



For Immediate Release

## BalletX Presents Fall Series 2019

*Featuring two world premiere ballets by choreographer Matthew Neenan with composers Rosie Langabeer and Tara Middleton, and choreographer Jo Strømngren*

**Philadelphia – October 2019** – BalletX, America's premier contemporary ballet led by Artistic & Executive Director Christine Cox, kicks off its 2019-2020 Season with *Fall Series 2019* at The Wilma Theater, a limited engagement of 13 performances running Dec. 4-15. The company, named "among America's best" by *The New York Times*, and recently featured on the cover of *Dance Magazine*, will perform two holiday-inspired world premiere ballets: one by the creative team of choreographer Matthew Neenan with composers Rosie Langabeer and Tara Middleton, and a second by choreographer Jo Strømngren.

"I'm thrilled to be launching our new season with such creative and inspiring voices at the helm. Between Matt and Jo's choreography, and Rosie and Tara's original music, we are sure to be taken on a memorable journey," says Cox.

Matthew Neenan's new holiday-inspired ballet, *Twelve Bells*, is a collaboration with composers Rosie Langabeer, co-creator of Neenan's critically-acclaimed *Sunset, 0639 Hours*, and Tara Middleton, a member of Sun Ra Arkestra, Philly's legendary Afrofuturist big band recently featured in *Rolling Stone* magazine. Neenan, the co-founder of BalletX and a 19-year resident choreographer with Pennsylvania Ballet, recently premiered works on the New York City Ballet and Pacific Northwest Ballet. He has been commended by *The Philadelphia Inquirer* for his work's "tremendous power, grace, and style," and *The New York Times* has proclaimed him "one of the most appealing and singular choreographic voices in ballet today."

Jo Strømngren's *The Moon* features two dancers as astronauts in outer space attempting to return to Earth in time for Christmas despite engine troubles on their spaceship. The work is set to the music of composer/saxophonist Mette Henriette, and includes NASA footage via video installation by Jorge Cousineau. Strømngren is the Artistic Director of Jo Strømngren Kompani and House Choreographer at the Norwegian National Ballet, as well as a regular Philadelphia FringeArts creator. Strømngren's multidisciplinary approach to dance has led to 150 productions in over 64 countries. His 2017 work on BalletX, *The Letter*, was celebrated by *The Dance Journal* for being an "irony-free celebration of pure pleasure," and applauded by *Broad Street Review* for "growing stronger until the last act, when the dancers seemed to fly free."

With lights by Mark Stanley, sets by Maiko Matsushima, and costumes by Christine Darch and Martha Chamberlain, BalletX's *Fall Series 2019* is one of greater Philadelphia's most anticipated productions of the upcoming holiday season.

**Performance Dates & Times**

Wednesday, December 4, 8:00 PM + *Pre-Show Q&A with Artistic Collaborators, 7:00pm*

Thursday, December 5, 8:00 PM

Friday, December 6, 8:00 PM

Saturday, December 7, 2:00 PM

Saturday, December 7, 8:00 PM

Sunday, December 8, 2:00 PM

Wednesday, December 11, 8:00 PM

Thursday, December 12, 8:00 PM + *Young Xers Night, 7:00pm*

Friday, December 13, 8:00 PM

Saturday, December 14, 2:00 PM

Saturday, December 14, 8:00 PM

Sunday, December 15, 2:00 PM

Sunday, December 15, 7:00 PM

**Single Tickets Available Now**

**Online:** <https://www.balletx.org/fall-series-2019/>

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**For more information, press only:**

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