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GRADIMIR PANKOV ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



# Swan Lake

PERM OPERA BALLET

PHOTO: PERM OPERA BALLET / MONTRÉAL: EMILIANE SOUROS / ZETARPRODUCTION

## THE QUINTESSENCE OF ROMANTIC BALLET

February 22 to 26, 2017, at Place des Arts' Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier

Montreal, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 – Invited for the first time by Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal, the Perm Opera Ballet will present, for six performances only, the most classical of all ballets. The company will deliver a stirring performance of *Swan Lake*, with all the finesse and mastery required by such a masterpiece—presented with Les Grands Ballets' Orchestra from February 22 to 26 at Place des Arts' Salle Wilfrid Pelletier.

### **Swan Lake**

It is the eve of Prince Siegfried's coming of age ball during which, on his mother's orders, he will have to choose a fiancée. Sad at the idea of losing his freedom and for never having found true love, the prince goes hunting to lift his spirits. Wandering alone deep in the forest, Siegfried discovers a mysterious moonlit lake. He prepares to shoot as he sees a swan gliding across the lake but to his astonishment, witnesses the creature turning into a beautiful maiden. She explains that she has been cursed and is a swan by day, a young woman by night. Fearless in the face of dark magic, Prince Siegfried listens only to his heart and falls deeply in love with the mysterious young woman.

Generally considered as being based on a German fairy tale written by Johann Karl August Musäus, the ballet, which has become the emblem of the Russian school of ballet, bears obvious signs of German romanticism: the evil spell can be broken only by the love of the prince.

Danced to Tchaikovsky's exhilarating and moving score, this genre-defining ballet will lead you into a world of romance and tragedy.

### **The Perm Opera Ballet and Natalia Makarova**

The Perm Opera Ballet is one of the oldest Russian ballet company in Russia (1874), and is recognized for the beautifully uniform dance style of its Soloists and Corps de Ballet.

An award-winning company, the Perm Opera Ballet notably received, in 2013, more than 17 different nominations for various prizes and awards and won 4 Golden Masks, a great honour in the Arts and Performance scene of Russia. Internationally recognized for the quality of its dancers, it was also named Best Dance Company of 2016 by Dance Europe Magazine.



The company presents Natalia Makarova's version of Swan Lake. Prima Ballerina Assoluta at the Mariinsky Theatre in the sixties before her controversial emigration in the seventies, she then became a star in London and New York, where she joined the American Ballet Theatre. One of the first dancer to flee the USSR, she was also the first one to be invited back to dance in her native land.

In Mrs. Makarova's version of the ballet, elements choreographed by Sir Frederick Ashton are added to the original choreography by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov, which was presented for the first time at the Bolshoi Theatre, in 1877.

### **Pre-show Talks**

A pre-show talk will be hosted before every performance at the Piano Nobile, from 7 to 7.30 P.M.

## **Swan Lake – Perm Opera Ballet**

With Les Grands Ballets' Orchestra

February 22-23-24 – 8 P.M.

February 25 – 2 P.M. and 8 P.M.

February 26 – 2 P.M.

Place des Arts' Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier

**Box Office : 514 842-2112 / [www.pda.qc.ca](http://www.pda.qc.ca)**

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