



# Metro Dancers

## Les Ruses d'Amour

### Attention: Homeschool Parents

Metro Dancers offers you a special field trip opportunity--a just for kids ballet performance of the comic ballet, **LES RUSES D'AMOUR**. Families will enjoy this funny, mad-cap farce of disguises, mistaken identities and the surprise ending. Wonderful music, costumes, sets and dancers' skill make this a performance event you won't want to miss.

**WHO:** **METRO DANCERS** is a regional dance company comprised of local pre-professional and professional dancers, with sold-out performances of *Coppelia*, *Alice in Wonderland* and *La Fille Mal Gardee* to enthusiastic student audiences.

**WHAT:** *Les Ruses d'Amour* is a lively comic ballet featuring the lush music of Glazunov. Set in the splendor of an Italian villa, the production is full of fun and surprises. Dancers, actors, jugglers, and magicians bring this humorous story to life. Everybody will enjoy the antics of Isabelle and Damis--betrothed strangers disguising themselves to avoid marriage. Every group receives an activities packet, radio drama tape of the story and other curriculum support.

**WHERE:** Portland Metro Arts,  
9933 SE Pine Street

**WHEN:** Friday, April 16, 2010 9:30am & Noon      Tuesday, April 20, 2010 9:30am & Noon  
Thursday, April 22, 2010 9:30am & Noon

**COST:** Ticket price is **only \$6.00**, a fantastic savings over the \$18.00 price of our public performances. A non-refundable deposit of 50% will secure a spot for your students. The balance of the payment is due by April 2, 2010.

For more than 30 years, METRO DANCERS is offering these popular performances just for students. Last year thousands of students attended the performances. This ballet is appropriate for all ages of students from Kindergarten on up. Make sure that your students don't miss this exciting opportunity to see a live dance theatre performance.

*PLEASE NOTE: Transportation is the responsibility of each family.*

Reserve seats on the form below and return it **ASAP**. We will be filling the theatre in the order that the requests are received. Do not delay! Please mail the completed form and your check to:

**Portland Metro Arts, 9933 SE Pine Street, Portland, Oregon 97216.**  
**Questions?? Call us at 503-408-0604 or email at [info@PDXMetroArts.org](mailto:info@PDXMetroArts.org).**

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YES!! I will attend **Les Ruses d'Amour**. (Please indicate desired performance)

Fri, April 16 9:30am                       Tue, April 20 9:30am                       Thu, April 22 9:30am  
 Fri, April 16 Noon                               Tue, April 20 Noon                               Thu, April 22 Noon

We will need a total of \_\_\_\_\_ tickets for \_\_\_\_\_ students and \_\_\_\_\_ adults. My group consists of \_\_\_\_\_ graders.  
*Enclosed is my check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_, payable to **Portland Metro Arts** to reserve tickets.*

My name or the name of contact person \_\_\_\_\_.

Phone (w) \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_



## *Les Ruses d'Amour* (the disguises of love)

### **The Story of Les Ruses d'Amour**

Long ago, when parents chose whom their children would marry, the bride and groom frequently did not meet until the wedding. Isabelle and Damis find themselves in this position. Their families have already signed the marriage contract, and once signed, it cannot be broken without serious consequences. However, both Isabelle and Damis are reluctant to enter into this marriage and, unknown to the other, effect disguises to delay the wedding. The resulting confusion sets the stage for some delightfully absurd situations. Ultimately, everybody believes that they have fallen in love with somebody that they will not be able to marry. The wedding continues as planned, with the heavily veiled bride sobbing her way up the aisle. But, as in all good stories, all ends happily with a double wedding.

### **The History of Les Ruses**

A great Russian composer, Alexander Glazunov wrote *Les Ruses d'Amour* to be performed at the Hermitage Theatre in St. Petersburg, Russia during 1900. The original choreography for this work was by Marius Petipa. As masters of their respective arts, they created a charming production that should have become very popular. However, *Les Ruses d'Amour* had the misfortune to premier during an unsettled time of Russian history and did not receive the benefit of continued performances. Regrettably, much of the original choreography has been lost. However, through the talents of gifted choreographers, the Metro Dancers has created a vibrant new staging for *Les Ruses d'Amour*. It is with great pleasure that we bring this wonderful story back to our audiences.

### **Comments About Metro Dancers' Productions**

#### ***Homeschool Family, Kindergarten, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 5<sup>th</sup> grade***

We felt that it was "just right" as in introduction to an art form that our children were unfamiliar with.

#### ***Clark School, 2nd grade***

Please, please put us on your mailing list for next year. I could not believe how totally involved my students were. Some of my students had never seen a ballet before. Even the boys who try to be tough and cool were fascinated.

#### ***Boise-Elliot School, 5th grade***

Wow! Everything was just first-rate from the teacher information to the performance. Even the macho boys enjoyed it.

#### ***Madison High School, 9th/10th grade Drama***

The production values far surpassed my expectations. This group of performers is outstanding. The students talked about it all the way back to school. Great job!

#### ***Portsmouth Middle School, 7th grade Language Arts***

The project has really expanded my students' horizons. The materials provided related to other class work and it was a fantastic springboard for ideas.

#### ***Cedar Park School, 2nd grade***

Once the program began, my students didn't even move until the end. That says a great deal. Thanks also for the music tape to help the kids become familiar with the score. They were humming the tunes for weeks after.

#### ***Beaumont School, 8<sup>th</sup> grade***

Certainly a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a cultural experience of polished professionalism. The ballet was wonderful. Many of my students said it was the best field trip they had ever been on.

#### ***Hall School, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade***

It was wonderful! A great experience for everyone! The pre-performance presentation was extremely important. It helped the kids get excited about it.