



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

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Alberta Ballet Mural Unveiled

International Artist Brings Vibrancy, Art to Macleod Trail

Calgary, AB – This autumn, Calgary commuters have something new to look at during rush-hour. Celebrating the connection between art and leading communities, Alberta Ballet is thrilled to announce the completion of a new public art project, sponsored by Chagall Global Fine Art and Kismet Solutions Inc. Located on Macleod Trail and 12th Avenue SW, commuters can now enjoy this painting as they reach the gateway to the downtown cultural district.

Featuring the art of premiere international artist Anna Razumovskaya, the richly-coloured mural depicts two Alberta Ballet company artists, Kelley McKinlay and Tara Williamson. The pair will also dance the title roles in Alberta Ballet's upcoming production of *Romeo and Juliet*, hitting the Jubilee Auditorium stage in Calgary October 22-24, 2009 and in Edmonton November 6-7, 2009.

"Art enriches our lives everyday. We thought it would be amazing if we could bring the passion and life so many see on our stage to everyone in Calgary," said Darryl Lindenbach, Executive Director at Alberta Ballet. "Thanks to a partnership with Kismet Solutions and Chagall Global Fine Art we are ecstatic to unveil this inaugural mural project. Our dancers are the epitome of grace and beauty and we hope that this image will help remind us all of the beauty that is possible when our worlds collide."

Razumovskaya visited the Alberta Ballet studios in Calgary earlier this summer to sketch the company's artists. "The opportunity to work with the Alberta Ballet and their incredibly gifted dancers is truly inspiring," she said. "As an artist, I appreciate the intensity, vibrancy, passion and consummate artistry they bring to each performance. To translate this onto canvas makes this experience even more rewarding, as well as knowing that the work we are doing together will benefit both the Alberta Ballet as well as the community."

Currently on tour in Europe, Razumovskaya's work has been exhibited in the US, Canada, Europe, England, Singapore, Japan, Dubai and Russia.

Reproductions of the original painting will be available for purchase at Alberta Ballet productions, at the Alberta Ballet box offices at 341-17 Avenue SW in Calgary or 11120-82 Ave NW in Edmonton and through Chagall Global Fine Art at www.chagallglobal.com. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the paintings will benefit Alberta Ballet.

Shirley Louie, Founder and Director of Chagall Global Fine Art, commented, "We are excited to partner with Alberta Ballet to support their 2009/2010 season through the creation of limited editions by Anna Razumovskaya, as well as the production of the wall mural." She continues, "Our mutual commitment to the community through proceeds from the sale of the limited editions is truly an example of how fine art organizations can,

together, turn inspiration into action, both contributing to social needs and raising cultural awareness.”

Brian McClennon, Founder, President and CEO of Kismet Solutions said, “Kismet Solutions is proud to be a partner and sponsor of Alberta Ballet. Our community is fortunate to have such a passionate arts organization in its midst. We are excited to be a part of this mural and look forward seeing its beautiful colours jump from the walls when the snow falls later this year.”

Tickets for Alberta Ballet’s first performance of the 2009-2010 season, *Romeo and Juliet*, are available online at www.albertaballet.com, or by calling 403.245.4549.

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About Alberta Ballet:

Alberta Ballet, a not-for-profit organization, is Canada's third-largest ballet company. Since its formation in 1966, with its cutting-edge repertoire and talent led by Artistic Director Jean Grand-Maitre and Executive Director Darryl Lindenbach, Alberta Ballet has remained at the forefront of the national and international arts scene. One of the only arts organizations in Canada to call two cities home, Alberta Ballet is proud to be a community leader both on and off the stage.

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