



CANADA'S ROYAL  
WINNIPEG BALLET

ANDRÉ LEWIS, O.M.  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CEO



Alanna McAdie, Principal artist | Photo by David Cooper

## RWB'S TIMELESS CLASSIC SWAN LAKE

*Winnipeg Debut for Chenxin Liu, Alanna McAdie, Elizabeth Lamont,  
in iconic dual lead role*

**WINNIPEG, March 2, 2023.** The Royal Winnipeg Ballet's 83rd season continues to illuminate your world with the stunning and quintessential *Swan Lake*, **March 8-12** at the Centennial Concert Hall. Based on alluring choreography from Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov, the classical work has received rave reviews for well over a century. The RWB is delighted to welcome back the **Rusalka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble** to share the stage with our Company artists in Act III. In its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, this award-winning Dance Ensemble brings a dynamic flavour and energy to the Mazurka scene. Our partner, the **Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra** led by Principal Conductor, Julian Pellicano, will perform Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's luminous score to this magnificent ballet and elevate the entire experience.

*Swan Lake's* heart-wrenching story of true love has enchanted audiences young and old and remains timeless because of the range of human emotions expressed through dance and music. The poetic work resonates with melancholy and hope and draws the audience into the story of Odette, a princess-turned-swan and the heroic Prince Siegfried, until the end of this tragic tale, where love triumphs, and the lovers are united for eternity. "The first sighting of the ghostly swans and opening strains of Tchaikovsky's "Waltz"... still creates a lump in the throat and sets the heart a flutter." Holly Harris, *Winnipeg Free Press, Visions of Swan Lake 2021*. One can literally hear audible gasps in the audience when witnessing our Company artists in white tutus moving in unison.

This year's *Swan Lake* features three of our Principal artists...Chenxin Liu, who added grace and fanfare to *Nutcracker*, takes on the dual lead role that is rich with emotional contrast: the innocent white swan, Odette and the deceitful black swan, Odile. Alternating with Liu and well-known for her critically acclaimed performances in *The Handmaid's Tale*, based on the novel by Margaret Atwood is Alanna McAdie, and then we have the effervescent Elizabeth Lamont, who shone brightly in *Val Caniparoli's A Cinderella Story*. Liu, McAdie, and Lamont step into the coveted Odette/Odile role for the first time in Winnipeg.

After a grand performance as The Queen in *The Sleeping Beauty* in 2022. **Catherine Wreford Ledlow**, who trained in the Recreational Division at the RWB School, went on to perform on Broadway as well as musical theatre around the country and recently won *Amazing Race Canada* with RWB fellow alumnus Craig Ramsay, returns to the role of The Queen in *Swan Lake*.

The RWB gratefully acknowledges Include **Live Music Benefactor** – The Asper Foundation; **Arts Partner** – Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra; and **Student Performances Supporter** – Richardson Foundation. “We recognize the power and importance of the orchestra’s live music role in the magic of RWB performances and we enthusiastically support its continuity.” Gail Asper, O.C., O.M, Chair, The Asper Foundation

Get your seats online now at [rwb.org](http://rwb.org) or call 204.956.0183 to purchase tickets today. Don’t miss out!

## ***Swan Lake*** **RWB MEDIA CALL**

### **WHEN**

Tuesday, March 7, 2023 2:30pm

### **WHERE**

Centennial Concert Hall 555 Main Street, Winnipeg MB  
Please enter through the front doors only.

### **PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILMING OPPORTUNITIES**

Non-flash photography and filming is permitted – maximum five minutes for filming

### **INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES**

André Lewis, Artistic Director & CEO, Tara Birtwhistle, Associate Artistic Director, Company artists (English & French)

### **CONTACT**

All media report to Jo Magnifico, Communications & Public Relations Specialist

### **About Canada’s Royal Winnipeg Ballet**

The heart of dance in Canada and the world, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet teaches, creates, and performs, enriching lives through the power of exceptional dance. Founded in 1939 by Gweneth Lloyd and Betty Farrally, the RWB holds the double distinction of being Canada’s premier ballet company and the longest continuously operating ballet company in North America. The RWB received its ‘Royal’ designation from Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, the first Royal Charter granted during her reign.

As a result of the outstanding leadership of Artistic Director & CEO André Lewis, O.M., versatility, technical excellence, and a captivating style have become the trademarks of the RWB, qualities that have garnered both critical and audience acclaim. The RWB’s superlative standards keep the Company in demand across North America and beyond. In addition to the Company, the RWB is home to the RWB School, consisting of both the Professional Division, our internationally renowned dance education and training centre for aspiring professional dancers and dance teachers, and the Recreational Division, one of Winnipeg’s largest dance schools for all ages, levels, and interests.

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[www.rwb.org](http://www.rwb.org)

[Media Kit Link](#)

For further media information and to arrange interviews, please contact:

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