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Ballet Pensacola presents a Doubleheader – "Paguita" and "Rocketman"

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PENSACOLA, Fla. — Ballet Pensacola invites you to experience the magic of "Paquita and Rocketman" at the historic downtown Cultural Arts Center on February 21 and 22 at 7:30pm and February 23 at 2:30pm.

Ballet Pensacola's **Doubleheader** will pique the interest of the dance community whether you are a classicist or prefer your movement more athletic and edgy. The timeless classic *Paquita* is the creation of French composer Édouard Deldevez and Ludwig Minkus and Paris Opéra Ballet Master Joseph Mazilier. It was first presented at the <u>Salle Le Peletier</u> by the <u>Paris Opera Ballet</u> in 1846. Choreographed in a classical Spanish style, the **Paquita Variations** have become a standard in American ballet companies' repertoire. With a stage full of classical tutus and a show of bravura technicality, this first half of the Doubleheader is sure to please.

The evening closes with a world premier of **Rocketman**, a ballet inspired by the move and by the life and times of Sir Elton John. Choreographed by Christine Duhon and staged by Richard Steinert, you will find no tutus in this piece. However, if youthful and athletic exuberance is what you seek, **Rocketman** is sure to cure your craving. From the grandeur of a Grand Pas de Duex and corps de ballet to the rough and ready expression of the artistic and personal experiences of a generation's icon, Ballet Pensacola provides a broad, exciting and captivating glimpse into the balletomane's current viewpoint.

Tickets are available for purchase for \$22 - \$34, plus applicable facility fees, through the Pensacola Cultural Center Box Office at 850-432-2042 or www.pensacolalittletheatre.com.

Financial support is provided in part by the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs and ACE.

For more information visit www.balletpensacola.org or call 850-432-9546.

About Ballet Pensacola:

Under the artistic direction of Richard Steinert, Ballet Pensacola has become one of the cultural cornerstones of Pensacola, Fla. It is committed to the production of both classic ballet works and innovative originals along with its strong educational program. Located at 400 South Jefferson Street in the historic Pensacola Cultural Plaza, the organization was originally founded in 1978 as Kaleidoscope Dance Theatre. Its current operations include a performing company of 15 professional dancers augmented by talented student dancers from the Ballet Pensacola Academy. The Academy serves more than 300 students each year through its children's, training and community divisions. For more information visit www.balletpensacola.org or call 850-432-9546.

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