

PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE

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Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre Announces Repertory for August Debut with Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra

PBT Returns to Scenic Chautauqua Institution for Aug. 12, Performance

PITTSBURGH, PA (May 2017) – Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre Artistic Director Terrence S. Orr has announced the repertory for the company's **8:15 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12**, performance at the scenic Chautauqua Institution in southwestern New York. The one-night program marks PBT's first with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra (CSO). PBT's appearance at the Chautauqua Institution is sponsored by Carol Hefren Tillotson and Richard E. Rauh.

The company will perform excerpts from two great classics: the comic story ballet "Coppélia," featuring vivacious classical choreography by 19th-century choreographer Arthur Saint-Léon, and the virtuosic pirate saga "Le Corsaire," with choreography after Marius Petipa and Konstantin Sergeyev.

In a contrast with the classics, PBT also will stage one of the great modern masterworks of the 20th century: Czech choreographer Jiří Kylián's "Petite Mort." Six men, six women, six fencing foils, voluminous folds of fabric and black baroque dresses accent a striking movement vocabulary offset by two of Mozart's most lyrical piano concertos. Kylián, who the New York Times called "one of the most influential choreographers of the last thirty years," created "Petite Mort" for the Salzburg Festival in Germany on the second centenary of Mozart's death. It received its world premiere on August 23, 1991.

The CSO, under the baton of Music Director Rossen Milanov, will bring to life music from three world-renowned composers. "Coppélia," features a textured score by French composer Léo Delibes. "Le Corsaire" features a score composed by Adolphe Adam and enriched by excerpts from numerous composers, including Cesare Pugni, Prince Oldenberg, Léo Delibes and Riccardo Drigo. For "Petite Mort," Kylián chose Mozart's "Piano Concerto in A Major KV 488" and his "Piano Concerto in C Major KV 467."

"I am thrilled to have Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre joining Ailey II, Charlotte Ballet and Irene Rodríguez Compañía on Chautauqua's 2017 dance season," said Deborah Sunya Moore, vice president and director of programming at Chautauqua Institution. "We are fortunate to have such a nationally recognized company so close to home and I look forward to showcasing this talent as we broaden and diversify dance at Chautauqua."

As part of the staging of "Coppélia," students from the Chautauqua School of Dance will join PBT's professional company onstage after learning some of the character dances from Orr.

"We are honored to be part of Chautauqua's summer dance season and to perform with Maestro Milanov and the talented CSO," Orr said. "Chautauqua is a beautiful place with an exhilarating creative atmosphere. We think audiences will be fascinated by the brightness and classicism of 'Coppélia' and 'Le Corsaire' contrasted with the unconventional, thought-provoking vocabulary of 'Petite Mort'."

Located on the banks of Chautauqua Lake, the Institution specializes in the arts, education, religion and recreation and annually hosts over 2,200 summer events, ranging from performing arts to guest lectures. PBT last performed in August 2013 in the open-air amphitheater of this summer community.

At an easy two-hour drive from Pittsburgh, Chautauqua Institution attracts more than 100,000 guests each year, including many from the Pittsburgh region, who rent or own homes on and around the lakeside campus. Other area attractions include winery tours, antique shops, local farms, water activities and more.

Event tickets for PBT's Chautauqua performance cost \$43 and are on sale now at ciweb.org or 716-357-6250. The Institution's Athenaeum Hotel also offers a [special all-inclusive Symphonic Saturday package](#) for overnight guests, complete with dinner, breakfast and Sunday brunch for

two, at a discounted rate of \$299.

ABOUT PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE

Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre has built a legacy of excellence and innovation since 1969. The company's eclectic style and energy have been shaped by a series of artistic directors over nearly five decades. In the 1980s, former New York City Ballet Principal Dancer Patricia Wilde led the company to new heights and national acclaim with an emphasis on virtuosic technique and works by the modern masters, including her mentor, George Balanchine. Since 1997, the company has flourished under the direction of Terrence S. Orr, former American Ballet Theatre ballet master and principal dancer. Mr. Orr has created a powerful repertoire, including fresh versions of traditional ballets, new commissions and dramatic works that push the boundaries of ballet. Through more than 50 performances each year at home and on tour, PBT audiences discover the passion and joy of ballet.

ABOUT THE CHAUTAUQUA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1929 and today continues its legacy as the center of musical life at Chautauqua Institution. Performing 22 concerts in the Amphitheater including two concerts accompanying Chautauqua Dance, and two productions in collaboration with Chautauqua Opera, the CSO is a tenured union orchestra that draws its membership from around the nation and around the world. It has grown from its original complement of 52 musicians to the current roster of 74 active members.

ABOUT CHAUTAUQUA INSTITUTION

The pre-eminent expression of lifelong learning in the United States, Chautauqua Institution comes alive each summer with a unique mix of fine and performing arts, lectures, interfaith worship and programs, and recreational activities. Over the course of nine weeks, more than 100,000 people visit Chautauqua and participate in programs, classes and community events for all ages — all within the beautiful setting of a historic lakeside village. According to a recent piece in the New York Times Travel section, “A week at Chautauqua is a microcosm of what we can make of our lives, if only we remember to slow down and pay attention.”