

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE POWER OF THREE:
CINCINNATI BALLET BRINGS
EXCEPTIONAL CHOREOGRAPHY, WONDERFUL MUSIC
AND AWESOME DANCE
TO *TWYLA THARP, PLUS*

CINCINNATI, OH – April 12, 2007 – May 18 and 19 Cincinnati Ballet invites you to experience the exhilarating rush of awesome dance during *Twyla Tharp, Plus*, a wonderful collection of three very different modern-flavored ballets all on the same bill: one from a legendary groundbreaking American choreographer, one from a modern European sensibility, and one inspired by a major 20th century jazz quartet.

And Cincinnati Ballet is better than ever! Recently, reviewing Artistic Director Victoria Morgan's 10th Anniversary celebration, *Boléro & More*, *Enquirer* contributor David Lyman raved that Cincinnati Ballet dancers "are as fine a bunch as have ever been gathered under the Cincinnati Ballet name . . . Cincinnati Ballet audiences should be celebrating [their] strength, consistency and an unprecedented finesse."

CINCINNATI BALLET PREMIERES THARP WORK

It is exciting news that the company will perform a Twyla Tharp piece for the first time. Tharp, a groundbreaking force in the rebellious sixties, is today well-known for her 2003 hit Broadway show, *Movin' Out*, set to the songs of Billy Joel, which was nominated for ten Tony awards. Cincinnati Ballet will perform her 1979 work *Baker's Dozen*, in which six couples dance in a deceptively easygoing world to satiny smooth jazz. Wearing afternoon dresses and semi-formal tuxes, the cast slips in and out of view onstage in an ever-evolving combination of numbers. You'll watch as romantic yet eccentric partnerings, and calibrated unison work evoke a landscape where nostalgic and contemporary emotions exist together, showcasing Tharp's signature blend of classical and popular, serious and silly.

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Cincinnati Ballet, page 2

CINCINNATI PREMIERE BY IN-DEMAND YOUNG CHOREOGRAPHER

Jorma Elo's 2004 *Plan to B*, another Cincinnati premiere, showcases a choreographer whose dances are at once vigorous and elegant—"carefully edited constructions of darting limbs and intricate, whippet-fast partnering sequences." Described as a "maelstrom of off-kilter sky piercing turns," *Plan to B*, cast for four men and two women, is basically "about dance." In *Plan to B* Elo examines the cool drama between his characters with an emphasis on showing off bravura athleticism, to the music of Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber. These days the in-demand young Finn is being called "huge," since the recent world premieres of his *Plan to B* (for Boston Ballet) and *Slice to Sharp* (for New York City Ballet) received strong critical approval in *The New York Times* and major dance magazines.

BALLET MASTER-IN-CHIEF DRAWS INSPIRATION FROM MAJOR JAZZ QUARTET FOR WORLD PREMIERE

Cincinnati Ballet's Ballet Master-in-Chief Devon Carney has always been fascinated by jazz works, and his dances reflect in movement their characteristic freedom of interpretation. "Blue Rondo à la Turk," from one of his favorite groups, The Dave Brubeck Quartet, a foursome together from 1958 to 1967, is the inspiration for his one-act world premiere *Blue Rondo*. Along with Brubeck's piano, the Quartet features the elegantly floating alto saxophone of Paul Desmond, bulwarked by the rock-solid bassist Eugene Wright and the spectacular drummer Joe Morello. The familiar tune "Take Five" (with five beats to the measure) was a crossover breakthrough for the group, and following albums featured a host of exciting pieces in "odd" time signatures, like "Blue Rondo à la Turk." Rapid-fire footwork characterizes Carney's *Blue Rondo*, in which the movement captures the atypical phrasing and rapturous abandon of the music.

2006-07 SEASON CONCLUDES WITH *TWYLA THARP, PLUS*

Twyla Tharp, Plus is your last chance to see the amazing dancers of Cincinnati Ballet this season, so order your tickets now at www.cincinnatiaballet.com. Three ballets with a jazzy, contemporary feel to them – what could be a better way to brighten up your Spring!

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Cincinnati Ballet, page 3

JUST THE FACTS

WHAT: Cincinnati Ballet presents *Twyla Tharp, Plus*, featuring
Baker's Dozen

Choreographed by Twyla Tharp

Plan to B

Choreographed by Jorma Elo

Blue Rondo

Choreographed by Devon Carney

WHERE: The Procter and Gamble Hall
The Aronoff Center for the Arts
650 Walnut Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

WHEN: Friday, May 18 at 8 pm, 2007
Saturday, May 19 at 2 pm, 2007
Saturday, May 19 at 8 pm, 2007

TICKETS: \$21 – \$66 at Cincinnati Ballet Box Office 513-621-5282 or
www.cincinnati-ballet.com

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