

PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET

PETER BOAL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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COUNTDOWN TO *COPPÉLIA*!

Pacific Northwest Ballet Announces Special Family-Friendly Activities, as PNB's Production Staff Goes into Overdrive Putting Final Touches on Gorgeous New Production of Balanchine's Comedic Classic!

Coppélia

June 3-13, 2010

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

SEATTLE, WA – One week until opening night! Pacific Northwest Ballet's studios are jumping, guest conductors are conducting, sewing machines are humming, and McCaw Hall's backstage is buzzing with activity as the final touches are being applied to PNB's gorgeous new production of George Balanchine's comedic classic, *Coppélia*. This brand-new production features magnificently crafted sets and more than 120 charmingly detailed costumes designed by Roberta Guidi di Bagno.

Coppélia (pronounced *koh-PAIL-yuh*) is the tale of cheerful young lovers, Swanilda and Franz, whose courtship is jeopardized when Doctor Coppélius, the village's eccentric inventor, creates a doll so life-like that Franz becomes infatuated. When her suitor attempts a secret rendezvous, Swanilda evens the score by dressing as the doll and pretending to come to life. Ultimately, the pair is reconciled, and Act III's effervescent wedding-day festivities offer an array of spectacular dances.

Coppélia has been called one of the happiest ballets in existence, and can be enjoyed by ballet newcomers and families, as well as PNB's most seasoned patrons. As a special treat for young audience members attending the ballet, PNB has created some special events for their added enjoyment:

MATINEE MADNESS!

Pre-Show Activities for Families

One hour prior to matinee performances

PNB is offering a variety of special activities for children and their families, including coloring crafts, building bookmarks, storytelling and dance classes, beginning one hour before all matinee performances of *Coppélia* (Saturday, June 5 and 12, and Sunday, June 13). Children are also invited to bring a special doll or action figure with them to matinee performances. (But please note that Barbie and Optimus Prime require a ticket if they plan to take up a seat.)

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COPPÉLIA COMESTIBLES!

Prelude offers Tea Parties for Wee Patrons

Meet friends for tea at **Prelude** before the performance. Conveniently located in McCaw Hall, the restaurant offers full-meal service before performances, and snacks, beverages and desserts during intermissions. In honor of PNB's premiere of **Coppélia**, **Prelude** has created a special menu for tea parties, featuring **Coppélia**-inspired tea sandwiches, refreshing beverages and mini tea cookies. (McCaw Hall's concession stands will also offer special **Coppélia** cookies for purchase.) Young patrons are encouraged to bring their dolls or action figures to attend the tea! (Please remember that G.I. Joes and Disney Princesses taking up a seat in the auditorium will require their own ticket.) **Prelude** opens two hours prior to each performance, and reservations are recommended: Call 206.615.0404 or visit savormgmccawhall.com.

Pacific Northwest Ballet's premiere production of George Balanchine's **Coppélia** runs for nine performances only, from June 3 to 13 at Marion Oliver McCaw Hall, 321 Mercer Street at Seattle Center. Tickets may be purchased through the PNB Box Office by calling 206.441.2424, in person at 301 Mercer St., or online at pnb.org. Visit our website at pnb.org for more info and box office hours.

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Pacific Northwest Ballet's production of George Balanchine's **Coppélia** is a co-production with San Francisco Ballet and is made possible by principal sponsors Glenn Kawasaki, Dan & Pam Baty, Brady Richardson, and Maurice Kanbar, major sponsors Nordstrom and the Nesholm Family Foundation, media sponsor KOMO 4, supporting sponsor Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, and opening night dinner sponsor Flexjet. PNB's 2009-2010 Season is sponsored by Microsoft Corporation. Additional season support is provided by ArtsFund, the Seattle Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs, 4Culture – King County Lodging Tax, and Washington State Arts Commission.

PNB's premiere production of **Coppélia** features music by Léo Delibes. Choreography by Alexandra Danilova and George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust (after Marius Petipa). Staging by Judith Fugate and Garielle Whittle. Scenic and costume design by Roberta Guidi di Bagno, and lighting design by Randall G. Chiarelli. Running time is two hours and 30 minutes.

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Programming subject to change. For further information, please visit: www.pnb.org.

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