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Oregon Ballet Theatre Announces Ambitious 2023/2024 Season Filled with adventure, passion, and incredible dancing – "It is our biggest season EVER!"

During its sold out run of *Firebird*, Oregon Ballet Theatre wowed audiences with a preshow video announcing its ambitious 2023/2024 season. From the return of Christopher Stowell's *Swan Lake* to the OBT premiere of Trey McIntyre's *Peter Pan* and Artistic Director Danielle Rowe's 1920's era romantic drama, *Wooden Dimes*, the season is filled with rich storytelling, and all the magic that happens at the intersection of theater, music, and dance.

"I am deeply grateful to Interim Artistic Director Peter Franc for developing such a well-crafted season," commented Rowe who took over artistic leadership of the company in January.

Rowe's ballet *Wooden Dimes* was an exciting last-minute addition to the season lineup following the announcement of her appointment. Originally produced as a film for San Francisco Ballet during the pandemic, *Wooden Dimes* is a love story set in the roaring 20's as well as a love letter of sorts to the dancers cut off from their ability to perform for live audiences. "Seeing this work transformed from film to stage is a dream come true!"

SWAN LAKE October 6 – 14, 2023 | Keller Auditorium



Christopher Stowell (after Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov) Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Featuring the OBT Orchestra

A cursed princess seeks salvation in the loving arms of a noble prince . . . A kaleidoscope of swans dance to music that makes the heart soar . . . An evil villain upends the romance of a lifetime . . . There is no ballet that captures the collective imagination more than *Swan Lake*. It is a must-see for the uninitiated, and a classic for ballet lovers everywhere.

Former Artistic Director Christopher Stowell's *Swan Lake* premiered in 2006 to rave reviews and sold-out houses. Last performed by OBT ten years ago, this lush work is highly overdue for a reprise.



GEORGE BALANCHINE'S THE NUTCRACKER® December 8 – 24, 2023 | Keller Auditorium



George Balanchine | Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Featuring 12 performances with the OBT Orchestra

A treasured holiday tradition continues as Oregon Ballet Theatre returns George Balanchine's The Nutcracker® to the Keller Auditorium. Brave toy soldiers battle mischievous mice, snowflakes dance, and we are carried away to a magical Land of Sweets, all to Tchaikovsky's unforgettable score! This year, make Oregon Ballet Theatre's production of Balanchine's Nutcracker a part of your holiday tradition. Create memories to last a lifetime as you experience this

exquisitely danced confection with family and friends.

PETER PAN February 17 – 25, 2024 | Keller Auditorium



Trey McIntyre | Edward Elgar, selected and arranged by Niel DePonte

Trey McIntyre's highly praised take on the boy who refused to grow up is a playful and thrilling interpretation of J.M. Barrie's 1911 novella that juxtaposes childhood whimsy with the weighty responsibilities of adulthood. 'Pan features spectacular flying sequences, swashbuckling sword fights, giant puppets, and of course, Tinker Bell!

Set to a soaring score by Sir Edward Elgar, arranged by founding OBT Orchestra Music Director Niel DePonte, with elaborate sets by

Thomas Boyd and colorful, punk-fashion inspired costumes from Broadway great Jeanne Button.

WOODEN DIMES

April 5 – 13, 2024 | Newmark Theatre



OBT Artistic Director Danielle Rowe's dramatic one-act ballet *Wooden Dimes* launches audiences into the tumultuous relationship of 1920's-era chorus girl Betty Fine and her husband Robert, a passion ultimately ripped apart by resentment and jealousy. Originally produced as a film during the pandemic for San Francisco Ballet's digital season, *Wooden Dimes* will be brought to life on stage in this exciting premiere.

Sharing the program is a romance with a brighter ending, Ben Stevenson's *Three Preludes*. A cautious studio flirtation between two dancers transforms into an affair under the influence of the rapturous

Rachmaninoff score. Just Above the Surface by New York-based Choreographer Yue Yin completes



the program. Described by Culture Vulture as a "goosebump-inducing" work, this ensemble piece "seduces the audience to sway along while hoping that it will never end."

MADE IN PORTLAND

June 6 – 9, 2024 | Newmark Theatre



The sesaon closes with the second installment of *Made in Portland* lovingly crafted for the cultural explorers that make our city great. Like fine wine and food, ballet is ever evolving, and it is our pleasure to lead the way with three locally made world premieres. Adding to the OBT repertory this season are Louisville Ballet Resident Choreographer Andrea Schermoly, freelance choreographer named Pointe Magazine's Top 25 to Watch, Rebecca Margolick, and OBT's own rising dance maker Makino Hayashi and producer Charlotte Nash. AND in a special partnership we are pleased to shine light on one of this city's most

respected student companies, The Jefferson Dancers.

2023/24 Season subscriptions include four flexible plans:

Repertory Package

See it all! Join us for Swan Lake, Peter Pan, Wooden Dimes, and Made in Portland plus add on tickets to The Nutcracker at a special subscriber rate.

Family Package

Enjoy three full length story ballets at The Keller Auditorium: Swan Lake, The Nutcracker, and Peter Pan. Young audience members ages 3-17 save 50%.

Choose Your Own

The most flexible option! Select any three performances you like on the dates and in the seating areas you prefer.

Pointe Pass

For ballet fans ages 21 – 35 | Purchase 5 ticket credits for \$125. Details <u>HERE</u>

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ABOUT OBT

Founded in 1989, OBT is among the nation's leading professional ballet companies, employing 250 people and attracting artists from around the globe with its reputation for excellence. OBT's mission is to share our passion for the expressive power of ballet, inspire an enduring appreciation of dance, and connect to our community through excellence in performance, training and education.

In addition to the quality of its artistic product, OBT continues to thrive organizationally and has emerged from COVID exceptionally well-positioned for the future. The nationally acclaimed OBT School is robust, with 300 students from across the country. Education and Community Engagement reaches thousands of students in classrooms across the state, 50% of whom are youth of color. OBT has a multi-year action plan to advance diversity, equity and inclusion. The Board is actively engaged in oversight, strategy and fundraising. OBT remains debt-free; 2022 was its eighth consecutive year operating in the black financially, and the organization maintains a Board-designated building fund approaching \$5 million. Learn more at obt.org.