



## Reach New Heights with Enchanting Fairy Tale, *Peter Pan*



Liam Saito, RWB Company | Photo by David Cooper. C.M.

**WINNIPEG, May 1, 2023.** Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet enchants and soars in the beloved family favourite, *Peter Pan*. With a reputation for effortless grace and impeccable performances, Company artists fly across the stage – quite literally. Choreographer Jorden Morris tributes J.M. Barrie's adored fairy tale with daring swordplay, bold flight sequences, and cheeky characters. Featuring the beloved boy who refused to grow up, a fiery fairy, and a sinister pirate, Barrie's magical characters will be brought to life at the Centennial Concert Hall by stunning costumes, masterful choreography, and a gorgeous score in the gifted hands of Principal Conductor, Julian Pellicano, and the treasured Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra.

The story of the mischievous lad and his troupe of Lost Boys has captivated audiences for close to 120 years. In 2006, when the RWB premiered *Peter Pan* in Winnipeg, *The Globe and Mail* reviewer Paula Citron wrote that Jorden Morris "succeeds mightily in his adroit portraits of his leading players, namely Peter, Wendy, Michael and John, with Tinker Bell as his finest creation. The tapestry of the fairy's flat-footed walk, splayed feet, precision toe work, thrust pelvis, and staccato arms perfectly captures her hair-trigger temper and abrupt mood swings."

When Morris started working on *Peter Pan* nearly 20 years ago, he knew he wanted the ballet to include real flight sequences. To help out with the special effects, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet brought in Las Vegas flight experts Flying by Foy, and it will be no different all these years later.

To get that effortless effect on stage, the RWB staff and dancers spend hours perfecting choreography and practicing flight. "There are a lot of logistics backstage. Everyone helps out," says Company artist Liam Saito, who plays Peter Pan. "When dancing, you're used to having total control of your movements. But with flying, you have to adjust to the harness."

Second Soloist Liam Caines, who is performing the Captain Hook role and taking his final bow with the RWB this season, chimes in: "Finishing with the same production that was my first experience with the Company 17 years ago as a student, but as the captain and not the crewman will be a great farewell performance."

The RWB gratefully acknowledges Include **Live Music Benefactor** – The Asper Foundation and **Arts Partner** – Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. “We recognize the power and importance of the orchestra’s live music role in the magic of RWB performances and we enthusiastically support its continuity.”

- Gail Asper, O.C., O.M, Chair, The Asper Foundation -

The RWB's Company season finale is a blockbuster dance event not to be missed! Watch Peter, Wendy, Tinker Bell, Captain Hook, the children, John and Michael Darling, who will be played by students in the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School's Professional Division, and the whole Neverland gang reach new heights on stage at the Centennial Concert Hall, May 3-7, 2023. Tickets for children 12 and under are \$35. For more information and to secure your seats, please visit [rwb.org](http://rwb.org).

## ***Peter Pan*** **RWB MEDIA CALL**

### **WHEN**

**Tuesday, May 2, 2023 7:30pm**

### **WHERE**

Centennial Concert Hall 555 Main Street, Winnipeg MB

**Please enter through the front doors only.**

### **PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILMING OPPORTUNITIES**

Non-flash photography and filming is permitted – maximum five minutes for filming

### **INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES**

Tara Birtwhistle, Associate Artistic Director, Company artists (English & French)

### **CONTACT**

All media report to Jo Magnifico, Communications & Public Relations Specialist

### **About Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet**

The heart of dance in Canada and the world, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet teaches, creates, and performs, enriching lives through the power of exceptional dance. Founded in 1939 by Gweneth Lloyd and Betty Farrally, the RWB holds the double distinction of being Canada's premier ballet company and the longest continuously operating ballet company in North America. The RWB received its 'Royal' designation from Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, the first Royal Charter granted during her reign.

As a result of the outstanding leadership of Artistic Director & CEO André Lewis, O.M., versatility, technical excellence, and a captivating style have become the trademarks of the RWB, qualities that have garnered both critical and audience acclaim. The RWB's superlative standards keep the Company in demand across North America and beyond. In addition to the Company, the RWB is home to the RWB School, consisting of both the Professional Division, our internationally renowned dance education and training centre for aspiring professional dancers and dance teachers, and the Recreational Division, one of Winnipeg's largest dance schools for all ages, levels, and interests.

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[www.rwb.org](http://www.rwb.org)

[Media Kit Link](#)

For further media information and to arrange interviews, please contact:

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