

CLEVELAND BALLET

GLADISA GUADALUPE | ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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**CLEVELAND BALLET PRESENTS A HIGH CALIBER OF ARTISTRY FOR THEIR
SEASON-OPENER *SWAN LAKE***

From Season Presenting Sponsor Key Private Bank

CLEVELAND, OH - Governor's Award-winning Artistic Director Gladisa Guadalupe is bringing her own flare to Cleveland Ballet's *Swan Lake*, sponsored in part by Roe Green and the Roe Green Foundation, with an all-star cast and critical artistic coaching from world-renowned dancer and artist Valentina Kozlova.

The story of *Swan Lake* centers around the all-encompassing love of the Swan Queen Odette and Prince Siegfried. When tragedy strikes in the form of the evil sorcerer Von Rothbart and his equally cunning daughter Odile, the two lovers are thrown into a dramatic twist of fate.

Our Swan Queen and her cunning counterpart will be performed by guest artist Ana Sophia Scheller. Originally from Buenos Aires, Argentina, Ms. Scheller began her training at Instituto Superior de Arte del Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires before enrolling at School of American Ballet. She is a former Principal Dancer of New York City Ballet and San Francisco Ballet and is currently Principal Dancer of the National Ballet of Ukraine.

Her loving partner and prince will be performed by Zachary Catazaro. A Canton native, Mr. Catazaro began his training at the School of Canton Ballet before attending the School of American Ballet. He is a former Principal Dancer of New York City Ballet and joined Cleveland Ballet in 2021.

The evil sorcerer Von Rothbart will be performed by Narek Martirosyan. Originally from Yerevan, Armenia, Mr. Martirosyan trained at the Yerevan State National Choreographic College. He previously danced with the Armenian National Ballet Theatre and New Jersey Ballet Company before joining Cleveland Ballet in 2021.

Cleveland Ballet's *Swan Lake* will also receive artistic coaching from the world-renowned dancer, choreographer, and artist Valentina Kozlova. Ms. Kozlova has danced and appeared as a guest with various companies including New York City Ballet, Paris Opera, English National Ballet and Florence Opera House. She founded Valentina Kozlova Dance Conservatory of New York in 2003 which provides students who have the talent, determination and ability the opportunity to receive the quality training needed to pursue professional careers. In 2011, she debuted what is now known as the Valentina Kozlova International Ballet Competition. True to her mission, the competition has helped many dancers from around the world secure company contracts, trainee positions, scholarships, and exposure.

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There will be two performances of *Swan Lake* at Playhouse Square's Connor Palace Theatre: October 21st at 8 p.m. and October 22nd at 7 p.m. Tickets are available for purchase now; visit [here](#) to secure.

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ABOUT CLEVELAND BALLET: From the fascinating history of dance in Cleveland starting at the beginning of the 20th century, Dr. Michael Krasnyansky, a successful Ukrainian businessman who settled in the Cleveland area, and his wife Gladisa Guadalupe, a wonderful dancer originally from Puerto Rico, have made their mission to build on the vision and business acumen of Adella Prentiss and impresario Giacomo Bernardi. Prentiss and Bernardi were instrumental in the development of Cleveland's dance audience. They were responsible for bringing one of the world's foremost ballerinas of the 20th century, Anna Pavlova, as well as the internationally famous Diaghilev Ballets Russes which performed in this city during their first U.S. tour. Today and under their artistic vision, business expertise and leadership Dr. Krasnyansky and Ms. Guadalupe has established the city's resident ballet company, Cleveland Ballet, successfully filling the void of classical and contemporary ballet. Please see <https://case.edu/ech/articles/c/cleveland-ballet> and <https://case.edu/ech/articles/d/dance> for more information.

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