

World Recognized Beijing Dance Academy selects the Goh Ballet for Artistic and Cultural Exchange

Deputy Director Mr. Zu Ding Zhong will lead a group of professors from the esteemed Beijing Dance Academy to Vancouver March 31st – April 2nd 2011.

Ms. Li Chun Hua, Senior Professor and Leading Faculty Member of the Beijing Dance Academy will teach a masterclass to the Senior Professional Division of the Goh Ballet Academy.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

April 1, 2011, *Vancouver, Canada...* Chan Hon Goh, Director of the Goh Ballet is pleased to announce that Senior Professor and Leading Faculty Member of the Beijing Dance Academy, Ms. Li Chun Hua will teach a master class at the Academy as part of a cultural and artistic exchange initiative on Friday April 1st 2011. Additional Professors and Members of the Faculty lead by Mr. Xu Ding Zhong, Artistic Deputy Director of the Beijing Dance Academy will be auditing classes and taking part in an artistic conference to discuss the direction of dance in various countries. Mr. Xu will be back to Vancouver in June 2011 to conduct a *Teacher Training Seminar* held at the Goh Ballet Academy.

The Beijing Dance Academy was recently awarded the *Best School* award at the prestigious Youth America Grand Prix in New York City. The opportunity to be the host to esteemed colleagues is rare and the Goh Ballet embraces this friendship. The faculty of both institutes look forward to the chance to learn from one another and value the opportunity to exchange ideas and knowledge. The Goh Ballet is proud to make evident the quality of talent and the abundance of culture in beautiful Vancouver. Exchanges such as this will only work to further the arts in Vancouver, especially within our younger generation, and keep the cultural communities of China and Canada close.

Mr. Yao Ping Zhu, former Principal Dancer of the National Ballet of China, has been on the Goh Ballet's faculty for over 20 years and is one of several Goh Ballet faculty members who are alumni of the Beijing Dance Academy. He now serves as Ballet Master and Production Supervisor at the Goh Ballet and expresses his appreciation for this sharing of knowledge which will reflect on the students he teaches daily: *"The Beijing Dance Academy has produced dancers who have become professionals in companies all around the world and constantly sets a high standard at world class competitions. I am proud to have been in the first graduating class of the Beijing Dance Academy after the Cultural Revolution in China and I am pleased to see that, since the revolution, China has been open to exchanges such as the one we will experience today. It presents opportunities for different cultures and artistic views to be shared around the world using the language of Ballet to inspire and foster creativity."*

A rare interaction of culture and talents, April 1st 2011 reunites the Goh Ballet Academy and Beijing Dance Academy in a lasting relationship. Members of the Goh Ballet Youth Company will embark on a performance tour to China in August of 2011 and Mr. Xu Ding Zhong will return to Vancouver to conduct a Teachers Training Seminar as one of the three esteemed Summer Programs offered by the Goh Ballet.

The Goh Ballet Youth Company and Senior Professional Division of the Goh Ballet Academy can be seen at the Centre in Vancouver for the Performing Arts on June 4th 2011 for the world premiere of their production L'Amour. For more information including tickets call 604.872.4014 ext. 217, visit www.ticketstonight.ca or www.gohballet.com.

About the Beijing Dance Academy

The Beijing Dance Academy, also known as Beijing Dance Institute, is the only institution of higher education in dance in China. The school was founded on September 6, 1954 and is located in the Haidian District of Beijing. It offers Master's degrees and Bachelor's degrees in three specialities: performance, choreography and dance studies. The faculty equates to almost 500 teachers and administrative staff and the enrolment is of approximately 2,000 students. Admission to the school is competitive and an examination is required for consideration.

The Beijing Dance Academy teaches pre-kindergarten, elementary, middle, and high school students. Students attend full-time school at the academy and learn basic math, reading, writing, and other standard subjects. Students also choose a dance specialty such as ballet or Chinese traditional dance.

The Beijing Dance Academy was recently awarded the coveted *Best School* award at the Youth America Grand Prix.

About the Goh Ballet

Established in 1978, the Goh Ballet Academy is an internationally renowned institute, recognized for its high caliber ballet training and performances, providing students with advanced knowledge to prepare them for a flourishing career in the field of dance.

The Goh Ballet was founded by [Choo Chiat Goh](#) and [Lin Yee Goh](#) and is now under the direction of [Chan Hon Goh](#), former Prima Ballerina of the National Ballet of Canada. The academy introduces new interpretations of classic full-length productions, nurtures and cultivates award-winning aspiring dancers and commissions new works by some of the world's most renowned and sought-after choreographers.

The Goh Ballet Academy has received international acclaim as one of Canada's preeminent ballet schools, giving rise to young talent, with its graduates filling the ranks of world-renowned ballet companies. This recognition has enabled the Goh Ballet to offer invaluable opportunities for students to perform internationally, work with professional dancers, and represent Canada around the globe as an ambassador for Canadian dance and arts culture.

An acclaimed and dedicated faculty well versed in the Vaganova and Royal Academy of Dance methods aims to foster each individual talent to reach their fullest potential.

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For Interview Opportunities, Photos or References contact:

Katie Weber

Communications Associate

604.872.4014 ext. 217

kweber@gohballet.com

www.gohballet.com