



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**TWYLA THARP TO KICK OFF THE FIRST OF PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET'S
2008-2009 SEASON LECTURE-DEMONSTRATIONS!**

TWYLA THARP

Thursday, September 18, 5:30 pm
Marion Oliver McCaw Hall
321 Mercer Street, Seattle Center

BALANCHINE'S PETIPA

Wednesday, October 1, 5:30 pm
The Phelps Center
301 Mercer Street, Seattle Center

BALLET 101

Saturday, October 4, 2:00 pm
The Phelps Center
301 Mercer Street, Seattle Center

SEATTLE, WA - Pacific Northwest Ballet announces three engaging lecture-demonstrations taking place in September and October that are sure to engage, enlighten, and entertain audiences. On Thursday, September 18, American dance icon Twyla Tharp will discuss the two new works she's created for PNB that will premiere the following week during the company's season-opening repertory program. This discussion will be accompanied by excerpts performed onstage by PNB Company dancers. On Wednesday, October 1, Education Programs Manager Doug Fullington will present a lecture-demonstration on Balanchine at the Phelps Center. The last of these fall lecture-demonstrations will be given by Robert Greskovic, acclaimed dance writer for *The Wall Street Journal*, on Saturday, October 4, also at the Phelps Center. Tickets are available through the PNB Box Office, 206.441.2424, or in person at 301 Mercer Street (Mon. - Fri. 10:00 am - 6:00 pm; Sat. 10:00 am - 5:00 pm)

LECTURE-DEMONSTRATION DETAILS

TWYLA THARP

Thursday, September 18, 5:30 - 7:00 pm
McCaw Hall 321 Mercer St

Choreographer Twyla Tharp will discuss her new works for Pacific Northwest Ballet, with excerpts performed onstage by Company dancers. Ms. Tharp will also field questions from the audience. This special event is FREE for full season subscribers; subscribers may purchase additional tickets for \$15; general admission is \$20.

BALANCHINE'S PETIPA

Wednesday, October 1, 5:30 - 7:00 pm
The Phelps Center, 301 Mercer St.

PNB Education Programs Manager Doug Fullington will discuss the influence of Balanchine's Russian training on his choreography, with a particular focus on pas de deux and corps de ballet choreography. Excerpts from PNB's 2008-2009 repertory, as well as works by Marius Petipa, will be performed by Company dancers and students from Pacific Northwest Ballet School. Tickets to this special event are \$20.

BALLET 101

Saturday, October 4, 2:00 - 5:00 pm
The Phelps Center, 301 Mercer St.

Robert Greskovic, acclaimed dancer writer for *The Wall Street Journal*, will participate in this seminar on ballet basics, drawing from his popular book, *Ballet 101: A complete guide to learning and loving the ballet*. Tickets to this special event are \$20.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets are \$20 for all events, with discounts to the Twyla Tharp Lecture Demonstration available for PNB full season subscribers. (See above for details.)

Box Office Phone: 206.441.2424 (Mon. – Fri. 9am – 6pm; Sat. 10am – 5pm)

Box Office Location: 301 Mercer Street, Seattle (Mon. – Fri. 10am – 6pm; Sat. 10am – 5pm)

Tickets are also available online at www.pnb.org and, subject to availability, 90 minutes prior to each event.

ALSO ON THE HORIZON: PNB \$5 FRIDAYS

Repertory Program 1: FIRST LOOK & ALL THARP

Friday, September 12, 2008, 6:00–7:00 p.m.

The Phelps Center, 301 Mercer Street, Seattle

Join us for an hour-long dance preview led by Artistic Director Peter Boal and featuring PNB dancers performing excerpts from the upcoming September 20 FIRST LOOK season preview gala, and ALL THARP (Repertory Program 1 of PNB's 2008-2009 season, September 25 – October 5 at McCaw Hall).

Repertory Program 2: NEW WORKS

Friday, October 31, 2008, 6:00–7:00 p.m.

The Phelps Center, 301 Mercer Street, Seattle

Join us for an hour-long dance preview led by Artistic Director Peter Boal and featuring PNB dancers performing excerpts from NEW WORKS (Repertory Program 2 of PNB's 2008-2009 season, November 6 – 16 at McCaw Hall).

PNB \$5 Fridays offer an upbeat and up-close view of the Company preparing to put dance on stage.

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All programming subject to change.

About Pacific Northwest Ballet

Pacific Northwest Ballet, one of the largest and most highly regarded ballet companies in the United States, was founded in 1972. In July 2005, Peter Boal became Artistic Director, succeeding Kent Stowell and Franca Russell, Co-Artistic Directors since 1977. The Company of forty-six dancers presents more than 100 performances each year of full-length and mixed repertory ballets at Marion Oliver McCaw Hall and on tour. The Company has toured to Europe, Australia, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Canada and throughout the United States, with celebrated appearances at Jacob's Pillow and in New York City and Washington, DC.

Under the direction of Peter Boal, PNB has continued to expand and diversify its repertory to include works by Ulysses Dove, Susan Marshall, Mark Morris, Victor Quijada, Twyla Tharp, Christopher Wheeldon and others. An annual Spring Dance Festival was inaugurated in April 2007 with the theme Celebrate Seattle. The second annual festival will be the Laugh Out Loud! Spring Dance Festival this April, featuring new and classic comedy ballets.

Founded in 1974, Pacific Northwest Ballet School, under the direction of Franca Russell since 1977 and now under Mr. Boal's direction, is nationally recognized as setting the standard for ballet training and offers a complete professional curriculum to over 950 students. The School also provides comprehensive dance education to the greater Seattle area and reaches over 10,000 adults and children each year through DanceChance, Discover Dance and other outreach programs and activities.

Publicity Contact

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET

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