

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“All Balanchine” Presents Classics from The Father of American Ballet

Ballet Arizona to Stage Three Masterpieces by Legendary Choreographer George Balanchine May 1-4

PHOENIX – [George Balanchine](#), known as The Father of American Ballet, established himself as a dance legend when he put his twist on traditional ballet standards and techniques. [Ballet Arizona](#) is excited to bring three of Balanchine’s classics to the Phoenix stage with its annual “All Balanchine” program at Symphony Hall from May 1-4th.

“All Balanchine” will feature Ballet Arizona’s company dancers performing three of Balanchine’s finest works, *Walpurgisnacht*, *Scotch Symphony*, and *Western Symphony*, alongside live musical accompaniment from [The Phoenix Symphony](#).

Walpurgisnacht takes its inspiration from a traditional celebration the eve before May Day. Set to the music of Faust by Charles Gounod, 24 dancers soar in this brilliant, virtuosic dance of joyful revelry.

A scenic escapade in the Scottish Highlands, *Scotch Symphony* is a charming Balanchine ballet that features brisk footwork and a wistfully romantic pas de deux.

Western Symphony is a striking example of Balanchine’s fascination with American themes. This classical ballet is on a rugged Old West street populated by cowboys and dance hall girls.

“We are delighted to present this year’s program of George Balanchine’s iconic pieces,” said Daniela Cardim, the artistic director of Ballet Arizona. “You won’t want to miss this trio of ballets exploring the dynamic interplay of tradition, passion, and bold American spirit.”

Ballet Arizona’s Opening Night Series Sponsor is F. Francis and Dionne Najafi of Pivotal Foundation. “All Balanchine” is sponsored in part by Bob Benson and Dr. Eleanore Jane Rosenthal.

Ticket prices for “All Balanchine” start at \$35, with discounts offered for seniors, students, military, and groups. Tickets can be purchased by calling 602.381.1096 or visiting <https://balletaz.org/>.

Ballet Arizona

Since 1986, Ballet Arizona has been dedicated to preserving and celebrating classical dance while creating new and innovative works. Under the new artistic direction of internationally acclaimed choreographer Daniela Cardim - a former soloist with the Ballet of Municipal Theatre of Rio de Janeiro and Dutch National Ballet - Ballet Arizona is excited to follow her lead to the future of dance in Arizona. During its 38th season, the Valley’s professional ballet company will present *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker*, the U.S. premiere of *Frida*, *Spring Mix*, *All Balanchine* and *Eroica*. The School of Ballet Arizona, under the direction of Maria Simonetti, 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 22,000 children and families every year through its free and low-cost outreach programs. For more information, visit balletaz.org.

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