



# PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET

PETER BOAL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET PRESENTS

## *The Sleeping Beauty*

Music by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky (Op. 66, 1889)  
Choreography by Ronald Hynd (after Marius Petipa)

**February 4-14, 2010**

Marion Oliver McCaw Hall  
321 Mercer Street, Seattle Center  
Seattle, WA 98109

February 4-6 at 7:30 pm

February 6 at 1:00 pm

February 11-13 at 7:30 pm

February 13 & 14 at 1:00 pm

**SEATTLE, WA** – Pacific Northwest Ballet’s 2009-2010 season continues with Ronald Hynd’s *The Sleeping Beauty*, a sumptuous marriage of dance, music and design. Like savoring the work of an old master, *The Sleeping Beauty* fills one’s senses with majestic grace and tradition, consistently rewarding ballet novice and connoisseur alike. Intrinsicly coupled with Tchaikovsky’s beloved score and with over 30 leading roles, *Beauty*’s grand-scale staging represents a caliber of excellence reserved for the finest ballet companies and orchestras in the world. Although this production is as discernibly English as its choreographer, the ballet remains true to Marius Petipa’s 1890 original and each act – from the evil fairy Carabosse’s flying entrance in the Prologue to the Rose Adagio’s spectacular balances to Act III’s celebrated Bluebird pas de deux – offers rich opportunity for dancers to demonstrate individual interpretation and milestone accomplishment. Ultimately, however, the pivotal brilliance of *Beauty* rests with Aurora; she must captivate as a teenager and awaken a queen, all while conquering some of the most technically grueling choreography in classical ballet’s canon—a genuine mark of distinction for a great ballerina. *The Sleeping Beauty* runs from February 4 to February 14 at Seattle Center’s Marion Oliver McCaw Hall. Tickets may be purchased by calling the PNB Box Office at 206.441.2424, online at [www.pnb.org](http://www.pnb.org), or in person at the PNB Box Office at 301 Mercer St.

“*The Sleeping Beauty* has it all,” says PNB artistic director Peter Boal. “The production offers a host of larger than life characters ranging from the sweet to the scary. With lavish sets and costumes, brilliant dancing,

and Tchaikovsky's wonderous score, it is one of the greatest ballets of all time, promising to enchant audience members of all ages.”

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

**Music:** Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky (Op. 66, 1889)

**Choreography:** Ronald Hynd after Marius Petipa

**Staging:** Ronald Hynd, Annette Page, and Amanda Eyles

**Scenic and Costume Design:** Peter Docherty

**Lighting Design:** Randall G. Chiarelli

**Original Petipa Production Premiere:** January 15, 1890; Imperial Ballet, St. Petersburg

**Hynd Production Premiere:** 1993; English National Ballet

**Pacific Northwest Ballet Premiere:** February 1, 2001

**Running Time:** 3 hours including three intermissions

*The Sleeping Beauty* represents the pinnacle of 19th-century Russian ballet, a collaboration of dance, music, and design that continues to influence ballet today. The well-known story served as a foundation on which the ballet's creators—composer Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, choreographer Marius Petipa, and designer and director of the St. Petersburg Imperial Theatres Ivan Vsevolozhsky—developed a work that demonstrated a century's worth of achievements in classical dance. Coveted among ballerinas, the leading role of Princess Aurora offers opportunities for a rich display of classical technique and artistic interpretation, from the famed Rose Adagio to the elegiac "vision scene" adagio and finally the triumphant wedding pas de deux.

Pacific Northwest Ballet's production of *The Sleeping Beauty* by English choreographer Ronald Hynd was originally set on English National Ballet and is based on the historic Royal Ballet version, with which Hynd and his wife, former Royal Ballet ballerina Annette Page, are intimately familiar. That production, in turn, was closely based on the original *Sleeping Beauty* of 1890.

Ronald Hynd has commented on his own history with *The Sleeping Beauty*: "In 1946, the Sadler's Wells Ballet [now the Royal Ballet] re-opened the Royal Opera House with a sumptuous production of Marius Petipa's choreographic masterpiece, *The Sleeping Beauty*. ...As a teenage student I saw many performances during that 1946 season. A group of us, young hopeful dancers from the Rambert School of Ballet, would rush to the gallery whenever we could afford the two shillings and sixpence. ...By the time I joined the company at Covent Garden in 1952, I seemed to know nearly every step of the work, absorbed no doubt by love and ambition. ... Over the years, I had secretly nurtured an ambition to stage my own production of *The Sleeping Beauty*...Elizabeth Anderton, then Acting Artistic Director of English National Ballet, invited me to present this new staging in 1993 to mark the centenary of Tchaikovsky's death."

"[PNB's] *The Sleeping Beauty* blends tradition with delight. Everything about it is just right." – *Seattle Weekly*

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Ronald Hynd**, dancer and choreographer, was born in London, England. He studied with Marie Rambert and danced with her company until joining The Royal Ballet in 1951. In 1958, he was promoted to the rank of principal dancer and danced an extensive repertoire of classical and dramatic roles, often partnering Margot Fonteyn, Svetlana Beriosova, and his wife, ballerina Annette Page. Mr. Hynd was Director of the Munich State Opera Ballet from 1970 to 1973, and from 1984 to 1986. He has choreographed extensively

in the United States, particularly with Houston Ballet, as well as with American Ballet Theatre, Ballet West, and Tulsa Theatre Ballet. Among Mr. Hynd's most noted works are *Dvorak Variations*, which was created for English National Ballet in 1970, and was the beginning of a long collaboration that produced many one-act ballets and original productions of *The Nutcracker*, *Coppélia*, and *The Sleeping Beauty*. Mr. Hynd's *The Sleeping Beauty*, designed by frequent collaborator Peter Docherty, was presented for the first time outside Europe by Pacific Northwest Ballet during the 2000–2001 Season. Ronald Hynd's full-length ballet, *The Merry Widow*, entered PNB's repertory in 2002 and was most recently performed in March 2005.

**Annette Page** was born in Manchester, England, and started ballet lessons at age four. She was discovered by Moira Shearer, star of the film *The Red Shoes*, who arranged an audition for The Royal Ballet School. She graduated at seventeen to become a member of The Royal Ballet and rose to leading roles including *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Swan Lake*, *Giselle*, and *The Firebird*, frequently dancing with husband Ronald Hynd in Europe, the United States, Australia, and Japan. Ms. Page also danced with Rudolf Nureyev in *The Sleeping Beauty* and *La Bayadere* in London, and as Giselle with Erik Bruhn. Other roles included Swanilda in *Coppélia*, Lise in *La Fille mal Gardée*, Juliet and Cinderella. She gave her final performance in Seattle as Cinderella prior to her retirement and the birth of her daughter, Louise. Ms. Page has taught and coached as a member of the Arts Council of Great Britain and was ballet mistress to the Bavarian State Ballet in Munich from 1984 to 1986. She currently assists her husband with *The Sleeping Beauty*, *The Merry Widow*, and other productions.

**Peter Docherty** was awarded a full professorship at the London Institute in 1966 for his outstanding achievements as a designer and educationalist in the field of dance. He has designed more than 60 plays, ballets, and musicals worldwide. Mr. Docherty has collaborated on more than 10 full-length ballets, including Ronald Hynd's *The Nutcracker* for London Festival Ballet and *The Sleeping Beauty* for English National Ballet. His video credits include *The Nutcracker* (BBC), *The Sanguine Fan* with Margo Fonteyn (BBC), and *The Soldier's Tale*. Mr. Docherty—founding organizer of Action Against AIDS from 1986 to 1987—is also the driving force behind Design for Dance, a project that encourages collaboration between young designers and choreographers. He is entered in the Concise Oxford Dictionary of Ballet, as well as in Peter Williams' Masterpieces of Ballet Design, and is working on a new book entitled, *Spectacular: Designing the Great British Musical*.

## TICKET & SHOWTIME INFORMATION

*The Sleeping Beauty* runs February 4-14 at McCaw Hall, 321 Mercer Street at Seattle Center. Showtimes are 7:30 pm February 4 - 6 and 11 - 13, with 1:00 pm matinees on February 6, 13, and 14. (Please note that all matinee performances of *The Sleeping Beauty* start at 1:00 pm and are special Dress-Up Matinees for princes and princesses of all ages. Arrive early for special matinee festivities: create a unique craft, take a magical dance class, and meet our dancers in costume.)

Tickets range in price from \$25 to \$160 and may be purchased:

- \* By calling the PNB Box Office at 206.441.2424 (Mon.-Fri. 9am–6pm; Sat. 10am–5pm)
- \* In person at the PNB Box Office, 301 Mercer St. (Mon.-Fri. 10am–6pm; Sat. 10am–5pm)
- \* Online at [www.pnb.org](http://www.pnb.org)
- \* 90 minutes prior to each performance at McCaw Hall at 321 Mercer St.
- \* Money-saving season subscriptions are still available: Call 206.441.2425 for more info.

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## DISCOUNT OFFERS

### **\$15 TICKETS FOR AGE 25 & UNDER**

February 4, 5, and 12 at 7:30 pm (Opening night and both Friday performances)

One ticket for \$15 and two for \$25 for patrons 25 years and younger! To purchase tickets, contact the PNB Box Office at 206.441.2424 or visit 301 Mercer Street. This offer is good for February 4, 5 and 12 performances only. Offer is subject to availability and not valid on previously purchased tickets. Each attendee must present valid I.D. upon ticket retrieval.

### **TEEN TIX**

PNB is a proud participant of Seattle Center's Teen Tix program. Young people 13 to 19 years old can join Teen Tix and purchase tickets to PNB performances and other music, dance, theater and arts events for only \$5. To join Teen Tix or view a list of participating organizations, visit Seattle Center's Teen Tix webpage at [www.seattlecenter.com/teentix](http://www.seattlecenter.com/teentix).

### **GROUP SALES**

Discounts of up to 20% are available for groups of 10 or more. For group tickets, please call 206.441.2416, email [juliej@pnb.org](mailto:juliej@pnb.org) or use PNB's Online Group Builder at [www.pnb.org](http://www.pnb.org). (PNB's Online Group Builder is available for audience members to gather friends, family and co-workers to see any performance and save.)

### **SENIOR & STUDENT RUSH**

Half-price rush tickets may be purchased by students (with current school ID) and seniors (65+ with ID) beginning 90 minutes prior to curtain time at the McCaw Hall Box Office, subject to availability. Each patron requesting a discounted ticket must be present at the time of purchase, with valid ID.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### ***SLEEPING BEAUTY* SEMINAR**

Saturday, January 23, 3:00 – 5:30 pm

*The Phelps Center, 301 Mercer Street, Seattle*

PNB's production of *The Sleeping Beauty* will be the focus of this seminar, featuring choreographer Ronald Hynd and stager Annette Page. Learn about the history of *The Sleeping Beauty*, Tchaikovsky's famous score, the ballet's iconic choreography by Marius Petipa, and Ronald Hynd's interpretation, based on the Royal Ballet's legendary staging. Attendees will also enjoy a close-up view of *Beauty*'s opulent costumes. Tickets are \$20 each and may be purchased by calling the PNB Box Office at 206.441.2424, or in person at 301 Mercer Street.

### **FRIDAY PREVIEWS – *Sold Out***

Friday, January 29, 6:00 pm

*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 Ronald Hynd's *The Sleeping Beauty*. PNB's Friday Previews offer an upbeat and up-close view of the Company preparing to put dance on stage. This event is sold out.

### **CONVERSATIONS WITH PNB – *FREE***

Sunday, January 31, 2:00 pm

*Elliott Bay Book Company, 101 S. Main Street, Seattle*

PNB's Sunday afternoon series features an hour-long discussion about Ronald Hynd's *The Sleeping Beauty*

with Carla Körbes and Mara Vinson in the casual atmosphere of the Elliott Bay Book Company reading room. All *Conversations with PNB* are **FREE** of charge.

### **BALLET PREVIEW – FREE**

Tuesday, February 2, 12:00 noon

Central Seattle Public Library, 1000 Fourth Avenue, Seattle

Join PNB for a free lunch-hour preview lecture at the Central Seattle Public Library. Education Programs Manager Doug Fullington will offer insights about Ronald Hynd's *The Sleeping Beauty*, complete with video excerpts. This event is **FREE** of charge.

### **PNB LECTURE SERIES & DRESS REHEARSAL**

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Lecture 6:00 - 6:50 pm, Nesholm Family Lecture Hall at McCaw Hall

Dress Rehearsal 7:00 - 10:30 pm, McCaw Hall

Join Ronald Hynd and Annette Page for an engaging conversation during the hour preceding the dress rehearsal. Attend the lecture only or stay for the dress rehearsal. Tickets are \$12 for the lecture, or \$25 for the lecture and dress rehearsal. Tickets may be purchased by calling the PNB Box Office at 206.441.2424, online at [www.pnb.org](http://www.pnb.org) or in person at the PNB Box Office at 301 Mercer Street.

### **LISTEN TO THE BALLET**

PNB partners with 98.1 Classical KING FM to bring listeners some of history's most popular ballet scores, featuring the Pacific Northwest Ballet Orchestra direct from McCaw Hall. Tune in to KING FM for a live broadcast of Tchaikovsky's beautifully scored *The Sleeping Beauty* on Friday, February 5 at 7:30 pm. Only on 98.1 fm or online at [www.king.org/listen](http://www.king.org/listen).

### **PRE-PERFORMANCE LECTURES**

Nesholm Family Lecture Hall at McCaw Hall

Join Education Programs Manager Doug Fullington for a 30-minute introduction to each performance, including discussions of choreography, music, history, design and the process of bringing *The Sleeping Beauty* to the stage. One hour before performances. **FREE** for ticketholders.

**Please Note:** There will be no Post-Performance Q&As during the run of *The Sleeping Beauty*.

# # #

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#### **Publicity Contact**

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***Programming subject to change. For further information, please visit: [www.pnb.org](http://www.pnb.org).***

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