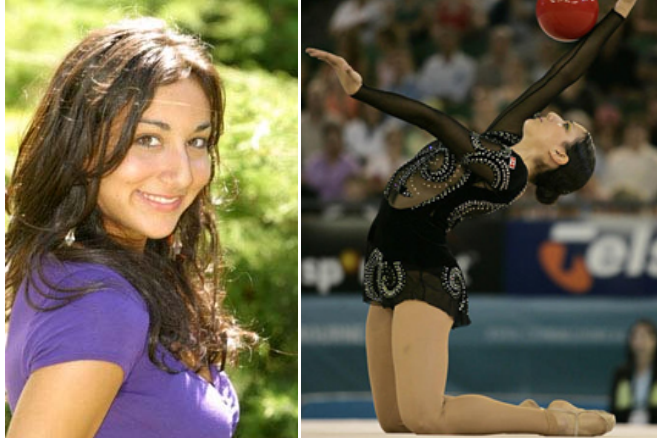


Alexandra Orlando



Discipline: Rhythmic Gymnastics

Age: 21

Hometown: Toronto, Ontario

Gymnastics Club: Ritmika RG Club, Concord, ON

Coach: Mimi Masleva

Alexandra Orlando was the first of our Canadian gymnasts to qualify for Beijing due to her impressive competition record in rhythmic gymnastics. In 2004, Orlando missed the Summer Olympic Games in Athens by one tenth of a point, so this will mark her Olympic debut. Her list of achievements is lengthy: she dominated the Pan American Games winning three gold medals in the clubs, rope and hoop events; at the Rhythmic Gymnastics World Championships in Greece, she placed 9th overall against 140 of the world's best rhythmic gymnasts; she was the only rhythmic gymnast from either North or South America to compete in the Olympic Qualifications finals and moved her ranking up one notch to become the ninth best in the world. Orlando has won every Canadian national senior title since 2002. In 2006, Orlando won six gold medals at the Commonwealth Games, tying the record for the most gold medals won by a single athlete at any Commonwealth game.

In a sport typically dominated by Europeans, Orlando is making a mark for Canadians in this aesthetically beautiful sport.