



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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American Repertory Ballet Makes Two River Theater Debut

October 28 & 29 Performances are the first in TRTC's new Best of New Jersey Dance Series (*Photos & Media Interviews Available – Call 732.345.1400 x830*)

American Repertory Ballet, one of the state's premier dance companies, will make its debut at Red Bank's Two River Theater Company on October 28 & 29, performing for an adult audience on Saturday evening and a family audience on Sunday afternoon.

The Saturday evening performance at 8 pm will feature works from the ARB repertory including *Baker's Dozen*, a piece choreographed by the legendary Twyla Tharp set to music by Willie "the Lion" Smith, plus two contemporary works by ARB's Artistic Director Graham Lustig: *VISTA*, inspired by the jazz saxophone of John Lurie and the Lounge Lizards, and *Evening*, a quieter, more romantic ballet set to Benjamin Britten's "Serenade for Tenor, Horn and String Orchestra".

For the Sunday matinee performance at 3 pm ARB will present the company's own version of the classic children's story *Beauty & The Beast*. This adaptation of the well-known tale is set in New Jersey's Pine Barrens and even features a visit from local legendary beast, the Jersey Devil. ARB will present *Beauty & The Beast* featuring a story teller to help all ages appreciate the story line; and the ballet company will host a discussion for kids and their families following the show to answer "behind-the-scenes" questions.

TRTC's Best of New Jersey Dance series was created this season to offer the state's resident dance companies both a local home where their pieces can be honed prior to touring and a venue where their work could be showcased to a New Jersey audience. The idea for the series came from TRTC's Managing Director Guy Gsell with help from Development Director (and former ballet dancer) Elizabeth Sobo. "We recognize our obligation not only to our audience, but also our sister New Jersey arts organizations," stated Gsell. Sobo added, "It's very difficult for New Jersey's dance companies; they are all renters. I felt this was a real opportunity to do a service not only to us but to the New Jersey dance community."

Remaining Best of New Jersey Dance performance dates at TRTC:

Afro-Caribbean influenced **Umoja** on February 10 & 11, 2007

Carolyn Dorfman Dance Company on March 31 & April 1, 2007

Randy James Dance Works on June 2 & 3, 2007

Saturday Evening tickets are \$30 and Sunday matinee tickets are \$20. Tickets for American Repertory Ballet and all TRTC events are on sale at 732.345.1400 or online at www.trtc.org.

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Two River Theater Company, under the leadership of Executive Producer Robert M. Rechnitz was founded in 1994 as Monmouth County's first professional regional theater in 30 years. Over the past 12 seasons, TRTC has grown into one of New Jersey's most vital arts organizations combining the production values of Broadway with the very real human values of education, enlightenment, and the betterment of our community through artistic exploration. TRTC has presented professional (Actors' Equity Association) productions of the highest quality to an ever-expanding audience while performing at Monmouth University in West Long Branch, Algonquin Arts Theater in Manasquan, and at the current location at the new state-of-the-art venue at 21 Bridge Avenue in Red Bank. Two River's mission is to perform from the world body of dramatic literature, including new works, those plays which most richly direct our gaze to the life of the human spirit in all of its shifting modes, its thought, its suffering, its passion, its joy and laughter. As one of New Jersey's leading regional theaters, Two River Theater Company, a not-for-profit arts organization, is supported in part by grants from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Dept. of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, in addition to contributions from many corporations, foundations, businesses and individuals. Two River Theater Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group and the New Jersey Theatre Alliance.