

Les Grands Ballets Infuses *Giselle* with a Modern Flair

PRESS KIT

Montreal, April 23, 2024 – Les Grands Ballets is thrilled to announce its upcoming performance of *Giselle*, the epitome of Romantic ballet, set to grace the stage of Place des Arts from **May 30 to June 2, 2024**. This cornerstone of the classical repertoire, first created in 1841, has continually captivated audiences with its intoxicating mix of earthly romance and ghostly charm. Under the choreographic direction of **Ivan Cavallari**, this production breathes new vitality into Théophile Gautier's original libretto while preserving its essence. The theme of undying love that transcends death is beautifully portrayed in the white ballet, where contemporary video projections blend seamlessly with ethereal tutus.

Giselle tells the tragic story of an innocent peasant girl deceived by Duke Albrecht, who disguises his noble status and his engagement to another. Her heartbreak leads her into madness and ultimately to her death, after which she joins the supernatural Wilis, vengeful spirits of jilted maidens. Despite her torments, Giselle's love for Albrecht saves him from the deadly dance of the Wilis.

More than a simple performance, this production promises a poignant drama wrapped in sublime beauty that will leave the audience haunted by its elegance.

A MUST-SEE EVENT

May 30th to June 2nd at 8PM, and June 1st and 2nd at 2PM

Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts

Booking: GrandsBallets.com | 514-849-0269

40% discount for youth 17 and under

ABOUT THE SHOW

Choreography: **Ivan Cavallari**, based on **Jean Coralli**, **Jules Perrot** and **Marius Petipa**

Assistant Choreographer: **Marina Villanueva**

Music: **Adolphe-Charles Adam** and **Christoph Willibald Gluck**

Sets: **Ivan Cavallari**

Costumes (1990): **John Dinning**

Costumes adaptation: **Ivan Cavallari** and **Mélanie Ferrero**

Lighting: **Marc Parent**

Original Libretto: **Théophile Gautier & Jules-Henri Vernoy de Saint-Georges**, based on **Heinrich Heine**.

Libretto Adaptation: **Ivan Cavallari**

Conductor: **Jean-Claude Picard**

Video content creation: **Starno** (2019) and **Hugues Kir** (2024)

Duration: **1h54**, including a 20-minutes intermission

Les Grands Ballets would like to thank our title sponsor **Clarins**, and our creation partner, the **Azrieli Foundation**.

ON THE SIDE OF THE SHOW

Relaxed Performance

May 29, 2024, at 2pm | Place des Arts

With the [National Centre for Dance Therapy](#), Les Grands Ballets aims to make art more inclusive by offering [relaxed performances](#) where lights, sound and accessibility are tailored to the sensory needs of the audience. A relaxed performance of **Giselle's** second act will be presented to an audience of 800 people of all ages and abilities from community, educational and health organizations, free of charge.

Gratitude and Generosity Series

May 30, 2024 | Place des Arts

220 teenagers suffering from school bullying and mental health problems will be invited to the premiere of *Giselle*, accompanied by the following organizations: Espace Transition of CHU Sainte-Justine, CIUSSS du Nord-de-l'île-de-Montréal, CISSS de la Montérégie Ouest, LOVE (Canada), and the Jasmin Roy Sophie Desmarais Foundation. Les Grands Ballets would like to thank the partners of this serie: the Fondation J.A. DeSève, the Fondation Ariane Riou & Réal Plourde, the Montreal Jewish Community Foundation, the Rossy Foundation, and two anonymous foundations.

Repertory Workshops at Studios GB

May 25, 2024 | 1435 de Bleury St., Suite 400, Montreal

[Studios GB](#) is pleased to host beginner and advanced levels repertory workshops for *Giselle* on May 25th, 2024.

Beginner level: 11:45 am to 1pm

Advanced level: 1:20 pm to 2:35 pm

Regular price per workshop: \$40 à la carte / \$30 for unlimited memberships

[Information and bookings:](#) 514 849-0269, ext. 3

ABOUT LES GRANDS BALLETS

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 convey a passion for dance and create a lasting impact.

MEDIA INQUIRIES

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