



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Media Contact

Christian Meyer

Ballet Austin

(512) 476-9151 ext. 102

[Christian.Meyer@balletaustin.org](mailto:Christian.Meyer@balletaustin.org)

**Ballet Austin Opens its 2004-2005 Season with the Magic of  
*Peter Pan***

*Flying, Sword Fights, Fairy Dust and Eternal Youth Spark the Magic of Peter Pan*

AUSTIN, TX – September 15, 2004 – Ballet Austin kicks off its season with the magic of *Peter Pan*. Under the direction of Artistic Director Stephen Mills, Ballet Austin takes its audience on a magical journey to Neverland with Septime Webre's *Peter Pan*. *Peter Pan*, which runs October 15 and 16 at 8:00 p.m. and October 17 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at Bass Concert Hall, appeals to adults and children alike. Ticket prices range from \$20-\$64. In addition to the classical ballet, this production weaves high-flying techniques, suspenseful sword fights, and other creative staging into the production.

*Peter Pan*, choreographed by The Washington Ballet Artistic Director Septime Webre, is based on J.M. Barrie's timeless tale of the boy who doesn't want to grow up. This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Barrie's Neverland fantasy. Webre's adventure-filled version comes complete with pirates, pixie dust, a tick-tocking crocodile and the magic of flight.

"This narrative ballet is a beautiful, action-packed adventure that captures the hearts of children and adults," said Mills. "Septime's ballet tells the classic story of *Peter Pan* and pays homage to other classical ballets through different characters. His signature athleticism flows through the flying, sword fights and complicated steps."

The original score by Carmon DeLeone, performed by the Austin Symphony Orchestra, will enhance the adventure and excitement of the story. With the help of a little fairy dust, characters will magically fly across the stage. This ballet's "magic" employs the skills and technical help of Flying by Foy, a world-renown technique used by Broadway productions and national touring shows and concerts. The production will be topped off with extravagant costumes and sets courtesy of The Cincinnati Ballet.

In addition to the public performances of *Peter Pan*, Ballet Austin will host a variety of opportunities for Central Texans to enjoy the production and learn more about the ballet, including:

**Firehouse Focus**

Get up close and personal with the dancers at Ballet Austin headquarters in the historic Firehouse. Join us for lunch and you can sneak a peek at a company rehearsal, get the scoop – from production details to stage secrets – about the upcoming performance.

Ballet Austin Studios, 3002 Guadalupe, October 5, 11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m., \$12, Call 476.9151 ext. 166 for reservations.

### **Footlights**

Show up early (one hour and fifteen minutes prior to each performance time) and you can hear an informal discussion of the history, choreography and music of that night's ballet.

Free to ticket holders.

### **TGIF with Ballet Austin**

Each Friday night performance begins with an opportunity to join Ballet Austin for a light meal and to mix and mingle with fellow balletomanes before enjoying the Footlights presentation and concluding with the ballet.

Bass Concert Hall, Friday, October 15, 6:00 p.m.

Dinner is \$10, call 476.9151 ext. 166 for reservations or order online at [www.balletaustin.org](http://www.balletaustin.org)

### **Ticket Information**

For tickets, please call Star Tickets PLUS at 469-SHOW, online at [www.startickets.com](http://www.startickets.com), Star Tickets PLUS outlets, Albertson's and Waterloo Records. Season tickets are available through Ballet Austin box office at 512.476.2163 or online at [www.balletaustin.org](http://www.balletaustin.org). Tickets range from \$20-\$64. Please note that some service charges may apply.

### **Photography**

Photos are available upon request by emailing [Christian.meyer@balletaustin.org](mailto:Christian.meyer@balletaustin.org), or by scheduling a photography/video appointment during a rehearsal by calling 512.476.9151 ext. 102.

Season Underwriter:	Austin Ventures
Season Sponsors:	Action Figure H-E-B
Production Sponsors:	Wells Fargo, Good Right Arm Advertising, Andrews and Kurth, Ernst & Young, The Driskill Hotel, Big Night Catering
Media Sponsors:	KVUE Television Austin American-Statesman MAJIC 95.5
Official Airline:	American Airlines

### **Ballet Austin**

Under the leadership of artistic director Stephen Mills, Ballet Austin has uniquely combined classical dance with innovative style and movement. Ballet Austin presents five productions each year in Austin, tours nationally and is a financially stable \$4 million organization. The Company employs 21 professional dancers from around the world to live in Austin for 34 weeks each season. Ballet Austin II and the Ballet Austin Academy serve as educational arms that strengthen the organization's core purpose. The Ballet Austin Academy is one of the largest in the United States, serving more than 900 students annually. Ballet Austin has established itself as a world-class

company that makes ballet accessible to all and enhances Austin's reputation as a city that thrives in the arts.

###