

## ANASTASIA

*A Russian Grand Duchess, born to privilege, is cast out into a post-revolutionary world... What will become of her?*

**Choreographer:** Bengt Jörgen

**Music:** Ivan Barbotin

**Set & Costume Design:** Sue LePage

**Original Lighting Design:** Bonnie Beecher

**Number of Dancers:** 16, plus opportunities for local youth dancers

**Running Time:** 2 hours with one intermission

Canada's Ballet Jörgen brings back the magical tale of the Russian Grand Duchess Anastasia for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the story and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the production. Created by acclaimed choreographer and Artistic Director Bengt Jörgen, *Anastasia* is set to an original full orchestra score by Russian/Canadian composer Ivan Barbotin. Barbotin has previously worked with Canada's Ballet Jörgen to create two of the company's most popular ballets: *The Velveteen Rabbit* and *The Emperor's New Clothes*.

The mystery of what happened to the seventeen year old Grand Duchess has fascinated people for nearly a century, spanning a multitude of books, movies and musicals. *Anastasia* is both the tragic story of an innocent girl and the subject of modern mythology, as there is great speculation about what actually happened that fateful summer of 1918. The human drama of a young girl born to privilege and cast out into a world of immense heartache proves an extraordinarily gripping tale. This ballet explores the emotions, aspirations, and affections of this lovable yet controversial character as the world transforms around her.

Canada's Ballet Jörgen, renowned for its ability to succinctly tell classical stories in an engaging and dramatic fashion, follows the daughter of the fallen Russian Tsar through the ballrooms of St. Petersburg, to the Russian Revolution, to captivity, and beyond...

*Anastasia* is a full-length ballet rich with incredibly detailed costumes, versatile sets, and exquisite lighting. This ballet can either be performed with pre-recorded music (courtesy of the renowned Russian Philharmonic Orchestra) or with live accompaniment.

