



'We've moved Jane Austen's original to Paris in the roaring twenties'

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EUGENE, Ore. -- Inside the Hult Center for the Performing Arts this weekend, graceful dancing is combined with a live jazz band and a fun storyline for a beautiful ballet performance.

Local ballet company, Ballet Fantastique, will be performing on Saturday night at 7:30 and Sunday at 2:30.

"This weekend, Ballet Fantastique is producing our all-original 'Pride and Prejudice', a Parisian jazz ballet," says Executive Director and dancer, Hannah Bontrager. "We've moved Jane Austen's original to Paris in the roaring twenties."

Bontrager produced and directed the production, *Pride and Prejudice*, with her mother, Donna Bontrager. The mother-daughter duo choreographs all their work with original material.

"This ballet is absolutely perfect for people who are new to dance," says Hannah Bontrager. "Our official subtitle at Ballet Fantastique is 'ballet like you've never seen it before.'"

Ballet Fantastique is a Chamber Ballet Company, Academy, and Outreach program in Eugene. Donna Bontrager founded the organization in the year 2000.

"I want to share what Ballet Fantastique does because I think that it's unique, not only in our community, but also, across the country," says Hannah Bontrager. "Ballet Fantastique is actually going to be performing in San Benedetto, Italy this summer. We're not only the first US ballet company, but the first dance company from North or South America. People in our community have a chance to see this art, this all new contemporary ballet."