

Karen Kain
Artistic Director



新聞 NEWS

DANCING INTO THE NEW YEAR

芭蕾舞帶你跳進金牛年

Written by Brian Chin

It was a night that ballet enthusiasts won't soon forget as they had a chance to take in some of the best dancers Canada had to offer.

The Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto, or CCCGT, celebrated its annual Chinese New Year gala last month with a performance entitled: *Rolex Presents: A Chinese New Year Celebration with Chan Hon Goh, Prima Ballerina of The National Ballet of Canada, and Friends.*

Performing in front of a packed house at the P.C. Ho Theatre was the guest of the evening, Chan Hon Goh, along with other principal dancers Aleksandar Antonijevic, Sonia Rodriguez and Piotr Stanczyk.

Rolex CEO Victor Royce said ballet is an underappreciated art and more people should take an interest in it. "We are lucky to have one of the world's best ballet dance companies and everyone should go down to the Four Seasons Centre and support these wonderful dancers."

David Banks, chair of the National Ballet of Canada, said, "It's such a pleasure to be here again. It gets better each time."

Although Goh was credited with producing and coordinating the performance, she said it was definitely a team effort. "A show like this can't come together without having many friends and also my friends on stage."

Dr. Ming-Tat Cheung, Chairman and President of the CCCGT, said the gala event is exactly what the cultural centre stands for – the bringing together of communities and the exchange of cultures. "This gala is a showcase of our mandate to be the centre where the West can meet the East and it's the highlight of our Chinese New Year Celebration series" Cheung said. "We would like to invite not only the Chinese communities but also other ethnic groups to share the joy and festivities of our traditions and culture."



對於喜愛芭蕾舞的朋友來說，今年新春能欣賞到國家級芭蕾舞員的優美演出，一定十分難忘。

上個月，由大多倫多中華文化中心主辦、勞力士全力贊助的《吳振紅新春盛大芭蕾舞演出》，令觀眾在新春期間欣賞到芭蕾舞星曼妙的舞姿，同時感受經典藝術之美。

當日的表演於大多倫多中華文化中心的何伯劍劇院舉行。這次參與演出的，不但有加拿大國家芭蕾舞團首席舞蹈員吳振紅，還有其他國際星級舞蹈家，包括Aleksandar Antonijevic、Sonia Rodriguez和Piotr Stanczyk。

勞力士行政總裁 Victor Royce 認為現時的芭蕾舞藝術仍不普及，懂欣賞者少，所以應加強推廣，教更多人能領略這門藝術之精粹。Royce 說道：「這次演出，我們很榮幸能請到這麼出色的芭蕾舞家參與。在此也順帶一提，大家應多去四季表演藝術中心欣賞芭蕾舞藝術啊。」

加拿大國家芭蕾舞團董事局主席 David Banks 說：「每次看到吳振紅的演出，都見到她一次比一次進步，真的為我帶來驚喜。」

吳振紅在這次表演也負責藝術統籌及製作，她認為演出的成功，全賴各工作人員通力合作。她說：「我感謝各位來這裡幫手的台前幕後，沒有這班朋友之鼎力襄助，表演難以做得這麼出色。」

大多倫多中華文化中心的主席兼會長張明達醫生覺得這個新春節目，最能體現中心的精神 – 就是把多元文化帶進社區中。他說：「該項節目正好吸引東西方人士前來中心。此外，它為接連的賀年節目打開序幕。我們不只歡迎華人前來中心欣賞各類節目，更希望其他族裔參與，一同分享我們的傳統、我們的文化、我們的節日、我們的歡樂。」



Chan Hon Goh with guest dancers, sponsors and friends at the VIP reception following the Chinese New Year performance at the Chinese Cultural Centre in Toronto.

Karen Kain
Artistic Director



Chan Hon Goh dances for charity show Chinese New Year Celebration



L-R Sylvie Worsley (Manager, Marketing and Communication Rolex Canada), Victor Royce (CEO Rolex Canada), Chan Hon Goh, Jeff Leung (Asianwave Publisher), Michael Grit (Theatre Manager Richmond Hill Centre For The Performing Arts)



L-R Dr. Tat-Ming Cheung (Chairman and President of Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto), Victor Royce (CEO Rolex Canada), Chan Hon Goh, Sharifa Khan (President of Balmoral)



Photo credit: Simon Lee

Dr. Tat-Ming Cheung and Chan Hon Goh acknowledges Platinum sponsor Helen Ching-Kircher (President and CEO of Downtown Fine Cars) and her husband Dr. Peter A. Kircher

NEWS | 新聞

GOH BIDS FAREWELL... 吳振紅榮休



After twenty years with the National Ballet of Canada, Chan Hon Goh has called it a career. Goh, 40, who started her career in 1988, announced in early February that she will retire on May 21.

An appreciative Goh thanked a Canadian ballet star that gave her a piece of advice that seemed to resonate through out her career. "Everything you do is so right," Goh said. "You hang on to that."

Karen Kain, Artistic director, said Goh was a very special talent and she was much stronger than she thought. "For someone who appears so fragile and delicate, she has amazing strength," Kain said. "I never could believe she could jump the way she did because her little legs didn't seem to have all that much muscle."

Goh, who has been a principal dancer since the mid 90s, said she was very blessed to have performed as long as she did and was thankful for the friends she has made. "I have lived out through my dream of becoming a ballerina. I feel so fortunate, I am fortunate to be given some of the most amazing repertoire to dance, and I constantly find new inspiration from choreographies and my fellow dancers," she said. "There have been so many people constantly instrumental in fostering my development and I'm tremendously grateful to all of them."

吳振紅在芭蕾舞界奮鬥了二十年，回看自己的表演事業，她感到欣慰和滿足。現年四十歲的她，早於1988年就踏足芭蕾舞界，而今年二月初，她宣佈要退休了。

曾經有位加拿大國家芭蕾舞團的舞星向她說出一番鼓勵的話，令她常繫心間，像不斷為她的事業打氣般。吳振紅說：「這句說話就是 - 每件事你都做得很好，不要停，繼續努力吧！」

舞團的藝術總監 Karen Kain 讚揚吳振紅具有天賦舞頭才華，她絕對比很多人想像中強得多。Karen說：「她的外表看似嬌弱，不過當跳著舞時，在一舉手一投足之間，我感到她滿身全是運動細胞。」她接著解釋：「我從未想過以她那纖細的雙腿，竟能超越肌肉的局限，跳出這麼多又優美又高難度的芭蕾舞動作。」

吳振紅在九十年代中期，晉升成為加拿大國家芭蕾舞團的首席舞頭。她感謝上天對她的眷顧，讓她的努力一點也沒有白費。她說：「我的志願就是要在芭蕾舞劇上擔任女主角，這個願望已經實現了。我慶幸過往能有機會參演多個優秀的劇目。而從編舞家和團中舞員身上，我獲得不少啟發，令我在芭蕾舞的造詣改進不少。」在這裡她也提到朋友在她的事業裡，一樣不可或缺。她說：「過往我得到不少朋友善意的栽培，使我的事業穩步向前，在此我想向他們表達我這份衷心的謝意！」