

# PENNSYLVANIA BALLET

ANGEL CORELLA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR 2016–2017 SEASON

## For Immediate Release

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### Pennsylvania Ballet Premieres *Le Corsaire*

*Angel Corella's Reimagined Vision Based on the Marius Petipa Classic*

**Philadelphia, PA (January 12, 2017)** — [Pennsylvania Ballet's](#) Artistic Director Angel Corella whisks audiences away on a journey of love, betrayal, and adventure in his adaptation of *Le Corsaire*. Performances run March 9-19 at The Academy of Music and are certain to entertain audiences of all ages.

"*Le Corsaire* is an extraordinary ballet that allows the male dancers to be showcased in ways that the Philadelphia audience has never seen before," said Corella. "It is a famous ballet that the majority of our company has never performed, not only is it exciting for them to learn new choreography and roles, but it will also show the strength, endurance, and skills of all of our male dancers."

Angel Corella's *Le Corsaire* is a rollicking production that features intricate choreography and elaborate costumes, bringing to life Marius Petipa's original version from 1899. The ballet portrays the story of Conrad, a pirate, who in search of treasure, becomes enamored by a serf girl, Medora at a bazaar. When Seyd, a rich Pasha, takes Medora, Conrad is forced to devise a plan and succeeds in rescuing her. However, to Conrad's dismay, Seyd once again takes Medora with intentions to marry her. After reuniting, Conrad and Medora's love is tested a third time as storms attack Conrad's ship during their escape. Conrad and Medora survive and true love endures.

"This was one of my favorite ballets to perform," said Corella. "To be able to share this experience with our talented dancers is a pleasure. I am excited to see this ballet come to life at The Academy of Music knowing that our audience will enjoy it."

Corella's exuberant and breathtaking choreography will add layers of freshness to the classic tale. Set designs by Eldar Aliev will transport audiences into the land of pirates as Adolphe Adam's score provides the perfect background for this adventurous tale of true love.

Enjoy performances of this adventurous love story at The Academy of Music this March.

### The performances run:

- Thursday, March 9 at 7:30pm
- Friday, March 10 at 7:30pm
- Saturday, March 11 at 2:00pm
- Saturday, March 11 at 8:00pm
- Sunday, March 12 at 2:00pm

- Friday, March 17 at 7:30pm
- Saturday, March 18 at 2:00pm
- Saturday, March 18 at 8:00pm
- Sunday, March 19 at 2:00pm

*Tickets are available online at [paballet.org](http://paballet.org) or by phone at 215.893.1999, and in person at the Kimmel Center Box Office.*

### **Conversations with Pennsylvania Ballet**

Please join Conversations, a free informal discussion with a dancer from the company who will talk about preparing for *Le Corsaire*. This free event will be held on **Monday, March 6 at 6:30pm** at the Philadelphia City Institute Free Library (1905 Locust St, Philadelphia, PA).

### **Preludes (for ticket holders)**

Ignite your passion for dance with Preludes- Pennsylvania Ballet's pre-show discussions. Held in the theater prior to all performances (*excluding Saturday evening*), Preludes feature an ever-changing roster of company members, artistic staff, and visiting artists discussing Pennsylvania Ballet's performances, taking questions, and offering unmatched behind-the-scenes insights. Preludes begin one hour prior to show time and are free and open to all patrons holding a ticket for the performance that follows. Preludes is a great way to meet other ballet fans, enhance your knowledge of the art form, and get to know the artists behind Pennsylvania Ballet's beautiful and thrilling performances. *Please note: Preludes is free and open to all ticket holders for the day listed on the ticket. Preludes will not be held on Saturday evening performances.*

### **About Pennsylvania Ballet**

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*™. For more information, visit [paballet.org](http://paballet.org), call 215.551.7000 or connect with us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#) to go behind the scenes at any time.

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Pennsylvania Ballet's season sponsors include DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, The Sporting Club at the Bellevue, and American Airlines.

Pennsylvania Ballet receives support from 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 – and The Philadelphia Cultural Fund.

**Groups of 10 or more get discounts and great seats!** Ask about 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](mailto:abackman@paballet.org).

**Link to downloadable image:**

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