



## PRESS RELEASE

Hamburg, March 29, 2010

### **Spring and Summer Highlights – Revival of *Illusions* – like “*Swan Lake*”, *Saint Matthew Passion*, performances of the ballet school and 36<sup>th</sup> Hamburg Ballet Days**

April marks the beginning of the Spring and Summer part of the 2009/2010 season at the HAMBURG BALLET, which will be concluded and crowned by the 36<sup>th</sup> Hamburg Ballet Days.

The second revival of the season will be the highlight of the month: On April 23 *Illusions* – like “*Swan Lake*” will return to the stage of the Hamburg State Opera after an absence of six years. John Neumeier’s interpretation of the ballet classic to Tchaikovsky’s music combines an innovative choreographic and dramatic framework, whose protagonist is Ludwig II of Bavaria, with elements of the classical choreography by Petipa and Iwanow.

In the first part of April, the audience at the Hamburg State Opera will have the chance to see the future generations of dancers from the Ballet School of the HAMBURG BALLET on stage: On April 13, students of all ages and classes will present *Erste Schritte* (*First Steps*). A second performance is scheduled during the Ballet Days, on June 14.

From then, it is only a couple of weeks until the 36<sup>th</sup> Hamburg Ballet Days will begin. The opening-premiere *Floating World* on June 13 and guest-performances of the Tokyo Ballet highlight the season’s motto “Floating World”. The double bill *Floating World* consists of the ballets *Seven Haiku of the Moon* and *Seasons – The Colors of Time*, which John Neumeier created 1989 respectively 2005 for the Tokyo Ballet in the Japanese capital. The two choreographies, which are inspired by Japanese culture, will – for the first time – be danced by the HAMBURG BALLET and performed in Europe. The Tokyo Ballet will be performing under the motto “Images of Asia by Béjart” with the ballets *The Kabuki Suite* (1986) and *Bugaku* (1989), which Maurice Béjart created for the company. The final highlight of the festival will be the *Nijinsky-Gala XXXVI*.

The repertory for the remaining season is diverse: For Easter, the HAMBURG BALLET presents John Neumeier’s legendary *St. Matthew Passion* to Johann Sebastian Bach’s music (April 1, 2 & 5). More repertory performances are scheduled: On April 6 the triple bill of John Neumeier’s *Daphnis and Chloé/ The Afternoon of a Faun/ Le Sacre* (also May 20 & 30) invites the audience to a voyage through worlds of diverse feelings. Passion is one main them of *Nijinsky*. John Neumeier’s approach to the life and work of the legendary Ballets Russes dancer and choreographer will be danced by two different casts in the title role: Alexandre Riabko (April 9 & 20) and Otto Bubeníček (April 16). The programme for May includes *Hommage aux Ballets Russes* (May 7, 8 & 11) as well as *Sylvia* (May 15, 18 & 24).

Photos are available on request. Please contact [presse@hamburgballett.de](mailto:presse@hamburgballett.de).

### **Illusions – like “Swan Lake”**

Ballet by John Neumeier

Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky

Choreographer/Director: John Neumeier

Traditional Choreography after: Lew Ivanow, Marius Petipa

Set and Costume Design: Jürgen Rose

Conductor: Simon Hewett

Revival: April 23, 7.00 p.m.

Performances: April 24, 28 and 30, May 2, June 20, 7.00 p.m. (May 2 at 2.30 p.m. also)

Tickets €4-83

### **First Steps**

Ballet school of the HAMBURG BALLETT

Performances: April 13, June 14, 7.00 p.m.

Tickets €4-67

### **Saint Matthew Passion**

Music: Johann Sebastian Bach

Choreography: John Neumeier

Set and Costume Design: John Neumeier

Recorded Music

Performances: April 1, 6.30 p.m., April 2 and 5, 6.00 p.m.

Tickets €4-83

### **Daphnis and Chloé/ The Afternoon of a Faun/ Le Sacre**

Ballets by John Neumeier

Music: Maurice Ravel, Claude Debussy, Igor Strawinsky

Choreography: John Neumeier

Set and Costume Design (Daphnis and Chloé): Jürgen Rose

Set and Costume Design (The Afternoon of a Faun/ Le Sacre): John Neumeier

Conductor: Christoph Eberle

Performances: April 6, May 20 and 30, June 19, 7.30 p.m.

Tickets €4-77

### **Nijinsky**

Ballet by John Neumeier

Music: Frédéric Chopin, Robert Schumann,

Nikolai Rimskij-Korsakow, Dmitri Shostakowitch

Choreography: John Neumeier

Set and Costume Design: John Neumeier

Conductor: Rainer Mühlbach (Simon Hewett, April 9)

Performances: April 9, 16 and 20, June 16, 7.30 p.m.

Tickets €4-83

### **Hommage aux Ballets Russes – »Prodigal Son«, »Le Pavillon d'Armide« and »Le Sacre du Printemps«**

Choreography: George Balanchine,

John Neumeier und Millicent Hodson (inspired by Vaslaw Nijinsky)

Music: Sergej Prokofjew, Nikolai N. Tscherepnin, Igor Strawinsky

Conductor: Klauspeter Seibel

Performances: May 7, 8 and 11, June 18, 7.00 p.m.

Tickets €4-83

## **Sylvia**

Three Choreographic Poems on a Mythic Theme  
by John Neumeier  
Music: Léo Delibes  
Set and Costume Design: Yannis Kokkos  
Conductor: Simon Hewett (Markus Lehtinen, May 15)  
Performances: May 15, 18 and 24, June 17, 7.30 p.m.  
Tickets €4-83

## **Orpheus**

Ballet by John Neumeier  
Music: Igor Strawinsky, Heinrich Ignaz Franz Biber a.o.  
Choreography, costumes, light design  
and staging: John Neumeier  
Set design: Ferdinand Wögerbauer  
Conductor: Simon Hewett  
Performance: June 25, 7.30 p.m.  
Tickets €4-83

## **36th Hamburger Ballett-Tage (June 13-27)**

### **Floating World (Premiere)**

Two Japan inspired ballets by John Neumeier  
**Seven Haiku of the Moon**  
Music: Arvo Pärt, Johann Sebastian Bach  
Choreography and Costume Design: John Neumeier  
**Seasons – The Colors of Time**  
Music: Claude Debussy (arrang. by Isao Tomita), Franz Schubert (arrang. by Hans Zender), Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Minoru Miki, Giuseppe Verdi, Joji Yuasa  
Choreography and Costume Design: John Neumeier  
Premiere: June 13, 2010, 6.00 p.m.  
Vorstellungen: June 15 and 24, 2010, 7.30 p.m.  
Tickets €4-146

### **The Tokyo Ballet: »Images of Asia by Béjart« (Guest performance)**

**The Kabuki Suite** (1986)  
**Bugaku** (1989)  
Choreography: Maurice Béjart  
Performances: June 22 and 23, 6.30 p.m.  
Tickets € 4-77

### **Nijinsky-Gala XXXVI**

HAMBURG BALLETT and guests  
Host: John Neumeier  
Conductor: Simon Hewett  
June 27, 6.00 p.m.  
Tickets €6-146

All performances Hamburg State Opera – For tickets visit [www.staatsoper-hamburg.de](http://www.staatsoper-hamburg.de), or phone 040 – 35 68 68

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