

ARTS SHORTS

Suite Stuff

By Suzi Steffen
Eugene Weekly

Published: May 2008

Music and ballet go hand in hand, right? Yes, but this season, **Ballet Fantastique** has taken collaboration to new heights with pieces for the Oregon Mozart Players and the Eugene Symphony.

In the chamber dance group's upcoming *Tour de Suites*, the collaboration expanded as dancers and choreographer worked together to create new blends. From Ravel's *Daphnis and Chloe* to the pas de deux from *Paquita* and *Le Corsaire*, the early part of the program mixes traditional moves and novel partnerships, including "Four Novelettes," the piece from the Mozart Players collaboration, and "Daybreak" from the Symphony's *Daphnis and Chloe* festival. Then the entire company teams up for an original piece, choreographed just for this show: a performance to the score of *Breakfast at Tiffany's*.



Composer Henry Mancini wrote a lot more than "Moon River" and the music for the *Pink Panther* movie series. Ballet Fantastique's new piece requires mambo and jazz moves; the dancers say it's technically challenging but also one of their favorite pieces. The young company should provide an afternoon of sweet suites all around. *Tour de Suites* takes flight at 2 pm Sunday, May 18, at the Hult Center. Tix, at \$14-\$25, available at www.hultcenter.org or 682-5000. — Suzi Steffen

Media Credit: Jerry Gowins

