

ALICE IN WONDERLAND





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Ballet Victoria 2025-2026

Paul Destrooper – Artistic Director

Risa Kobayashi - Isabelle Jutras - Kaylie Conner - Peter-Nicholas Taylor
Sebastian Fairley - Eléna Fuerbringer - Yui Watanabe - Elisha Woo
Anna Ohi - Takeru Hatsushika - Itsuki Oyabu - Tess Pepetone

Administrative and Creative Team

<i>Artistic/Executive Director & Choreographer</i>	Paul Destrooper
<i>Ballet Victoria Conservatory Director</i>	Andrea Bayne
<i>Stage Manager, Graphic & Projection Design</i>	Jason King
<i>Promotions Manager</i>	Amity Skala
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<i>Marketing Graphic Design Projects</i>	Yui Watanabe
<i>Costume Designer</i>	Jane Wood
<i>Website Design & Maintenance</i>	Isaac Butt, Steve Switzer
<i>FOH Volunteer Coordination</i>	Carolyn Wade, Elizabeth Stevenson
<i>Contributing Photographers</i>	Dan Takahashi, Gail Takahashi, Barbara Burns, Wendi Donaldson Laird, Richard Marshall, Gordon Griffiths
<i>Business Development Consultant</i>	Johan Destrooper

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**Ballet Victoria is grateful to be able to live and work
on the Traditional Territories of the Lekwungen and Wsanec Peoples**



Performance Information

Alice in Wonderland

Choreography - Paul Destrooper

Music - Benjamin Britten & Giacomo Rossini

Costume Design - Jane Wood

Lighting Design - Paul Destrooper

Stage Manager & Projection Design - Jason King

Casting

Alice - Risa Kobayashi / Eléna Fuerbringer

Her Sister - Itsuki Oyabu / Tess Pepetone

The White Rabbit - Takeru Hatsushika

Tweedledee and Tweedledum - Paul Destrooper,

Hector Ramos-Garcet

The Caterpillar - Peter Taylor

Butterflies - Kaylie Conner, Elisha Woo, Anna Ohi,

Itsuki Oyabu, Tess Pepetone

Cheshire Cat - Isabelle Jutras

Duchess - Elisha Woo

Cook - Itsuki Oyabu

Frogs - Yui Watanabe, Eibhlin Minatsis

Mad Hatter - Sebastian Fairley

March Hare - Tess Pepetone

Dormouse - Anna Ohi

King of Heart - Peter Taylor

Queen of Heart - Yui Watanabe

Cards - Elisha Woo, Kaylie Conner, Anna Ohi, Itsuki Oyabu,

Tess Pepetone, Eibhlin Minatsis, Rara Saito, Aspen Devir

Flamingos - Elisha Woo, Kaylie Conner, Itsuki Oyabu





Synopsis

Act 1

Alice is sitting on a park bench with her older sister, who is reading her a lesson. Bored and drowsy, she suddenly spots a White Rabbit fully dressed with a pocket watch hopping past!

Alice eagerly tries to explain the unusual sighting to her sister, who shows no interest. Her sister continues with the lesson until it is time for them both to go back home for tea. Alice tells her sister she will join her in a few minutes as she catches another glimpse of the unusual rabbit. With her curiosity peaked, she chases him and follows him down the rabbit hole.

Alice arrives in a strange place where she finds a door too small for her to enter. After eating magical cake and drinking a special potion, she can wondrously shrink and grow, and she can follow the White Rabbit through the door.

She arrives in a meadow where she meets a caterpillar who asks her: "Who are you?" Not even sure anymore of who she actually is, Alice finally settles on asking him if he has seen a white rabbit with a pocket watch hopping by in a hurry. The caterpillar announces that the butterflies are coming and that their Queen may be able to help. After an amazing metamorphosis, the caterpillar turns into the King of the butterflies and sends Alice into the forest after the rabbit she seeks.

Deep in the woods, Alice happens on the Cheshire Cat, a mysterious character with an enigmatic smile, who joins her in her quest. On their path, they fall upon the Duchess with her baby and her cook who all seem to be very peculiar. Alice takes her leave after the Duchess tells her she should go to the castle to meet the Queen of Heart.



Performance Information

So, off they go, and stumble upon the Mad Hatter's Tea Party with a sleepy Dormouse and a March Hare. The Tea Party is unlike anything she has experienced before and is most certainly filled with folly.

Alice's search for the White Rabbit seems to go nowhere as all the characters she meets appear stuck in various realities, not one of them making any sense to her. Suddenly, the White Rabbit flies by and they all chase after him!

Act 2

The cards are painting the white roses red, fearing for their heads as the Queen of Heart has ordered all roses to be red. Alice and her companions enter the garden and soon the Queen of Heart arrives to inspect the flowers.

Everyone is fearful of losing their head. The Queen, intrigued by Alice, challenges her to a game of croquet using flamingos as mallets and the cards as hoops. Unfortunately, the Mad Hatter gets in the way of the Queen during the game and she orders him to be beheaded. Alice intervenes on his behalf, asking for clemency, when The White Rabbit reminds the Queen and the King that a trial must first occur. An impromptu Royal Court of law is organized so the trial may begin. After pleading his case poorly, the Mad Hatter is rescued by Alice who offers a life saving deposition from the witness stand. The King of Heart, despite the Queen of Hearts' over enthusiastic affinity for beheadings, convinces her to pardon the offender and proclaims the Queen Grand Champion of the croquet tournament. All dance to celebrate the event before they send Alice on her way through the rabbit hole.

Alice is awoken by her sister who tells her she is late for tea. As she stands up from the bench and tells her sister she had the most extraordinary dream, Alice catches a glimpse of a White Rabbit fully dressed with a pocket watch hopping by.

Cast



Risa Kobayashi



Elena Fuerbringer



Peter-Nicholas Taylor



Isabelle Jutras



Kaylie Conner



Sebastian Fairley



Yui Watanabe



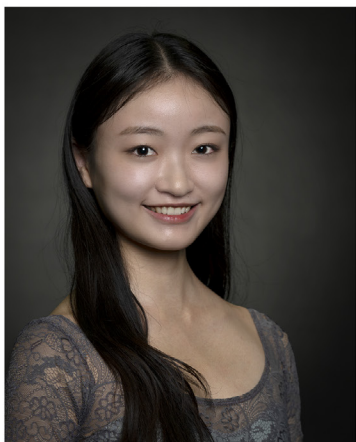
Elisha Woo



Takeru Hatsushika



Anna Ohi



Itsuki Oyabu



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Artistic Team

Paul Destrooper – *Artistic & Executive Director & Choreographer*

Destrooper gave Victoria a new national cultural voice in dance by presenting and creating ballets with a unique artistic flair. Recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012 and the Paul Harris Award from the Oak Bay Rotary Club in October 2014, Paul brings to Ballet Victoria his extensive experience from a successful international dance career working with world renowned directors, dancers and choreographers. Paul holds a BA from the University of Victoria where he twice received the A. Deloume Scholarship Award. He joined the Royal Winnipeg Ballet in 1993 upon graduating from the school's Professional Division, receiving the prestigious Prince Edward Award and the Arnold Spohr Scholarship. He was a principal dancer with Alberta Ballet and Oregon Ballet Theatre.

He has choreographed over 50 works and 13 full-length ballets to glowing reviews from critics and audiences both in Canada, the USA, and Mexico. Paul has created works, taught and coached for professional companies across Canada and the USA.



Jason King – *Stage Manager/Projection and Sound Designer*

When he's not working as a photographer and videographer for Camosun College, and of course as Stage Manager for Ballet Victoria, Jason can be found working for various theatres around town as well on his own projects. He is the Technical Director for Langham Court Theatre, Game Day Video Producer for The Victoria Harbourcats Baseball Club and Peninsula Panthers Hockey, and as a filmmaker, operates his own production company, Shoestring Filmworks.

Jason creates the stunning projections used by Ballet Victoria and other projects this season include sound and projection design for "Gunmetal Blues" with First Impressions Theatre in Vancouver, and projections for "The Moors" with Theatre Inconnu and "Unity (1918)" with Langham Court Theatre.



Artistic Team



Jane Wood – *Costume Designer*

Jane has been designing and building Ballet Victoria's costumes since 2007. She loves the creativity and diversity of the projects, and the challenge of building everything from tutus, to Dragons and Crocodiles. Jane strives to build costumes that inspire the dancers and enhance the choreography.

Andrea Bayne – *BV Artist in Residence – BVC Director*

Andrea was born in Halifax NS, and grew up in Moncton NB. She is a scholarship graduate of the School of Alberta Ballet and also trained at the American Ballet Theatre School in NYC. Andrea danced professionally with Alberta Ballet, the Banff Summer Company, and with Ballet Victoria as a Principal Dancer for 15 years, performing across Canada, the US, Mexico and Japan. She had many lead roles created on her and she has danced works by George Balanchine, Peter Quanz, Donald Mahler and John Meehan, to name a few. She had the great honour to perform for their Royal Highness, the Earl and Countess of Wessex. Highlights of Andrea's career have been everything from performing for children and seniors unable to access live theatre, to dancing alongside Evelyn Hart in one of her farewell performances. Andrea is the Artistic Director of the Ballet Victoria Conservatory, which is a constant source of inspiration to her. As she takes on this new position of Ballet Victoria's Artist in Residence, she is excited to be able to explore different areas of this beautiful art form through choreographing, coaching, and guesting.



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Most teachers are also Ballet Victoria company dancers. This livens the experience of the art and inspires and motivates young dancers to learn. It provides the fun of learning and the satisfaction of seeing their efforts reach artistic excellence.

**For more information on all classes and programs visit
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