

For Immediate Release

## BALLET BC LAUNCHES 2019/20 SEASON WITH PROGRAM 1

Vancouver, BC (October 3, 2019) — Ballet BC opens the 2019/20 season October 31 - November 2 at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre with two remarkable works by world-class choreographers Aszure Barton and Johan Inger. For her final season as Artistic Director before taking the helm at Netherlands Dance Theatre, Emily Molnar has created a kaleidoscope of a season full of energy, emotion and expansive physical performance. Program 1 is appropriately rooted in the idea and experience of living.

*“It has been a privilege to serve as Artistic Director of Ballet BC for the last ten years. As I enter my final season, I am excited to support a distinct group of artists and perspectives on dance through our diverse offering of company premieres and the return of some of our most-loved works.”*

— Emily Molnar, Artistic Director

### **Program 1 Overview**

In *BUSK*, Edmonton-born and internationally renowned choreographer Aszure Barton riffs on the idea of busking to elevate the beauty and grace that exist in the struggles of everyday life. As Barton tells it: “the word ‘busk’ comes from the Spanish root word ‘buscar’ meaning ‘to seek’”. Set to an atmospheric score, Barton’s choreography moves the dancers through a poetic, grounded sensibility whilst transporting audiences to an intimate space. Although the work has been performed by other companies (the piece will also be danced at Alvin Ailey Theater in New York City this December) Barton adapts the work for each production, leaning on each individual dancers’ styles and strengths.

Ballet BC is also delighted to revisit *B.R.I.S.A* for a second time, having first showcased the piece in 2017. *B.R.I.S.A*, created by Johan Inger for NDT2 in 2014, is rooted in the idea of change and awakening. One of today’s most distinguished dance-makers, Inger has won numerous awards and his works have been featured in major international companies.

Program 1 plays at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre at 8:00pm, October 31-November 2, 2019. Tickets range from \$44 to \$105 (including service charges) and can be purchased at [balletbc.com](http://balletbc.com).

### **About Ballet BC**

Founded in 1986, Ballet BC has been under the leadership of Artistic Director Emily Molnar since 2009. Combining classical integrity with a contemporary sensibility, Ballet BC is a creation-based company of 18 talented dancers from Canada and around the world that is committed to exploration and collaboration in contemporary dance. Solidly grounded in the rigour and artistry of classical ballet, with an emphasis on innovation and the immediacy of the 21st century, the Company presents a distinct and diverse repertoire by the most sought-after Canadian and international contemporary choreographers. Since 2009, the Company has developed a repertoire of more than 45 new works. Ballet BC continues its commitment to perform highly acclaimed productions on regional, national and international tours in addition to its regular performance season in Vancouver, and was nominated for an Olivier Award in 2019.

Ballet BC is committed to being a leader in the community through its outreach and professional development activities, and actively fosters collaborations that support artists, choreographers and audiences alike, furthering the boundaries of contemporary dance.

For more information, visit [balletbc.com](http://balletbc.com) or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @balletbc.

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