


National Presenting Partner **BMO** 

BALLET **JÖRGEN**
ANNE *of*
GREEN GABLES
The Ballet[®]



April 21, 2024

Imperial Theatre- Saint John, NB

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 Azrieli Foundation, The River Philip Foundation and Ballet Jörgen donors. The Atlantic Canada Youth Engagement Program is made possible by TD. The Apprentice Program is made possible by RBC and RBC Foundation. 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 performance 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

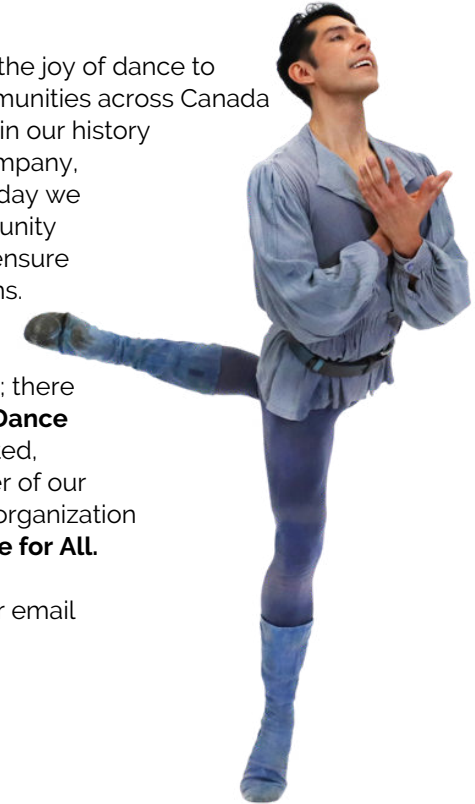
BALLETJÖRGEN

JÖRGENCOMMUNITY
DANCE

For 36 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.

Meet Your Dancers



Hannah Mae Cruddas
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Company Member
since 2011



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



Taisiya Zamula
Moscow, Russia
Company Member
since 2023



Esther Zignaigo
Lima, Perú
Company Member
since 2021



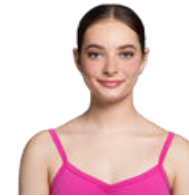
Akari Fujiwara
Nagoya, Japan
Company Member
since 2017



Lydia-Laure
Germain Montréal,
Québec Company
Member since 2022



Omar Hernández
Pinar del Rio, Cuba
Company Member
since 2022



Mandi Bryce
Maple Ridge, British
Columbia
RBC Apprentice



Chabi Arauz
Panama City, Panama
RBC Apprentice



Matthew Jordan
Adelaide, Australia
RBC Apprentice



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



Madelyn Wiedrick
Nelson, British Columbia
Mentorship Student



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



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	Sakura Kawamura
Gilbert Blythe	Leandro Prado
Diana Barry	Akari Fujiwara
Mrs. Rachel Lynde	Esther Zignaigo
Matthew Cuthbert	Bengt Jörgen
Anne Shirley	Hannah Mae Cruddas
Marilla Cuthbert	Clea Iveson
Snow Queen	Taisiya Zamula
Bird	Akari Fujiwara
Mr. Phillips	Adam Davidson
Mrs. Barry	Lydia-Laure Germain
Ms. Stacy	Taisiya Zamula
Minnie May Barry	Sakura Kawamura

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:

Polina Karatsuba, Maella Kennedy, Maya Langille, Maria Letson,
Ellie MacLean, Selena Rideout, Maren Selig, Lauren Smith,
Grace Smith, Charlotte Watts, Estelle Westphal

Local Youth Cast is Courtesy of:

*First City School of Dance
Rothesay Ballet School*

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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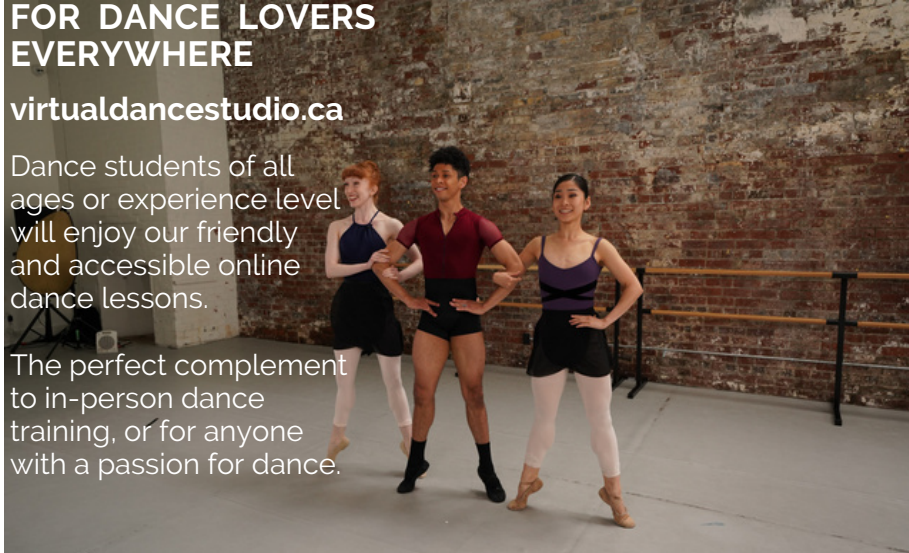


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Act 2

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.

JÖRGENDANCE ACADEMY



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Summer Dance Academy



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George Brown Dance is a partnership between Jörgen Dance and George Brown College.

Lydia-Laure Germain; Photo by Kristie Jones.



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 Krysztofciak

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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A film by
George Brown College
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New Zealand & Amazon
Prime Video in the US.

Ballet Jörgen

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

Artistic Director & CEO Bengt Jörgen C.M.

Ballet Master Hiroto Saito

Principal Ballet Coach Svea Eklof

Company Dancers Hannah Mae Cruddas¹, Daniel Da Silva, Adam Davidson², Akari Fujiwara³, Lydia-Laure Germain⁴, Omar Hernández, Adrián Ramírez Juárez⁵, Sakura Kawamura⁶, Callum McGregor⁷, Leandro Prado, Hiroto Saito, Márcio Teixeira⁸, Ana Zamora, Taisiya Zamula⁹, Esther Zignaigo

RBC Apprentices Ana Isabel Arauz¹⁰, Mandi Bryce, Matthew Jordan

Mentorship Student Madelyn Wiedrick

Principal Character Artist Clea Iveson

Resident Choreographer Hanna Kiel

Resident Stage Direction Heinar Piller

Technical Director Jacob Gagnon

Stage Manager Chris Axford

Wardrobe Supervisor Glenna Foerster

Artistic Working Group Hannah Mae Cruddas¹, Daniel Da Silva & Hiroto Saito

¹Past RBC Foundation Apprentice Dancer
²George Brown Dance Graduate

Jörgen Dance

General Manager Stephen Word

Academy Director Clea Iveson

Business Operations Manager Aleksandra Maslennikova

Director of Touring Cameron Smillie

Resident Lighting Designer &

Production Manager Madhu Seran

George Brown Dance Program Manager Derek Sangster

Marketing Manager Casey Spector

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Education Assistant Manager Hannah Mae Cruddas

Education Co-ordinator Mackenzie Grantham

Canadian Statistics Coordinator Meg Follett

Bookkeepers Irene Lockrey & Pamala Stickney

Administrative Assistant Ricky Tran

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Marsha Thelsosen RMT

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Anne of Green Gables – The Ballet® is made possible by
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THE SOBEY FOUNDATION **The Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain CC ONB**

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Anne's Act 1 Costume
Sponsored by
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Mary and Graham Hallward

Hannah Mae Cruddas as
Anne Shirley Sponsored by
Judith Gelber

Program Partners



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