PENNSYLVANIA BALLET

ROY KAISER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR 2010-2011 SEASON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pennsylvania Ballet Presents Sir Frederick Ashton's *La Fille mal gardée*

The Grand Finale to the 2010-2011 Season

June 2-11 at the Academy of Music

Philadelphia, PA (May 5, 2011) –Pennsylvania Ballet brings its 2010-2011 Season to a joyous conclusion with Sir Frederick Ashton's beloved romantic comedy, *La Fille mal gardée*, June 2-11, 2011 at the Academy of Music.

"*La Fille* is a true gem in our repertoire, a near-perfect narrative ballet," Artistic Director Roy Kaiser says. "Ashton strikes just the right balance of technically demanding dancing, tender moments, and flat-out fun."

Loosely translated as "The Wayward Daughter," *La Fille mal gardée* is Ashton's touching tale of two determined lovers and their quest to marry. Lise, the young daughter of a wealthy farmer, is in love with Colas, a handsome, young farm worker, but her mother disapproves. Instead, she arranges for Lise to marry Alain, the eccentric, simpleton son of a successful vintner. Set along a backdrop of simple country life, this uplifting ballet is brimming with charming characters, memorable dances, and hilarious antics like dancing hens and even a live pony! A heartwarming story, *La Fille mal gardée* illuminates the spirit of true love.

Tickets to *La Fille mal gardée* are on sale now, with prices ranging from $20 to $139. Tickets are available online at paballet.org, by phone at 215.893.1999, or in person at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Groups of 10 or more receive great discounts and perks through Group Sales Manager Arajua Backman at 215.587.6921 or abackman@paballet.org.

***La Fille mal gardée* performances at the Academy of Music:**

- Thursday, June 2 at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 4 at noon
- Sunday, June 5 at 2 p.m.
- Friday, June 10 at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 11 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Audio Description Pennsylvania Ballet and Independence Starts Here! will offer Audio Description (AD) for blind or low-vision patrons at *La Fille mal gardée* on **Saturday, June 4 at**

noon. AD allows patrons to listen to a live description of the visual elements of the production through an ear piece and small receiver. AD patrons will receive Braille and large-print programs and are invited backstage for a pre-show touch tour (or "sensory seminar") with the sets, props, and costumes. To register and purchase tickets for the AD performance of *La Fille mal gardée* on Saturday, June 4 at noon, please contact Group Sales Manager Arajua Backman at 215.587.6921 or abackman@paballet.org.

Bon Appétit! Treat a friend or loved one to an evening filled with French elegance. Begin with a decadent four-course meal at George Perrier's legendary Le Bec-Fin, followed by a performance of *La Fille mal gardée* on **Thursday, June 2 or Friday, June 10**. Packages start at $90.40. For details, contact Group Sales Manager Arajua Backman at 215.587.6921 or abackman@paballet.org.

Children's Party Join us for *une fête pour les enfants* on **Saturday, June 4**! This spectacular day of fun begins at 10 a.m. at the Rose Garden at the Hyatt at the Bellevue. Savor a delicious French buffet brunch, then enjoy crafts, music, a magician, stilt-walker, and more. The festivities culminate with the noon performance of *La Fille mal gardée*, a ballet the whole family will love. To purchase tickets, please RSVP by May 25 to Special Events Manager Barbara Vogdes at 215.587.6916 or bvogdes@paballet.org.

Brioche & Ballet Join Artistic Director Roy Kaiser for Brioche & Ballet – an intimate conversation and light brunch on **Sunday, June 5 at noon** at the Alliance Française at 1420 Walnut Street, followed by the 2 p.m. performance of *La Fille mal gardée*. Kaiser will share insights on the production as well as Pennsylvania Ballet's rich 47-year history and the connection of French language to ballet. Brioche, coffee, and tea will be served. Tickets to Brioche & Ballet are $15 for Pennsylvania Ballet subscribers and Alliance Française members and $20 for general admission. Alliance Française members and friends will receive a special discount to the performance of *La Fille mal gardée* on Sunday, June 5 at 2 p.m.

To purchase tickets to Brioche & Ballet, call 215.735.5283 or visit afphila.com.
To purchase tickets to *La File mal gardée* following Brioche & Ballet, call 215.587.6921 or e-mail abackman@paballet.org and mention Alliance Française for 25% off.

Connect with us! Follow Pennsylvania Ballet on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube to go behind-the-scenes. Plus, text "PABALLET" to 77950 to join our mobile club, MyPABallet, and receive special offers and news about the Company.

Performance sponsors for *La Fille mal gardée* include Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC and Capezio/Ballet Makers.

Pennsylvania Ballet's 2010-2011 Season sponsors include The Omni Hotel at Independence Park, The Philadelphia Inquirer, The Sporting Club at the Bellevue, and US Airways.

Pennsylvania Ballet receives support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

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 or call 215.551.7000.

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