

# PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET

PETER BOAL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MEDIA CONTACT:

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“Season Encore provides the ultimate milestone moment at Pacific Northwest Ballet. How do you capture the gratitude we all feel for a dancer whose twenty-year tenure is coming to a close on that very night? How do you properly thank a Rehearsal Director for their tireless and profound contribution after thirty-two years? How do you bid farewell to a beloved season? Cue the cheers, tears, flowers and fanfare, and come share the joy that defines and bonds our PNB family. Grab a friend and a handful of tissues and join us for this year’s Season Encore.”

*--PNB Artistic Director Peter Boal*

PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET PRESENTS ITS 2023-2024

## Season Encore Performance

Celebrating the end of its 51st season, and saluting the careers of James Yoichi Moore, James Kirby Rogers, Ezra Thomson, and Otto Neubert.

Featuring the world-famous PNB Orchestra.

**ONE NIGHT ONLY!**

**Sunday, June 9, 2024 – 6:30 pm**

Marion Oliver McCaw Hall  
321 Mercer Street at Seattle Center  
Seattle, WA 98109

**SEATTLE, WA** – The curtain comes down on Pacific Northwest Ballet’s 2023-2024 season with its annual **Season Encore Performance**, a celebratory salute to the season and a fond farewell to departing dancers. PNB Artistic Director Peter Boal has announced the line-up for the one-night-only program, which will feature PNB’s company of dancers, along with the world-famous PNB Orchestra under the baton of Music Director/Principal Conductor Emil de Cou, performing works by George Balanchine, Marco Goecke, Jessica Lang, Jean-Christophe Maillot, and Jerome Robbins.

In addition to the [previously-announced retirements of principal dancer James Yoichi Moore](#) and [rehearsal director Otto Neubert](#), the Season Encore Performance will also be the audience’s opportunity to offer a fond farewell to departing principal dancer [James Kirby Rogers](#), who will be leaving PNB to take a job with Semperoper Ballet in Dresden, Germany. Mr. Rogers joined PNB as a soloist in 2021 and was promoted to principal dancer in 2022. “James Kirby Rogers has been an unexpected gift to PNB,” stated Mr. Boal. “Though we wish his tenure could be extended, we also understand his singular talent and artistry deserve to be seen by audiences everywhere. His selfless and thoughtful partnering gave no hint of the bravura that followed in his variations and coda. At home in works by Cerrudo, Dove, King, Lang, Pite, Petipa, Ratmansky and Rowe, James is an artist of the first order. We are lucky he graced our stage and elevated our community. May he continue to soar in his next adventure.”

The Season Encore will also be [Ezra Thomson's](#) final performance as a soloist, before he assumes his new role as rehearsal director at the start of next season. After studying in the PNB School, Mr. Thomson joined the company as an apprentice in 2009. He was promoted to corps de ballet in 2010 and soloist in 2017. “We are excited to welcome Ezra to the Artistic team,” said Kiyon Ross, PNB Associate Artistic Director. “Over the years Ezra has proven himself to be an excellent stager and coach with our company dancers as well as our PNB School students. While we will miss his performances on our stage, we are thrilled he will remain an integral part of the PNB family. Please join us in welcoming Ezra as our newest Rehearsal Director.”

PNB's **Season Encore Performance** will be presented one night only, Sunday, June 9 at 6:30 pm at McCaw Hall, 321 Mercer Street at Seattle Center. Tickets may be purchased exclusively through the PNB Box Office (206.441.2424, online at PNB.org, or in person at 301 Mercer Street at Seattle Center.)

The line-up for the 2023-24 **Season Encore Performance** includes (follow hyperlinks for complete program notes):

**[The Calling](#)**

Music: Anonymous  
Choreography: Jessica Lang

**[Roméo et Juliette](#)** (balcony pas de deux)

Music: Sergei Prokofiev  
Choreography: Jean-Christophe Maillot

**[West Side Story Suite](#)** (excerpt, "Cool")

Music: Leonard Bernstein  
Lyrics: Stephen Sondheim  
Choreography: Jerome Robbins

**[Mopey](#)**

Music: C.P.E. Bach and The Cramps  
Choreography: Marco Goecke

**[Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux](#)**

Music: Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
Choreography: George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust

**[Prodigal Son](#)**

Music: Sergei Prokofiev  
Choreography: George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust

## **TICKETS & INFORMATION**

Pacific Northwest Ballet's 2023-2024 **Season Encore Performance** will be performed one night only, Sunday, June 9 at 6:30 pm at Marion Oliver McCaw Hall, 321 Mercer Street at Seattle Center. Tickets range in price from \$38 to \$210 (PNB subscribers receive 20% off) and may be purchased exclusively through the PNB Box Office:

- Phone - 206.441.2424
- In Person - 301 Mercer Street at Seattle Center\*
- Online - PNB.org (24/7)
- Subject to availability, tickets are also available 90 minutes prior to PNB show times at McCaw Hall.

**Health, Safety, and Accessibility:** At this moment in time, masks are encouraged but not required as part of the PNB audience experience. For details and info regarding PNB's current health and safety policies, visit PNB.org/Health. For information on McCaw Hall accessibility, visit PNB.org/Accessibility.

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Pacific Northwest Ballet's 2023-2024 season is proudly sponsored by ArtsFund, Microsoft, and The Shubert Foundation. PNB's digital season is made possible by Katherine Graubard and William Calvin. PNB media sponsorship provided by *The Seattle Times*.

**Publicity Contact**

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*Everything is subject to change. For further information, please visit PNB.org.*

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