager and Syndication Head, overseeing the execution of syndicated loans for commercial and corporate financing platforms. This experience has provided him with a deep understanding of operations, on-the-ground realities, and the intricacies of financial markets.

Mathieu is also a member of Les Grands Ballets' Board of Directors.

ABOUT THE CO-CHAIRS



Martin Tremblay

**President and Chief Executive Officer
Solotech**

"(...) Internationally recognized as a cultural ambassador, this company is a model of excellence, daring, and exceptional rigor. This evening is a very special opportunity to celebrate the beauty of dance and to recognize the importance of supporting the arts in our community. Together, let us ensure that this immense talent continues to shine and inspire future generations."

Martin Tremblay has been President and CEO since 2017. Previously, he has worked in the videogame industry for over 18 years, namely at Warner Brothers Interactive Entertainment in Los Angeles, USA, for more than 8 years. During his tenure, the company became a highly successful worldwide videogame publisher with revenues in excess of \$1.5B. In addition, he was President of Vivendi Games Worldwide Studios in Los Angeles, USA, a world leader in videogames. He then played a key role in the success of the most important merger of the videogame industry: a \$18.1B transaction to create the global interactive entertainment company now known as Activision Blizzard.

From 1998 to 2006, Mr. Tremblay propelled his career in the videogame industry as President of Ubisoft Montreal. He led the Montreal studios and strategically grew the company from 300 to 1,500 employees while also playing an important leadership role in ensuring its remarkable creative and commercial success.

Mr. Tremblay started his career path in 1989 with the family business in the construction industry, holding various senior management roles for almost 10 years. He holds a Finance degree in Business Administration from Université Laval and an M.B.A. from Université de Sherbrooke. He is a District M board member, a fast-growing technology company. Mr. Tremblay has also been named governor of the Administration Faculty of Université de Sherbrooke, as well as being a member of the board of directors. In 2017, Université Laval awarded him the prestigious Hermès excellence prize in recognition of his high-profile international career. He also served for several years as a board member of the Electronic Software Association (ESA) and the Academy of Interactive Arts and Sciences, both located in California, United States. Mr. Tremblay is also socially involved in various organizations such as the Alzheimer Association, United Way and many other charity organizations that support people in need.

About Les Grands Ballets Canadiens

As a creation and production company, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens is devoted to the development of dance in all its forms, building on the discipline of classical ballet. Under the artistic direction of Ivan Cavallari, some forty-five Canadian and international dancers - accompanied by Les Grands Ballets Orchestra - bring the great classics of ballet to the stage, as well as the creations and repertoire of established and emerging contemporary artists. Located in the heart of Montreal's Quartier des spectacles, Les Grands Ballets is wholly committed to give to as many people as possible access to dance, whether through the Nutcracker Fund for Children, leisure activities in the Studios GB or with the National Centre for Dance Therapy (NCDT), which is devoted to greater wellbeing through the benefits of dance. Through the excellence of its productions and the scope of its cultural and social actions, the company seeks to inspire discovery and conjure emotions, stimulate the imagination, convey a passion for dance and create a lasting impact.

-30-

INFORMATION ABOUT THE BENEFIT EVENING

Camille Le Bihan

Senior Project Manager, Fundraising, Sponsorships and Events

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens

T. :514 849-8681, X 225 | clebihan@grandsballets.com

GrandsBallets.com

MEDIA INQUIRIES

Cindy Lao

Communication and Public Relations Manager

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens

T. :514 849-8681, X 259 | clao@grandsballets.com

GrandsBallets.com