



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 25, 2006

**CORNISH DANCE THEATER SPRING 2006 CONCERT**

Friday, April 14 at 8 pm; Saturday, April 15 at 2 pm & 8 pm

**Choreography by Pat Hon, Wade Madsen, Christina McNeil Dobson, Jason Ohlberg  
and Mary Sheldon Scott**

Broadway Performance Hall, 1625 Broadway Avenue, Seattle

Produced in collaboration with the Performance Production Department.

Tickets: \$8 general, \$4 students and seniors & Cornish College alumni.

Purchase tickets through Ticket Window: 206.325.6500, [www.ticketwindowonline.com](http://www.ticketwindowonline.com)

or in person at Ticket Window's box offices located in the Pike Place Market, Broadway Market, and Bellevue's Meydenbauer Center.

For more information, please call 206.726.5011.

SEATTLE, WA – Cornish Dance Theater, the performing ensemble of the Dance Department at Cornish College of the Arts, is pleased to present its Spring 2006 concert. With works ranging from classical to contemporary to jazz, the concert includes work by faculty choreographers Pat Hon and Wade Madsen, and guest choreographers Christina McNeil Dobson, Jason Ohlberg, and Mary Sheldon Scott.

Cornish College faculty member Pat Hon restages *Concerto Grosso*, an abstract dance on pointe using the music of Ralph Vaughan Williams. Hon performed extensively with ballet companies in France, Austria, Spain, and Germany, and also attended the Joffrey School and the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance in New York. In 1983, she received the National Endowment for the Arts' Choreographic Fellowship. Since then, Hon has choreographed for the Atlanta Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet's Summer Inventions, Singapore Ballet, Ballet Concerto of Miami, Goh Ballet in Canada, Federal Ballet Company of Malaysia, Ballet Petit, and for dancers competing in the International Ballet Competitions in Jackson, Mississippi. Pat Hon joined the faculty of Cornish College of the Arts in 1978.

Faculty choreographer Wade Madsen delves into the realm of theatrics and dance. Madsen explores the larger themes of human frailty and dying through characters caught waiting in a line. A former member of the Bill Evans Dance Company and Tandy Beal & Company, Madsen has received choreographic grants and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, Washington State, King County, the Seattle Arts Commissions, Artist Trust, and Allied Arts. His work has been produced in Seattle by the Allegro! Dance Festival, On the Boards, Bumbershoot, Rockhopper Dance, and Composer/Choreographer. He has also performed with various dance groups in Seattle, including Spectrum Dance Theater, d-9 Dance Collective, DanceWorks Northwest, and Co-Motion Dance. A Cornish College of the Arts faculty member since 1985, Madsen has been producing and performing his own work with Wade Madsen and Dancers since 1977.

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Christina McNeil Dobson, who graduated from the Cornish College Dance Department in 2000, has been teaching and choreographing in the Seattle area for over 10 years. The jazz dance she is creating for the Cornish Dance Theater is to the Blue Man Group's *I Feel Love* and *Exhibit 13*, and is inspired by the glances strangers exchange on the street. The flirty, energetic, and quick movements illustrate the infatuation that can consume one of the participants of this brief, but powerful street encounter. Dobson trained and performed with the Evergreen City Ballet, traveling with the company to the Rudolf Nureyev Ballet Festival in Russia. She has taught and choreographed for Shoreline Community College, Bellevue Community College, and the Boulder Jazz Dance workshop, where she is also a member of their resident company. Currently, Dobson is developing a dance program at Sammamish High School in Bellevue.

*Gloria*, by guest choreographer Jason Ohlberg, celebrates and mirrors themes from Antonio Vivaldi's score. The dance utilizes lush movements to move through various religious and secular contexts. Ohlberg has danced with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Dance Kaleidoscope, Jan Erkert and dancers, and Wade Madsen and Dancers, as well as being the founder of Same Planet Different World Dance Theater in Chicago. His choreography has been seen locally on the apprentice company of Spectrum Dance Theater, and has been performed by Men in Dance, Lehua Dance Theater, and Arc Dance Productions. Ohlberg attended the State University of New York at Purchase and trained on scholarship at the schools of Martha Graham, David Howard, Alvin Ailey, and Lou Conte. He has since been on faculty at Barat College, Jordan Academy, the school of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, the University of Washington, Spectrum Dance Theater, Arc Dance Productions, and Seattle Children's Theater Young Actors Institute.

Mary Sheldon Scott is creating a new, as yet untitled, contemporary work for ten Cornish dancers. Jarrad Powell serves as the Music Director. Scott is exploring the emotional territory of bone and flesh, using a rigorous and technically charged movement vocabulary. Scott is an Artist Trust Fellowship recipient in choreography, and has also received awards from 4Culture/King County and the Mayor's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs/City of Seattle. Scott serves as Artistic Director for Mary Sheldon Scott/Jarrad Powell Performance, whose work has been presented through On the Boards, Portland Institute of Contemporary Art, Western Washington University, American College Dance Festival, Bumbershoot, and Velocity Dance Center. Scott is also the Co-Director of the Composer/Choreographer new performance series.

*Images available upon request.*

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**ABOUT CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS**

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Cornish College of the Arts is the premier, accredited arts college in the Northwest, inspiring the highest standards of artistic and academic excellence. Founded in 1914 by Nellie Cornish, Cornish College is the only private, accredited college in the region offering baccalaureate degrees in visual and performing arts. Cornish College offers a Bachelor of Music and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in art, dance, design, theater and performance production. Uniquely, Cornish College provides a rigorous educational environment for the cultivation of technical mastery, artistic integrity and practical knowledge. The faculty at Cornish is comprised of practicing master artists and professional educators, renowned in their respective fields. The college maintains a low student to faculty ratio, allowing for individualized teaching and mentoring. Cornish College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

Over the years, Cornish has hosted a parade of important artists in the roles of students, teachers or as visiting artists-in-residence, including John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, Ping Chong, Kenny Werner, Obo Addy, Mark Morris, Meredith Monk, Rinde Eckert, Bebe Miller, Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, Robin Holcomb, Chet Huntley, Syvilla Fort, Ralph Towner, Thornton Wilder, Lou Harrison, Bill Frisell, Morris Graves, Jane Ira Bloom, Kraig Patterson, Musicians Accord, Bun Ching Lam, Brendan Fraser, Myra Melford, Sharon Isbin, Joanne Brackeen, Oliver Lake, California Ear Unit, Colorado Quartet, and Gary Peacock, among others.

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