

PRESS RELEASE: 12 August 2018

Medallists of the Genée International Ballet Competition 2018 Announced

- **Joshua Green**, from Australia & **Monet Hewitt**, from New Zealand awarded coveted gold medals
- Silver medals awarded to **Caitlin Garlick**, from Australia & **Basil James**, from the UK
- Bronze medals awarded to **Enoka Sato**, from Japan & **Jordan Yeuk Hay Chan**, from Hong Kong
- Genée 2019 will take place in Toronto, Canada

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The Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) is pleased to announce the medallists of the prestigious Genée International Ballet Competition 2018, held at Hong Kong City Hall on 12 August. After a week of intensive coaching from world-renowned teachers and choreographers the competitive Final saw the coveted gold medal awarded to **Joshua Green**, aged 17 from Australia, trained by Karen Ireland & **Monet Hewitt**, aged 16 from New Zealand, trained by Joye Lowe. Silver medals were awarded to **Caitlin Garlick**, trained by Karen Ireland & **Basil James**, trained by Anthony Dowson and Jennifer Hale. **Enoka Sato**, trained by Annette Roselli & **Jordan Yeuk Hay Chan**, trained by Yui Man Cheung, were awarded the bronze medal.

Joshua Green started dancing in 2016 under the watchful eye of Karen Ireland at Karen Ireland Dance Centre. In April 2018, he travelled to New York and was selected as a top 20 dancer at the Youth America Grand Prix finals. He also received a scholarship to The John Cranko Schule. After completing the Genée, he stays in Hong Kong as one of the selected finalists of the Asian Grand Prix.

Monet Hewitt from Auckland, New Zealand, began dancing when he was 8 years old at Philippa Campbell School of Ballet under the tutelage of Joye Lowe, Jane Turner and Geordan Wilcox.

Jordan Yeuk Hay Chan was presented with the Margot Fonteyn Audience Choice Award, and the Choreographic Award for best Dancer's Own variation was awarded to Australian dancer, Joshua Green.

The 2018 Genée attracted 51 of the world's finest young dancers from 13 nationalities, aged between 15 and 19 years old. The competition saw finalists perform three solos including never-before seen pieces by esteemed choreographer **Carlo AC Pacis**, who was commissioned by RAD to create two variations (one for male candidates and one for female candidates) for the competition. The young dancers were judged by **Septime Webre**, Artistic Director for Hong Kong Ballet, **Janek Schergen**, Artistic Director at Singapore Dance Theatre, **Lisa Pavane**, Director of The Australian Ballet School, **Joanne Michel**, Ballet Mistress for The Australian Ballet School and **Chi Cao**, former Principal with Birmingham Royal Ballet. The competition was also attended by the Ambassador for Genée 2018, **Ye FeiFei** (current principal dancer at Hong Kong Ballet), who also performed as part of the Hong Kong Ballet guest performance at the Final. Ye FeiFei was awarded a silver medal at Genée 2006, when the competition was last held in Hong Kong.

Now in its 87th year, the Genée International Ballet Competition is named after RAD's first President Dame Adeline Genée and is renowned for launching the professional careers of young dancers.



Alongside Ye FeiFei, previous winners have gone on to dance with companies including The Royal Ballet, Australian Ballet, and National Ballet of Canada.



The RAD is proud to be working with a number of partners to make this year's Genée happen. These include Hong Kong Ballet, Hong Kong Ballet Group, Avanton, Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong and The Excelsior, Hong Kong, Harlequin Floors, Phillips (auctioneers since 1796) and the Dame Margot Fonteyn Scholarship Fund. You can see more details about our full list of sponsors and supporters [here](#).

Toronto has been announced as the host city for the 2019 Genée International Ballet Competition, with full details for next year's competition being announced in the autumn.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About the Genée International Ballet Competition

Known simply as 'the Genée', it is one of the most prestigious ballet competitions in the world, attracting the finest young dancers trained in the RAD syllabus, from around the globe. Candidates receive a unique opportunity to work with renowned choreographers and teachers for five days before performing at the semi-finals, and then the final, where they compete for a range of medals. The competition started in 1931, when the Adeline Genée Gold Medal was awarded to Felicity Garratt. Other medals were later added: the silver (1934), bronze (1956), and gold and silver for male dancers (1938). The Genée has taken place almost every year since, and is now a truly global event. In 2002 the RAD took the decision to hold the competition outside London for the first time, taking it to Australia where Sydney Opera House played host to a record number of candidates. Following that success, the Genée is now hosted in a different country each year.

About the Royal Academy of Dance

With approximately 14,000 members in 85 countries, the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) is one of the largest and most influential dance education and training organisations in the world. Established in 1920 to improve standards and re-invigorate dance training, the Academy helps and encourages its teachers to perfect their teaching skills and pass on this knowledge to their students. There are currently over 1,000 students in full-time or part-time teacher training programmes with the Academy and each year the examination syllabus is taught to thousands of young people worldwide, with approaching a quarter of a million pupils per year going on to take RAD exams.