

OREGON BALLET THEATRE

CHRISTOPHER STOWELL / ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

M E D I A R E L E A S E

HOLIDAY REVUE ADDS OREGON STAR POWER TO THE HOLIDAY SEASON
Quarterflash Founders Marv and Rindy Ross Join Susannah Mars for Select Performances
*of OBT's **Holiday Revue**, Opening December 10th at the Keller Auditorium*

November 4, 2011 – PORTLAND, OR. Oregon Ballet Theatre adds an extra splash of Oregon star power to their hit alternative holiday program, the retro-glam ***Holiday Revue***, with the addition of special guest artists **Marv and Rindy Ross** (known in Oregon as founders of the Oregon Trail Band and throughout the world as the leaders of multi-platinum pop band Quarterflash) to select performances alongside returning celebrated songstress **Susannah Mars** and **Richard Bower**. ***Holiday Revue*** plays December 10th through the 22nd at the Keller Auditorium.



DATES AND TIMES

Holiday Revue opens on **Saturday, December 10, 2011** and runs for 6 performances through **Thursday December 22, 2011**. Show times: Saturday, December 10 at 7:30pm; Sunday, December 11 at 2:00pm; Thursday, December 15* at 7:30 pm; Friday, December 16* at 7:30pm, Saturday, December 17* at 7:30pm and Thursday December 22 at 7:30 pm.

*performances featuring Marv and Rindy Ross

TICKET PRICES

Tickets start at \$23.00 Visit www.obt.org or dial **503.2.BALLET (503.222.5538)** for tickets.

A **"Pay Your Age"** discount is offered for all patrons under 35 years old. Oregon Ballet Theatre also participates in the **Arts for All** program, providing \$5 tickets to patrons with the Oregon Trail Card.

ABOUT HOLIDAY REVUE



Holiday Revue was launched in 2010 as a sophisticated alternative to Oregon Ballet Theatre's flagship holiday performance, *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*. Inspired by a holiday party where Christopher Stowell, Susannah Mars, Richard Bower and the OBT dancers shared holiday songs and memories, ***Holiday Revue*** invites audiences to relax into an elegant evening of song, dance, and lighthearted seasonal escape.

The show mixes holiday standards like "Christmastime Is Here" from *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," and "Let it Snow!," with contemporary holiday songs including William Bolcom's "Lime Jell-O Marshmallow Cottage Cheese Surprise" and "Hanukkah Blessings" by the Barenaked Ladies. This season, Marv and Rindy Ross will join Susannah and Richard for a special guest appearance on three of the show's 6 evenings, featuring their jazzy Trail Band tune, "Santa Man."

(continued)

Susannah Mars returns for her second season as the featured artist for *Holiday Revue*. Treasured roles include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, Mother in *Ragtime*, Rose in *Gypsy* and Meredith in *Bat Boy* (Portland Center Stage); Eva in *Evita* (Broadway Rose), for which she won a Portland Area Theatre Award. Ms. Mars also appeared at Seattle's The 5th Avenue Theatre in *Sunday in The Park with George*, as Frieda and Betty, and as Susan in *Company*. At Artists Rep her roles have included Julia in the world premiere of *Holidazed*, Becca in *Rabbit Hole*, and her own holiday special, *Mars on Life: The Holiday Edition*, which was reincarnated in 2010 as *Mars on Life: LIVE!* Ms. Mars is the recipient of five Portland Drama Critics awards. Her most recent recording, *Susannah Mars, Call It Home; The Music of Richard Gray*, is available, along with her first, the MAC nominated *Take Me to the World*, on LML Music. Find them, and more at www.susannahmars.com.

Richard Bower was a faculty member at University of Portland from 1993-2009 and Bel Canto Northwest, and was a part of the music staff at Portland Opera until 2008. He was awarded a Drammy for his work in *Funny Girl*, and has also worked collaboratively with Oregon Ballet Theatre on *Perhaps Mister Rodgers*, *Eyes on You* and *A Holiday Revue*. Mr. Bower held the position of Music Director of the NY Light Opera, coaching Tony winners and Metropolitan and New York City Opera soloists.

Marv and Rindy Ross are best known for their five top 40 songs written with Quarterflash including their #1 hit, *Harden My Heart*. Signed to Geffen Records in 1980, the Rosses released their debut self-titled album in 1981 which featured Marv's songs and uniquely tuned guitar and Rindy's rock-styled saxophone and plaintive vocals. The success of the first two singles, *Harden My Heart* and *Find Another Fool*, catapulted the album to platinum status in both the U.S. and Canada - making Quarterflash Oregon's first multi-platinum band.

The Rosses played their first show together while attending Madison High School in Portland, Oregon and have played in a number of successful bands including Seafood Mama and The Trail Band. Marv Ross has written three musicals including *The Ghosts of Celilo*, which was presented by Artists Rep in Portland and garnered 11 Portland Area Musical Theatre Awards. The Rosses received the Alumni Award of Excellence from Western Oregon University and were inducted into the Oregon Music Hall of Fame in 2006. They are thrilled to be performing with Susannah Mars and Oregon Ballet Theatre and will be playing an original hot swing tune, "Santa Man".

For **high-resolution images** of the 2010 production of *Holiday Revue*, visit **OBT's Flickr page** <http://www.flickr.com/photos/oregonballettheatre>.

Oregon Ballet Theatre's 2011/12 season is funded in part by the **Regional Arts & Culture Council** and Work for Art; the **Oregon Arts Commission**; the **Oregon Cultural Trust**; **The Oregonian** and **Kink.fm**

ABOUT OREGON BALLET THEATRE

Founded in 1989, OBT is the region's largest full-time professional ballet company. Christopher Stowell joined the company as Artistic Director in 2003. Since then, OBT has added over 50 ballets to its repertoire, including nearly two dozen world premieres; providing a compelling and diverse five-program season of work that reflects the broadest spectrum of what great ballet can be. Annually, OBT offers eleven experiential arts education programs for youth and adults, as well as a professional ballet school for students, ages 4-18. Through all the programs offered, OBT reached over 145,000 members of the community last year. For more information about OBT go to: www.obt.org.