



SAN FRANCISCOTM BALLET

2026 2027 • Artistic Director
Season Tamara Rojo

SAN FRANCISCO™
BALLET

DECEMBER 4-27

NUTCRACKER

JANUARY 29-
FEBRUARY 7

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

FEBRUARY 16-21

TITANS OF CHOREOGRAPHY

FEBRUARY 27-
MARCH 7

JEWELS

MARCH 19-27

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

APRIL 8-14

DIVINE CREATURES

APRIL 23-
MAY 2

MANON



2026 2027 SEASON

The 26–27 Season is a declaration: ballet is alive, full of adventure, and more relevant than ever. It brings Artistic Director Tamara Rojo’s visionary curation to the stage, embracing the artists and ideas shaping the future, while celebrating ballet’s rich heritage.

This summer, San Francisco Ballet takes the world stage. First, a landmark tour to Jacob’s Pillow, marking 70 years since our east coast debut, then to the iconic Edinburgh International Festival for the first time in over two decades, and finally the legendary Sadler’s Wells in London. SF Ballet is reaching global audiences with dancers who transcend boundaries, blending the tradition of the United States’ longest running ballet company with the spirit of reinvention, risk-taking, and possibility that defines the Bay Area.

Back at the War Memorial Opera House, this season pushes the limits of contemporary ballet, featuring works by two choreographers *The New York Times* calls the “it” duo of their generation—Bobbi Jene Smith and Or Schraiber—who deliver a highly anticipated world premiere. A company premiere from two-time Laurence Olivier Award winner Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui promises to be one of the most exciting arrivals of the year. Dynamic works by Hans van Manen, Christopher Wheeldon, Yuri Possokhov, and Akram Khan are featured, as well as the timeless magic of *Nutcracker*, the regal splendor of *The Sleeping Beauty*, and Balanchine’s dazzling *Jewels*. Storytelling comes alive in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* and *Manon*, where romance, drama, and passion illuminate the stage.

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

PROGRAM 1

- *The Sleeping Beauty* is the pinnacle of the classical ballet canon. Choreographed by Helgi Tomasson after Marius Petipa and set to Tchaikovsky's radiant score, this production honors the grandeur of the 19th-century classic while bringing a fresh vitality showcasing regal pageantry, virtuosic technique, and enduring romance. It is a fairy tale that is both enchanting and captivating for audiences of all ages—elegant, timeless, and a celebration of classical ballet at its finest.

CHOREOGRAPHER

Helgi Tomasson after
Marius Petipa

COMPOSER

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

PERFORMANCE DATES

Fri, Jan 29	7:30 PM
Sat, Jan 30	2 PM
Sat, Jan 30	8 PM
Sun, Jan 31	2 PM
Tue, Feb 2	7:30 PM
Wed, Feb 3	7:30 PM
Thu, Feb 4	7:30 PM
Sat, Feb 6	2 PM
Sat, Feb 6	8 PM
Sun, Feb 7	2 PM

Please note new Friday curtain time.



Wona Park in Tomasson's *The Sleeping Beauty* // © Erik Tomasson



Dores André and Victor Prigent in the pas de deux from Khan's *Dust* // © San Francisco Ballet, photo by Lindsey Rallo

TITANS OF CHOREOGRAPHY

PROGRAM 2

- Experience the brilliance of three major European choreographers in a program that celebrates the range, nuance, and stylistic diversity of contemporary ballet. Van Manen's *Grosse Fuge* showcases his hallmark style of movement—precise, sensual, and utterly exacting. Wheeldon's *Within the Golden Hour*, costumed by Zac Posen, moves from virtuosic clarity into sweeping romantic lyricism. Khan's *Dust* draws from the haunting legacy of WWI—visceral, dramatic, and emotionally unsparing. From Dutch exactitude and British elegance to Khan's singular fusion of Indian classical and Western contemporary dance—this curation presents the art form at its most inventive and alive.

GROSSE FUGE

CHOREOGRAPHER
Hans van Manen

COMPOSER
Ludwig van Beethoven

WITHIN THE GOLDEN HOUR

CHOREOGRAPHER
Christopher Wheeldon

COMPOSERS
Ezio Bosso and
Antonio Vivaldi

Within the Golden Hour® by
Christopher Wheeldon

DUST

CHOREOGRAPHER
Akram Khan

COMPOSER
Jocelyn Pook

PERFORMANCE DATES

Tue, Feb 16	7:30 PM
Wed, Feb 17	7:30 PM
Thu, Feb 18	7:30 PM
Fri, Feb 19	7:30 PM
Sat, Feb 20	2 PM
Sat, Feb 20	8 PM
Sun, Feb 21	2 PM

Please note new Friday curtain time.



Sasha De Sola and Harrison James in Balanchine's *Diamonds* // Choreography by George Balanchine © The Balanchine Trust; Photo © Lindsay Thomas

JEWELS

PROGRAM 3

- George Balanchine's *Jewels* is a singular masterpiece: an abstract triptych that evokes the brilliance of precious gems inspired by the jeweler Van Cleef & Arpels. *Emeralds* shimmers with the elegance and refinement of 19th-century French Romantic ballet, a reflection of Balanchine's vision of France's grace and charm. *Rubies* sparkles with wit, energy, and a touch of New York City jazz, epitomizing the creative partnership between Stravinsky and Balanchine with a distinctly American flair. *Diamonds* exudes the grandeur and order of Imperial Russia, preserving the essence of the classical heritage Balanchine absorbed as a young man at the Mariinsky Theater. Together, these three luminous ballets form a dazzling tribute to ballet's past, present, and enduring splendor.

CHOREOGRAPHER

George Balanchine

EMERALDS

COMPOSER

Gabriel Fauré

RUBIES

COMPOSER

Igor Stravinsky

DIAMONDS

COMPOSER

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

PERFORMANCE DATES

Sat, Feb 27	8 PM
Sun, Feb 28	2 PM
Tue, Mar 2	7:30 PM
Wed, Mar 3	7:30 PM
Thu, Mar 4	7:30 PM
Fri, Mar 5	7:30 PM
Sat, Mar 6	2 PM
Sat, Mar 6	8 PM
Sun, Mar 7	2 PM

Please note new Friday curtain time.

© The George Balanchine Trust

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

PROGRAM 4

- Enter Shakespeare's enchanted forest—a lush world brimming with magic, woodland creatures, and delightful disorder. Set to Felix Mendelssohn's luminous score, George Balanchine's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* conjures a world where mischievous fairies, bewitched lovers, and bumbling mortals collide in a swirl of magic and mayhem. Balanchine's sparkling choreography brings every moment vividly and luminously to life. Exquisitely crafted costumes and dreamlike sets by iconic French designer Christian Lacroix—created for the Paris Opera Ballet—wrap every scene in shimmering splendor. Joyful, radiant, and utterly transporting, this production is pure enchantment for dreamers of all ages.

CHOREOGRAPHER

George Balanchine

COMPOSER

Felix Mendelssohn

COSTUMES

Christian Lacroix

© The George Balanchine Trust

PERFORMANCE DATES

Fri, Mar 19	7:30 PM
Sat, Mar 20	2 PM
Sat, Mar 20	8 PM
Sun, Mar 21	2 PM
Tue, Mar 23	7:30 PM
Wed, Mar 24	7:30 PM
Thu, Mar 25	7:30 PM
Fri, Mar 26	7:30 PM
Sat, Mar 27	2 PM
Sat, Mar 27	8 PM

Please note new Friday curtain time.



San Francisco Ballet School Students in Balanchine's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* // Choreography by George Balanchine © The Balanchine Trust; Photo © Lindsay Thomas

DIVINE CREATURES

PROGRAM 5

- Three bold voices. One visionary spark. This program traces the enduring influence of ballet impresario Sergei Diaghilev through works that reimagine the spirit of the Ballets Russes for today. Dubbed “two ‘it’ choreographers” by *The New York Times*, witness a world premiere from Bobbi Jene Smith and Or Schraiber. Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui’s *Faun* refracts myth through a modern lens, echoing Nijinsky’s revolutionary sensuality. Yuri Possokhov’s next@90 Festival hit *Violin Concerto* returns with its technical brilliance and Stravinsky’s virtuosic score. Distinct in style yet united by collaboration across disciplines, these three works celebrate risk, reinvention, innovation, and artistic virtuosity—hallmarks of Diaghilev’s legacy and the adventurous heart of this season.

BOBBI JENE SMITH & OR SCHRAIBER WORLD PREMIERE

COMPOSER
Andy Akiho

FAUN

CHOREOGRAPHER
Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui

COMPOSERS
Claude Debussy and
Nitin Sawhney

VIOLIN CONCERTO

CHOREOGRAPHER
Yuri Possokhov

COMPOSER
Igor Stravinsky

PERFORMANCE DATES

Thu, Apr 8	7:30 PM
Fri, Apr 9	7:30 PM
Sat, Apr 10	2 PM
Sat, Apr 10	8 PM
Sun, Apr 11	2 PM
Tue, Apr 13	7:30 PM
Wed, Apr 14	7:30 PM

Please note new Friday curtain time.



Sasha Mukhamedov and Joseph Walsh in Possokhov's *Violin Concerto* // © Lindsay Thomas



Jasmine Jimison and Max Cauthorn in MacMillan's *Manon* // © Lindsay Thomas

MANON

PROGRAM 6

- Returning to critical and audience acclaim, this is the epitome of Sir Kenneth MacMillan. Choreographed in 1974 while he was the director of The Royal Ballet, *Manon* is an adaptation of Abbé Prévost's novel *L'Histoire du Chevalier des Grieux et de Manon Lescaut*. A full-length ballet in three acts, *Manon* is considered one of MacMillan's most notable works, showcasing his expertise of narrative choreography and acute insight into human psychology. MacMillan is at his best here: finding full expression in the impassioned duets of the central couple, visceral and desperate in their desire.

The heroine's struggle to escape poverty makes *Manon* one of the most dramatic, sensual, and devastating ballets, showcasing the juxtaposition between Manon's impoverished origins and the lavish world she longs to inhabit.

Contains mature themes.

CHOREOGRAPHER

Sir Kenneth MacMillan

COMPOSER

Jules Massenet

PERFORMANCE DATES

Fri, Apr 23	7:30 PM
Sat, Apr 24	2 PM
Sat, Apr 24	8 PM
Sun, Apr 25	2 PM
Tue, Apr 27	7:30 PM
Wed, Apr 28	7:30 PM
Thu, Apr 29	7:30 PM
Sat, May 1	2 PM
Sat, May 1	8 PM
Sun, May 2	2 PM

Please note new Friday curtain time.



NUTCRACKER

- On Christmas Eve 1944, San Francisco Ballet made history with the American premiere of *Nutcracker*, launching a national holiday tradition that continues to enchant audiences today.

Set in 1915 San Francisco during the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, Helgi Tomasson's *Nutcracker* takes place in a city celebrating a new age of technology and international collaboration, much like the San Francisco of today.

As the lights dim and the music soars, snowflakes swirl, flowers dance, and a child's imagination takes flight. Experience the magic of a *Nutcracker* that is as unique as it is heartwarming.

CHOREOGRAPHER

Helgi Tomasson

COMPOSER

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

SPECIAL NUTCRACKER PERFORMANCES

LAND OF DREAMS

December 6 at 12pm

A joyful celebration of San Francisco's beloved holiday tradition. Begin the season with the chance to meet your favorite characters at a festive luncheon in a winter wonderland with interactive activities before a matinee performance of *Nutcracker*.

SENSORY FRIENDLY PERFORMANCE

December 27 at 11am

This performance provides a relaxed and welcoming space where neurodiverse audiences of all ages and abilities can feel comfortable to experience the magic of *Nutcracker*. This family-friendly performance is also a wonderful opportunity for young children to experience ballet for the first time in a more informal setting.

DECEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 7pm	5 2pm 7pm
6 2pm 7pm	7 L	8 6pm	9 6pm	10 6pm	11 2pm 7pm	12 2pm 7pm
13 2pm 7pm	14	15 7pm	16 2pm 7pm	17 2pm 7pm	18 2pm 7pm	19 2pm 7pm
20 2pm 7pm	21	22 2pm 7pm	23 2pm 7pm	24 11am 4pm	25	26 2pm 7pm
27 11am 4pm	28	29	30	31		

■ = Value Priced Performance
 L = Land of Dreams Luncheon Event
 SFP = Sensory Friendly Performance

YOUR SEASON YOUR STAGE YOUR BENEFITS

Becoming a subscriber means more than securing a ticket—it means making San Francisco Ballet part of your year. Your subscription surrounds you with exclusive privileges designed to deepen your connection to the art and the artists. Here's what's waiting for you.

A SEAT WORTH COMING BACK TO

Principal 6 Series subscribers return to the same coveted seat every performance. Each year, you have the opportunity to renew that seat or request an upgrade, so your experience only gets better with time.

THE FREEDOM TO STAY FLEXIBLE

Life doesn't always follow a program. Full-season subscribers enjoy fee-free advance ticket exchanges for Repertory programs—a \$20 savings per exchange order—so a change in plans never has to mean missing a performance you've been anticipating all season.

SAVINGS THAT ADD UP

Your loyalty is rewarded throughout the year. Subscribers receive discounts on audience engagement programs and purchases at the SF Ballet Shop, giving you more ways to experience and celebrate the company you love.

FIRST IN LINE FOR NUTCRACKER

The holidays belong to you. Subscribe before July 2026 and you'll be the first to access tickets to San Francisco Ballet's cherished *Nutcracker*—with priority selection of the most sought-after weekend performances, prime seats, and 20% savings* before the general public gets their chance. The magic starts early when you're a subscriber.

* Some restrictions apply



War Memorial Opera House lobby during MacMillan's *Manon* // © San Francisco Ballet, photo by Lindsey Rallo



Jayson Johnson, Michelle Gilman Jasen, and Christina Nicolosi at San Francisco Ballet Orchestra's 50th Anniversary dinner // © The Vanity Portrait Studio

ELEVATE THE MOMENT SHAPE THE FUTURE

This year, we invite you to enhance your experience with San Francisco Ballet and make a vital impact by joining our dedicated and passionate community of donors. As a non-profit organization, subscription and ticket revenue cover only a portion of our annual operating costs. Philanthropic support bridges that gap, making your tax-deductible donation crucial to powering seasons of breathtaking artistry and groundbreaking creativity.

Donors to San Francisco Ballet enjoy exclusive benefits that offer behind-the-scenes access and deeper connection to our programming, including invitations to studio rehearsals, backstage tours, and festive receptions, concierge ticketing services, access to the Jeannik Méquet Littlefield Intermezzo Lounge at the War Memorial Opera House, and much more.

Your investment plays an essential role in sustaining the artistry, innovation, and excellence that define this Company. Join us in creating the extraordinary. For a complete list of donor benefits and levels, please visit sfballet.org/support.

TOURING

JACOB'S PILLOW

Becket, Massachusetts
August 5–9, 2026

We return this summer to the site of our heralded East Coast debut after a 70-year absence, with a program featuring works by Hans van Manen, George Balanchine, William Forsythe, Tamara Rojo, and Ben Stevenson.

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Edinburgh, Scotland
August 28–30, 2026

San Francisco Ballet returns to the Edinburgh International Festival for the first time in over 20 years. Performing with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, this appearance marks the European premiere of Aszure Barton and Floating Points' *Mere Mortals*.

SADLER'S WELLS

London, UK
September 9–12, 2026

For the first time in England: Aszure Barton and Floating Points' *Mere Mortals*. Step inside a world where myth meets modern day. This fully immersive experience fuses movement, music, and cutting-edge visuals into a breathtaking sensory journey.



Nikisha Fogo and Wei Wang in Aszure Barton and Floating Points' *Mere Mortals*
// © Studio Schuller for San Francisco Ballet

SAN FRANCISCO BALLET

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

OPENING NIGHT GALA

January 14, 2027

Save the date for this year's most anticipated event. Join us for a one-night-only performance at the War Memorial Opera House.

SAN FRANCISCO BALLET SCHOOL SPRING FESTIVAL

War Memorial Opera House

May 7–8, 2027

Join us at the 2027 SF Ballet School Spring Festival. Be inspired by the next generation in artistic excellence. Your participation supports scholarship and financial aid programs allowing us to discover and nurture extraordinary talent, propelling purposeful forward momentum toward the ballet's future.



San Francisco Ballet School Students performing a demonstration during Spring Festival 2025
// © Lindsay Thomas

2026 2027 SEASON CALENDAR

NUTCRACKER

December 4–27

*See page 8 for *Nutcracker* calendar

1 - THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

January 29–February 7

2 - TITANS OF CHOREOGRAPHY

GROSSE FUGE
WITHIN THE GOLDEN HOUR
DUST

February 16–21

3 - JEWELS

EMERALDS
RUBIES
DIAMONDS

February 27–March 7

4 - A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

March 19–27

5 - DIVINE CREATURES

BOBBI JENE SMITH & OR SCHRAIBER
WORLD PREMIERE
FAUN
VIOLIN CONCERTO

April 8–14

6 - MANON

April 23–May 2

Please note new Friday curtain time.

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
JAN					14 Opening Night Gala	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29 7:30pm 1	30 2pm 8pm 1
FEB	31 2pm 1	1	2 7:30pm 1	3 7:30pm 1	4 7:30pm 1	5	6 2pm 8pm 1
	7 2pm 1	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16 7:30pm 2	17 7:30pm 2	18 7:30pm 2	19 7:30pm 2	20 2pm 8pm 2
	21 2pm 2	22	23	24	25	26	27 8pm 3
MAR	28 2pm 3	1	2 7:30pm 3	3 7:30pm 3	4 7:30pm 3	5 7:30pm 3	6 2pm 8pm 3
	7 2pm 3	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19 7:30pm 4	20 2pm 8pm 4
	21 2pm 4	22	23 7:30pm 4	24 7:30pm 4	25 7:30pm 4	26 7:30pm 4	27 2pm 8pm 4
	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
APR	4	5	6	7	8 7:30pm 5	9 7:30pm 5	10 2pm 8pm 5
	11 2pm 5	12	13 7:30pm 5	14 7:30pm 5	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23 7:30pm 6	24 2pm 8pm 6
	25 2pm 6	26	27 7:30pm 6	28 7:30pm 6	29 7:30pm 6	30	1 2pm 8pm 6
MAY	2 2pm 6	3	4	5	6	7	8

SAN FRANCISCO™ BALLET

San Francisco Ballet gratefully acknowledges the following for their support:



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