



March 14, 2023

**Dance Victoria and Victoria Symphony Co-Produce the Premiere of  
Ballet Edmonton: *Music in Motion*  
Royal Theatre, April 23, 2:30 pm + April 24, 7:30 pm**

VICTORIA, B.C. – The exquisite artists of [Ballet Edmonton](#), led by Artistic Director Wen Wei Wang, arrive to set *Music in Motion* with a dazzling choreographic collection on April 23 and April 24, 2023, at the Royal Theatre. *Music in Motion* is the first production co-produced by Dance Victoria and Victoria Symphony together.

For the *Music in Motion* program, Wang will share *The Four Seasons Recomposed* to Max Richter's treatment of Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*, the first time Ballet Edmonton will perform this work with live orchestra. Wang was also commissioned to create new choreography for Ian Cusson's instrumental telling of the legend *Le loup de Lafontaine*, performed by Victoria Symphony. In between these two choreographed works, the Symphony will present Ravel's *Mother Goose Suite (Ma mère l'oye suite)*, his fond tribute to children's fairy tales.

Max Richter's recomposition of Vivaldi's score, performed by the Konzerthausorchester Berlin, was among the best-selling classical records of 2012, for its combination of cutting-edge electronic technology and Vivaldi's tunes.

"We hear it everywhere-when you're on hold, you hear it in the shopping centre, in advertising; it's everywhere," Richter has said of his remix. "For me, the record and the project are trying to reclaim the piece, to fall in love with it again."

Ballet Edmonton Artistic Director Wen Wei Wang's choreographic interpretation of Richter's sleekly digitized postmodernism will be new to Victoria audiences, as the music takes us through the changing seasons. Using the music as inspiration, Wang's choreography invokes images of nature, evolving weather, and the emotions they produce.

After the Ravel interlude, nature returns with ferocity in Ian Cusson's *Le loup de Lafontaine: Suite for Orchestra in Three Scenes*.

Cusson is a composer of art song, opera, and orchestral work. Of Métis and French-Canadian descent, his work explores Canadian Indigenous experience including the history



of the Métis people, the hybridity of mixed-racial identity, and the intersection of Western and Indigenous cultures. His musical composition is inspired by *Le loup de Lafontaine* by Thomas Marchildon, a cautionary tale that takes place in the small French-speaking Ontario community of Lafontaine in 1902. During the time of Marchildon's story, various settler and Indigenous communities lived in close proximity, rarely intermixing. Each had a deep mistrust of the other. When a wolf arrives, they unite (but at a cost) with the common goal of ridding the community of the intruder.

"I have known this story all my life – the terrifying wolf and the frightened community," explains Cusson. "But the story has always given me pause. The wolf isn't quite the monster the people make it out to be. It is gentle with children, it keeps to itself, and except for killing sheep for food, it does no harm. The wolf is the feared and hated outsider – the ultimate scapegoat - whose expulsion from the community will be the means to the restoration of the divided peoples."

[Ballet Edmonton: Music in Motion](#)

Choreographer & Artistic Director: Wen Wei Wang  
Conductor: Giuseppe Pietraroia

Vivaldi/Recomposed by Max Richter • *The Four Seasons Recomposed*  
Ravel • *Ma mère l'oye suite*  
Ian Cusson • *Le loup de Lafontaine – Suite for orchestra in three scenes*

Sunday, April 23, 2:30 pm

Monday, April 24, 7:30 pm

Join us for a free, pre-show chat in the lobby 45 minutes before each performance.  
Royal Theatre

**How To Buy Tickets**

**Phone:** The Royal and McPherson Box Office at **250-386-6121** or toll-free at **1-888-717-6121**, Monday to Friday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm (Royal Theatre closed 1:00 to 1:30 pm)

**Online:** [DanceVictoria.com](http://DanceVictoria.com) or [VictoriaSymphony.ca](http://VictoriaSymphony.ca)

Visit the [Royal and McPherson Theatres website](#) for current Box Office details.

**Tickets:** \$29 - \$98

**About Ballet Edmonton**



Ballet Edmonton is a contemporary ballet ensemble of company dancers under the leadership of Artistic Director Wen Wei Wang. The company commissions original work each season from a variety of choreographic voices for its main stage performance series. Its repertoire is primarily Canadian, with new creations by nationally recognized and emerging choreographers with distinctive voices. Ballet Edmonton is committed to advancing the work of female and diverse creators to ensure our artistic product reflects the world in which we live. The company contributes to the evolution of ballet in Canada by expressing the unique narratives of the artists whose vision it helps bring to life. [BalletEdmonton.ca](http://BalletEdmonton.ca)

#### **About Dance Victoria**

Dance Victoria brings the *World's Best Dance* to the Royal Theatre and supports the development of new dance for the international stage from its studios in Quadra Village. As a non-profit charitable society, Dance Victoria operates with the mission to promote the appreciation of dance by developing and presenting diverse local, Canadian, and international artists, and by engaging the community in the celebration of dance. [DanceVictoria.com](http://DanceVictoria.com)

#### **About the Victoria Symphony**

Victoria Symphony is a highly versatile Canadian orchestra that inspires, educates, and captivates our community through the transformational power of music. For over 80 years, Victoria Symphony has engaged audiences, created drama, and stirred emotion through the power of live music. As one of British Columbia's largest performing arts organizations, the Victoria Symphony performs repertoire from classical to pops, new music, opera and ballet, and continues to delight audiences of all ages. [VictoriaSymphony.ca](http://VictoriaSymphony.ca)

#### **Media Contacts**

Tracy Smith  
Marketing Manager  
[marketing@dancevictoria.com](mailto:marketing@dancevictoria.com)  
250-595-1829

Maya Lohcham  
Senior Marketing Officer  
[maya@victoriasymphony.ca](mailto:maya@victoriasymphony.ca)  
250-412-2658

Dance Victoria  
111-2750 Quadra Street  
Victoria, BC V8T 4E8

Victoria Symphony  
610-620 View Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 1J6