

# PENNSYLVANIA BALLET

ROY KAISER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR 2013–2014 SEASON



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Pennsylvania Ballet Launches 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season with Company Premiere of *Jewels* Plus a Free Performance for the City of Philadelphia & a Glittering Gala**

### **October 17-27 at the Academy of Music**

Philadelphia, PA (September 18, 2013) – Pennsylvania Ballet opens its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season with George Balanchine's dazzling full-length masterpiece, *Jewels*, October 17-27, 2013 at the Academy of Music.

"I've wanted to do *Jewels* for 18 years! So our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is the perfect opportunity to present this Company premiere," Artistic Director Roy Kaiser says. "It's an enormous undertaking and a fantastic tribute to Mr. Balanchine, who had an incredible impact on the founding of this Company and maintains an indelible legacy in its repertoire."

Inspired by the artistry of jewelry designer Claude Arpels, *Jewels* unfolds in three distinct sections – *Emeralds*, *Rubies*, and *Diamonds* – each with its own music and mood. *Emeralds* evokes the elegance of France, to the music of Gabriel Fauré. *Rubies* is influenced by Balanchine's experiences in America. The jazz-inflected Stravinsky score sends dancers zipping through the stage in Balanchine's definitively neoclassical style. The grandeur and regality of Imperial Russia are the inspiration for *Diamonds*, a nod to Balanchine's own heritage, as is the sumptuous Tchaikovsky score.

**Tickets to *Jewels* are on sale now**, starting at \$30. Tickets are available online at [paballet.org](http://paballet.org), by phone at 215.893.1999, and in person at the Kimmel Center Box Office.

### **Jewels performances at the Academy of Music:**

Thursday, October 17 at 7:30 p.m.

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

Saturday, October 26 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Sunday, October 27 at 2 p.m.

**Pennsylvania Ballet kicks off this festive season with a glittering 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala on Saturday, October 19, presented by CIGNA.** Cocktails start at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner and dancing with the dancers, all at The Crystal Ballroom in the Wanamaker Building. This year's event honors Pennsylvania Ballet founder Barbara Weisberger. Tickets for this black tie fundraiser are on sale now starting at \$550 per person and \$5,050 per table. Young Friends tickets are available for \$200 for guests ages 21-39. For more information and tickets, please contact Special Events Manager Barbara Vogdes at 215.587.6916 or [bvogdes@paballet.org](mailto:bvogdes@paballet.org).

**Pennsylvania Ballet thanks the city of Philadelphia for 50 years of support with *A Gift to the City* -- a free performance on Sunday, October 20 at 3 p.m. at the Academy of Music.** WHY? will record the performance for national broadcast on PBS. This one-time-only matinee will feature marquee selections from the Company's past and present. All guests must register for a free ticket at [paballet.org/free-performance](http://paballet.org/free-performance). Tickets are first come, first serve.

**Toast to the opening of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season with a FREE Pre-Show Talk** for all *Jewels* ticketholders on Friday, October 18 6:30 p.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel at Broad & Locust Streets. Enjoy a complimentary cocktail and get behind-the-scenes stories from the rehearsal studio. Guest(s) to be announced.

**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, please contact Group Sales Manager Arajua Backman at 215.587.6921 or [abackman@paballet.org](mailto:abackman@paballet.org).

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

**2013-2014 Season subscriptions are on sale now at 215.893.1955 and at [paballet.org](http://paballet.org).** 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 2013-2014 Season sponsors include DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, The Sporting Club at the Bellevue, and US Airways.

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.

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) or call 215.551.7000.

**Online Press Images Library:**

The media is invited to download high-resolution photos from the 2013-2014 Season at:

[paballet.org/13-14-press-images](http://paballet.org/13-14-press-images)

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