

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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World Premiere of Dramatic Ballet “MURDER AT THE MASQUE: Casebook of Edgar Allan Poe”

**Commissioned Score by PATRICK SOLURI celebrates DANCES PATRELLE’s
20th Anniversary Season and EDGAR ALLAN POE’s 200th Anniversary.**

April 16 - 19, 2009 at the Kaye Playhouse. Tickets \$20.

Dances Patrelle's 20th Anniversary Repertory Season will be presented April 16 – 19, 2009 at The Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College (68th Street between Park & Lexington Avenues) NYC. The diverse and exciting program will include the World Premiere of “**MURDER AT THE MASQUE: Casebook of Edgar Allan Poe**” as well as the Patrelle classic “**Come Rain/Come Shine.**”

2009 marks the 200th Anniversary of the birth of one of America's most treasured literary masters, Edgar Allan Poe, and Dances Patrelle has prepared something special for the occasion. Featuring characters and settings drawn from Poe's stories and poems, “*Murder at the Masque: The Casebook of Edgar Allan Poe*” may be the world's first true mystery ballet. Lord Roderick Usher (danced by Royal Ballet alum Matthew Dibble) has been murdered; everyone at the Masquerade Ball is a suspect, and world famous detective Auguste Dupin (danced by “*Movin' Out*” alum Alex Brady) is on the case.

“*Murder at the Masque*” is choreographed by Francis Patrelle to a commissioned score by composer Patrick Soluri (“*Madame X*”), based on an original story by Justin Allen (*Slaves of the Shinar*), with sets by Gillian Bradshaw-Smith, costumes by Rita B. Watson, and lighting by David Grill.

“*Murder at the Masque*” will be the fourth ballet collaboration between Patrick Soluri and Francis Patrelle. Their first ballet in 1997 was “*Ngoni*.” This was followed by the premiere of “*Madame X*” in 1999, which was then revived in 2004 for American Ballet Theatre's Marcelo Gomes and Sandra Brown. Soluri and Patrelle most recently teamed up for the creation of “*What Do We Do About Mother*,” which premiered in 2007 and featured Jenifer Ringer and Stephen Hanna, both principal dancers with New York City Ballet.

The company is also reviving a favorite Patrelle work, “*Come Rain/Come Shine*” (Set to songs sung by Judy Garland). This ballet for three couples, set inside a boxing ring, has all the emotional uppercuts, ego-jarring jabs, and roundhouse blows to the pride you might expect. Starring American Ballet Theatre's Marcelo Gomes, Maria Riccetto, Isaac Stappas and Christi Boone, “*Come Rain/Come Shine*” is Patrelle drama at its very best.

Dances Patrelle 20th Anniversary performances are Thursday at 7:30pm; Friday & Saturday at 8:00pm; and Sunday at 3:00pm. Tickets are only \$20 for all performances with special Patron tickets at \$100. Tickets go on-sale February 20th at The Kaye Playhouse box office: (212) 772-4448.

for more information please visit:
www.patricksoluri.com
www.dancespatrelle.org.