

Prix de Lausanne 2023 Competition Opening

International ballet competition –Beaulieu Theater, Lausanne

Lausanne, 30 January 2023: the 50th edition of the international dance competition starts today at the Beaulieu Theater in Lausanne. This year, 83 young dancers of 16 different nationalities are taking part in the competition. The Finals, which will allow 11 dancers to win Prizes, will take place on Saturday, February 4th, 2023. As part of its 50th anniversary, the Prix de Lausanne will extend its event for a whole day of celebrations, on Sunday 5 February 2023.

83 candidates (44 girls and 39 boys) arrived yesterday at the Beaulieu Theater to compete in the Prix de Lausanne 2023. All week long, they will be under the careful supervision of our artistic team composed of renowned international dance teachers and coaches to work on their classical and contemporary variation. On Friday, they will present them to the Jury presided by **Jean-Christophe Maillot** to try and be selected for the Finals.

For the 9th consecutive year, the competition will be livestreamed on **ARTE Concert** and the Prix de Lausanne website, with nearly 7 hours of live coverage per day. As to the Selections and the Finals, they will be broadcast in their entirety.

This year again, the public will be able to support a young dancer of their choice by making a donation via our online crowdfunding campaign and by voting for their favourite finalist. The vote will be open after the Selections, directly on the Prix de Lausanne website or via SMS. The money raised will be shared between the winner of the Audience Favourite Award (public on site in Montreux) and the winner of the Web Audience Favourite Award (online audience) to help them get into the school of partner company of their choice.

« I'm incredibly thrilled to welcome 83 young dancers for this anniversary edition that promises to be unique. Surrounded by this year's exceptional Jury, renowned teachers and coaches, as well as true dance stars who will walk the same stage as them this week, the candidates will undoubtedly go back home starry eyed. It is an honour to welcome back two figures of the competition, the talented choreographer and winner of the competition in 1977, Jean-Christophe Maillot, to chair the 2023 Jury, as well as Carlos Acosta, who will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award at the end of the Finals. I wish our public, our candidates, our artists and the entire artistic team a wonderful anniversary edition! » (Kathryn Bradney, Artistic and Executive Director)

Interlude

The Finals' Interlude, on 4 February, will open with Antonio Casalinho and Margarita Fernandes dancing a *Diana & Actaeon* pas de deux. Their performance will be followed by the two winning choreographies of the Young Creation Award 2023, designed and created by young students from our partner schools. Then, Antonio Casalinho will come back to perform Richard Wherlock's contemporary solo *Grinding the Teeth*. The Interlude will end



with the world-premiere of **BOLD**, a unique choreography created in one week by Goyo Montero for 24 dancers from our partner schools and the Lifetime Achievement Award 2023 to Carlos Acosta.

Sunday, 5 February: celebrations' day!

The Prix de Lausanne adds an extra-day to its competition week to celebrate its half-century anniversary. On Sunday, 5 February, the public will be able to attend a few festive events: at 2.30pm, the docu-film "Le Prix" will be screened in the Theater. The film, directed by Alain and Nuria Wirth, was made on the occasion of the competition's 50th anniversary. A discussion session with the directors will follow. At 4.30pm, the long-awaited Gala of the Stars will start, featuring solos or pas-de-deux from exceptional artists. Most of them are former Prix de Lausanne's candidates or Prize Winners who will step on the Beaulieu Theatre's stage again after having built international careers.

Days open to the public

Monday January 30th to Sunday February 5th, 2023

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The Prix de Lausanne follows the development of future dance talents throughout the year through various activities which culminates into the most prestigious classical ballet competition in the world. The first edition of the competition, designed for 15 to 18-year-old dancers, took place in 1973. Since then, it has become a major annual event in the dance sphere on a worldwide scale, and its goal remains unchanged: to identify, promote and help the best young dance talents around the world. Today, after 49 editions, the Prix de Lausanne is considered the most prestigious ballet competition on an international level and the foundation upholding and organising it has morphed into a wide scale charity, well beyond the initial event. We support the most promising young talents throughout the year through various education and training activities. The Prix de Lausanne allows them to live a unique experience that will serve them throughout their career. As a development partner, we provide them with a healthy environment to reach their full potential. That is why we have developed a vast network of partners to strive for excellence in this exceptional artistic dance field.