

Subject:

FW: AFPOB Winter 2019 Newsletter

A F P O B
American Friends
of the Paris Opera & Ballet

AFPOB Winter Newsletter | January, 2019

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the American Friends of the Paris Opera & Ballet, we hope 2019 started of well and will be filled with extraordinary and unforgettable moments!

As the past year has ended, we reflect on how our members helped us celebrate music, dance & cultural exchange through the Paris Opera & Ballet.

We are so grateful for your enthusiastic participation and your faithful & ongoing support! Your efforts to be a part of the American Friends not only supports the Paris Opera & Ballet, but continues to strengthen French-American relations for years to come.

Through our cultural exchange, many valuable performances and programs were able to take place and we wish to continue this into the New Year!

I would like to thank those who joined us this past September on our patron's trip to Paris, as well as those who participated in the events surrounding the Balanchine Festival at New York City Center this past November. I am so grateful to have shared these many joyful moments and events together in 2018.

Looking ahead, we prepare for a highly anticipated year of celebrations: the 350th year celebration of the Paris Opera Institution, along with the 30th anniversary of the Bastille Opera. Last, but not least, I am very proud to say that 2019 also celebrates AFPOB's very own 35th

anniversary and my 10th anniversary as Chairman of this non-profit organization that is so close to my heart.

We look forward to creating more memories with you and I do hope you will join us again this year for the upcoming celebrations such as: the unique Paris Opera 350th Anniversary Gala at the Palais Garnier on May 8, later in October, a tribute to Merce Cunningham's Centennial with a tour of the Paris Opera Ballet in Washington and New York, the 2019 patron's trip to Paris for the Ballet Season opening Gala in September, our AFPOB Annual Gala at the French Consulate in November

Let's Celebrate!

Warmest Wishes,

Olivia Tournay Flatto
Chairman



Olivia Tournay Flatto, AFPOB
Chairman

At the American Embassy in Paris
September 2018

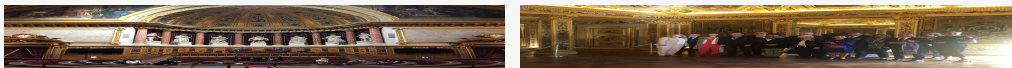
Looking Back at 2018

The 2018 patron's trip

The Paris trip was marked by the Paris Opera Ballet's opening gala. At the Gala patrons experienced "Decadance" choreographed by Ohad Naharin's and Les Étoiles, the premier dancers of le Corps de Ballet.

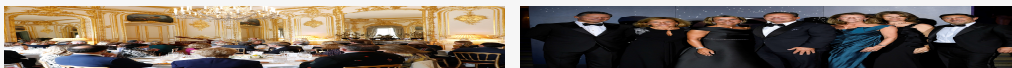
It was a 3 day trip of treasured moments and unforgettable performances. In addition to the gala patrons enjoyed a private tour of the French Senate at the Luxembourg Palace by Senator Joëlle Garriaud-Maylam. Patrons experienced the architecture, art and gardens on this private visit. Later on there was a luncheon hosted by Ambassador HRH Jamie McCourt at her residence.

Other special events included the Premier of Les Huguenots at the Opera Bastille, and a backstage tour of the Palais Garnier. This memorable weekend ended with a closing cocktail reception hosted by Shaikha Paula Al Sabah at her home.



Pictured above: Patrons visit the French Senate Building at Luxembourg Palace. The site of many beautiful and historic events in France.

Pictured Below: Right - The opening gala of the season, patrons together on the red carpet. Left - Patrons gather for the luncheon at the U.S. Embassy.



November 2018 the New York City Center's 75th Anniversary Season.

This past November The work of George Balanchine was honored with performances by American Ballet Theater, Paris Opera Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Mariinsky Ballet, Miami City Ballet, The Royal Ballet and San Francisco ballet. In addition, the music was presented by the New York City Ballet Orchestra. It was a magical night many were happy to participate in.



2018 Scholarship Program

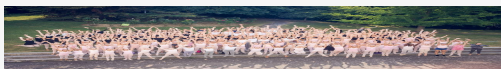
This year has been very successful for Paris Opera Ballet School scholarship program, which AFPOB has funded scholarships for since 2013.

Every summer, we help send a number of American students to study with some of the best teachers in the world at the Paris Opera Ballet school. Additionally we send students to a reciprocal program allowing for 3 young men and women from the Paris Opera Ballet school to participate in the summer program at the San Francisco Ballet school. AFPOB is proud to have supported 12 American dancers in the summer school exchange, 10 American dancers in the summer school program, and 3 French dancers in the San Francisco ballet summer intensive this year.

This was a very successful and diverse year as students attended from 55 countries, and students from Kazakhstan, South Korea, and Bulgaria attended for the first time. All together there were 72 returning students to the program. We are excited to continue this program and see young talented dancers grow and continue on into professional settings.

Take a look at the Official Report [here](#).

Congratulations to our many dancers who participated in Summer 2018!



Paris Opera Ballet summer school students: Top left -Isaiah Maness, Top Right- Louise Hautefeuille, Bottom Right- Lara Bircack and Bottom Left- the 2018 POB summer school class.

Whats Ahead in 2019!



The 350th Celebration!

Many events will be held in honor of the 350th. Take a look at the calendar to get details on the latest performances, exhibitions, and lectures going on in and around Paris this season, [here](#).

This year the Paris Opera and Ballet celebrates the 350th anniversary of its founding by Louis XIV on June 28, 1669. The Paris Opera also celebrates 30 years since the opening of the Opera Bastille opera house. This "Champagne-popping" celebration will continue throughout 2019 with events all about the Paris Opera Ballet and its cultural impact on France and throughout history.



Pictured above: The anniversary marks 350 years since the Paris Opera's founding and 30 years of the opening of the Opera Bastille.

En Pointes!



AFPOB supports the Paris Opera Ballet's new En Pointe campaign.

The Paris Opera Ballet dancers use around 10,000 pointe shoes each season, which costs nearly €4,000,000! Quality pointe shoes are essential to a professional dancer, they simply cannot do their job without these tools. In order to assist these dancers POB is inviting patrons to invest in these artists with a donation of €60 or more. Further Details [here](#).

Upcoming Events in the U.S.

HD Screening Series

In Partnership with the French Institute: Alliance Francaise (FIAF) :

February 3

Thierree/Shechter/Perez/Pite (Ballet)
Presented at FIAF Florence Gould Hall at 1pm





February 24

The Tales of Hoffmann
-J. Offenbach (Opera)
Presented at FIAF Florence Gould
Hall at 1pm

The AFPOB Annual Gala:

April 22

Presented at the French Consulate
in NYC

**Tribute to Merce
Cunningham's
Centennial:**

October 2019

Tour of the Paris Opera Ballet in
Washington and New York
To be announced!

**The American Friends of the Paris Opera and Ballet
Thank You for your support!**

Interested in making a donation or referring friends?

Please contact us, we would love to speak with you:

e-mail: afpobinfo@afpob.org

Our Office: (212) -439- 1426

We rely on the loyalty and generosity of our members and patrons!



THANK YOU!

A F P O B
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of the Paris Opera & Ballet

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