

BALLET KELOWNA

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Ballet
Kelowna

Simone Orlando
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CEO

Photo by Abigail Wiens

taqāš

and other works

*A wonderful triple bill
performance featuring
beautifully woven
creations by Cameron
Fraser-Monroe and
Guillaume Côté*

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BALLET KELOWNA

Artistic Director & CEO

Simone Orlando



Simone Orlando completed her dance training at Canada's National Ballet School and subsequently joined The National Ballet of Canada in 1989. In 1996, she joined Ballet British Columbia where she danced for 13 years as one of the company's most celebrated principal artists. Ms. Orlando's choreographic explorations began in 1997. Praised for her mature and sensitive ideas, vision, musicality, and delineation of movement and space, she has received numerous commissions including those from Ballet BC, Toronto Dance Theatre, and Ballet Kelowna. During her nine-year tenure at Ballet Kelowna, Ms. Orlando has brought over 40 new works into the Company's repertoire.

Guillaume Côté

Choreographer, *Bolero*

Guillaume Côté studied at Canada's National Ballet School and joined The National Ballet of Canada in 1998. He quickly rose through the ranks and was promoted to Principal Dancer in 2004. In 2013, in addition to his position as a Principal Dancer, Mr. Côté assumed the role of Choreographic Associate with The National Ballet of Canada. Since then, eight of his pieces have entered the Company's repertoire including, most recently, *Being and Nothingness* performed on an international tour to Russia. His first full-length ballet *Le Petit Prince* was presented by The National Ballet to sold-out houses in 2016. In 2018, Mr. Côté created in collaboration with the famed Director Robert Lepage, *Frame by Frame*, a new full-length evening.

As a guest artist, Mr. Côté has danced with a number of the world's most important companies including The Royal Ballet, Bolshoi Theatre, American Ballet Theater, New York City Ballet, Teatro alla Scala, English National Ballet, the Mikhailovsky Theater of St-Petersburg, Teatro Colón de Buenos Aires, and Berlin's Staatsoper.

Mr. Côté is also the Artistic Director of the Festival des Arts de Saint-Sauveur, one of the largest summer dance festivals in the country.

Cameron Fraser-Monroe

Choreographer, *taqāš* and *The Cowboy Act Suite*

Cameron Fraser-Monroe is a member of the Tla'amin First Nation, as well as being of Ukrainian and Scottish descent. At three years old he started Ukrainian dancing in Vernon, BC leading him into a wide variety of music, theatre, and performance. He was privileged to receive several years of training and performance with World Champion Hoop Dancer Dallas Arcand and studied Grass Dance with Elder Mollie Bono. Since graduating from the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School on the RWB Alumni Scholarship, he has performed with many companies including Red Sky Performance at Jacob's Pillow Festival, Dancers of Damelahamid, Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada, and Ballet Kelowna.

As a choreographer, Mr. Fraser-Monroe has received commissions from The National Ballet of Canada, Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Ballet Kelowna, The Winnipeg Summer Dance Collective, the Artist's Climate Collective, TRANSFORM Cabaret Festival at the Cultch, and both *PULSE* and *Indigenous Day Live!* on APTN.

taqəš and Other Works

taqəš (2021) 22 minutes

CHOREOGRAPHY
MUSIC

Cameron Fraser-Monroe
Jeremy Dutcher, *Oqiton, Essuwonike,*
Ultestakon | Wolastoqiyik Lintuwakonawa
Rylee Block after James Proudfoot
Cameron Fraser-Monroe

LIGHTING DESIGN
COSTUME CONCEPT

Pause (5 minutes)

Bolero (2012) 14 minutes

CHOREOGRAPHY
MUSIC
LIGHTING DESIGN
COSTUMES

Guillaume Côté
Maurice Ravel, *Boléro*
Rylee Block after Jeff Logue
Lori Lawler after Yannik Larivé

Intermission (15 minutes)

The Cowboy Act Suite (2023) 30 minutes

CHOREOGRAPHY
MUSIC
LIGHTING DESIGN
PROJECTION DESIGN
COSTUME RENDERINGS
COSTUME BUILDERS
WAGON DESIGN & BUILD
CAMERA DESIGN & BUILD

Cameron Fraser-Monroe
iskwē and Tom Wilson
Rylee Block
Andy Moro
Asa Benally
Lori Lawler and Hazel Rodgers
Dave Brotsky
Terry Miles

The commissioning of *The Cowboy Act* has been made possible through the generous support of Leadership Giving Donor Patricia Ainslie.

BALLET KELOWNA GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES
THE SUPPORT OF OUR FUNDERS



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