Prix de Lausanne results

For the first time ever, the finals of the Prix de Lausanne, held on February 6, 2021, happened entirely online. Seventy-eight candidates took part in the 49th edition of the leading ballet competition and, from this number, 20 were eventually selected to compete in the finals. Six were then awarded a prize by the jury, presided over by Basel Ballet's Richard Wherlock, allowing them to enter one of the partner schools or companies of the Prix. This year, the ballet class exercise videos, and the variations broadcast during the selections, were watched almost 500,000 times on ARTE Concert, YouTube and Facebook as well as on the Prix's website.

It was a strong showing for the young men this year, with only two young women winning prizes. The winners of the Prix were as follows: The **Oak Foundation Prize** was won by 17-year-old António Casalinho from Portugal, who danced a variation from *Diana and Actaeon* and a contemporary solo, *Grinding the Teeth*; Luca Abdel-Nour, a 17-year-old from Egypt, won the **Bourse Jeune Espoir** prize dancing a variation from *Paquita* and a modern number called *A Solo for Diego*; the **Fondation Albert Amon** prize was taken by 16-year-old Andrey Jesus Maciano of Brazil, who danced solos from *Harlequinade* and *Urge*; the winner of the **Fondation Caris – Jeune Espoir** prize was Seojeong Yun, aged 17, from South Korea, who danced a variation from *Don Quixote* and the contemporary solo *Traces*;

Above: Two of the prize winners of the 2021 Prix de Lausanne. *Left* António Casalinho, and *Right* Luca Abdel-Nour.

Shunhei Fuchiyama, aged 18, from Japan, was awarded the **Fondation Coromandel** prize, after dancing a variation from *Grand Pas Classique*, as well as *A Solo for Diego*; and, finally, the **Fondation en Faveur de l'Art Chorégraphique** prize was given to 18-year-old Ashley Coupal, from Canada, who danced solos from *Giselle* and *Rain*.

Other prizes included the **Nureyev Foundation Best Young Talent Award**, which went to Andrey Jesus Maciano; the **Minerva Kunststiftung Contemporary Dance Award**, which went to both António Casalinho and 18-year-old Rui Cesar Cruz of Brazil; the **Fondation en Faveur de l'Art Chorégraphique Best Swiss Candidate** prize went to Luca Abdel-Nour, who also won the **Web Audience Favourite Award**.

Finalists who did not win a prize received a sum of CHF 1,000, offered by Bobst SA. In the coming weeks, representatives of the partner schools and companies will get in touch directly with the candidates to make them offers.

In addition, the Prix also chose two choreographies for the **Young Creation Award**: Samuel Winkler of the School of Hamburg Ballet John-Neumeier won for *Suppress*, danced by Gabriel Barbosa, and Maya Smallwood of Canada's National Ballet School won for *Unravel*, danced by Ewan Hartman.

Photographs: *Left* NIKITA ALBA. *Right* Courtesy of the PRIX DE LAUSANNE.