

Ballet Jörgen's
ANNE of
GREEN GABLES
The Ballet®



Tonight's performance is dedicated to Christina Gillies

JULY 16, 2022
MERIDIAN THEATRES @ CENTREPOINTE | MAINSTAGE
OTTAWA, ON



MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Thank you for joining us for Anne of Green Gables – The Ballet®!

As a company dedicated to telling Canadian stories we are immensely proud to bring this most Canadian of all stories to life as a full-length ballet.

The ballet is based on Anne of Green Gables –The Musical® composed by Norman Campbell and is made possible through a partnership with Avonlea Productions Ltd. and Erinsharn Productions Ltd.

I want to acknowledge the critical support of the Heirs of the author for the story, Lucy Maud Montgomery, for helping steward this project to fruition.

Anne of Green Gables – The Ballet® is made possible by Margaret Fountain, C.M and David Fountain C.M. with additional major support from The Sobey Foundation and the Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain, CC ONB. Creative media support is provided by the George Brown College Centre for Arts, Design and Information. I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the many other individuals, foundations and corporations who have made it possible for Anne Shirley and the community of Avonlea to dance onto the stage for us.

I also want to acknowledge the incredible dedication of our artistic, technical, administrative and volunteer leadership team that have made this tour possible. My synopsis co-creators, Stage Director Heinar Piller and Set & Costume Designer Sue LePage, have been instrumental in shaping the ballet. Equally important, the beautiful orchestration by Alexander Levkovich has been an inspiration to work with. Of course, in the end it is all about the dancers — I am beholden to our professional members, Junior Company members, George Brown Dance graduates and young dance students who have helped created all of the parts in the ballet. Their energy, enthusiasm, suggestions, ideas and support are on display for you today.

Tonight's performance is dedicated to Christina Gillies, one of our biggest Ottawa fans and a devoted supporter of the arts in the Capital Region. Cristina will be missed by many, rest in peace.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bengt Jörgen'.

Bengt Jörgen, C.M.

ABOUT BALLET JÖRGEN

Ballet Jörgen is a national organization that is focused on underserved communities and demographics. Ballet Jörgen enriches lives by bringing professional ballet to communities large and small, urban and rural across Canada and is the only dance company to deliver annual programming in all ten provinces. Known for the warmth and beauty of its productions, Ballet Jörgen offers a range of in person and virtual performances, dance classes and community engagement events involving over 65,000 participants annually.

GEORGE BROWN DANCE

George Brown Dance is a partnership between Ballet Jörgen and George Brown College. Our programs offer exceptional professional technical training in the heart of downtown Toronto. With over fifty percent of dance contracts in Ontario, Toronto offers extraordinary opportunities to aspiring performers. Students can earn their college diploma or certificate specializing in classical ballet, contemporary dance and urban/commercial dance.

The unique leadership of Ballet Jörgen's expert instructors produces dancers with the skills, confidence and connections necessary for employment in this wide range of dance performance settings.



Cover: Hannah Mae Cruddas as Anne Shirley; photo by Cylla von Tiedemann. Momoka Matsui; photo by Kristie Jones.

MEET YOUR DANCERS



Hannah Mae Cruddas
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Company Member
since 2012



Daniel Da Silva
São Paulo, Brazil
Company Member
since 2009



Adam Davidson
Zephyr, Ontario
Company Member
since 2019



Ana Zamora
Havana, Cuba
Company Member
since 2022



Esther Zignaigo
Lima, Perú
Company Member
since 2021



Sakura Kawamura
Japan
RBC Apprentice



Akari Fujiwara
Aichi, Japan
Company Member
since 2017



Lydia-Laure Germain
Montréal, QC
Company Member
since 2022



Omar Hernández
Pinar del Río, Cuba
Company Member
since 2022



Valentina Polanco
Colombia
Mentorship Student



Estelle Tang
Hong Kong
Mentorship Student



Taisiia Zamula
Russia
Mentorship Student



Adrián Ramírez Juárez
Mexico City, Mexico
Company Member
since 2014



Momoka Matsui
Fukuoka, Japan
Company Member
since 2015



Callum McGregor
Glasgow, Scotland
Company Member
since 2019



Clea Iveson
Toronto, ON
Principal Character Artist



Leandro Prado
Altamira, Pará, Brazil
Company Member
since 2016



Hiroto Saito
Kobe, Japan
Company Member
since 2007



Márcio Teixeira
São Caetano, Brazil
Company Member
since 2019

LEARN MORE ABOUT
YOUR DANCERS!

THE CAST

In order of appearance, cast & program subject to change.

JOSIE PYE	MOMOKA MATSUI
GILBERT BLYTHE.....	DANIEL DA SILVA
DIANA BARRY.....	AKARI FUJIWARA
MRS. RACHEL LYNDE	ESTHER ZIGNAIGO
MATTHEW CUTHBERT	HIROTO SAITO
ANNE SHIRLEY.....	HANNAH MAE CRUDDAS
MARILLA CUTHBERT	CLEA IVESON
SNOW QUEEN	TAISIIA ZAMULA
BIRD	AKARI FUJIWARA
MR. PHILLIPS	ADAM DAVIDSON
MRS. BARRY.....	LYDIA-LAURE GERMAIN
MISS STACY	TAISIIA ZAMULA
MINNIE MAY BARRY	ESTELLE TANG

OTHER CHARACTERS, ANIMALS & NATURE SPRITES WILL BE
DANCED BY ARTISTS OF BALLET JÖRGEN.

AVONLEA CHILDREN, FLOWER CHILDREN, TURTLE, BUNNY, SKUNK, TOAD
AND SHRUB DANCED BY LOCAL YOUTH PARTICIPANTS:

AYAH BURROWS
KATHRYN CHAPMAN
EMMA CONNOR
SÈNA ROSE GREIG
DIMITRA JONES
CASSANDRA LAFLEUR
CHARLOTTE LEWIS
JAMES LOGAN
TAISIA MARSHALL
KARA MURRAY
LAUREN SHAIKH
SARAH WAUGH

LOCAL YOUTH CAST IS COURTESY OF
GRETA LEEMING STUDIO OF DANCE
OTTAWA DANCE CENTRE SCHOOLS
VANESSA PLETTELL DANCE
WEST CARLETON SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

SYNOPSIS

Setting: Prince Edward Island, 1900.

Act 1

Siblings Marilla and Matthew Cuthbert of Green Gables have decided to adopt an orphan boy to help old Matthew with the farm work. The people of Avonlea are astonished when he rides off midday in the buggy. Where is he going?

At the train station, instead of a boy, he finds Anne Shirley. Obviously, a mistake has been made, but Anne's enthusiasm overwhelms Matthew, and her wild imagination bedazzles him. At Green Gables, Marilla insists that Anne must return to the orphanage. When Anne tells them the terrible story of her past, Marilla allows her to stay the night.

Morning at Green Gables fires Anne's imagination. The cherry tree Snow Queen, the daffodils and all of nature join her in a joyous dance. Reality returns when Marilla arrives to take her away. They end up at slovenly Mrs. Blewett's, who is willing to take Anne and put her to work. Marilla has second thoughts, and Anne and Matthew are overjoyed when Marilla finally decides that Anne can stay.

Their formidable neighbour Mrs. Lynde comes to visit and mocks Anne for her homely looks and red hair. Anne flies into a temper and must apologize. With Matthew's encouragement, she devises a melodramatic apology and wins over the old lady. When Anne heads off to school and all the other children tease her, Diana Barry comes to her defense. They are kindred spirits.

Gilbert Blythe's efforts to befriend Anne are disastrous. When he calls her "carrots", she smashes her slate over his head and refuses to return to school. Marilla hears of Anne's disgrace and punishes her with household chores. Anne makes light of the work with the help of some mischievous wind sprites. Marilla is satisfied and allows Anne to go to the church picnic. At the picnic Gilbert tries again to be friends by offering Anne an ice cream cone, but is tripped by the jealous Josie Pye. When the cone lands in Anne's face, her first taste of ice cream is the highlight of a glorious day.

– Intermission –



L to R: Heather Lumsden-Ruegg as Marilla Cuthbert, Hannah Mae Cruddas as Anne Shirley & Hiroto Saito as Mathew Cuthbert; Photo by Cylla von Tiedemann.

Act 2

Summer is over and the children must return to school. Their new teacher Miss Stacy has modern ideas about education and leads them in a nature hunt; a new kindred spirit! Diana is invited to tea at Green Gables when the adults are away. Anne and Diana enjoy their tea party until Diana drinks glass after glass of wine instead of raspberry cordial. Diana's mother returns and blames Anne for Diana's drunkenness, forbidding them to see each other again.

Summer turns to fall and winter. A lonely Anne studies hard to beat Gilbert and win the Avery Scholarship. One evening Diana appears at the door desperate for help. Her little sister Minnie May is very sick. At the Barry farm Anne knows just what to do, and by the time the adults arrive with the doctor Minnie May has been saved. Mrs. Barry revisits her opinion of Anne and the friends are reunited.

Marilla measures Anne for a new dress but refuses to make it with puffed sleeves. Shy Matthew sneaks off to the store and manages to buy Anne the dress she has dreamed of. Miss Stacy organizes a concert to celebrate the end of school. A telegram arrives announcing that Anne has won the Avery Scholarship. Gilbert generously offers his congratulations and friendship.

When Anne arrives home after the concert Matthew is waiting for her. They are dancing tenderly when suddenly Matthew collapses. His heart has given out. After the funeral Marilla grieves for Matthew. An auctioneer arrives: Green Gables must be sold. Anne takes charge and makes an important decision.

When Gilbert arrives to offer his help, Anne insists that he take the Avery Scholarship. It is the beginning of a new understanding between them. Anne will not give up her dreams, but she will stay with Marilla at Green Gables.



Hannah Mae Cruddas as Anne Shirley & Daniel Da Silva as Gilbert Blythe; photo by Cylla von Tiedemann.

Production Credits

Original Choreography by Bengt Jörgen, C.M.

Musical Credits Based on Anne of Green Gables –The Musical™

Music Composed by Norman Campbell

Ballet Score Arranged by Alexander Levkovich

Music Score Recorded by The National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine (Kyiv, July 2019).

Set, Prop & Costume Design Sue LePage

Lighting Design Rebecca Picherack

Associate Lighting Design Kaileigh Krysztofiak

Stage Direction Heinar Piller

Ballet Synopsis Adapted by Bengt Jörgen, C.M., Sue LePage & Heinar Piller

Youth Roles Development Clea Iveson

Scenic Carpentry Hamilton Scenic

Specialty Properties The Paragon Innovation Group

Costume Coordinator Katrina Fletcher

Cutters Anne Armit, Brenda Clark, Kim Crossley

Costume Construction Monica Berg, Moira Clark, Debbie Kschesinski, Deborah S. Lount, Susan Dicks and Company, Emma Pawluk, Nancy Turner & Christine Yundt

Tutu Bases Noel DeLeon

Millinery Monica Viani

Custom Millinery Assisted by Shona Humphrey, Cindy Brown, Victoria Bruer & Karen Merriam

Wig Builder/Coordinator Jacqueline Robertson Cull

Dyer Jean Rumney

Clog Shoes Sole Survivor

Artistic Assistant Natayu Mildenberger

Scottish Dance Consultant Wendy Pickles

Technical Director Jillian Wardell

Lighting Director Madhu Seran

Stage Manager Martine Beland^

Wardrobe Supervisor Jodi Katz

Creative Assistant Clea Iveson

2019 Summer Dance Academy Ballet

Creation:

Junior Company

Chloe Bruce, Chloe Choroszewski, Hannah Drover, Kendra Haskett, Ailysh Healy, Chai-Yu Hsu, Mai Ito, Akane Kogure, Laura Louise Lynch, Emily Murray, Mika Omori, Mayu Sakurai, Ain Tominaga, Saki Tsuruta, Felicia Wu

Summer Intensive IV

Ainsley Boyd, Emma Bradford-Wilson, Sydney Dowden, Lydia-Laure Germain, Demetria Havaris, Ella Hoogewerf, Chloe Kikstra, Caitlin Luening, Madeleine Pettit, Vicka Pluzhnikova, Emma Purdy, Katherine Robidoux, Deanna Salgado, Emily Schellenberg, Alyssa Scocco, Aoi Shibata, Mackenzie Voth, Christina Zoratto

Summer Intensive II

Angie Di Iorio, Alyne Hayrabedian, Jillian Kho, Gwyneth Oliver

Summer Intensive I

Viggo Batabyal-Miller, Grace Bullock, Lily Coulter, Marley Holness, Oceana Kanaris, Liam Kennedy, Mia Pitt, Lauren Trinh, Aaliyah Buckley-Williams, Laila Dottin, Christina Lambropoulos, Lila Page

Additional Youth Dancers: Paige Amiro,

Mira Baergen, Owen Brown, Hailey Crawford, Julia Gravina, Grace Kuster, Claire Miron, Kiri Wilkie

^Appears courtesy of Canadian Actors' Equity Association"

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Ballet Jörgen Artistic Staff

Artistic Director & CEO

Bengt Jörgen, C.M.

Ballet Master Hiroto Saito

Company Dancers

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Valentina Polanco~, Taisiia Zamula~

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Principal Ballet Coach Svea Eklof

Resident Choreographer Hanna Kiel

Resident Stage Director Heinar Piller

Artistic Working Group Daniel Da Silva & Hiroto Saito

~Past RBC Foundation Apprentice Dancer
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All of our volunteers that made this production possible

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