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**World's greatest ballet superstars to perform at the Koffler Centre of the Arts Gala  
STARS OF THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
October 14, 2010 | Sony Centre for the Performing Arts**

TORONTO, September 20, 2010 – For one incredible night only, the crème de la crème of the ballet world – including principals from Russia, Germany, France, the United States and the National Ballet of Canada – will grace the stage together at Toronto's **Sony Centre for the Performing Arts**. On October 14, 2010, **Stars of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** (A Solomon Tencer Production) makes its only Canadian appearance as the **Koffler Centre of the Arts Gala**. Proceeds from the Gala will support the many programs of the Koffler Centre of the Arts.

International dance superstars include **Daniil Simkin** from the American Ballet Theatre, **Elisa Carillo Cabrera**, **Michail Kaniskin** and **Iana Salenko** from the Berlin Opera Ballet, **Anastasia Matvienko** and **Denis Matvienko** from the Kirov Ballet – Mariinsky Theatre, **Ashley Boudier** and **Amar Ramasar** from the New York City Ballet, **Dorothee Gilber** and **Alessio Carbone** from the Paris Opera Ballet, and **Bridgett Zehr**, **Zdenek Konvalina** from The National Ballet of Canada.

This is the eighth time the Koffler Centre of the Arts has presented Stars of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, this year in partnership with the newly reopened Sony Centre for the Performing Arts. Produced by **Solomon Tencer** and lead by Artistic Director **Nadia Veselova-Tencer**, the event has played to sold-out audiences around the globe, including Cannes (France), Bucharest (Romania), the Lincoln Center (New York), and most recently The State Kremlin Palace (Moscow) and Théâtre des Champs-Élysées (Paris). This is the only Canadian stop for Stars of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

For Koffler patrons, the Gala evening will also include a pre-performance VIP theatre supper, the best seats in the house for the Stars performance, and a post-event dessert After Party where guests can meet and mingle with the dancers.

"We are absolutely thrilled to help bring Stars of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century back to Toronto," states **Tiana Koffler Boyman**, Chair of the Koffler Centre of the Arts Gala and Board of Directors. "This is the only chance for audiences in Toronto to see the very best in international ballet. We are truly grateful to Solomon Tencer, the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, and all of our generous sponsors and donors for making this Gala event a reality," adds Koffler Boyman.

"As Canada's only multidisciplinary contemporary Jewish cultural institution, the Koffler Centre of the Arts has embarked on a capital campaign for a brand new 40,000 square foot Centre," states **Lori Starr**, Executive Director, Koffler Centre of the Arts and Vice President for Culture, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto. "The Koffler Centre of the Arts Gala will be a night to celebrate our achievements so far and help propel the Koffler into the future as one of Toronto's and Canada's preeminent arts and cultural institutions."

To attend the pre-event dinner, post-event After Party, and reserve the best seats in the house, tickets for the Stars of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: A Koffler Centre of the Arts Gala must be purchased through the Koffler by contacting the Gala hotline at **416.638.1881 x4271** or by e-mail [gala@kofflerarts.org](mailto:gala@kofflerarts.org). Gala tickets start at \$360. Only tickets purchased through the Koffler support the programs and projects of the Koffler Centre of the Arts.

Stars of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century performance-only tickets are available through the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, 416.872.2262 or [info@sonycentre.ca](mailto:info@sonycentre.ca). For more information on the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, [www.sonycentre.ca](http://www.sonycentre.ca)

All proceeds from the Koffler Centre of the Arts Gala will benefit the Koffler Centre of the Arts, a multidisciplinary contemporary Jewish cultural institution presenting cutting-edge exhibitions of new Canadian and international art, diverse programs in music, dance, literature, film, spoken word and theatre.

Full details at [www.kofflerarts.org](http://www.kofflerarts.org)

**Stars of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: A Koffler Center of the Arts Gala Sponsors**

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**About the Koffler Centre of the Arts**

Koffler Centre of the Arts is a Jewish cultural institution with a broad mandate to serve all, and present a wide range of artistic programs through a global lens in a specifically Canadian context. The Koffler's mission is to bring people together through arts and culture to create a more civil and global society. Its unique mix examines the arts across different disciplines and cultures in a way that strengthens identity while encouraging an appreciation of difference. Headquartered just north of Sheppard Avenue at 4588 Bathurst Street in the brand new Prosserman JCC, the Koffler Centre of the Arts features: the Koffler Gallery with changing contemporary exhibitions (currently programming off-site); visual art exhibitions, student exhibitions and more; fully-equipped studios for ceramics, painting and drawing, dance, and music rehearsals; and a variety of other programmatic spaces. The 2010-11 season includes major visual arts exhibitions, artist talks, lectures, film, music, dance, comedy, and literary performances often presented in partnership with other arts organizations. The Koffler presents the annual Helen and Stan Vine Canadian Jewish Book Awards and the Toronto Jewish Book Fair as part of its growing literary repertoire along with over 65 classes for all ages as part of the Koffler Schools of Dance, Visual Arts, and Music. Koffler Centre of the Arts is an agency of the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

Planning is underway on a brand new, architecturally innovative Koffler Centre of the Arts on the Sherman Campus, anticipated to open in 2014. In July 2009, the Koffler's administrative offices and all classes opened in the Prosserman JCC on the Sherman Campus. More information at <http://tomorrowcampaign.com>

Koffler Centre of the Arts acknowledges the support of its patrons and members, Cultural Season Sponsor **CIBC Wood Gundy**, Print Media Partner **National Post**, and the **UJA Federation of Greater Toronto**. The Koffler Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support the City of Toronto through the **Toronto Arts Council**, the **Ontario Arts Council** and the **Canada Council for the Arts**.

**KOFFLER ON THE ROAD!**

Watch for Koffler programs off-site around Toronto! As we prepare for our new facility to be completed, the Koffler Centre of the Arts is continuing to program exhibitions, events and performances both at our current facilities and at various downtown sites in Toronto. Check our website for details and watch out for Koffler events in *your* neighbourhood!

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