



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Ellen McDonald  
816.213.4355  
[publicity@kcballet.org](mailto:publicity@kcballet.org)

For Tickets: 816.931.8993 or [www.kcballet.org](http://www.kcballet.org)

# KANSAS CITY BALLET PRESENTS

## World Premiere of

### Adam Hougland's

# *Carmina Burana*

*Fall Program includes Tulips and Lobster and Petal Oct. 11 – 20 at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts*



KANSAS CITY, MO (Sept. 12, 2019) — The 2019-2020 Season opens with the much anticipated WORLD PREMIERE of Adam Hougland's *Carmina Burana*, featuring the music of Carl Orff. This powerful and passionate dance and choral masterpiece will include Kansas City Symphony and Kansas City Symphony Chorus, featuring soloists Tenor Daniel Hansen, Baritone Armando

Kansas City Ballet Presents WORLD PREMIERE of *Carmina Burana* Oct. 11-20 at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

**Contreras**, and Soprano **Sarah Tannehill Anderson**. A hugely popular and insatiably indulgent celebration of life and love, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* is a pulsating choral work that provides an incredible landscape for choreographed spectacle. The most popular piece, *O Fortuna!*, has permeated popular culture from cartoons to commercials, movies and video games.

These performances also include two audience favorites: *Tulips and Lobster* by **Annabelle Lopez Ochoa**, which premiered at Johnson County Community College's New Dance Partners in the fall of 2018, and **Helen Pickett's** *Petal* — last seen in May 2016. The production will be accompanied by Kansas City Symphony conducted by Kansas City Ballet Music Director **Ramona Pansegrau**, and runs Oct. 11 through 20 at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts.

Adam Houglund last worked with Kansas City Ballet in 2016 when he choreographed the critically acclaimed masterpiece *Rite of Spring* (set to Stravinsky's work by the same name), which left audiences stunned. "It was during *Rite of Spring* Devon and I started talking about creating a new *Carmina Burana*. We saw a Kansas City Symphony performance, and we knew we had to do it," Houglund stated. "This production promises to haunt audiences not only with its intense moments but also with small, intimate moments. Ultimately, this is a very human story."

Devon Carney said: "I am delighted to announce this production, featuring an array of works sure to entice audiences but also to challenge and inspire the talent of our company. I have long been a fan of Adam Houglund's work and am honored and thrilled to welcome his WORLD PREMIERE of *Carmina Burana*, with a full spectacle of pulsating choral numbers and breathtaking choreography."

Visit [www.kcballet.org](http://www.kcballet.org) for more information about Kansas City Ballet's 2019-2020 season and [www.kauffmancenter.org](http://www.kauffmancenter.org) for a downloadable media kit about the Kauffman Center. High resolution photos of the 2019-2020 season can be found [here](#).

## ***WORLD PREMIERE***

### ***Carmina Burana***

October 11-20, 2019 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography: Adam Houglund

Music: Carl Orff performed by Kansas City Symphony

Sponsored by Performance Rehab and Onelife Fitness

Kansas City Ballet Presents WORLD PREMIERE of *Carmina Burana* Oct. 11-20  
at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Hugely popular and an insatiably indulgent celebration of life and love, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* is a pulsating choral work that provides an incredible landscape for choreographed spectacle. Most have experienced *Carmina Burana* in choral presentation, but too few have seen it as it was originally imagined. Written between 1935 and 1936, the text explores a wide range of topics — as topical today as in the 13<sup>th</sup> century when they were written. Songs, fully staged with new sets, choreography, and costumes discuss fortune, wealth, the joy of spring, and the dangers of drinking, gluttony, and lust. The music of Carl Orff is as thrilling to hear today as when it was written — and exists as a one-of-a-kind choral work for choir, soloists, and orchestra.

This program also includes *Tulips and Lobster* by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa (which premiered at New Dance Partners at Johnson County Community College in September 2018), music by Purcell, Albinoni, Lambert and Vivaldi, and *Petal* by Helen Pickett, with the music of Philip Glass and Thomas Montgomery Newman.

<i>Carmina Burana</i>	Choreography: Adam Houglan	Music: Carl Orff
<i>Tulips and Lobster</i>	Choreography: Annabelle Lopez Ochoa	Music: Henry Purcell, Tomaso Albinoni, Lambert & Antonio Vivaldi
<i>Petal</i>	Choreography: Helen Pickett	Music: Philip Glass & Thomas Montgomery Newman
Fri., Oct. 11	7:30 p.m.	
Sat., Oct. 12	7:30 p.m.	
Sun., Oct. 13	2 p.m.	
Fri., Oct. 18	7:30 p.m.	
Sat., Oct. 19	7:30 p.m.	
Sun., Oct. 20	2 p.m.	

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND EVENTS

### Dance Speaks: *Carmina Burana*

Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2019

5:30-6:00 pm | Company Open Rehearsal

6:00-7:00 pm | Panel Discussion

Frost Studio Theater | Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity  
(500 W. Pershing, KCMO 64108)

Come experience a choreographer at work in the studio creating new movement to well-known music! This inspiring panel and company rehearsal of the ballet *Carmina Burana*, provides the community-at-large an opportunity to hear guest choreographer Adam Houglan, Kansas City Ballet dancers and special guests share their personal insights around bringing this world premiere ballet to the stage. Moderated by Kansas City Ballet Artistic Director

Kansas City Ballet Presents WORLD PREMIERE of *Carmina Burana* Oct. 11-20  
at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Devon Carney, the event includes an audience Q and A. Tickets only \$12 at [www.kcballet.org](http://www.kcballet.org).

### **Ticket Information**

Tickets may be purchased by telephone at 816.931.8993, in person at the Kansas City Ballet Box Office located at the Bolender Center at 500 W. Pershing Rd. (west of Union Station) or with “Select Your Own Seat” capability online at [www.kcballet.org](http://www.kcballet.org). Tickets also may be purchased at the Kauffman Center Box Office and website. Visit the Kansas City Ballet website for more information about performance times, seating options and parking at [www.kcballet.org](http://www.kcballet.org). Tickets are on sale now.

### **Parking and Downtown Maps**

Information and maps for Kauffman Center parking and construction updates can be found online at [www.kcballet.org/planyourvisit](http://www.kcballet.org/planyourvisit). The Arts District parking garage, immediately south of and underneath the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, is the primary parking garage for Kansas City Ballet patrons. Event parking is \$10 per car and may be purchased in advance or upon arrival.

### **Sponsors**

Supported in part by Performance Rehab and Onelife Fitness as well as season sponsors including The Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation, Kansas City Ballet Guild, the Missouri Arts Council—a state agency, Hallmark Corporate Foundation, ArtsKC, and Lifted Logic support Kansas City Ballet’s 2019-2020 Season.

### **Student Discounts**

Students who present valid I.D. at the Kauffman Center Box Office 90 minutes prior to all repertory performances will receive a seat for \$19. You can also pre-purchase your tickets online and show your student id at will call. All rush tickets are subject to availability; please keep in mind some performances sell out in advance. Seating selection is at the discretion of the box office. Call the Box Office 816.931.8993 for more information.

### **Social Media**

Kansas City Ballet’s website is mobile and ticket-purchase friendly. Receive daily updates by joining the KCB Fan Page at [www.facebook.com/kcballet](http://www.facebook.com/kcballet) and following @kcballet on Twitter. Follow our blog at [www.kcballet.org/blog](http://www.kcballet.org/blog). See more on YouTube by visiting [www.youtube.com/kansascityballet](http://www.youtube.com/kansascityballet). View photos on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/kc.ballet/>.

Kansas City Ballet Presents WORLD PREMIERE of *Carmina Burana* Oct. 11-20  
at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

### Belger Footnote Series

Artistic Director Devon Carney and guest artists offer audience members views on the choreography, history, design elements and music prior to each repertory performance. These informal discussions are free for all ticket holders and are held at the theatre **one hour prior to curtain** for all Kansas City Ballet shows except *The Nutcracker* and matinees for schools. Sponsored by Belger Cartage Services.

## Kansas City Ballet 2019-2020 Season at a Glance

Kansas City Ballet ticket office 816.931.8993

Single tickets for all performances are on sale now. Purchase tickets online at [kcballet.org](http://kcballet.org).

### New Dance Partners

Sept. 27-28, 2019 | Johnson County Community College

New Dance Partners, a project for new work in dance, has been produced by the Performing Arts Series at Johnson County Community College since 2013 to further artistic growth in dance by creating new work and encouraging collaboration between Kansas City arts organizations. Local, professional dance companies are featured, and new works, commissioned on their behalf, are set by renowned choreographers. This year Kansas City Ballet will perform a brand new work by Myles Thatcher from San Francisco Ballet.

### Dance Speaks: *Carmina Burana*

Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2019

5:30-6:00 pm | Company Open Rehearsal

6:00-7:00 pm | Panel Discussion

Frost Studio Theater | Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity

Come experience a choreographer at work in the studio creating new movement to well-known music! This inspiring panel and company rehearsal of the ballet *Carmina Burana*, provides the community-at-large an opportunity to hear guest choreographer Adam Houglund, Kansas City Ballet dancers and special guests share their personal insights around bringing this world premiere ballet to the stage. Moderated by Kansas City Ballet Artistic Director Devon Carney, the event includes an audience Q and A. Tickets only \$12 at [www.kcballet.org](http://www.kcballet.org).

Kansas City Ballet Presents WORLD PREMIERE of *Carmina Burana* Oct. 11-20  
at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

## ***WORLD PREMIERE***

### ***Carmina Burana***

October 11-20, 2019 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography: Adam Houglund

Music: Carl Orff performed by Kansas City Symphony & Chorus

Sponsored by: Performance Rehab and Onelife Fitness

Power and passion converge with this majestic dance and choral masterpiece! Hugely popular and an insatiably indulgent celebration of life and love, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* is a pulsating choral work that provides an incredible landscape for choreographed spectacle. Most have experienced *Carmina Burana* in choral presentation, but too few have seen it as it was originally imagined. This program also includes the lighthearted *Tulips and Lobster* by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa (which premiered at New Dance Partners at Johnson County Community College in September 2018), music by Purcell, Albinoni, Lambert and Vivaldi, and the colorful *Petal* by Helen Pickett, with the music of Philip Glass and Thomas Montgomery Newman.

#### ***Carmina Burana***

Choreography: Adam Houglund

Music: Carl Orff

#### ***Tulips and Lobster***

Choreography: Annabelle Lopez Ochoa

Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky

#### ***Petal***

Choreography: Helen Pickett

Music: Philip Glass/

Thomas Montgomery Newman

Fri., Oct. 11 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 12 7:30 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 13 2 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 18 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 19 7:30 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 20 2 p.m.

### ***The Nutcracker***

December 5-24, 2019 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography: Devon Carney

Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky performed by Kansas City Symphony

Sponsored by Bank of America

Kansas City Ballet's *The Nutcracker* awed Kennedy Center audiences in Washington, D.C., was hailed as "positively oozing charm" and called "especially lovely with its bright, fresh décor" by *The Washington Post*. The classic, Victorian-era story by E.T.A. Hoffman featuring Clara, the Nutcracker Prince, Dr. Drosselmeier and the Sugar Plum Fairy is a magical theatrical experience wrapped with exquisite costumes, grand sets and captivating choreography.

Thurs., Dec. 5 7:30 p.m.

Kansas City Ballet Presents WORLD PREMIERE of *Carmina Burana* Oct. 11-20  
at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Fri., Dec. 6	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 7	2 p.m.* & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 8	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Thurs. Dec 12	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 13	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 14	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 15	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 18	6 p.m. (Sensory-friendly Performance)
Thurs., Dec. 19	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 20	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 21	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 22	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 23	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 24	1 p.m.

(\*) Sugar Plum Fairy Children's Ball Luncheon

## Dance Speaks: *Swan Lake*

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

5:30-6:00 pm | Company Open Rehearsal

6:00-7:00 pm | Panel Discussion

Frost Studio Theater | Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity

The most recognized ballet of all time. This Dance Speaks provides an opportunity for the community-at-large to get a sneak peek of a *Swan Lake* rehearsal and gain behind the scenes information regarding KC Ballet's production. Choreographer and Artistic Director Devon Carney and special guests invite you to join them in an engaging conversation inspired by this timeless work. Tickets only \$12 at [www.kcballet.org](http://www.kcballet.org).

## *Swan Lake*

February 14-23, 2020 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography: Devon Carney after Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov

Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky performed by the Kansas City Symphony

### THE MOST ENCHANTING LOVE STORY EVER SEEN

Perhaps the most recognized ballet of all time, *Swan Lake* makes its highly anticipated return to Kansas City Ballet after breaking box office records in 2016. This immortal love story involves a wicked sorcerer who captures the beautiful Princess Odette and turns her into a swan. His evil spell can only be broken when a young prince pledges his love and marries her. Should he betray her, she will remain a swan forever.

Fri., Feb. 14	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 15	7:30 p.m.
Sun., Feb 16	2 p.m.
Wed., Feb. 19	7:30 p.m.
Thurs., Feb. 20	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Feb. 21	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 22	2 p.m.

Kansas City Ballet Presents WORLD PREMIERE of *Carmina Burana* Oct. 11-20  
at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Sat., Feb. 22                      7:30 p.m.  
Sun., Feb. 23                      2 p.m.

## Dance Speaks: *New Voices, New Moves*

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

6:30-7:30 p.m. | Panel Discussion

ArtsKC Gallery | 106 Southwest Blvd.

The Creative Process: Cutting-edge choreographers' works brought to the stage! This Dance Speaks provides up-close and personal insights into the creative process of diverse choreographers creating original, contemporary works for a ballet company. This event, held at ArtsKC Gallery, will include an audience Q and A. Tickets only \$12 at [www.kcballet.org](http://www.kcballet.org).

## New Moves

March 26-29, 2020 | Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity

New Moves, one of Kansas City Ballet's most popular performances, showcases contemporary ballet in an intimate setting. This limited-run production gives audiences a chance to see tomorrows sought-after choreographers today! It is a very up close and visceral experience for audience and dancer alike, with all performances held in the Bolender Center's Michael and Ginger Frost Studio Theater. Come see our Kansas City Ballet artists and emerging choreographers discover bold new ways of expression and feel the athleticism, beauty, power and passion of never-before seen dance creations!

Thurs., March 26                      7:30 p.m.  
Fri., March 27                      10:30 a.m. (Student/Senior Group Matinee)  
Fri., March 27                      7:30 p.m.  
Sat., March 28                      2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.  
Sun., March 29                      2 p.m.

## Dance Speaks: Celts

April 22, 2020

5:30-6:00 pm | Company Open Rehearsal

6:00-7:00 pm | Panel Discussion

Frost Studio Theater | Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity

Experience this marriage of ballet and Irish dance! Kansas City Ballet's Artistic Director Devon Carney moderates what promises to be an interesting panel discussion with the choreographer of Celts, Lila York, and other special guests. *Celts*, a stunning fusion of Irish Folk Dance and Ballet is set to the music of The Chieftains and more. A celebration of Irish culture, it brings audiences to their feet with its intense choreographed jigs and captivating energy. Come see a rehearsal with Lila York and KCB company dancers before the production opens. Tickets only \$12 at [www.kcballet.org](http://www.kcballet.org).

Kansas City Ballet Presents WORLD PREMIERE of *Carmina Burana* Oct. 11-20  
at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts



## KANSAS CITY PREMIERE

### *Celts*

May 8-17, 2020 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Lila York debuted *Celts* at Boston Ballet — a year before Michael Flatley’s *Riverdance* became a sensation — and was hailed by *The Boston Herald* as “a riveting, imaginative marriage of ballet and Irish folk dance with a modern sensibility.” Set to the music of The Chieftains and more, this celebration of Irish culture has brought audiences to their feet with its choreographically intense jigs and captivating energy. This program also features George Balanchine’s signature work *Serenade* with the music of Peter I. Tchaikovsky and Edwaard Liang’s spellbound *Wunderland*, set to the music of Philip Glass, last performed by Kansas City Ballet in May 2015.

<i>Celts</i>	Choreography: Lila York	Music: The Chieftains; William J. Ruyle; Bill Whelen; Mason Daring
<i>Serenade</i>	Choreography: George Balanchine	Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky
<i>Wunderland</i>	Choreography: Edwaard Liang	Music: Philip Glass

Fri., May 8	7:30 p.m.
Sat., May 9	7:30 p.m.
Sun., May 10	2 p.m.
Fri., May 15	7:30 p.m.
Sat., May 16	7:30 p.m.
Sun., May 17	2 p.m.

### Student Matinees

Kansas City Ballet presents full-length morning performances for schools designed to enhance interdisciplinary learning, integrating dance with English Language Arts, Social Studies, and Music. For the 2019-2020 Season, student matinees will be as follows:

#### *The Nutcracker*

Fri., Dec. 6	10:30 a.m. (student matinee)
Thurs. Dec 12	10:30 a.m. (student matinee)
Fri., Dec. 13	10:30 a.m. (student matinee)

#### *Swan Lake*

Fri., Feb. 14	10:30 a.m. (student matinee)
---------------	------------------------------

*The Nutcracker* and *Swan Lake* Audience: Recommended for 2nd grade and older. For school groups at this special rate; 1 adult/teacher chaperone is required to accompany every 10 students that attend. Reservations are made on a first come first serve basis and groups must have a minimum of 10. Seating at 10:00 a.m.

Kansas City Ballet Presents WORLD PREMIERE of *Carmina Burana* Oct. 11-20 at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

## New Moves

Fri., March 27 10:30 a.m. (Student/Senior Group Matinee)

**New Moves** Audience: Recommended for 6th grade and older. For school groups at this special rate, 1 adult/teacher chaperone is required to accompany every 10 students that attend. Reservations are made on a first come first serve basis and groups must have a minimum of 10. Seating at 10:00 a.m.

For more information contact [aberry@kcballet.org](mailto:aberry@kcballet.org).

## About Kansas City Ballet

*Making Kansas City a destination for dance*

Founded in 1957, Kansas City Ballet is a 30-member professional ballet company under the leadership of Artistic Director Devon Carney and Executive Director Jeffrey J. Bentley. The company's mission is to establish Kansas City Ballet as an indispensable asset in its community through exceptional performances, excellence in dance training and quality community education programs for all ages.

Kansas City Ballet is home to Kansas City Ballet School with an enrollment of 2,000+ children and adults offering professional training for the career-minded student as well as for those simply seeking a healthy lifestyle.

Through the professional company, second company (KCB II & Trainees), and Community Engagement and Education programs for all ages, Kansas City Ballet seeks to nurture and develop their artists, audiences and students in the values inherent in the creativity, diversity and joy of dance.

Kansas City Ballet's home, the Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity, in conjunction with its Resident Company status at the world-class Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, truly has positioned Kansas City as a destination for dance.

Visit [kcballet.org/media/releases](http://kcballet.org/media/releases) for more info.

###

Please direct all media inquiries to: Ellen McDonald at 816.213.4355 or [publicity@kcballet.org](mailto:publicity@kcballet.org).