

EXPERIENCE 'A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM' IN FLORENCE

On Feb. 2 at 7 p.m., be whisked away from winter's cold to the warm, lush green forests of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Shakespeare's adored comedy of love, magic, fairies, mixed up lovers and the mischievous Puck comes alive in Toni Pimble's delightful choreography set to Felix Mendelssohn's spirited score performed by Orchestra Next.

A new EBC-commissioned ballet, "Wandering On," set on the Company by award-winning choreographer Stephanie Martinez, will open the program.

Chicago-based Martinez, winner of the Joffrey Ballet's 2014 "Winning Works: Choreographers of Color," brings her acclaimed talent to the Eugene Ballet, stretching the creative minds of its dancers and audiences

Martinez's ballet is supported by The Hult Endowment of The Oregon Community Foundation.

The Surrounding Third, a new work choreographed by EBC Company Dancer Suzanne Haag and set to Samuel Barber's Adagio for Strings, will complete the program.

Founded in 1978 by Toni Pimble and Riley Grannan, the Eugene Ballet Company has grown from a community-based dance group to become one the West's busiest and most versatile professional dance companies.

The company has performed in more than 100 cities in 32 U.S. States and internationally to Canada, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Syria, Jordan, Tunisia and Taiwan.

Over the past two decades, the EBC has been con-



COURTESY PHOTO

The Eugene Ballet portrays the magic of Oberon and Titania's faery realm from Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," performed to Felix Mendelssohn's score by Orchestra Next.

tinuously recognized by the National Endowment for the Arts with Dance Company Grant awards and, in 1996, was the first Oregon dance company to be a recipient of the Governor's Arts Award.

The Eugene Ballet Company has set a high standard in the performing arts and has gained a loyal

following of dance fans everywhere the company has performed.

Tickets can be purchased at the Florence Events Center box office, 715 Quince St., by phone at 541-997-1994 during regular business hours and online at www.eventcenter.org.

LCC offers class on film industry icon Robert Redford

Lane Community College Florence Center Continuing Education program heads back to the movies this winter term with a cinema studies course on humanitarian and film icon, Robert Redford.

Continuing education instructor Jared Anderson will teach a course on "The Cinema of Robert Redford," centered on the films: "Barefoot in the Park," "The Candidate," "The Natural," "Quiz Show" and "All is Lost."

Anderson has previously taught courses on other film icons such as Alfred Hitchcock and Katharine Hepburn at City Lights Cinemas in Florence. His courses include enriching context of the background influences — on and off the

set — of each film and actor.

The class is for anyone who loves film and is interested in learning more about Redford's influences on cinema.

"When we think of Redford, we may think of the young and brash Sundance Kid or a director of intelligent, adult-oriented cinema like 'Quiz Show' or 'A River Runs Through It,'" said Anderson.

People may also think about his environmentalism.

"People know him as the guy who started the Sundance Film Festival, but what they may not realize is how much he has fundamentally changed how we watch film, and what we watch," Anderson said.

Before Redford, film was primarily "the realm of the big studios," according to Anderson.

"If there was an independent film, you could catch it at an avant garde theater or hopefully get a VHS at your local university," he said. "After Redford, independent film (and the independent film aesthetic) became mainstream.

"What we expect from film changed, the amount of films available changed, and the possibilities for anyone to make a film became a reality."

The five-week course will be offered on Mondays starting Jan. 9, from noon to 3:30 p.m. at City Lights Cinemas.

Registration for the course is online.

Marsha Sills, Florence Center continuing education program instructor, said, "Jared's students remark about his enthusiasm and knowledge of film. We're fortunate to have instructors like him who are willing to share their expertise to engage the community in learning experiences like this.

"Michael Falter and his staff at City Lights Cinemas have also been wonderful partners in helping us offer these courses."

For more information about this course or other LCC Florence Center winter term offerings, contact Sills at 541-997-8444, ext 4825 or email her at sillsm@lanec.edu.