



PHOTO: SASHA ONVSHCHENKO | DANCER: CÉLÉSTIN BOUTIN

## A MONTH OF MAGIC AWAITS WITH *THE NUTCRACKER*

**Montreal, November 16, 2022 - Les Grands Ballets is pleased to present its famous production *The Nutcracker* by Fernand Nault, from December 1 to 4 at the National Arts Center in Ottawa (for the first time since 2006), and then at Place des Arts in Montreal from December 9 to 30.**

It is finally time for the young (and not so young!) to rediscover this magical ballet inspired by Hoffman's famous tale. Bringing more than a hundred dancers together, this holiday delight is presented to the public by Les Grands Ballets since 1964. Choreographed by Fernand Nault, the ballet comes alive on the notes of Tchaïkovsky's composition interpreted by Les Grands Ballets Orchestra with conductors Dmitri Zrajevski and Airat Ichmouratov.

After two years of absence, the children will be back on stage for the first act – including the famous Christmas scene where Clara receives her nutcracker – and the show will therefore be presented in its entirety.

Spanning 5 decades, the colorful adventures of Clara in the Land of Snow and the Kingdom of Sweets have enchanted more than 2 million spectators.

### ***The Nutcracker in a nutshell:***

- The show with the longest run in the same venue across Canada
- 165 characters on stage;
- More than 300 people are directly involved in the production;
- More than 350 costumes.

### **SHARE THE MAGIC OF *THE NUTCRACKER***

By buying a ticket for *The Nutcracker* ballet, every audience member is involved in a good cause as 2\$ from each sale is donated to **The Nutcracker Fund for Children**. This year, 2,800 children, including 1,400 children coming from disadvantaged backgrounds and 1,400 children experiencing illness attend a complete run of *The Nutcracker*, with the orchestra, for free. Among those children, 1,400 will take part in workshops in schools, organized in collaboration with *Une école montréalaise pour tous* (a program of Quebec's Ministère de l'Éducation).

Additional workshops are organized in several foundations, for example with Le Phare: the dancers will visit hospitalized children, with the artistic director of the company, Ivan Cavallari.

The fund also supports the show's production such as the refurbishing of the sets and costumes.

**To donate and share the magic of *The Nutcracker*:**  
**[www.NutcrackerFund.com](http://www.NutcrackerFund.com)**

#### ***THE NUTCRACKER***

From December 1 to 4, 2022

National Arts Center, Ottawa

With The National Arts Center Orchestra

From December 9 to 30, 2022

Salle Wilfrid Pelletier, Place des Arts

With Les Grands Ballets Orchestra

Conducted by Dmitri Zrajevski and Airat Ichmouratov

Choreography: Fernand Nault

Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Sets: Peter Hone

Lighting: Nicolas Cernovitch

## **SPONSORS AND PARTNERS**

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens would like to thank **TD Bank Group**, title sponsor, **Kinatex Sports Physio**, evening sponsor, as well as **IG Wealth Management**, sponsor of the private event on December 16. Les Grands Ballets are supported by **Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec**, **Canada Council for the Arts**, and **Conseil des arts de Montréal**.

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## **About Les Grands Ballets**

A creation and production company, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens is devoted to the development of dance in all its forms, building on the discipline of classical ballet.

Under the artistic direction of Ivan Cavallari, some fifty Canadian and international dancers - accompanied by Les Grands Ballets Orchestra - bring the great classics of ballet to the stage, as well as the creations and repertoire of established and emerging contemporary artists.

Located in the heart of Montréal's Quartier des spectacles, Les Grands Ballets is wholly committed to give to as many people as possible access to dance, whether through the Nutcracker Fund for Children, leisure activities in the Grands Ballets STUDIOS or with the National Centre for Dance Therapy (NCDT), which is devoted to greater wellbeing through the benefits of dance.

Through the excellence of its productions and the scope of its cultural and social actions, the company seeks to inspire discovery and conjure emotions, stimulate the imagination, convey a passion for dance and create a lasting impact.

### **Media inquiries:**

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