

PENNSYLVANIA BALLET

ROY KAISER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR 2009 - 2010 SEASON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PENNSYLVANIA BALLET PRESENTS *ROMEO & JULIET*

June 4-12, 2010
Academy of Music

Philadelphia, PA (May 14, 2010) – Pennsylvania Ballet, one of the nation’s leading ballet companies, and Fred Alger Management present the world’s best-known love story, *Romeo & Juliet*, June 4-12 at the Academy of Music. Witness poetry in motion as Pennsylvania Ballet performs choreographer John Cranko’s stunning interpretation of William Shakespeare’s classic tale of star-crossed lovers.

“John Cranko was a master at telling a story through dance. He conveys the saga of *Romeo & Juliet* entirely through the movement and through the characterization that each dancer brings to their role,” Artistic Director Roy Kaiser says. “This ballet displays raw emotion from beginning to end. It’s brilliant.”

Luminous in its power and poignancy, *Romeo & Juliet* is set to Sergei Prokofiev’s moving score. Audiences will be swept away to fair Verona through grand sets and opulent costumes. Festive, stately dances plus romantic *pas de deux* express the drama of feuding families and forbidden love. The Philadelphia Inquirer calls Pennsylvania Ballet’s *Romeo & Juliet* “sumptuous.” To miss it would be tragic!

Tickets for *Romeo & Juliet* are on sale now, with prices ranging from \$24 to \$129. Tickets are available online at paballet.org, by phone at **215.893.1999**, or in person at the **Kimmel Center Box Office**.



Principal Dancers Arantxa Ochoa and Sergio Torrado.
Photo: Alexander Iziliaev.

Romeo & Juliet performances at the Academy of Music:

- Friday, June 4 at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 5 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Sunday, June 6 at 2 p.m.
- Thursday, June 10 at 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, June 11 at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 12 at 2 p.m.

Connect with Pennsylvania Ballet!

Follow Pennsylvania Ballet on **Facebook**, **Twitter**, and **YouTube** to join us in the studio and on stage, 24/7. Go behind the scenes, view new images, chat with other fans, and more! Visit our newly re-designed website at **paballet.org**. Plus, **text PABALLET to 77950 to join MyPABallet** and receive special offers and news about the Company!

Romeo & Juliet Auction

Join Pennsylvania Ballet for its spectacular **Romeo & Juliet Auction** on Wednesday, June 9 at the Academy of Music. Enjoy dinner with the dancers and a spirited live auction right on the Academy of Music stage! The evening begins with a silent auction in the theater's beautiful, newly-refurbished ballroom. Prizes include the chance to watch a Pennsylvania Ballet performance from the wings, a week at a private home in Tuscany, and a walk-on role in *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*™! The event is chaired by Trustee Robin Pinder Herndon, Esq. Tickets start at \$175, tables of 10 at \$3,000. For more information or to make a donation, please contact Special Events Manager Barbara Vogdes at bvogdes@paballet.org or 215.587.6916.

Romeo & Juliet Overnight Package

To experience an entire weekend of romance, join The Omni Hotel at Independence Park for its special **Romeo & Juliet Overnight Package**. Included in this package being offered Saturday, June 5 – Sunday, June 6 are one night's accommodations at the Omni Hotel, tickets to Pennsylvania Ballet's *Romeo & Juliet* (plus a backstage tour), homemade limoncello and Italian pastries from Isgro's Pastries, brunch at the Omni Hotel's Azalea Restaurant, and tickets to the National Constitution Center's *Ancient Rome & America* exhibit. This package is being offered for \$349. For more information and reservations, call 1-800-843-6664.

Fred Alger Management is the presenting sponsor of *Romeo & Juliet*.

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

Pennsylvania Ballet receives state arts funding 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, a federal agency.

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.