

New West Symphony, Ventura Ballet share center stage



SMOOTH MOVES—Leila Drake and Spencer Gavin, principal dancers of Ventura County Ballet Company, rehearse a ballet scene from Beethoven's "Creatures of Prometheus," which will be performed with New West Symphony this Saturday in Thousand Oaks.

New West Symphony has invited Ventura County Ballet Company to perform onstage with New West's 80-piece orchestra in Thousand Oaks.

"As a tribute to visual and performing arts in our Masterpiece Series, the New West Symphony will integrate ballet movement with a full 80-piece orchestra and all original choreography by Lorin Johnson under the artistic direction of Colleen O'Callaghan for scenes from Beethoven's 'Creatures of Prometheus,'" said Nelson Dodge, executive director of New West Symphony.

"It's rare for a ballet company to perform onstage with a full orchestra, but the New West Symphony is doing just that - - inviting guest principal dancers and dancers from the Ventura County Ballet Company to collaborate with us and to create a

complete visual experience for our audiences," Dodge said.

The collaboration between New West Symphony and other performing and visual arts organizations was sparked by New West's founders.

"We forged ahead to pursue a theme for the entire season that made reference to other art forms, such as visual and performing arts," said Dodge.

Audiences also will hear Edvard Grieg's Suite No. 1 from "Peer Gynt," Opus 46, and Modest Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition" during the presentation.

The local curtain time is 8 p.m. Sat, Nov. 8 at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, 2100 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd.

Tickets are \$25 to \$98 and are available at www.newwestsymphony.org or at the Civic Arts Plaza ticket office.

http://www.theacorn.com/news/2008/1106/On_The_Town/054.html