

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Two Iconic Ballets, Performed by World Renowned Dancers!**  
**The Russian National Ballet presents Romeo & Juliet and Carmen**  
**Wednesday, January 29 at 7:30PM**

Whitewater, Wis – With lush music and exquisite grace, the Russian National Ballet returns to Young Auditorium to perform two of the world's greatest ballets: *Romeo and Juliet* together with *Carmen*. Two separate one-act ballets in one amazing performance, Wednesday, January 29th at 7:30pm.

The Russian National Ballet has been bringing timeless ballet classics to the stages of North America since 1999. Founded in Moscow during the transitional period of Perestroika in the late 1980s, the company used their new-found creative freedom to invigorate the tradition of Russian Ballet with new developments in dance from around the world. In 1994, the legendary Bolshoi principal dancer Elena Radchenko was selected by Presidential decree to assume the first permanent artistic directorship of the company. Ms. Radchenko focuses on upholding the national tradition of the major Russian ballet works, and developing new talents throughout Russia, with a repertory designed to enlighten, inspire, and entertain worldwide audiences. This particular production is extremely unique as these gifted artists present full-length, one-act versions of two of two iconic ballets.

Based on William Shakespeare's play of the same name, *Romeo and Juliet* serves up beauty and tragedy with equal measure as two young lovers bring their families together through death. The ballet is set to music by Tchaikovsky with the original choreography by Marius Petipa, re-staged by artistic director Elena Radchenko.

*Carmen*, as a ballet, was initially banned by the Soviet hierarchy as disrespectful to the opera...but today is considered one of the medium's finest works. This ballet consists of thirteen beautiful dance numbers, with each number being a complete dance representing a particular character or situation from the story. The Russian National Ballet dancers are eager to demonstrate their own understanding of this timeless masterpiece as they portray the roles of free-spirited *Carmen*, fickle Don José, popular bullfighter Escamillo, and Fate, who represents *Carmen's* alter ego.

(more)

Tickets range from \$34.25 to \$44.75, with youth tickets available for \$19.00. To obtain tickets for this, or any Young Auditorium production, stop in or call the Greenhill Center of the Arts Box Office (located in the Greenhill Center of the Arts atrium on the UW-Whitewater campus) at (262) 472-2222, or purchase tickets online at [www.youngauditorium.com](http://www.youngauditorium.com).

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