



Ballet Productions Canada Society Presents
Coastal City Ballet

An Evening of Classics & New Works

Coastal City Ballet premieres 'Swan Lake, Act II and Mixed Repertoire'

VANCOUVER, BC – **Coastal City Ballet**, a recently launched pre-professional ballet company, established in fall 2011, opens their second season with ***Swan Lake, Act II and Mixed Repertoire, November 10, 2012 at The Centennial Theatre in North Vancouver*** and ***November 16, 2012 at The ACT in Maple Ridge***. This vibrant, young company will perform the classic second act of Swan Lake, the exciting Flames of Paris pas de deux, "Nuances" by Brazilian choreographer Gisele Bellot, and world premieres by Canadian dancer and choreographer Heather Laura Gray, and Rebecca Gilhooley of *So You Think You Can Dance Netherlands*.

"Coastal City Ballet was created to develop and hone the talents of young, aspiring dancers, preparing them for a career on the professional stage," says Li Yaming, Artistic Director. "Its members experience every aspect of life in a major ballet company: daily class, rehearsal, and full-scale performance in professional venues. What's more, they have the opportunity to work with our incredible staff and guest teachers from around the globe, including ballet masters from the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Houston Ballet, Texas Ballet Theatre, and Atlanta Ballet, as well as leading contemporary dance artists from within Vancouver and beyond."

The program opens the company's second season. Experience the technical artistry and remarkable athleticism of this exciting company whose members come from Canada, as well as Brazil, Argentina, The Czech Republic, Korea and Japan. The company will present two evenings of beloved classics and new works. Anchoring the performance will be the beloved second act of Swan Lake, staged by the artistic staff of Coastal City Ballet and set on the company of 25 young dancers.

Also on the bill, the pas de deux from the Russian ballet Flames of Paris. This highly technical and athletically demanding work will showcase the precision, artistry, and classical form of the company. Li Yaming, the Artistic Director of Coastal City Ballet will set the work.

The evening will also feature new works from Rebecca Gilhooley of *So You Think You Can Dance Netherlands*, Heather Laura Gray, a celebrated local

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dancer/choreographer and a neo-classical pas de trois from Brazilian choreographer Gisele Bellot.

The company's dancers were carefully selected following a highly competitive June audition. Many individuals relocated to Vancouver to participate and have been training full-time at the Coastal City Ballet studios since early fall, 2012.

In its second season, the classical company will be mounting two productions : this November's *Swan Lake, Act II and Mixed Repertoire*, and a to-be-announced story ballet in the spring of 2013.

About Coastal City Ballet

Coastal City Ballet is a pre-professional ballet company located in Vancouver, BC. Coastal City Ballet provides young dancers with professional-level performance and training opportunities in preparation for a career in dance. Company members maintain a rigorous training schedule modeled on that of a professional ballet company with daily class, rehearsals, and scheduled performances throughout the season.

Coastal City Ballet's repertoire includes neoclassical and classical ballet commissions, as well the development of story ballets, and contemporary works.

The artistic staff is led by Artistic Director Li Yaming, and is comprised of well-known and highly respected dance professionals from throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. Coastal City Ballet is honored to have Johnny W. Chang, of Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet, among others, on its Artistic Advisory Committee.

Learn more at: www.coastalcityballet.com

About Li Yaming, Coastal City Ballet Artistic Director

Li began his ballet training at the Beijing Dance Academy at the age of 11, joined the resident ballet company and was quickly promoted to Principal dancer. In 1988, Li immigrated to Canada and was invited by Lawrence Gradus to join the Theatre Ballet of Canada, in Ottawa.

Li has since performed extensively across the United States, Canada, and parts of Europe, performing an extensive repertoire of roles and world premiere dance works. He has studied and worked with international artists such as Ben Stevenson, Lynn Seymour, Rudolf Nureyev, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Celia Franca, Anne Williams, Sulamith Messerer, Karen Kain, and Olga Evreinoff.

Li began teaching while at the Beijing Dance Academy, completing a Major in Dance Education, and has since taught in Canada, Japan, Mexico, Brazil, and the United States. He was Company Teacher for the Ottawa Ballet and has taught at the Quinte Ballet School, Simon Fraser University, and the National Ballet of Canada, among others.

LISTING INFORMATION

COASTAL CITY BALLET PRESENTS *Swan Lake & MIXED REPERTOIRE*

North Vancouver

Date: Saturday, November 10, 2011 at 7:30 pm

Ticket prices: \$30 Adults, \$22 Students/Seniors \$20 for Groups of 10

Address: Centennial Theatre
2300 Lonsdale Ave.
North Vancouver, B.C.

Box Office: www.ctcboxoffice@northvanrec.com or 604.984.4484

Website: www.coastalcityballet.com

Maple Ridge

Date: Friday, November 16, 2011 at 8:00 pm

Ticket prices: \$30 Adults, \$22 Students/Seniors \$20 for Groups of 10

Address: ACT Maple Ridge
11944 Haney Place
Maple Ridge, BC

Box Office: www.theactmapleridge.org or 604.476.2787

Website: www.coastalcityballet.com
