

 **PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET**
PETER BOAL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Guggenheim MUSEUM
Works & Process

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 4, 2011

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Tickets & Information: 212.423.3587 or www.worksandprocess.org

Works & Process: Duke Dang, 212.758.0024, ddang@worksandprocess.org

PNB: Gary Tucker, 206.441.2426, gtucker@pnb.org

**Works & Process, the performing arts program at the Guggenheim to live stream
PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET – GISELLE REVISITED**

Sunday, January 9, 2011

7:30 pm EST (4:30 pm Pacific)

Peter B. Lewis Theater

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

1071 Fifth Avenue at 89th Street

New York City, NY

“The Best Way To Get Smart About Dance”

- *The Village Voice*

“An exceptional opportunity to understand something of the creative process.”

- *The New York Times*

For over 25 years and in over 300 productions, Works & Process has offered audiences unprecedented access to our generation’s leading creators and performers. Each 80-minute performance uniquely combines artistic creation and stimulating conversation and takes place in the Guggenheim’s intimate Frank Lloyd Wright-designed 285-seat Peter B. Lewis Theater. With performances often sold out, Works & Process on Sunday, January 9, 7:30 pm, for the first time, will live stream the sold out performance **Pacific Northwest Ballet – Giselle Revisited**. In this program Pacific Northwest Ballet dancers will perform excerpts from **Peter Boal’s** new staging of *Giselle*, prior to the production’s June 2011 premiere at McCaw Hall in Seattle. *Giselle*, widely acknowledged as the greatest ballet of the Romantic era, will feature reconstructed choreography

utilizing Stepanov notation circa 1899-1903 and French sources from the 1840s and 1860s. PNB Artistic Director **Peter Boal** will discuss the production with dance scholars **Doug Fullington** and **Marian Smith**. Excerpts will be performed by PNB dancers **Carrie Imler, Carla Körbes, James Moore, and Seth Orza**.

The *Winger's* **Candice Thompson** will moderate the real-time online discussion. The video will be automatically archived and can be shared/viewed in social networks.

To see the performance live online visit <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/worksandprocess>.

PANEL: Peter Boal
Doug Fullington
Marian Smith

PERFORMERS: Carrie Imler, Principal
Carla Körbes, Principal
James Moore, Soloist
Seth Orza, Principal

MORE ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

The sources utilized for PNB's *Giselle* include a répétiteur believed to have been prepared in Paris, circa 1842, to assist in the staging of *Giselle* in St. Petersburg that year. The répétiteur includes detailed information relating to the action of the ballet and how it relates to the score by French composer Adolphe Adam. Another primary French source is a complete notation of *Giselle* likely made in 1860s Paris by Henri Justamant. This elaborate notation recently surfaced in a private collection in Germany and has now been published. The other important source is a choreographic notation made in St. Petersburg, circa 1899-1903. This notation was made using the Stepanov notation system developed in St. Petersburg in the early 1890s. The production represents French choreographer Marius Petipa's version of *Giselle* that was based on the original Paris production, choreographed by Jean Coralli and Jules Perrot. The Stepanov notation of *Giselle* was used in the West for historic stagings by Paris Opéra Ballet and the Vic-Wells Ballet (now the Royal Ballet). The notation is now housed at the Harvard Theatre Collection.

In collaboration with Peter Boal, who will oversee the entire staging, Marian Smith will focus on the French sources and their use for the action of the ballet, and Doug Fullington will reconstruct choreography using the Stepanov notations. This production marks the first time an American ballet company will base a production on Stepanov notation as well as the first use in modern times of the rare French sources for *Giselle*.

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 Francia 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 Mr. Boal, PNB has continued to expand and diversify its repertory to include works by Ulysses Dove, Jiri Kylian, Susan Marshall, Benjamin Millepied, Mark Morris, Victor Quijada, Susan Stroman, Twyla Tharp, Christopher Wheeldon and others. Founded in 1974, Pacific Northwest Ballet School, under the direction of Francia 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. PNB and PNBS also provide comprehensive dance education to the greater Seattle area and reach over 10,000 adults and children each year through DanceChance, Discover Dance and other outreach programs and activities.

WORKS & PROCESS AT THE GUGGENHEIM

For over 25 years and in over 300 productions, New Yorkers have been able to see, hear, and meet the most acclaimed artists in the world, in an intimate setting unlike any other. Works & Process, the performing arts series at the Guggenheim, has championed new works, offered audiences unprecedented access to our generation's leading creators and performers, and hosted post-show receptions for the audiences and artists to continue the discussion. Each 80-minute performance uniquely combines artistic creation and stimulating conversation and takes place in the Guggenheim's intimate Frank Lloyd Wright-designed 285-seat Peter B. Lewis Theater. Described by *The New York Times* as "an exceptional opportunity to understand something of the creative process," Works & Process is produced by founder Mary Sharp Cronson.

Lead funding provided by The Peter Jay Sharp Foundation with additional support from The Brown Foundation, Inc., of Houston, The Christian Humann Foundation, Leon Levy Foundation, and Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Inc. This program is supported by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency, and New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

Programming subject to change. For further information, tickets, photos and to arrange interviews, please contact Duke Dang at Works & Process:

Duke Dang

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212.758.0024

ddang@worksandprocess.org

PNB Publicity Contact:

Gary Tucker, Media Relations Manager

Tel: 206.441.2426

E-mail: gtucker@pnb.org

PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET

301 Mercer Street Seattle, WA 98109 206.441.9411 www.pnb.org

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845 Third Avenue, 16th Floor New York, NY 10022 212.758.0024 www.worksandprocess.org