

PENNSYLVANIA BALLET

ROY KAISER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR 2012–2013 SEASON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pennsylvania Ballet Opens 49th Season with *Giselle*

October 18-28 at the Academy of Music

Philadelphia, PA (September 13, 2012) – Surrender your heart to the ultimate ballet of the Romantic era as Pennsylvania Ballet opens its 49th Season with *Giselle*, October 18-28 at the Academy of Music.

“*Giselle* just grabs your heart,” Artistic Director Roy Kaiser says. “For the dancers, it demands both complex character and incredible physical stamina. The audience will see why it has stood the test of time.”

Haunting and poetic, *Giselle* tells the story of a peasant girl who falls in love with a prince, and the heartbreak and despair that follow. With a moving score by Adolphe Adam and choreography by the French master Marius Petipa, *Giselle* offers both the promise of young love and the tragedy of it slipping away, in one evening of stunning classical dance.

After 16 years dancing with the Company, **Principal Dancer Arantxa Ochoa** will retire with the title role in *Giselle*. Ms. Ochoa will transition to her new role as Principal Instructor with The School of Pennsylvania Ballet. Ms. Ochoa’s final performance is scheduled for Sunday, October 28 at 2 p.m. Casting is subject to change.

Tickets to *Giselle* are on sale now, with prices ranging from \$30 to \$125. Tickets are available online at paballet.org, by phone at 215.893.1999, and in person at the Kimmel Center Box Office.

***Giselle* performances at the Academy of Music:**

Thursday, October 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 20 at 2 p.m.

Sunday, October 21 at 2 p.m.

Saturday, October 27 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Sunday October 28 at 2 p.m.

Groups of 10 or more get discounts and great seats! Ask about backstage tours, special talks with staff and dancers, and dining options near the theater for your group. For tickets and more information, contact Group Sales Manager Arajua Backman at 215.587.6921 or

abackman@paballet.org.

Celebrate the opening of Pennsylvania Ballet's 2012-2013 Season at the Fall Gala on Friday, October 26. Cocktails start at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner and dancing with the dancers, all at the Union League of Philadelphia. This year's event honors The Star Group and its co-founder Linda Rosanio, a former Trustee. The 2012 Gala Committee is co-chaired by Natalie and Paul Bracaglia and Alicia and Denean Williams. Tickets for this black tie fundraiser are on sale now starting at \$350 per person and \$3,500 per table. Young Friends tickets are available for \$175 for guests ages 21-39. For more information and tickets, contact Special Events Manager Barbara Vogdes at 215.587.6916 or bvogdes@paballet.org.

Connect with us! Follow Pennsylvania Ballet on **Twitter**, **Facebook**, and **YouTube** to go behind-the-scenes anytime, day or night.

2012-2013 Season subscriptions are on sale now at 215.893.1955 and at paballet.org. Save up to 25% on single ticket prices with a full series subscription. Subscribers enjoy the best seats at the best prices, personalized service, lost ticket insurance, flexible ticket exchanges, a monthly payment plan, discounted parking, and more.

Pennsylvania Ballet's 2012-2013 Season sponsors include DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, The Sporting Club at the Bellevue, and US Airways.

Pennsylvania Ballet receives support from the The Philadelphia Cultural Fund and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Founded in 1963 by Balanchine student and protégée Barbara Weisberger, **Pennsylvania Ballet** is one of the nation's leading ballet companies. Headquartered in Philadelphia, the Company's annual local season features six programs of classic favorites and new works, including the Philadelphia holiday tradition, *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*TM. For more information, visit paballet.org or call 215.551.7000.

Online Press Images Library:

The media is invited to download high-resolution photos from the 2012-2013 Season at:
<https://www.paballet.org/pressimages>

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