

## **BALLETJÖRGEN**

## ANNE S GREEN GABLES

The Ballet®



March 7, 2024 Vic Juba Community Theatre- Lloydminster, SK

Hannah Mae Cruddas as Anne Shirley; Photo by Cylla von Tiedemann.

## 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. This performance is in part made possible with the support from National Presenting Partner BMO Financial Group, The Richardson Foundation, The Azrieli Foundation and Ballet Jörgen donors. Western Local Participant Program is sponsored by Scotiabank. 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 thank Mary and Graham Hallward for their generous donation of Aeroplan Miles and sponsorship of our dancers Akari Fujiwara, Márcio Teixeira and Callum McGregor.

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.

Enjoy the performance!

Bengt Jörgen, C.M.

## JÖRGENDANCE Dance for all

JÖRGENDANCE ACADEMY BALLET**JÖRGEN** 

JÖRGENCOMMUNITY DANCE

For 35 years Jörgen Dance has brought the joy of dance to countless individuals, families, and communities across Canada and beyond. While we are firmly rooted in our history as an exceptional professional ballet company, we have grown to be so much more! Today we offer a wide range of training and community programs across many dance styles to ensure dance is truly accessible for all Canadians. Whether you are looking to attend a performance, learn to dance, or engage with the arts for the first time; there is something for you under the Jörgen Dance umbrella. You will be welcomed, educated, entertained, and be a respected member of our in-person and virtual community. As an organization we genuinely believe in our motto Dance for All.

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Adrián Ramírez Juárez; Photo by Kristie Jones.

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#### 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



Akari Fujiwara Nagoya, Japan Company Member since 2017



Lydia-Laure Germain Montréal, Québec Company Member since 2022



Omar Hernández Pinar del Rio, Cuba Company Member since 2022



Adrián Ramírez Juárez Mexico City, Mexico Company Member since 2014



Sakura Kawamura Nagoya, Japan Company Member since 2022



Callum McGregor Glasgow, Scotland Company Member since 2019



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



Ana Zamora Havana, Cuba Company Member since 2022



Taisiya Zamula Moscow, Russia Company Member since 2023



Esther Zignaigo Lima, Perú Company Member since 2021



Mandi Bryce Maple Ridge, British Columbia RBC Apprentice



Chabi Arauz Panama City, Panama RBC Apprentice



Matthew Jordan Adelaide, Australia RBC Apprentice



Madelyn Wiedrick Nelson, British Columbia Mentorship Student



Clea Iveson Toronto, Ontario Principal Character Artist Company Member 1992 – 2012



Learn more about your dancers!

### The Cast

Avonlea Children, Flower Children, Turtle, Bunny, Skunk, Toad

and Shrub danced by Local Youth Participants:

Blaire Donald, Mea Gee, Sylvie Harvie, Mikaela Hennings, Eden Perkins, Olivia Pinder, Nya Scutt, Tayla Skinner, Tes Skoretz, Quinn Willis

#### **Local Youth Cast is Courtesy of:**

Core Dynamics Dance
Drop Beat
Stand Out
Studio Encore
Wilkie School of Dance

## **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 -

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#### 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.



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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 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

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#### Ballet Jörgen

Ballet Master Hiroto Saito
Principal Ballet Coach Svea Eklof
Company Dancers Saniya Abilmajineva, Hannah
Mae Cruddas', Daniel Da Silva, Adam Davidson~',
Akari Fujiwara', Lydia-Laure Germain~', Omar
Hernández, Adrián Ramírez Juárez', Sakura
Kawamura', Callum McGregor', Leandro Prado,
Hiroto Saito, Márcio Teixera', Ana Zamora, Taisiya
Zamula'~, Esther Zignaigo

Co-Founders Susan Bodie & Bengt Jörgen C.M.

Artistic Director & CEO Bengt Jörgen C.M.

**RBC Apprentices** Ana Isabel Arauz~, Mandi Bryce, Matthew Jordan

Mentorship Student Madelyn Wiedrick
Principal Character Artist Clea Iveson
Resident Choreographer Hanna Kiel
Resident Stage Direction Heinar Pillar
Technical Director Jacob Gagnon
Stage Manager Kayla Ado

Wardrobe Supervisor Glenna Foerster

Artistic Working Group Hannah Mae Cruddas',

Daniel Da Silva & Hiroto Saito Past RBC Foundation Apprentice Dancer -George Brown Dance Graduate

#### Jörgen Dance

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Ballet Jörgen Extends Special Thanks

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All of our volunteers that made this production possible.

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Anne of Green Gables - The Ballet® is made possible by Margaret Fountain C.M. & David Fountain C.M.

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The Honourable Margaret Norrie McCainn CC ONB

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Hannah Mae Cruddas as Anne Shirley Sponsored by Judith Gelber

#### **Heather Baker**

Anne's Act 1 Costume Sponsored by Rob\* & Teresa Brouwer

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