

# PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET

PETER BOAL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET PRESENTS SPECIAL FAMILY MATINEES

## ansel & retel

3 PERFORMANCES ONLY!

March 21 at 12:00 noon & 3:30 pm

March 27 at 1:00 pm

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

Music by Oscar Nedbal

Conceived and Choreographed by Bruce Wells

Scenic Design by Edith Whitsett

Costume Design by the Pacific Northwest Ballet Costume Shop & Victoria McFall

Lighting Design by Randall G. Chiarelli

SEATTLE, WA - Pacific Northwest Ballet presents *Hansel & Gretel*, a specially-created, hour-long matinee performance for children and families. Like PNB's previous Family Matinee productions of *Snow White* and *Pinocchio*, *Hansel & Gretel* features almost 60 students of Pacific Northwest Ballet School along with a special guest, renowned PNB principal dancer Ariana Lallone. Based on the classic fairy tale, this narrated ballet tells the story of Hansel and Gretel, hungry and lost in the forest, who stumble upon a house made of delicious confections, and find themselves welcomed by a witch whose keen interest in them has a sinister motive. Perfectly timed for children and a wonderful introduction to dance and theater, creator Bruce Wells' *Hansel & Gretel* will be performed three times only at Seattle Center's McCaw Hall. Performances are at 12:00 noon and 3:30 pm on Sunday, March 21, and 1:00 pm on Saturday, March 27. For tickets and more information, visit [www.pnb.org](http://www.pnb.org) or call 206.441.2424.

Choreographer **Bruce Wells** has created over 50 ballets. A native of Tacoma, Washington, Mr. Wells' dance career began as a student at the School of American Ballet. He joined New York City Ballet, under the direction of George Balanchine, in 1967 and was promoted to soloist in 1969. His choreographic

career began in workshops that Mr. Balanchine coached in the early 1970's. From there he became resident choreographer for the Connecticut Ballet from 1975 to 1979, choreographing his first full length ballet, *Coppelia* in 1976. From 1979 to 1989 Mr. Wells was resident choreographer for the Boston Ballet, where he created over 20 works which included *The Nutcracker*, *La Fee Mal Gardee*, *Swan Lake*, and his highly acclaimed *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. (From 1984 to 1989 he was also Associate Artistic Director for the company.) He then joined Pittsburgh Ballet Theater for six seasons as resident choreographer, creating new productions of *Romeo & Juliet*, *Firebird* and *The Great Gatsby* among others. Mr. Wells has choreographed works for The Australian Ballet, Dance Theater of Harlem, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet, Ballet Chicago, Cincinnati Ballet, The Nashville Ballet, Oregon Ballet Theater, Jacob's Pillow, and many more. For the past eleven years Mr. Wells has been on the faculty of Pacific Northwest Ballet School. Mr. Wells' first children's ballet for PNBS was *Snow White* in 2001, followed by *Hansel & Gretel* in 2006 and *Pinocchio* in 2009. A frequent guest teacher and free lance choreographer, he recently taught for the Dutch National Ballet in Amsterdam.

#### **TICKETS & SHOWTIME INFORMATION:**

Ticket range from \$22-\$60 (children) to \$25-\$67 (adults) and may be purchased through the PNB Box Office:

- By Phone: 206.441.2424 (Mon.-Fri. 9am-6pm; Sat. 10am-5pm)
- In Person: 301 Mercer Street, Seattle (Mon.-Fri. 10am-6pm; Sat. 10am-5pm)
- Online at [www.pnb.org](http://www.pnb.org) (24/7)
- Tickets are also available 90 minutes prior to each performance (subject to availability) at McCaw Hall, 321 Mercer Street at Seattle Center.

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*Hansel & Gretel* is made possible in part thanks to support from Bank of America.  
Pacific Northwest Ballet's 2009-2010 season is proudly sponsored by Microsoft Corporation.

#### **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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301 mercer street seattle, wa 98109 206.441.9411 fax: 206.441.2440 [www.pnb.org](http://www.pnb.org)