

Prix de Lausanne 2012
40th international competition for young dancers
from January 29 to February 4, 2012,
at the Beaulieu Theater in Lausanne

Lausanne, January 24, 2012: The Prix de Lausanne is celebrating its 40th anniversary. 40 years of excellence and passion in fostering the stars of tomorrow. Since 1973, the challenge launched by Philippe and Elvire Braunschweig, founders of the Prix de Lausanne, is met each winter with the same creative energy and artistic rigor.

79 candidates of 19 different nationalities were selected on the basis of the videos submitted by the 226 entrants and will be competing in Lausanne for a week. At the end of the selection round, on Friday, February 3rd, 20 candidates will have been chosen to perform in the finals on Saturday, February 4th. 8 of them will be leaving with a year-long scholarship to one of the 65 prestigious Prix de Lausanne partner schools and companies.

The jury, composed of 9 personalities of the dance world, all prize winners of the Prix de Lausanne, will be presided by the Director and Choreographer of the Ballets of Monte-Carlo, **Mr Jean-Christophe Maillot** (prize winner 1977).

In the finals, during the jury deliberations, the public will be able to admire three short performances danced by the students of the **Royal Ballet School** of London and the **Royal Danish Ballet School** of Copenhagen, both partner schools of the Prix de Lausanne.

An exceptional **Gala** will take place on Sunday, February 5th, 2012, at 5 pm at the Beaulieu Theater with 25 artists, most of them prize winners of the Prix de Lausanne. The pas de deux will be danced by Principals of the Ballet of the National Opera of Paris, the Royal Ballet, and the Ballets of Monte-Carlo among others.

The Prix de Lausanne wishes to celebrate this anniversary with the citizens of Lausanne and invites them to share key moments in the life of the competition. Some events are not to be missed: until March 1, an exhibition at the CHUV "The Prix de Lausanne through 40 years of posters"; a photo exhibit on the Grand-Pont "from shadow to light"; and a programme of dance films at the Swiss Cinematheque starting on February 13.

And for the first time, the finals will be commented live on the web in 4 languages by four prize winners – on www.prixdelausanne-live.com .

Tickets for the finals and the gala are on sale at the Opéra de Lausanne:
+41 (0)21 310 16 00 or on www.prixdelausanne.org

In addition to the finals, some of the competition activities are open to the public from Tuesday, January 31st to Thursday, February 2nd and all day Friday 3rd. Tickets are on sale at the entrance: 10 Swiss francs from Tuesday to Thursday, 20 Swiss francs on Friday.
Children aged 7 to 15: free of charge (children under 7 not admitted).

Information: *Prix de Lausanne press department*

Catherine Kopitopoulos, Jean-Paul Dinh

☎ +41 (0) 21 643 24 08 - Fax +41 (0)21 643 24 09 – E-mail : press@prixdelausanne.org

Created in 1973, the Prix de Lausanne is an annual international competition for young dancers aged 15 to 18. Its goal is to discover, promote and support the world's finest young talents. 65 of the world's most prestigious dance schools and companies, such as the Royal Ballet School of London, the School of American Ballet in New York, and the Béjart Ballet Lausanne, are associated with the Prix de Lausanne and support its activities.

One of a kind, the Prix de Lausanne represents an exceptional platform for discovering youthful talents and is open to dance professionals who can observe and establish contacts with the candidates, thereby transforming Lausanne into the world's capital for young dancers during the week of the competition.