

Prix de Lausanne 2020 Opening of the 48th edition

International ballet competition – Auditorium Stravinski in Montreux

Montreux, February 3rd, 2020: the 48th edition of the international ballet competition starts today at the 2m2c Montreux Music & Convention Centre. This year, 77 young dancers from 25 different countries participate in the competition. The Finals will take place on Saturday February 8th, 2020, at the Auditorium Stravinski in Montreux.

The 77 participants of the 48th Prix de Lausanne will spend the week developing their skills and rehearsing their classical and contemporary variations under the direction of renowned teachers and coaches. On Friday, they will perform in front of the nine jury members in order to be selected for the Finals. Since last year, the daily live streaming time has tripled, with almost 6 hours live per day, broadcasted on **ARTE Concert** as well as on the Prix de Lausanne's website. As for the Selections and the Finals, they will be live streamed in their entirety. For the first time, the live-streaming will also be broadcasted on the website **Dance Australia**.

Just as in 2019, the audience will be able to support the young dancer of their choice by donating through our [online crowdfunding campaign](#) and voting for their favourite Finalist. The amount raised will be shared by the Audience Favourite Prize Winner and the Web Audience Favourite Prize Winner and will help them join the school or company of their choice.

Kathryn Bradney, Artistic and Executive Director: *"I am thrilled about the beginning of this exhilarating week, being in Montreux for the first time and full of young dancers brimming with exceptional talent! There's a palpable excitement in the air as each candidate dances in front of the extraordinary jury made up of international ballet stars and directors. This year's President of the Jury is **Frédéric Olivieri**, a Prix de Lausanne prize winner in 1977, and who is also an internationally renowned dance figure. This coming week promises to be an incredible experience for everyone!"*

Last Partner School Choreographic Project

After the great success of the 2018 and 2019 editions, the Prix de Lausanne reconducts the Partner School Choreographic Project for the last time in 2020. 26 students from all around the world are meeting in Montreux under the direction of the Italian choreographer **Mauro Bigonzetti** to create a unique piece. The choreography will be performed during the Interlude of the Finals.

Interlude

Saturday February 8th, during the Interlude performance that takes place between the Finals and Awards ceremony, the Royal Ballet School will perform two pieces with 13 of their best dancers, including several Prix de Lausanne Prize Winners and Finalists. The program includes *Larina Waltz* by Ashley Page and an extract of *Rhapsody* by Frederic Ashton.



Days open to the public
48th Prix de Lausanne from Monday February 3rd to Saturday February 8th, 2020

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Created in 1973, the Prix de Lausanne is an annual international competition for young dancers aged 15 to 18 years old. Its goal is to discover, promote and support the finest talents. More than 70 of the world's most prestigious dance schools and companies, such as the Royal Ballet in London, the Paris Opera Ballet School, the Hamburg Ballet School (John Neumeier), the Princess Grace Academy in Monaco, the Vaganova Ballet Academy in St. Petersburg, the Ballet Nacional Sodre in Montevideo, the Hong Kong Ballet, the San Francisco Ballet School and the Australian Ballet, are associated with the Prix de Lausanne and support its activities.

One of a kind, the Prix de Lausanne offers – for 48 years - an exceptional experience for a yearly selected group of youthful talents to nurture their skills and step towards a professional career. It is also an opportunity for dance professionals who can observe and establish contacts with the candidates.