



## For Immediate Release



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# World's largest student ballet competition celebrates 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with 3 performances at NY City Center

April 21 – Final Round of the competition (open to general public for the first time)  
April 22 – “Stars of Today Meet the Stars of Tomorrow” – YAGP 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala  
April 23 – “Peter the Great” Gala: A tribute to a legendary ballet teacher, Peter Pestov

**TICKETS:** \$25-\$150 ■ CityTix @ 212.581.1212 ■ [www.nycitycenter.org](http://www.nycitycenter.org) ■ NY City Center Box Office

**New York, NY** (March 30, 2009) – World's largest student ballet competition and festival - YOUTH AMERICA GRAND PRIX – will celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with three spectacular performances at NY City Center on April 21-23, 2009.

**THE FINAL ROUND OF THE COMPETITION (April 21, 2009 at 7:00pm)** – Each year, over 5,000 talented young dance students audition worldwide at semi-final rounds conducted by YAGP around the globe. Only 300 of the most promising young dancers representing 30 countries on 5 continents are chosen for the New York City Finals. Open to general public for the first time, the FINAL ROUND will give New York audiences a unique opportunity to see 60 of the world's best young dancers before they disperse around the world to study on scholarship at the world's leading dance academies (over \$250,000 in scholarships are presented annually at YAGP). **TICKETS:** \$25 for all seat locations, available at NY City Center Box Office, at [www.nycitycenter.org](http://www.nycitycenter.org), or by calling CityTix@ at 212.581.1212.

**“STARS OF TODAY MEET THE STARS OF TOMORROW”: YAGP 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala (April 22, 2009 at 7:00pm)**  
The annually sold-out YAGP Galas have become synonymous with the discovery of new dancers, choreographers, and companies. The unique format of the Gala, featuring the performances of international ballet stars and introducing the world's brightest young dance talent quickly became an audience favorite and, according to Clive Barnes of the New York Post, “the highlight of the New York ballet season.” The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Gala will bring together 23 of the 250 YAGP alumni currently performing with over 50 companies around the globe, representing American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Orlando Ballet, Corella Ballet, National Ballet of Canada, Stuttgart Ballet, Dresden State Opera Ballet, and MOMIX. SEE ATTACHED PROGRAM. **TICKETS:** \$45-\$150, available at NY City Center Box Office, at [www.nycitycenter.org](http://www.nycitycenter.org), or by calling CityTix@ at 212.581.1212.

**“PETER THE GREAT” GALA: A TRIBUTE TO A LEGENDARY BALLET TEACHER (April 23, 2009 at 7:00pm)**  
Vladimir Malakhov, Nikolai Tsiskaridze, Alexei Ratmansky and the last five Artistic Directors of the world-renowned Bolshoi Ballet – what do these instantly recognizable names have in common? They have all been trained by Peter Pestov, one of the greatest ballet teachers in history. This extraordinary evening will pay tribute to Mr. Pestov's legacy by gathering some of his most acclaimed students in one spectacular Gala performance. The audience will be treated to never-before-seen archival footage and will witness an emotional coming together of several generations of dancers, choreographers and teachers celebrating the 80th birthday of the great architect behind their success. The Gala evening will be hosted by **Alexei Ratmansky**. SEE ATTACHED PROGRAM. **TICKETS:** \$45-\$150, available at NY City Center Box Office, at [www.nycitycenter.org](http://www.nycitycenter.org), or by calling CityTix@ at 212.581.1212.

**YOUTH AMERICA GRAND PRIX (YAGP)** is America's first and the world's largest student ballet scholarship competition, founded in 1999 by two former Bolshoi Ballet dancers, Larissa and Gennadi Saveliev. Conducted annually throughout the U.S. and abroad (Brazil, Mexico, Japan, and Italy), YAGP is the “internet of the dance world,” a global network of opportunity connecting dancers, teachers, schools and companies all over the globe. Each year, YAGP culminates with a Final Round in New York City and a Gala performance at NY City Center. Since its inception, 25,000 young dancers have participated in YAGP worldwide competitions and workshops, over \$2 million dollars have been awarded in scholarships to the world's leading dance schools, and over 250 YAGP Alumni are now dancing with some 50 companies around the globe, including American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Boston Ballet, Stuttgart Ballet, Paris Opera Ballet, Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg, and many others. For more information, visit **WWW.YAGP.ORG**.

YAGP 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season is sponsored by Bloch, Capezio, Grishko, Gaynor Minden, Discount Dance Supply, Dance magazine, Dance Teacher magazine, Dance Spirit magazine, Dancer magazine, Pointe magazine, and Sylvia Co.



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**“STARS OF TODAY MEET THE STARS OF TOMORROW”  
YAGP 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA**

Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 7pm  
New York City Center

**ACT I**

**Skylar Brandt** (ABT JKO School),  
**Brooklyn Mack** (Orlando Ballet)

**James Moore - NY DEBUT**  
(Pacific Northwest Ballet)

**Hiroko Asami – NY DEBUT,**  
Raphael Courmes-Marquet  
(Dresden State Opera Ballet)

**Angelina Zuccarini** (Stuttgart Ballet) –  
**NY DEBUT**

**Charles Andersen – NY DEBUT,**  
**Eliabe D'Abadia – NY DEBUT**  
(Royal Danish Ballet)

**Sara Mearns**, Jared Angle  
(New York City Ballet)

Maria Kowroski \*\*, Philip Neal  
(New York City Ballet)

Natalia Tapia , **Matthew Golding**  
(Corella Ballet) – **NY COMPANY DEBUT**

The YAGP 2009 Finalists

**“Little Red Riding Hood” – WORLD PREMIERE**

Choreography: Viktor Kabaniaev  
Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
Costumes by: Narciso Rodriguez

**“Mopey”**

Choreography: Marco Goecke  
Music: Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach

**“Reverence” - NY PREMIERE**

Choreography: David Dawson  
Music: Max Richter

**Lise Variation from “La Fille Mal Gardee”**

Choreography: Frederick Ashton  
Music: Ferdinand Hérold

**“The Jockey Dance”**

Choreography: August Bournonville  
Music: Carl Christian Møller

**“Who Cares?” (excerpts)**

Choreography: George Balanchine  
© The George Balanchine Trust  
Music: George Gershwin

**“The Man I Love” (excerpt #1)**

**“Embraceable You” (excerpt #2)**

**“Flames of Paris” Pas de Deux**

Choreography: Vasily Vainonen  
Music: Boris Asafiev

**“Grand Defilé”**

Choreography: Carlos Dos Santos, Jr.  
Music: Stephen Gunzenhauser

- Intermission -

**PLEASE NOTE:**

YAGP alumni are shown in **bold blue** font.

\*\* Ms. Kowroski was invited to join the program as YAGP's very first honoree.

Several finalists of the YAGP 2009 Student Ballet Competition will be selected to join **ACT I** of the program.



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**“STARS OF TODAY MEET THE STARS OF TOMORROW”  
YAGP 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA**

Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 7pm  
New York City Center

**ACT II**

**“Le Grand Pas de Quatre”**

Choreography: Jules Perrot  
Music: Cesare Pugni

**Melanie Hamrick, Christine Schevchenko,  
Mary Thomas, Katherine Williams**  
(American Ballet Theatre)

**“Adagio”**

Ashley Boudier (New York City Ballet)  
Maia Makhately (Dutch National Ballet)  
Irina Dvorovento (American Ballet Theatre)  
Yekaterina Kondourova (Mariinsky Ballet)

**“Lucile Grahn variation”  
“Carlotta Grisi variation”  
“Fanny Cerrito variation”  
“Marie Taglioni variation”**

Boudier, Makhately, Dvorovento, Kondourova

**“Coda”**

**Kiril Kulish** (“Billy Elliot: The Musical”)

**“Electricity”**

Choreography: Peter Darling  
Music: Elton John

Karine Plantadit (Broadway Performer),  
**Danny Tidwell**

**“Good Times, Ha!” – WORLD PREMIERE**

Choreography: Camille A. Brown  
Music: The New York Allstars

**Hee Seo, Cory Stearns**  
(American Ballet Theatre)

**“Romeo and Juliet” Balcony Pas de Deux**

Choreography: Kenneth MacMillan  
Music: Sergei Prokofiev

**Steven Marshall**, Partner TBA (MOMIX)

**“Tuu”**

Choreography: Moses Pendleton  
Music: Tuu

Gillian Murphy, **Joseph Phillips**  
(American Ballet Theatre)

**“Tarantella”**

Choreography: George Balanchine  
Music: Louis Moreau Gottschalk  
© The George Balanchine Trust

**Bridgett Zehr**, Zdenek Konvalina  
(National Ballet of Canada)

**“The Prokofiev Pas de Deux”**

Choreography: Chris Wheeldon  
Music: Sergei Prokofiev

Victoria Tereshkina, Vladimir Shklyarov  
(Mariinsky Ballet); **Sarah Lane**, Marcelo  
Gomes (American Ballet Theatre),  
Zachary Catazaro (New York City Ballet)

**“Le Corsaire” Suite**

Choreography: Marius Petipa  
Music: Richard Drigo

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Program subject to change.



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## **“PETER THE GREAT” GALA: A TRIBUTE TO A LEGENDARY BALLET TEACHER**

Thursday, April 23, 2009 at 7pm  
New York City Center

*This special program is a celebration of the life and work of a legendary ballet teacher, Peter Pestov.  
It features rare archival footage, choreography and performances  
by some of Mr. Pestov’s most celebrated students.*

### **ACT I**

**“Peter the Great”**  
(Video presentation)

**Introductory Remarks**  
Alexei Ratmansky

Graduating class,  
John Cranko School of Stuttgart Ballet

Maria Kochetkova (San Francisco Ballet),  
Gonzalo Garcia (New York City Ballet)

Sascha Radetsky (Dutch National Ballet)

Wendy Whelan, Benjamin Millepied  
(New York City Ballet)

Viktoria Tereshkina (Mariinsky Ballet),  
Marcelo Gomes (American Ballet Theatre)

Alicia Amatriain (Stuttgart Ballet),  
Mikhail Kaniskin (Berlin State Opera Ballet)

Vladimir Malakhov (Berlin State Opera Ballet)

Adiarys Almeida, Herman Cornejo,  
Joseph Gatti (Corella Ballet)

**Class Demonstration**  
Teacher: Peter Pestov

**“Raymonda” Pas de Deux - NY PREMIERE**  
Choreography: Yuri Possokhov  
Music: Alexander Glazunov

**“5 Tangos”**  
Choreography: Hans van Manen  
Music: Astor Piazzola

**“Concerto DSCH”**  
Choreography: Alexei Ratmansky  
Music: Dmitri Shostakovich

**“Manon” Pas de Deux**  
Choreography: Kenneth MacMillan  
Music: Jules Massenet

**“In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated”**  
Choreography: William Forsythe  
Music: Thom Willems

**“La Vita Nuova - NY PREMIERE**  
Choreography: Ronald Savkovic  
Music: Arshak Ghalumyan

**“Le Corsaire” Pas de Trois**  
Choreography: Marius Petipa  
Music: Richard Drigo



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### **ACT II**

Elizabeth Schmitt, Sam Zaldivar  
(Dmitri Kulev Classical Ballet Academy)

**“Flower Festival in Genzano” Pas de Deux**  
Choreography: August Bournonville  
Music: Eduard Helsted

Ekaterina Kondaurova, Islom Baimuradov  
(Mariinsky Ballet)

**“Middle Duet”**  
Choreography: Alexei Ratmansky  
Music: Yuri Khanon

Gennadi Saveliev (American Ballet Theatre)

**“Gopak”**  
Choreography: Rostislav Zakharov  
Music: Vasily Solovyov-Sedoi

Karine Plantadit (Broadway performer),  
Sascha Radetsky (Dutch National Ballet)

**“Sinatra Suite”**  
Choreography: Twyla Tharp  
Music: Frank Sinatra

Vladimir Malakhov (Berlin State Opera Ballet)

**“Voyage”**  
Choreography: Renato Zanella  
Music: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Alicia Amatriain (Stuttgart Ballet),  
Mikhail Kaniskin (Berlin State Opera Ballet)

**“Le Grand Pas de Deux”**  
Choreography: Christian Spuck  
Music: Gioachino Rossini

Nikolai Tsiskaridze (Bolshoi Ballet)

**“Narcissus”**  
Choreography: Kassyan Goliezdovsky  
Music: Nikolai Cherepnin

Viktoria Tereshkina, Vladimir Shklyarov  
(Mariinsky Ballet)

**“Don Quixote” Pas de Deux**  
Choreography: Marius Petipa  
Music: Richard Drigo

**Closing Remarks**  
Alexei Ratmansky

*Program subject to change.*