

## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### *Love is in the Air*

**Bellevue, WA** – Ballet Bellevue presents *Velvet Romance* February 29 – March 2, 2008, at The Theatre at Meydenbauer Center, the perfect Valentine gift! Love and romance literally take to the air in two evening performances (Friday and Saturday at 7:30 PM) and a matinee (Sunday at 3:00 PM). The exotic *pas de deux* from *Le Corsaire* will be performed by Ballet Bellevue's Christina Stockdale and guest artist, Evgeny Lushkin. Captivating new works by Northwest artists include Stacy Lowenberg's "Rushed Goodbye" performed by Natasha Keeley and Kyle Johnson, and "Treasure" choreographed by Ronn Tice (Ballet Bellevue founding director) featuring guest artist, PNB Principal Dancer Casey Herd, and Ballet Bellevue's Caroline Burnett. You and your Valentine will be the first to see unforgettable World Premieres: "Kissing You" by Kabby Mitchell, "Addicted" by Jennifer Porter and other new works, including new music written for this production by Northwest composer, Kevin Harkins.

Ballet Bellevue is reaching to new heights! With the company's first ever season contracts, the new ensemble of classically trained dancers perform selections from the classics as well as contemporary masterpieces and new works by Northwest artists.

*Velvet Romance* includes the entire company of dancers: Caroline Burnett of Idaho, Kara Dominick of Seattle, Natasha Keeley of Monroe, Alexa Kovalick of Kenmore, Ting Liu of Bellevue, Katrina Muser of Issaquah, Christina Stockdale of Philadelphia and Kyle Johnson of Tacoma.

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A special feature of the performance will be excerpts of “Nilsson Schmilsson” by acclaimed Northwest choreographer, Ann Reinking, with dancers from the Bellevue Community College “Eastside Moving Company” directed by Betty Ann Platt.

This is the third production by new Artistic Director, Jennifer Porter, former dancer with Pacific Northwest Ballet. *Ghostez* and Porter’s own new work, *Nightmare*, were performed for the company’s season opener in October. For the 2007 holidays, Porter created *The Snowman* with live orchestra, delighting audiences at Bellevue’s Theatre at Meydenbauer Center as well as Bothell’s new Northshore Performing Arts Center.

*The Sleeping Beauty*, everyone’s favorite fairy tale ballet, will close the season May 30 – June 1, with live orchestra performing the beloved score of P. I. Tschaikowsky at the Theatre at Meydenbauer Center

Tickets for *Velvet Romance* can be purchased at Ticketwindow [www.ticketwindowonline.com](http://www.ticketwindowonline.com) 206.325.6500. Student/Senior \$17, Adult \$22, Patron (VIP Seating) \$30. For information call 425.455.1345 or visit [www.balletbellevue.org](http://www.balletbellevue.org)

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