

National Presenting Partner **BMO** 

BALLET JÖRGEN

# *Sleeping Beauty*

FREDERICTON  
**playhouse** spotlight  
series

FREDERICTON  
**playhouse** série  
pleins feux



May 8, 2025  
Fredericton Playhouse - Fredericton, NB

Saniya Abilmajineva & Daniel Da Silva; Photo by Kamal Daid.

# Message from the Artistic Director

Welcome to *Sleeping Beauty*!

Our production of *Sleeping Beauty*, which is in part an adaptation of the librettos from Charles Perrault's story *La belle au bois dormant* and the Brothers Grimm's *Little Briar Rose*, follows the young Aurora through an enchanted world of light and darkness.



*Sleeping Beauty* can be interpreted as a nature allegory with a tug-of-war between winter and summer, darkness and light; this is a theme of conflicting forces that can also be found in the music by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky in the form of the characters of the Lilac Fairy and Carabosse, who each possess their own distinct leitmotifs. The setting of the ballet has been re-imagined to a place where the legend and myth meet: a proverbial Garden of Eden. This production was inspired by the many legends, including a native Saskatchewan tale, of how the rose got its thorns. The rose, symbolized by the budding Aurora, is loosely based on the Greek myth of Persephone, which holds that the months Persephone spent in the underworld with Hades left the earth cold, dark, and wintry. As a nature allegory, Florimund, who represents spring, cuts away brambles with his sword, allowing the Sun to awaken the sleeping nature. The kidnapping of Persephone and her ultimate fate of belonging to both Hades and Demeter underlies the dramatic axis of this production: a rose bush is comprised of both flowers and thorns.

I am indebted to Margaret Fountain C.M. and David Fountain C.M. for making *Sleeping Beauty* possible. This performance is made possible by BMO Financial Group and with touring support from the Ontario Arts Council. Support for Ballet Jörgen's Support for Ballet Jörgen's Apprentice Program is provided by the RBC Foundation. Nationwide support for Dance for All programming is provided by the Azrieli Foundation. Atlantic Canada Youth Engagement Programming is made possible by TD Bank Group. Additional support for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick programming is provided by the River Philip Foundation. Ballet Jörgen's Halifax performance hotel sponsor is Moxxy Hotel Halifax by Marriott.

Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!

Warmest regards,

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

Bengt Jörgen C.M.

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# Synopsis

## ACT I

### Scene 1

Carabosse, ruler of the underworld, the Roots, Weeds and Thorns, and the Lilac Fairy, ruler of the upper world with its Flowers, Sky and Sun, struggle with the memories of an impossible love. Neither can live in the space of the other but, united through a child whom they each struggle to possess, a beautiful new blossom is formed.

### Scene 2

A newborn's arrival is celebrated by the King and Queen of the Garden of Flowers. Everyone is excited from the lowliest seedlings to the most elegantly scented petals. Birds – handmaidens of the Lilac Fairy – arrive to bestow gifts of Beauty, Purity, and Elegance on the newborn child. The festivities are abruptly interrupted by Carabosse, who is outraged by not having received an invitation to the christening. In retaliation, he casts his spell: the newborn – Aurora – will live for 16 years in the upper world garden, after which she will prick her finger on a spindle and become subsumed as a thorn into the underworld. The Lilac Fairy, arriving late to the celebrations, is unable to reverse the spell, but is instead able to alter it so that Aurora will not become a thorn, but that the world of flowers will fall into a still sleep underneath the hedge of thorns that will rise around them. The spells can only be broken by true love's kiss.

### Scene 3

Happy-go-lucky knitting and weaving seedlings go about their business until Carabosse crosses their path, sowing discord. Carabosse is on his way to ensure his spell is fulfilled.

### Scene 4

Celebrations are underway for Aurora's sixteenth birthday. Arriving at the party Aurora has now grown into a vibrant and enchanting Rosebud. The young suitors swoon around her. An old lady appears, offering Aurora a beautiful golden spindle; before the King and Queen can take it from her, Aurora pricks her finger. Carabosse reveals himself and claims his prize, but before he can bring Aurora with him the Lilac Fairy arrives with her handmaiden. They fulfill the vow to protect Aurora and put all the flowers to sleep. Deadly weeds and thorns grow around the flowers, a hedge which only one who is pure of heart can get through without becoming entangled.

## –INTERMISSION–

### ACT II

#### Scene 1

With the flower garden long forgotten, new plants and trees have sprung forth. Celebrating the arrival of spring, a party of young revelers enjoys a picnic in a clearing in the forest. Among them there is one who is more distinguished than others named Florimund. The Lilac Fairy, searching for someone able to break the spell on Aurora, seizes the moment and guides him deeper into the forests.

#### Scene 2

Arriving at a lake deep in the forest, Florimund is surrounded by Naiads, water nymphs and servants of the Lilac Fairy. Rising out of the water, the Lilac Fairy conjures a vision that is so true of the beautiful Aurora that it feels real to the touch.

#### Scene 3

Florimund, smitten with love, is guided by the Lilac Fairy and plunges deeper into the forest to find the sleeping Aurora. At the edge of the world of Carabosse, the Lilac Fairy can go no further and sends Florimund forward to face the darkness on his own.

#### Scene 4

Carabosse, jealously guarding his domain, is disturbed by the approaching Florimund and commands his destruction. Florimund almost succumbs to the thorns but at last fights his way through and breaks the spell with true love's kiss.

#### Scene 5

With the spell broken, the Garden of Flowers blooms anew, bringing birds and flowers to celebrate the union of Aurora and Florimund. Aurora is no longer just a blossom: through the prick of his world, Carabosse still jealously guards the lovely flower we now call a Rose, bestowing the sting of sharp thorns on greedy fingers. The Rose has both flower and thorns, shared by the worlds of Carabosse and the Lilac Fairy.

# The Cast

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

*\*Local Youth Participant Roles*

CARABOSSE	Adrián Ramírez Juárez
LILAC FAIRY	Esther Zignaigo
*ROSE BUD CHILD	Evangeline Cochrane
SERVANT SEEDINGS	Rose Juliette & Lily Villeneuve
FLOWER COURTIER	Company
*LADIES IN WAITING	Madeleine McHardie & Ava Theriault
HUMMING BIRD	Risa Takeshima
CANARY	Chabi Arauz
BLUE BIRD FEMALE	Sakura Kawamura
QUEEN	Camilla Hood
KING	Bengt Jörgen C.M.
*ATTENDANTS	Bella Johnston & Hailey Trifts
CARABOSSE MINION	Ryusei Nagafuchi
*HEDGE	Company & *Allyson Gunter, *Beatrice Levesque, *Pollyanna Place-Verghnes-Wood
KNITTING SPROUTS	Rose Juliette, Lydia-Laure Germain, Lily Villeneuve, Taisiya Zamula
*PAGES	Bella Johnston, Hailey Trifts, Eva Underhill
WALTZING FLOWERS	Company
SUITORS	Callum McGregor, Matthew Jordan, Leandro Prado, Adrián Ramírez Juárez
AURORA	Akari Fujiwara
FLOWER FRIENDS	Company
PICNIC PARTY	Chabi Arauz, Camilla Hood, Lydia-Laure Germain, Taisiya Zamula, Adam Davidson, Ilia Dogudovskii, Matthew Jordan, Adrián Ramírez Juárez, Callum McGregor, Leandro Prado
*CHILDREN	Evangeline Cochrane & Eva Underhill
FLORIMUND	Omar Hernández
NAIADS	Chabi Arauz, Mandi Bryce, Camilla Hood, Lydia-Laure Germain, Rose Juliette, Sakura Kawamura, Risa Takeshima, Anna Turkington, Lily Villeneuve, Taisiya Zamula
TREES	Daniel Da Silva, Adam Davidson, Ilia Dogudovskii, Matthew Jordan, Callum McGregor, Ryusei Nagafuchi
BLUE BIRD MALE	Callum McGregor

# Sleeping Beauty Youth Community Credits

## **Local Youth Participants:**

Evangeline Cochrane, Allyson Gunter, Bella Johnston, Beatrice Levesque, Madeleine McHardie, Pollyanna Place-Verghnes-Wood, Ava Theriault, Hailey Trifts, Eva Underhill

## **Local Youth Participants Courtesy of:**

*Dance Fredericton Danse*

## **Ballet Jörgen Extends Special Thanks**

All of our volunteers that made this production possible.



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# Meet Your Dancers



Chabi Arauz  
Panama City, Panama  
Company Member  
since 2024



Mandi Bryce  
Maple Ridge, British Columbia  
Company Member  
since 2024



Daniel Da Silva  
São Paulo, Brazil  
Company Member  
since 2009



Adam Davidson  
Zephyr, Ontario  
Company Member  
since 2019



Ilia Dogudovskii  
Moscow, Russia  
Company Member  
since 2024



Akari Fujiwara  
Aichi, Japan  
Company Member since 2017  
*Sponsored by Mary and Graham Hallward.*



Lydia-Laure Germain  
Montréal, Québec  
Company Member since 2022  
*Sponsored by Marie-Elle Carrothers.*



Omar Hernández  
Pinar del Rio, Cuba  
Company Member  
since 2022



Matthew Jordan  
Adelaide, Australia  
Company Member  
since 2024



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  
*Sponsored by Mary and Graham Hallward.*



Leandro Prado  
Altamira, Pará, Brazil  
Company Member since 2016  
*Sponsored by Kevin Goldthorp.*



Risa Takeshima  
Nagoya, Japan  
Company Member  
since 2024  
*Sponsored by Hitoshi Ohtsuji.*



Taisiya Zamula  
Moscow, Russia  
Company Member  
since 2023



Esther Zignaigo  
Lima, Perú  
Company Member  
since 2021



Camilla Hood  
Brandon, Manitoba  
RBC Apprentice



Ryusei Nagafuchi  
Aichi, Japan  
RBC Apprentice



Anna Turkington  
Katrine, Ontario  
RBC Apprentice



Rose Juliette  
Montréal, Québec  
Mentorship Student



Lily Villeneuve  
Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario  
Mentorship Student

**Learn More About  
Our Dancers**



## Production Credits

**Choreography & Synopsis** *(After Marius Petipa)*

Bengt Jörgen C.M.

**Composer** Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

**Set & Costume Design** Camellia Koo

**Lighting Design** Rebecca Picherack

**Stage Direction & Additional Concept**

**Development** Heinar Pillar

**Scenic Carpentry** Hamilton Scenic Specialty

**Costume Coordinator** Nicole Franklin-Ablanedo

**Cutters** Brenda Clark, Kim Crossley, Susan Dicks

**Tutu Coordinator & Cutter** Anne Armit

**Tutu Bases** Noel DeLeon

**Tutu Decorater** Kath Posslif

**Costume Construction** Monica Berg, Susan Dicks

Company, Carolyn Kasperski, Kamila Kayser,

Debbie Kschesinski, Deborah S. Count, Lucie

Moreau, Christine Yurt

**Assistants** Karoline Kayser, Jenna Selvey, Monica Wier

**Millinery** Monica Viani Custom Millinery

**Dyer** Jean Rummyey

**Props Builder** Vanessa Janiszewski

## BALLET JÖRGEN

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

**Artistic Director & CEO** Bengt Jörgen C.M.

**Artistic Lead & Rehearsal Director** Daniel Da Silva

**Principal Ballet Coach** Saniya Abilmajineva & Svea Eklof

**Company Dancers** Chabi Arauz~, Mandi Bryce, Daniel Da Silva, Adam Davidson~, Ilia Dogudovskii, Akari Fujiwara~, Lydia-Laure Germain~, Omar Hernández, Matthew Jordan~, Adrián Ramírez Juárez~, Sakura Kawamura~, Callum McGregor~, Leandro Prado, Risa Takeshima, Taisiya Zamula~, Esther Zignaigo

**RBC Apprentices** Camilla Hood, Ryusei Nagafuchi, Anna Turkington

**Mentorship Students** Rose Juliette, Lily Villeneuve

**Principal Character Artist** Clea Iveson

**Resident Choreographer** Hanna Kiel

**Resident Stage Direction** Heinar Pillar

**Technical Director** Jacob Gagnon

**Wardrobe Supervisor**

Glenna Forester/Márcio Teixeira

**Stage Managers** Amanda Caliollo

**Artistic Working Group** Daniel Da Silva, Lydia-Laure Germain~, Esther Zignaigo

~Past RBC Foundation Apprentice Dancer

~George Brown Dance Graduate

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**Academy Director** Clea Iveson

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**Dance Program Coordinator** Kia Kotsanis

**Education Coordinator**

Mackenzie Grantham

**Resident Lighting Designer &**

**Production Manager** Madhu Seran

**Virtual Dance Studio Host & Community**

**Liason** Hannah Mae Cruddas

**Bookkeepers**

Irene Lockrey & Pamala Stickney

**Registrar & Data Coordinator** Anna Rivas

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