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#### For Immediate Release

# Ballet BC Announces *REACHING U* -- a Digital Event from April 15 to 21 Presenting the Company's Premiere of Artistic Director Medhi Walkerski's *GARDEN*

Audience Favourite Bedroom Folk is also set to return to the digital stage this spring with REACHING U.



March 9th, 2021 - Vancouver, BC - Following the success of their first online event last month, Ballet BC is thrilled to announce their upcoming spring program *REACHING U.* Running from April 15 to April 21, the digital streaming event will give audiences a chance to witness the company's premiere of *GARDEN*, a work choreographed by Medhi Walerski. *GARDEN* is Walerski's first production with Ballet BC as Artistic Director. Back by popular demand, audiences will also get to

re-experience the mesmerizing *Bedroom Folk*, which was originally performed on Vancouver stages in 2019 and was met with critical acclaim.

"What a joy to connect again with all our audiences near and far. Although we might not be in the same physical space, the digital world offers us the possibility to reach you," said Medhi Walerski, Artistic Director at Ballet BC. "It is an honour to be leading this exceptional company of artists at this pivotal moment in time and it is with great pleasure and pride that we present you with this exciting evening of dance."

Making its Ballet BC digital debut is Medhi Walerski's *GARDEN*, a poetic piece of dance inspired by Camille Saint-Saens' *Piano Quintet in A minor, Op. 14*. The performance weaves together a series of duets, unison and counterpoint that reflect the refined dialogue between the piano and strings. A choreographer who is known for making clear, conceptual choices in his work, Walerski has the dancers in *GARDEN* shaping the space physically and organically. *GARDEN* was nominated by Dance Europe for Best Production in 2016.

Returning to the Ballet BC stage for *REACHING U* is *Bedroom Folk*, choreographed by esteemed collaborative duo and Vancouver fan favourites, Sharon Eyal and Gai Behar. Set to a hypnotic house beat, *Bedroom Folk* combines music, movement and light to act as equal protagonists in this visually mesmerizing piece. Originally introduced to North American audiences in 2019, *Bedroom Folk* has become a highlight in Ballet BC's global touring repertoire.

Registration is now live at <u>balletbc.com</u> and available by donation.

#### **About Ballet BC**

Founded in 1986, Ballet BC is currently under the leadership of Artistic Director Medhi Walerski. Ballet BC is an internationally acclaimed collaborative and creation-based contemporary ballet company that is a leader and resource in the creation, production and education of contemporary dance in Canada. Bold and innovative, the Company's distinctive style and approach has made a unique and valuable national contribution to the development of dance. In 2019, the Company was nominated for an Olivier Award for Best New Dance Production for their tour to Sadler's Wells in London.

Since 2009, the Company has developed a repertoire of more than 45 new works by acclaimed Canadian and international choreographers. Ballet BC actively fosters collaborations that support artists, choreographers and audiences alike, furthering the boundaries of contemporary dance. The company embraces excellence in the practice of contemporary ballet, with its wide diversity of technique and style, honouring its roots and components.

### For interview requests, please contact:

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High-res images of *REACHING U* are available for media use  $\underline{\text{here}}$ .