

## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

July 15, 2004

**CONTACT:** Mary Ellen Hundley

425.455.1345

[mehundley@balletbellevue.org](mailto:mehundley@balletbellevue.org)

### STARS OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE LIGHT UP "SUMMER CLASSICS" BY BALLET BELLEVUE

Bellevue, WA - Ballet stars, Roberta Marquez from Rio de Janeiro and David Makhateli from Georgia (the Republic, that is) join the best of the Northwest in Ballet Bellevue's "Summer Classics" July 30 to August 1, 2004, at The Theatre at Meydenbauer Center, 11100 NE 6th St., in downtown Bellevue. Principal Dancer Marquez and First Soloist Makhateli, both of The Royal Opera House Covent Garden London, will perform pas de deux from La Bayadere and Don Quixote in evening performances at 7 PM. Artistic Director, Viktoria Titova, will perform in Don Quixote with Makhateli in matinee performances. All performances will feature Titova's World Premiere, The Mermaid, starring Bellevue's own Caitlin Cooney of Clyde Hill, graduate of Pacific Northwest Ballet School and currently with The State Ballet of Missouri.

Ballet Bellevue's suite from the 19th Century Russian classic, La Bayadere, with music of Ludwig Minkus and choreography of Marius Petipa, is a first for Puget Sound audiences. Based on a tale from India, the ballet's famous "Kingdom of the Shades" scene portrays a pure and exquisite beauty of departed souls united in dance.

The suite from Don Quixote with its colorful, fiery and passionate excitement leaves no doubt about the versatility of Minkus and Petipa. The wedding of Kitri and Basilio is celebrated with exuberant dances and the couple's magnificent pas de deux.

Titova's original new work, The Mermaid (based on Andersen's fairy tale) is sure to entrance romantics young and old. Student roles are included in this beautiful and tragic story of undersea life's hopeful encounter with the kingdom of a real prince. To a musical montage including work of Polish composer Henryk Gorecki, this world premiere of Titova's first original ballet pulls the heart strings with relief of amusement and a dramatic storm and scary witch.

Tickets for evening performances are \$22 Adults and \$15 Students/Seniors. For matinees the prices are \$17 Adults and \$10 Students/Seniors. Contact Ticketwindow at 206.325.6500 or [ticketwindowonline.com](http://ticketwindowonline.com). For information and group discounts (10 or more) call 425.455.1345.