



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ballet Arizona, Arizona Opera, and The Phoenix Symphony introduce *TRIO*

The first ever joint gala by Arizona’s premiere performing arts organizations

Phoenix, AZ (July 16, 2012) - Ballet Arizona, Arizona Opera, and The Phoenix Symphony are proud to announce: *Trio*, an inaugural gala and performance celebration on February 8, 2013 at Symphony Hall. For the first time in history the annual fundraising events, of each organization are combined in support of live performing arts education and outreach.

“This collaborative gala and performance offers a unique opportunity for members of our community to experience three world-class performing arts organizations in one exciting night” said Jim Ward, CEO of The Phoenix Symphony. “It also represents our latest efforts with other arts organizations to find new efficiencies and new ways to add value for the benefit of our patrons in these challenging times.”

This historic inaugural event will bring together all three of Arizona’s premiere, largest, and most acclaimed performing arts organizations for an evening of “firsts.” Hosted at Symphony Hall, this spectacular evening includes an exclusive *Trio* performance, extraordinary dinner, entertainment and much more. The highlight of the evening will be the *Trio* performance, which features the Ballet, Opera, and Symphony and showcases the artistic strengths of all three companies on stage together for the first time.

“The opportunity of sharing the stage with Arizona Opera and The Phoenix Symphony is true collaboration,” said Ib Andersen, Artistic Director of Ballet Arizona. “The *Trio* gala will allow our audiences to experience the exciting future of the Performing Arts in Arizona.”

The *Trio* gala kicks off on November 8, 2012 with a special-event, a Cocktail Party and Fashion Show at Biltmore Fashion Park's Saks Fifth Avenue. The show features the haute couture of designer Zang Toi, and the chance to mingle with artists from the Ballet, Opera, and Symphony.

“We are proud to stand equally with our sister organizations to celebrate together at the Trio gala at Symphony Hall,” said Scott Altman, General Director of Arizona Opera. “This full collaborative effort presents an occasion for three superb, nationally recognized companies to join together to rejoice in the performing arts. We offer a standing ovation to our respective Boards of Trustees and the outstanding Steering Committee for their vision and dedicated support for this initiative.”

The evening's Steering Committee includes: Carol Clemmensen, Molly DeFilippis, Jacquie Dorrance, Nan Howlett, Linda Hunt, Ellen Katz, Sharron Lewis, Pearle Marr, Dionne Najafi, Carol Schilling, Ellie Shapiro, Nancy Spetzler, and Daryl Weil.

What: *TRIO* Gala
When: February 8, 2013 7:00pm
Where: Symphony Hall 75 North 2nd Street Phoenix, AZ 85004
Tickets: Tables of 10 available at various sponsorship levels. Individual tickets for the evening performance and Gala dinner are \$500. Performance only tickets will also be available.

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Ballet Arizona, in its 33rd season, is dedicated to preserving and celebrating classical dance while creating new and innovative works. Under the artistic direction of internationally acclaimed choreographer Ib Andersen—a former Principal Dancer with The New York City Ballet and The Royal Danish Ballet—Ballet Arizona follows his lead to the future of dance in Arizona. The School of Ballet Arizona, under the direction of Carlos Valcárcel, promotes access to the art form of ballet through dance education, with a focus on excellence in the form, directing each student to a life-long love of dance. Following this vision, Ballet Arizona connects to more than 25,000 children and families every year through its free and low cost outreach programs.

Arizona Opera is a professional opera company that produces fully-staged opera performances, concerts, in-school touring productions, education and outreach programs that reach over 75,000 schoolchildren and adults annually. Founded in 1971, Arizona Opera is one of the few companies in the United States to serve multiple cities

The Phoenix Symphony has been proudly serving the citizens of the Phoenix metropolitan area and Arizona since 1947. The Phoenix Symphony presents an annual season from September through the beginning of June, featuring full-length classical and pops concerts at Symphony Hall in downtown Phoenix, as well as concerts in Scottsdale, Mesa, Prescott and throughout central Arizona. The Symphony performs for more than 65,000 students and children, helping to introduce music to new generations through a variety of education and youth-engagement programs.