

**THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE PARIS OPERA & BALLET
AND
AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE
INVITE YOU TO JOIN THEM IN PARIS
ON THE OCCASION OF ABT'S
FIRST VISIT TO THE PARIS OPERA IN 25 YEARS**

SEPTEMBER 1-3, 2016



"SLEEPING BEAUTY" – ALEXEI RATMANSKY

Lively storytelling charm, remarkable suspense and complex musicality.

Alastair Macaulay – New York Times

Ratmansky has not just thickened the texture, he has heightened the drama.

Every role in this production has acquired new force, new specificity.

Joan Acoella – The New Yorker

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 1



LUNCH

WELCOME RECEPTION WITH PATRONS AND ARTISTS AT THE HISTORICAL AMERICAN AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE IN PARIS HOSTED BY THE HONORABLE JANE HARTLEY, AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE AND MONACO

AFTERNOON AND DINNER

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF CHRISTIAN DIOR

Christian Dior fell in love with the townhouse at 30 Avenue Montaigne for its "reduced size, its classic elegance without overwhelming pedigree", a house "on a scale as modest as his dream was ambitious" that became his headquarters late in 1946 ahead of the launch of his first collection; a year later Monsieur Dior presented his legendary "New Look" collection within the store's walls and sparked a post-war shape revolution.

Accompanied by a fashion historian, patrons will immerse themselves in the story of Christian Dior, from the couture workshop to his favorite meal recreated by Alain Ducasse for a very special dinner at the Plaza Athénée.



FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2

SPECIAL BENEFACTOR EVENTS – LATE MORNING AND LUNCH

EXCEPTIONAL VISIT OF THE PALAIS DE L'ÉLYSÉES

The official residence of the French President since 1848, Le Palais de L'Élysées was built in 1722, and though it has undergone many modifications since, it remains a fine example of the French classical style counting many stunning salons and a large manicured garden.

Constance Rivière, Special Advisor for Culture, will guide AFPOB patrons through this truly unique tour.



LUNCH AT L'OPÉRA RESTAURANT WITH AURÉLIE DUPONT, THE NEW DIRECTOR OF DANCE AT THE PARIS OPERA AND FORMER ÉTOILE

AFTERNOON

COMPLETE BACKSTAGE EXPERIENCE AT THE PALAIS GARNIER

Discover the hidden treasures of the Palais Garnier, tour a special exhibit featuring the long-time collaboration of the Paris Opera with American choreographers, attend a working rehearsal of the Paris Opera Ballet and chat with the artists.



EVENING

OPENING NIGHT OF ALEXEI RATMANSKY'S "SLEEPING BEAUTY" AT THE OPERA BASTILLE FOLLOWED BY A CAST PARTY WITH THE DANCERS

Performance Program

"Sleeping Beauty"

Initial choreography - Marius Petipa

Staging and additional choreography – Alexei Ratmansky

Décor and Costumes – Richard Hudson

Music – Piotr Ilyitch Tchaikovski

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 3



LATE MORNING AND LUNCH

ARCHITECTURAL TOUR AND LUNCH AT THE VUITTON FOUNDATION

A jewel of urban architecture dedicated to contemporary creation and designed by Frank Gehry, the Vuitton Foundation was imagined after the founding principles of landscaped gardens of the 19th century as it connects with two historic gardens: the Jardin d'Acclimatation, and the Bois de Boulogne. As an added treat, we will enjoy Daniel Buren's temporary installation "The Observatory of Light", covering the museum's 12 glass-paneled "sails" with a checkerboard of translucent colored gels before a gourmet lunch overlooking the park.



EVENING

CONCERT AND CLOSING DINNER AT LA PHILHARMONIE DE PARIS

Opened in January 2015 and designed by world-famous architect Jean Nouvel, the Philharmonie is one of the finest spaces dedicated to music. The concert will be preceded by a closing dinner in the panoramic restaurant.

Concert Program

Staatskapelle Berlin - Daniel Barenboim

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - Concerto pour piano n° 27

Anton Bruckner - Symphonie n° 5

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Travel arrangements and accommodations in Paris will be the responsibility of each participant but the American Friends of Paris Opera & Ballet has preferred rates with several top hotels in Paris and is happy to make those available to our members. The Bristol has been among the favorite of our patrons in the past and its rates are shown below. Transportation to and from most activities will depart from le Bristol.

The initial reservation must be made by AFPOB and guaranteed with your credit card information. For additional information, a full list of hotels, and to reserve, please contact: Laure Vienot-Tronche, Executive Director, at 212.439.1426 or laure.vienot@afpob.org

HOTEL	RATE	NOTE
Le Bristol 112 rue du Faubourg St Honore 75008 Paris www.lebristolparis.com	Superior: 490 euros Luxe: 710 euros Prestige: 980 euros (Includes wifi and VAT tax, excludes breakfast)	Initial reservation must be made by American Friends of the Paris Opera & Ballet * Valid all year long for AFPOB members except a few blackout dates including September 28-October 4, 2016



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