

25/

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | FRANCESCO VENTRIGLIA



The Greatest Season Ever Told





Alberta Ballet's momentous 2025/26 season brings legendary stories to life, woven with themes of love, passion, betrayal, and tragedy.

When I began imagining the 2025/26 season, I asked myself: what are the stories that move us, that connect us across time and place, and that reveal ballet at its most powerful? This season is my answer.

I wanted to offer Alberta audiences an experience that brings together the very best of ballet—works that honour classical tradition while embracing bold, imaginative storytelling. Each ballet is distinct in style, tone, and creative vision—yet together, they shape a repertoire woven with beauty, emotion, meaning, and storytelling. These connections create a powerful lineup, inviting audiences on a journey that lingers long after the final curtain falls.

From the haunting tragedy of *Romeo and Juliet*, brought to life with designs by three-time Academy Award winner James Acheson, to the raw, poetic intensity of *Nijinsky*, the season explores storytelling in all its emotional depth. Roland Petit's *Notre Dame de Paris* makes its North American debut, featuring iconic costume designs by Yves Saint Laurent. And *Once Upon a Time – A Thousand Tales* invites audiences on a spellbinding journey, where fairy tale favourites are seamlessly woven into one imaginative adventure. Each work offers a fresh perspective on how great stories can be told through ballet.

To meet the scale of these productions, we are expanding our company of dancers and performing every month throughout the season. Grand works like *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker* will be presented with a full symphony orchestra, filling the theatre with the magic of live music and breathtaking theatricality. Shaped by visionary choreographers, designers, and musicians from around the world, this season is a rich tapestry of storytelling and stagecraft. Their artistry, combined with the passion and dedication of our dancers, ensures that every performance is a unique and unforgettable experience.

I invite you to be part of this extraordinary year—what we hope will be remembered as *the greatest season ever told*.

FRANCESCO VENTRIGLIA

Artistic Director, Alberta Ballet

Artists Alexandra Hughes in Simons & Mirko Melandri in Leo Boutique

WELCOME TO OUR 2025/26 SEASON

The season brings some of ballet's most iconic stories to life. With a full-season subscription, you won't miss a single moment of this momentous season. Experience every performance from your favourite seats with unparalleled benefits. Enjoy priority access, exclusive savings, and VIP privileges that bring you closer to the art you love.



SUBSCRIPTION SAVINGS

Enjoy 20% savings on all subscription tickets, including The Nutcracker and The Winter Gala. Bring friends or family and save 25% when you add four seats to your package.



PREMIER ACCESS

Take your ballet experience to the next level by upgrading to Premier or Super Premier status or by becoming a Member of Alberta Ballet's Dance Circle, unlocking VIP Lounge access with complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres during intermission.



COMPLIMENTARY PARKING

Enjoy free parking at all five subscription performances for a stress-free arrival.



FLEXIBLE PAYMENT PLANS

Secure your subscription with a 20% initial payment and for as little as \$23.36/month.

As a subscriber, you have the flexibility to exchange your tickets for another performance at no cost or apply the value as credit toward a different show. If you're unable to attend, you can also donate your tickets with 48 hours' notice and receive a tax receipt.

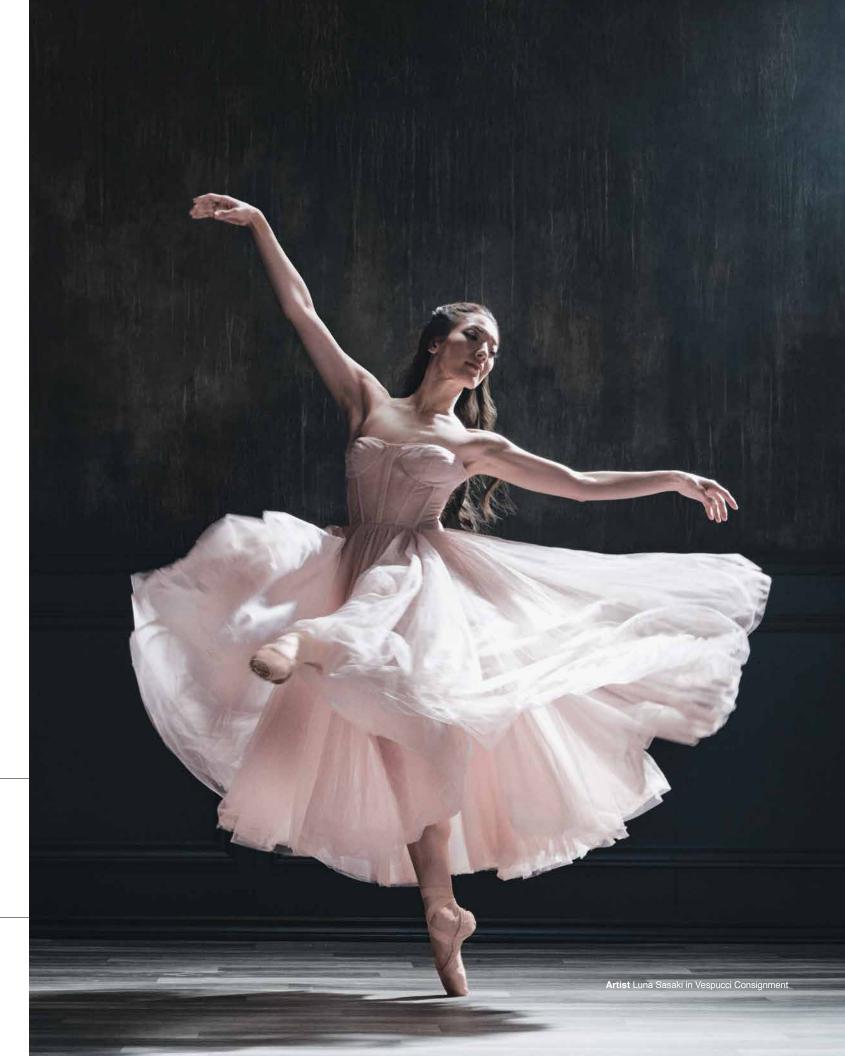
To purchase your subscription or to find answers to your questions, visit AlbertaBallet.com/subscriptions, contact our Patron Services Team by email at boxoffice@albertaballet.com or call us at 1-800-646-8533, ext. 2.



ADD A DONATION TO YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

The health benefits of arts participation have a lifelong impact. As a registered charity, Alberta Ballet is working to make these benefits accessible to more Albertans. When you round up the cost of your subscription, you're supporting the community impact in our annual operations. Donate today and make it possible for us to deliver the art you love for generations to come!







SEPTEMBER 11-13

EDMONTON

SEPTEMBER 19-20

ARTISTIC CREDITS

CHOREOGRAPHER'S

COSTUME/SET DESIGN

CHOREOGRAPHY Francesco Ventriglia

ASSISTANT Daniela Filangeri

Alexey Shor

MUSIC



Once Upon a Time

A Thousand Tales

Step into an enchanted storybook world

Fairy tales intertwine in Once Upon a Time – A Thousand Tales, a story ballet that stitches childhood classics into one enchanting journey. Led by the White Rabbit, each scene opens the door to another beloved tale, creating a seamless adventure bursting with imagination.

Created by Alberta Ballet's Artistic Director Francesco Ventriglia, this production premiered as A Thousand Tales in 2023 on the Dubai Opera stage. It blends iconic stories like Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Snow White, Swan Lake, and Aladdin into a spellbinding narrative, with choreography that seamlessly fuses classical ballet and theatrical storytelling. As *Times of Oman* describes, every moment unfolds like turning the pages of a cherished book, drawing audiences into "countless literary worlds plucked from the top shelf of our childhood bookcase."

Roberta Guidi Di Bagno's exquisite sets and costume design bring this vision to life, creating a world as enchanting as the stories themselves. Paired with a breathtaking musical score from Alexey Shor, Once Upon a Time - A Thousand Tales is a feast for the senses, immersing audiences in fairytale wonder.

SUBSCRIBE & SAVE

AlbertaBallet.com/subscriptions

Roberta Guidi Di Bagno



CALGARY

OCTOBER 16-18

EDMONTON

OCTOBER 24-25

Alberta Ballet in the World Premiere of

Nijinsky

Honouring the genius with a bold new vision

The daring triple-bill tribute honours Vaslav Nijinsky's revolutionary impact on ballet, refreshingly envisioned by acclaimed Canadian choreographers. Through the eyes of three female choreographers from three generations, this program reimagines two of Nijinsky's most legendary works—*Afternoon of a Faun* and *Petrushka*—bringing their groundbreaking ballet and raw emotion into a contemporary light. The program also includes *Firebird*, created during Nijinsky's early years with the Ballets Russes, a time when he was shaped by and contributed to the era's most influential works.

With deep reverence, choreographers and company artists bring Nijinsky's radical spirit to life. Expect inventive choreography that captures the essence of his works while infusing them with modern sensibilities and personal artistic flair, bridging past and present in celebration of a true icon of ballet. Reinterpretations by female artists offer a bold new perspective on the historic masterpieces from an era shaped by one of the most legendary male choreographers of all time.

Nijinsky is a conversation across time between a revolutionary era and today's artists. A landmark for true ballet lovers, this program sees legendary ballets reborn in the hands of today's creative talents.

ARTISTIC CREDITS AFTERNOON OF A FAUN

MUSIC
Claude Debussy

PETRUSHKA

MUSIC

Igor Stravinsky

FIREBIRD

MUSIC

Igor Stravinsky

Follow along on social media for choreographer announcements and exclusive updates about the production.

SUBSCRIBE & SAVE





DECEMBER 12-24

EDMONTON

DECEMBER 3-7



A NEW +

TRADITION

BEGINS!

Artist Hinata Takahara in Vespucci Consignment

The Nutcracker

A world premiere of holiday magic

A beloved holiday tradition returns in grand style with the annual presentation of *The Nutcracker* — and this year, it's brand-new. Alberta Ballet unveils an all-new Nutcracker, reinvented by Artistic Director Francesco Ventriglia. This December, rediscover the magic with fresh choreography, stunning new sets and costumes, and a renewed sense of enchantment.

Ventriglia's choreography breathes new life into the ballet while honouring the classical divertissements audiences have cherished for generations—a vibrant cultural celebration in the second act. The iconic Tchaikovsky score, performed live by the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, fills the theatre with soaring melodies. Alberta Ballet's full company and young community dancers bring this spectacular world to life.

This *Nutcracker* is the heartwarming centerpiece of the season and a grand milestone for Alberta Ballet. After 16 years, we have created an all-new production to delight young and old fans alike. A rare chance to experience a reimagined production of this scale, The Nutcracker blends tradition with fresh creativity. Whether it's your annual tradition or a long-awaited return, this new vision promises joy, wonder, and holiday

ARTISTIC CREDITS CHOREOGRAPHY

Francesco Ventriglia

MUSIC

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

LIVE ORCHESTRA

Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra & Edmonton Symphony Orchestra

COSTUME/SET DESIGN

Gianluca Falaschi

VISUAL DESIGNER

Italo Grassi

magic the whole family will enjoy.

SUBSCRIBE & SAVE

CALGARY **JANUARY 17** **EDMONTON JANUARY 24**

Alberta Ballet Presents

The Winter Gala

The past, present, and future of ballet – on one stage

Returning for its third year, *The Winter Gala* has become an annual event—an electrifying celebration of ballet's past, present, and future. This dazzling, one-nightonly event unites the extraordinary artistry of Alberta Ballet's professional dancers with the exceptional talent of Alberta Ballet School's elite students, creating a breathtaking showcase of passion, and artistry.

This mixed program is meticulously curated by Artistic Director Francesco Ventriglia, designed to honour ballet's rich history while embracing its bold future. Alberta Ballet's company artists and Alberta Ballet School's professional students will share the stage, performing both beloved classics and striking new creations. Together, they reveal ballet's full power—from its technical brilliance and emotional depth to its ability to push artistic boundaries and inspire audiences.

With over 130 performers, this grand collaboration is a testament to Alberta Ballet's commitment to nurturing the next generation of artists. The energy in the theatre is electric, as one powerful piece follows another, leaving audiences awe-struck year after year.

SUBSCRIBE & SAVE



CALGARY

FEBRUARY 12-14

EDMONTON

FEBRUARY 20-21

Alberta Ballet in the Canadian Premiere of

Romeo & Juliet

The ultimate love story of passion and fate

Passion and tragedy take center stage in February with *Romeo and Juliet*—a ballet of love, longing, and fate. Shakespeare's timeless story unfolds through breathtaking choreography by Francesco Ventriglia, the power of Sergei Prokofiev's score, and the splendor of three-time Academy Award-winning designer, James Acheson (*The Last Emperor, Dangerous Liaisons, Restoration*). From the thrill of the curtain rising to the heartbreaking final moment, every scene speaks volumes, turning ballet into pure emotion.

Ballet at its finest draws you deep into the story, where a single gesture expresses devotion, and a final embrace shatters your heart. Ventriglia's choreography and Acheson's Renaissance designs transport you to fair Verona, where love defies family and fate. Packed with grand duets, electrifying sword fights, and a haunting stillness, *Romeo and Juliet* is a masterclass in movement and storytelling.

Embrace the month of love with this ballet's ultimate artistry. Feel the passion, witness the spectacle, and let this legendary love story sweep you away. ARTISTIC CREDITS

CHOREOGRAPHY

Francesco Ventriglia

CHOREOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANT

Gillian Whittingham

MUSIC

Sergei Prokofiev

COSTUME

James Acheson







CALGARY
MARCH 13-15

EDMONTON
MARCH 27-28

Alberta Ballet in the Canadian Premiere of

Swan Lake

Swan Lake soars to new heights with a live orchestra

Few ballets command the stage with the power and elegance of *Swan Lake*. The sweeping movement of the corps de ballet, the emotional depth of Odette and Siegfried's love story, and the tension of the Black Swan's deception make it one of the most captivating works in the classical repertoire. Alberta Ballet's production follows the beloved Petipa/Ivanov tradition while embracing the bold vision of Benjamin Pech, a former étoile of the Paris Opera Ballet. Pech heightens the ballet's drama by reimagining Benno—Siegfried's closest friend—as the true villain, deepening the prince's turmoil and altering the story's tragic conclusion.

Tchaikovsky's sweeping score will be performed live, surrounding audiences with its full orchestral power. The combination of Pech's storytelling and Alberta Ballet's artistry makes this *Swan Lake* a not-to-be-missed event. With evocative design, powerful performances, and live music, this production offers a fresh take on a timeless masterpiece. Experience *Swan Lake* as it was meant to be seen, and heard.

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ARTISTIC CREDITS CHOREOGRAPHY

Benjamin Pech

MUSIC

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

LIVE ORCHESTRA

Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra & Edmonton Symphony Orchestra

COSTUME DESIGN

Gianluca Falaschi

VISUAL DESIGN

Italo Grassi

CALGARY

APRIL 30-MAY 2

EDMONTON

MAY 8-9

Alberta Ballet in the North American Premiere of

Notre Dame de Paris

A ballet of love and destiny unfolds beneath the tower

Alberta Ballet closes the season with Notre Dame de Paris, a rarely seen masterpiece by Roland Petit. Based on Victor Hugo's novel, this ballet follows Esmeralda, a free-spirited dancer, and Quasimodo, the devoted bell-ringer, as they navigate love, obsession, and tragedy. With bold storytelling and breathtaking choreography, Notre Dame de Paris portrays desire, power, and sacrifice.

An unexpected fusion of dance, fashion, and theatrical brilliance sets this production apart. Petit's choreography captures Quasimodo's struggle and Esmeralda's spirit. Enhancing this legendary work are costumes designed by Yves Saint Laurent, inspired by Notre Dame's stained glass. Rich jewel tones and striking silhouettes bring medieval Paris to life, complemented by Maurice Jarre's evocative score, performed live.

Notre Dame de Paris is a theatrical gem with its sweeping drama, exquisite design, and powerful choreography. Witness the grandeur and artistry of this extraordinary production—one that may not return for years.

ARTISTIC CREDITS CHOREOGRAPHY

Roland Petit

STAGER

Luigi Bonino

ASSISTANT STAGER

Gillian Whittingham

MUSIC

Maurice Jarre

COSTUME

Yves Saint Laurent

TECHNICAL SUPERVISOR/ LIGHTING DESIGN

Jean-Michel Désiré

SET DESIGN

René Allio

LIBRETTO

after Victor Hugo's The Hunchback of Notre-Dame

SUBSCRIBE & SAVE





ALBERTA BALLET

More than what you see on stage



As a patron, you know the thrill of ballet. But Alberta Ballet's vision is more than performances—it's a commitment to nurturing talent, sharing dance with the community, and securing ballet's future.

The Alberta Ballet Foundation is part of the vital network of supporters and funders who help make this vision possible. This support sustains scholarships, outreach, and artistic initiatives. From training young dancers to bringing ballet to new audiences, these programs keep the art form thriving.

In addition to supporting Alberta Ballet's commitment to creating new productions and bringing new stories to life, Alberta Ballet Foundation also supports:



Opening Doors to Excellence

At Alberta Ballet School

61

students received scholarships to pursue their passions for dance.

Young artists are stepping closer to their dreams—thanks to a community that helps them overcome financial barriers.

Inspiring Young Movers

Traveling throughout Alberta, we've introduced the joy of ballet to

1,000

youth in 8 communities from Chateh to Medicine Hat.

These beginner classes spark creativity, build confidence, and plant the seeds for a lifelong love of the arts.

Breaking Down Barriers

Through partnerships with

40

community organizations throughout Alberta,

we're ensuring more young Albertans can experience the transformative power of dance. By reducing financial, geographic, and social obstacles, we make the arts accessible to all.

When you support Alberta Ballet or the Alberta Ballet Foundation, you are part of an even bigger movement—ensuring dance inspires Albertans for years to come. Thank you for helping us achieve this vision!



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | FRANCESCO VENTRIGLIA





DANCE CIRCLE **MEMBERSHIP** \$1,500 (tax receipt) The principal purpose of membership is to invest in and be a part of the future of Alberta Ballet. Dance Circle members are an integral part of our company, and all of our success stories. You'll be beaming with pride throughout the season as one smash hit after another premieres in Alberta. This Membership includes unique experiences for you and a guest to enjoy with Alberta Ballet's artistic team, access to curated events, and the opportunity to help shape Alberta Ballet's future with a vote at our Annual General Meeting. Members are also invited to members-only special events throughout the season gain insider access to special insights and learn about the upcoming season before it is publicly announced. Performance night benefits include: Access to Alberta Ballet Lounge before the performance and during intermission Host bar and canapés Complimentary coat check Complimentary parking

To learn more about the many ways you can support Alberta Ballet, please contact donate@albertaballet.com

or call Elizabeth Reade at 403-245-4222 ex 510.

Artist Jolie Rose Lombardo

PATRON PROGRAM

Be a Patron of Alberta Ballet

\$5,000 +

With an investment of \$5,000 + become a Patron of Alberta Ballet and enjoy a number of wonderful benefits while supporting the future of dance.

Patrons enjoy the full spectrum of Dance Circle benefits including exclusive invitations to various artistic and community events, dress rehearsals, backstage tours and exclusive receptions with Artistic Director Francesco Ventriglia.



Exclusive invitations to various artistic and community events



Dress rehearsals and backstage tours



Exclusive receptions with Artistic Director Francesco Ventriglia

Be a Patron of the Costume Campaign*

Invest in the creation of new and captivating works, where the craftsmanship of costumery embodies the essence of the stories we tell.

ULTIMATE PATRON	\$100,000	\$\tag{5}	Fly to Rome and have a copy of a costume fitted to you from the same Atelier including the items below
EXECUTIVE PATRON	\$50,000		Enjoy a mini-mannequin attired in one of the costumes as a memento including the items below
GOLD PATRON	\$25,000	· C	Have your name embroidered in a costume of your choice including the items below
SILVER PATRON	\$10,000		Receive a framed costume sketch of your choice

Contact Elizabeth Reade for further details elizabethr@albertaballet.com or call 403-245-4222 ext. 510

^{*}donations must be paid in full before benefits are received

25/26 SUBSCRIPTION

		ONCE UPON A TIME	NIJINSKY	ROMEO & JULIET	SWAN LAKE	NOTRE DAME DE PARIS
	Thursday Evening	SEPT 11 · 2025 7:30 pm	OCT 16 · 2025 7:30 pm	FEB 12 · 2026 7:30 pm	MAR 15 • 2026 7:30 pm* *Please note: Thursday subscribers will be shifted to Sunday	APR 30 · 2026 7:30 pm
CALGAR	Friday Evening	SEPT 12 · 2025 7:30 pm	OCT 17 · 2025 7:30 pm	FEB 13 · 2026 7:30 pm	MAR 13 · 2026 7:30 pm	MAY 1 · 2026 7:30 pm
/o	Saturday Matinée	SEPT 13 · 2025 2:00 pm	OCT 18 · 2025 2:00 pm	FEB 14 · 2026 2:00 pm	MAR 14 · 2026 2:00 pm	MAY 2 · 2026 2:00 pm
	Saturday Evening	SEPT 13 · 2025 7:30 pm	OCT 18 · 2025 7:30 pm	FEB 14 · 2026 7:30 pm	MAR 14 · 2026 7:30 pm	MAY 2 · 2026 7:30 pm
EDMONTON	Friday Evening	SEPT 19 · 2025 7:30 pm	OCT 24 · 2025 7:30 pm	FEB 20 · 2026 7:30 pm	MAR 27 · 2026 7:30 pm	MAY 8 · 2026 7:30 pm
	Saturday Matinée	SEPT 20 · 2025 2:00 pm	OCT 25 · 2025 2:00 pm	FEB 21 · 2026 2:00 pm	MAR 28 · 2026 2:00 pm	MAY 9 · 2026 2:00 pm
	Saturday Evening	SEPT 20 · 2025 7:30 pm	OCT 25 · 2025 7:30 pm	FEB 21 · 2026 7:30 pm	MAR 28 · 2026 7:30 pm	MAY 9 · 2026 7:30 pm

25/26 THE NUTCRACKER & THE WINTER GALA

		THE NUTCRACKER	THE WINTER GALA
	Wednesday	DEC 3 · 2025 7:00 pm	_
	Thursday	DEC 4 · 2025 7:00 pm	-
NC	Friday	DEC 5 · 2025 7:00 pm	-
EDMONTON	Saturday Matinée	DEC 6 · 2025 1:00 pm	_
	Saturday Evening	DEC 6 · 2025 6:00 pm	JAN 24 · 2026 6:30 pm
	Sunday Matinée	DEC 7 · 2025 1:00 pm	-
	Sunday Evening	DEC 7 · 2025 6:00 pm	_

		NUTCR	GALA	
	Thursday	_	DEC 18 · 2025 7:00 pm	_
CALGARY	Friday	DEC 12 · 2025 7:00 pm	DEC 19 · 2025 7:00 pm	-
	Saturday Matinée	DEC 13 · 2025 1:00 pm	DEC 20 · 2025 1:00 pm	-
	Saturday Evening	DEC 13 · 2025 6:00 pm	DEC 20 · 2025 6:00 pm	JAN 17 · 2026 6:30 pm
	Sunday Matinée	DEC 14 · 2025 1:00 pm	DEC 21 · 2025 1:00 pm	-
	Sunday Evening	DEC 14 · 2025 6:00 pm	DEC 21 · 2025 6:00 pm	-
	Monday	-	-	-
	Tuesday Matinée	-	DEC 23 · 2025 1:00 pm	-
	Tuesday Evening	-	DEC 23 · 2025 6:00 pm	-
	Thursday	-	DEC 24 · 2025 6:00 pm	-

THE

THE WINTER

VISIT WWW.ALBERTABALLET.COM/ MYACCOUNT TO RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TODAY!

25/26 SUBSCRIPTION PRICING | INCLUDES 20% DISCOUNT FOR SUBSCRIBERS

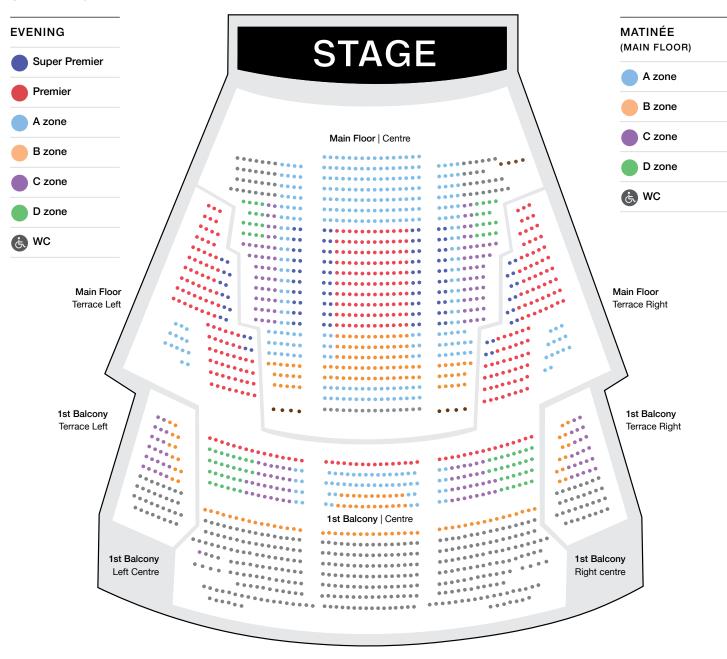
	Super Premier	Premier	A zone	B zone	C zone	D zone
5 Pack Evening	\$842.00	\$712.00	\$662.00	\$562.00	\$392.00	\$292.00

25/26 THE NUTCRACKER & THE WINTER GALA

ADD-ON PRICING

	Super Premier	Premier	A zone	B zone	C zone	D zone
Subscriber Price	\$179.51	\$152.71	\$142.30	\$122.31	\$88.72	\$69.11

SEATING MAP



Furniture provided by The Brindle Room. Page 3: Francesco in Henry Singer. Page 6: Frame loaned by 17th Ave Thrift Store.

