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Houston Ballet Announces Its 2026-2027 Season

A dynamic season featuring mixed repertory programs, world premieres, and iconic ballets

VIEW PHOTOS [HERE](#)

HOUSTON, TX – February 17, 2026 – Houston Ballet is proud to announce its 2026-2027 Season, a bold and compelling lineup that foregrounds the company’s dual commitment to artistic innovation and rich performance traditions. This season highlights mixed repertory programs with world premieres, immersive new storytelling, and iconic narrative ballets — all performed on the Wortham Theater Center stage.

“This season reflects the full breadth of what Houston Ballet is — and where we’re going,” said Artistic Director Julie Kent. “We are honoring the great choreographic voices that have shaped our art form, from Balanchine and MacMillan to Lubovitch and Peck, while simultaneously opening the door to new creative possibilities through world premieres and bold collaborations.”

Artistic Director Stanton Welch added, “*Where’s Alice?* is an example of that vision – a production that pushes the boundaries of ballet through immersive sets and thought-provoking storytelling that makes you question, “Who in the world am I?” as Alice did, creating an entirely new world audiences can step into. It’s work like this that allows us to welcome new audiences into the theater while continuing to challenge and inspire our longtime supporters.”

Pecos Bill – Mixed Repertory

September 11-20, 2026

Houston Ballet opens the season with a spirited mixed repertory featuring Balanchine’s *Symphonie Concertante*, Lar Lubovitch’s *Meadow*, and Stanton Welch’s *Pecos Bill*. *Symphonie Concertante*, an exemplar of Balanchine’s musical clarity and dynamic classical style, sets an elegant tone. *Meadow*, a lush and lyrical piece by revered choreographer Lar Lubovitch — in whose original cast Houston Ballet’s own Artistic Director Julie Kent once danced — marks the Company’s first collaboration with Lubovitch, bringing his expressive movement vocabulary to Houston audiences for the first time. The program closes with Welch’s rollicking *Pecos Bill*, a beloved ballet infused with American mythic energy.

Manon

September 24 - October 4, 2026

Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon* returns to the Wortham, a richly dramatic narrative ballet centered on love, desire, and moral disillusionment. One of Houston Ballet's cherished story ballets — first performed by the company in 1994 — *Manon* showcases deep emotional storytelling and lavish choreography, making it a perennial favorite in the repertoire. ()

Where's Alice? World Premiere

February 25 - March 7, 2027

Houston Ballet presents *Where's Alice?*, an entirely new world premiere that transports audiences into an imaginative re-envisioning of Carroll's iconic tale. Designed as a fully immersive theater experience, the production incorporates cutting-edge audio and visual effects to create a living, breathing world that audiences will follow down the rabbit hole. This production promises a bold fusion of dance, spectacle, and storytelling unlike anything previously seen on the Wortham stage.

Madame Butterfly

March 11-21, 2027

Puccini's heartbreaking score meets ballet in *Madame Butterfly*, a dramatic exploration of love, sacrifice, and cultural collision. Houston Ballet has long excelled at presenting emotionally rich narrative works, and *Madame Butterfly* continues this tradition with lush choreography and powerful performances.

The Rite of Spring – Mixed Repertory

May 27 - June 6, 2027

This mixed repertory program pushes artistic boundaries with three striking works: Justin Peck's *Reflections*, a hypnotic contemporary ballet by one of today's most influential choreographers; a world premiere by Jacquelyn Long, adding fresh creative voice to the company's season; and Welch's *The Rite of Spring*, a visceral and elemental reimagining of Stravinsky's seismic score that highlights rhythmic intensity and raw physicality.

Swan Lake

June 10-27, 2027

Houston Ballet concludes the season with *Swan Lake*, one of the most beloved and enduring ballets in the classical canon. Stanton Welch's celebrated production — first staged by Houston Ballet in 2006 and repeated multiple times since, reinforcing the company's mastery of full-length classical storytelling — returns for an extended engagement that showcases dramatic depth, technical brilliance, and the spellbinding transformation of Odette/Odile.

2026-2027 Season at a Glance

- **Pecos Bill** (Mixed Repertory) | September 11-20, 2026
Balanchine's *Symphonie Concertante*, Lubovitch's *Meadow*, Welch's *Pecos Bill*
- **Manon** | September 24 - October 4, 2026
- **Where's Alice?** (World Premiere) | February 25 - March 7, 2027
- **Madame Butterfly** | March 11-21, 2027
- **The Rite of Spring** (Mixed Repertory) | May 27 - June 6, 2027
Peck's *Reflections*, World Premiere by Jacquelyn Long, Welch's *The Rite of Spring*
- **Swan Lake** | June 10-27, 2027

All performances take place at the Wortham Theater Center. Additional details, including casting, creative teams, and ticket information, will be announced at a later date. For more information, visit houstonballet.org.

Performance Details

Schedule: Visit www.houstonballet.org
Venue: Wortham Theater Center
501 Texas Avenue, Houston, TX 77002
Tickets: Visit www.houstonballet.org

ABOUT HOUSTON BALLET

Founded in 1969, Houston Ballet is one of the nation's leading ballet companies, inspiring audiences through artistic excellence, bold choreography, and a commitment to the future of dance. Under the artistic leadership of Artistic Directors Julie Kent and Stanton Welch AM and the chief administrative leadership of Executive Director Sonja Kostich, the Company is home to the Margaret Alkek Williams Center for Dance, the largest professional ballet facility in the country. Houston Ballet operates with a \$44 million annual budget (FY26) and a \$130 million endowment (as of October 2025), presents a diverse repertory of classical and contemporary works, and tours internationally with a global reach spanning 116 countries. Houston Ballet Academy serves as a leading pipeline for emerging dance talent, training more than 1,000 students annually—most on scholarship. Through complementary Education and Community Engagement programs, the Company reaches more than 85,000 people annually, expanding access to dance across the Houston region.

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