

BALLET *ballet like you've never seen it before.* FANTASTIQUE

**DONNA MARISA BONTRAGER
+ HANNAH BONTRAGER**
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For Immediate Release: February 2, 2021

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QUICK FACTS:

- **WHAT:** Ballet Fantastique's Valentine's weekend experience — featuring dinner and "February in Paris" Experience Boxes pairing with the digital release of *Pride & Prejudice: A Parisian Jazz Ballet*
- **FEBRUARY IN PARIS EVENTS:**
Show streams Feb. 13–Feb. 15. Watch anytime, or join the Feb. 14 Valentine's Day Watch Party at 7 pm PST.
Bar Purlieu Prix Fixe 5-Course Dinner reserving now, with Feb. 14 curbside pickup at 5:30-7:30 pm.
Experience Boxes in partnership with J Michael's Books, Luxe Gifts Eugene, Euphoria Chocolate, and other local artists.
- **BOOK YOUR FEBRUARY IN PARIS:** www.balletfantastique.org/paris

Spend "February in Paris" with Ballet Fantastique

A full Valentine's Day weekend experience in partnership with local artisans—time travel included

For Immediate Release, Feb. 2, 2021, Eugene, OR: Ballet Fantastique announces a full Valentine's weekend experience pairing with the digital release of the company's Roaring 20's jazz spin on Jane Austen's *Pride & Prejudice*. Ballet Fantastique Choreographer-Producers Donna Marisa and Hannah Bontrager team up with local businesses and artisan makers to offer a curated weekend escape. Patrons can stay home, get international and support local—all at the same time.

"February in Paris" takes its thematic inspiration from Donna and Hannah's all-original *Pride & Prejudice: A Parisian Jazz Ballet*. Premiered at the Hult Center in 2013, the 2016 performances are now being released for the first time. *Pride & Prejudice: A Parisian Jazz Ballet* features the romcom prowess of Ballet Fantastique's artists in Austen's classic, witty love comedy. The dancers are joined (and wooed) by actor and regular BFan guest artist Adam Goldthwaite, who plays a hilarious singing, dancing Parson Collins. No advance reading required: Collins narrates the ballet as if it were a wedding homily, with audience in attendance. Donna and Hannah's ballet score (played by Gerry Rempel Jazz Syndicate) spans classic and modern French jazz as well as several original works by Eugene composer Gerry Rempel.

BFans may love knowing the backstage love story: It was while meeting each other and dancing this ballet together for the first time in 2016 that Ashley Bontrager (Lizzy Bennette) and Gustavo Ramirez (Fitzwilliam Darcy) fell in (real life) love four years ago. Ashley and Gustavo dish in a Zoom artist roundtable, which will be released Valentine's Day weekend via @balletfantastique Instagram and Facebook.

February in Paris Valentine's Experience Boxes

Ballet, meets wine club, meets staycation, meets Postmates! Curated exclusively in collaboration with PNW artists and vendors, the February in Paris Experience Box are beautifully packaged and hand-wrapped by the artists of Ballet Fantastique. Boxes include:

Pride & Prejudice: A Parisian Jazz Ballet Souvenir DVD 2020 (Ballet Fantastique); Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition Jane Austen's *Pride & Prejudice* from J. Michael's Books (Eugene) — autographed by the “characters”/dancers of BFan; *Parisian Nights* CD — Ballet Fantastique performance soundtrack (Gerry Rempel Jazz Syndicate); *Pride & Prejudice* poster designed by local artist Katey Finley; Euphoria Chocolate hot cocoa mix and two fabulous Jane Austen keepsake mugs (Euphoria Chocolate & Luxe Gifts, Eugene); and Quinn Organic Popcorn w/ toppings kit. Boxes are \$139, and support Ballet Fantastique and these local business partners.

Experience Boxes include doorstep delivery by BFan artists in costume, or shipping to US locations. Curbside pickup at BFan is also available. Info/orders at www.BalletFantastique.org/paris

Prix Fixe French Dinner from Bar Purlieu

Local patrons are also invited to join Ballet Fantastique for “Dinner & A Show,” featuring a custom French menu created by Bar Purlieu with curbside pickup in Eugene, a bottle of Silvan Ridge Oregon Pinot Noir, and the Ballet Fantastique *Pride & Prejudice: A Parisian Jazz Ballet* release. Dancers of BFan/*Pride & Prejudice* characters will greet patrons at their curbside Valentine's Day pickup on Feb. 14, 2021 (curbside pickup reservations between 5:30-7:30 pm). Dinner for two, Pinot Noir + show access: \$150.

The evening's delicious exclusive 5-course menu for two (strictly limited to 30 orders—advance reservation highly recommended):



Wine Pairing:

2017 Silvan Ridge Oregon Pinot Noir

Un

Gougères

smoked trout pâté, crisp veggies

Deux

Sorrel & Citrus Salade

Fromage blanc, mint, sherry gastrique, espellette, lava salt

Trois

Black Truffle Risotto

White Chocolate, Primroses

Quatre

Rack of Lamb —OR— Whole Roasted Game Hen

Confit Fingerlings, Asian Greens, Tarragon Mustard Jus

Cinq

Vanilla Pot de Crème

Lavender Shortbread

Wine Pairing: 2017 Silvan Ridge Oregon Pinot Noir

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