

## LES GRANDS BALLETS WELCOMES SEVEN NEW DANCERS INCLUDING TWO PRINCIPAL DANCERS

**Montreal, September 30, 2019** – There are fresh faces at Les Grands Ballets! The company is proud to be welcoming seven new dancers for the 2019-2020 season, two of them principal dancers: Rachele Buriassi and Roddy Doble. Graeme Fuhrman and Étienne Gagnon-Delorme, meanwhile, are joining the corps de ballet, while the company welcomes Jordan Faye, Tatiana Lerebours and Catherine Toupin as apprentices.

### **RACHELE BURIASSI AND RODDY DOBLE, *Principal dancers***

A native of Sarzana, Italy, **Rachele Buriassi** entered the John Cranko School at the age of 14. After taking her diploma, she became part of the corps de ballet of the renowned Stuttgart Ballet, where she was promoted to first soloist in 2012. She joined the Boston Ballet in 2015, also as first soloist.

A native of Connecticut, **Roddy Doble** joined the corps de ballet of the American Ballet Theatre in 2008, and then the Boston Ballet in 2013. He was promoted to soloist there in 2017.

### **GRAEME FUHRMAN AND ÉTIENNE GAGNON-DELORME, *Corps de ballet***

Born in Stratford, Ontario, **Graeme Fuhrman** did his classical training at Canada's National Ballet School. After graduating, he danced with the Bundesjugendballett (2011-2013) and the Hamburg Ballet (2013-2019).

Ottawa native **Étienne Gagnon-Delorme** danced for Les Grands Ballets as a supernumerary during his studies at the École supérieure de Ballet du Québec. After his training he joined the company of the Mainfranken Theater Würzburg in Germany.

### **JORDAN FAYE, TATIANA LEREBOURS AND CATHERINE TOUPIN, *Apprentices***

**Jordan Faye** was born in Tananarive, the capital of Madagascar. In 2006 he settled in Montreal and was admitted to the École Supérieure de Ballet du Québec. In the course of his studies there he worked with a number of choreographers, including Roberto Campanella, Andrew Skeels and Gioconda Barbuto.

Montrealer **Tatiana Lerebours** participated in Les Grands Ballets' *Nutcracker* starting in 2011. In 2019 she danced with the company in *Giselle*, taking the role of a Wili. She is joining Les Grands Ballets as an apprentice a year before the conclusion of her training at the École supérieure de ballet du Québec.

After her early years in Laval, **Catherine Toupin** began her training in dance at the École supérieure de Ballet du Québec at the age of 10. She took part on three occasions in the Fondation de la Place des Arts' *Future Stars' Grand Premiere*, and appeared in *The Nutcracker*, *Vendetta* and *Giselle* during the 2018-2019 season of Les Grands Ballets as a supernumerary.

### APPOINTMENT

The company hails the appointment of **Maude Sabourin** to the position of soloist. A native of Terrebonne, Maude joined Les Grands Ballets last season after spending 10 years with Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo.

### THE COMPANY



Photo: David Curleigh

The dancers of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal now total **40**. The company today is composed of female dancers **Rachele Buriassi**, **Vanesa G.R. Montoya** and **Myriam Simon**, principal dancers; **Emma Garau Cima**, first soloist; **Mai Kono**, **Sahra Maira**, **Anya Nesvitaylo**, **Yui Sugawara** and **Maude Sabourin**, soloists; **Émily He**, **Anna Ishii** and **Éline Malègue**, demi-soloists; **Julia Bergua**, **Esabelle Chen**, **Kiara DeNae Felder**, **Yi Li Law**, **Tetyana Martyanova** and **Éléonore Thomas**, corps de ballet; **Tatiana Lerebours** and **Catherine Toupin**, apprentices; and of male dancers **Roddy Doble**, principal dancer; **Jean-Sébastien Couture** and **Marcin Kaczorowski**, first soloists; **Raphaël Bouchard**, **Célestin Boutin**, **Stephen Satterfield** and **Chen Sheng**, soloists; **André Santos**, demi-soloist; **Giuseppe Canale**, **Matthew Cluff**, **Graeme Fuhrman**, **Jérémy Galdeano**, **Étienne Gagnon-Delorme**, **Dane Holland**, **Nicholas Jones**, **James Lyttle**, **Melih Mertel**, **Hamilton Nieh** and **Stefano Russiello**, corps de ballet; and **Jordan Faye**, apprentice.



Les Grands Ballets would like to call attention to the retirement of dancer **Hervé Courtain**, who after **27 years on stage** is joining the company's artistic team this fall as **ballet master**. And the company says farewell and extends its heartfelt thanks to dancers Ryo Shimizu, Vera Kvarčáková, Chisato Ide, Alessio Scognamiglio and Diana Léon.

#### **Next rendezvous**

Rediscover our dancers onstage at Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier starting **October 3** for the world premiere of *Carmina Burana*, a new creation by choreographer Edward Clug.

#### **About Les Grands Ballets**

For over 60 years, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal has been a creation, production and international performance company devoted to the development of dance in all its forms, while always faithful to the spirit of classical ballet. The dancers of Les Grands Ballets, under the artistic direction of Ivan Cavallari, perform choreographies by creators both long-established and trendsetting. Les Grands Ballets, recognized for its excellence, its creativity and its daring, is fully committed to the local community, and is acclaimed on stages around the world.

**Information**

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