

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 18, 2008

MEDIA CONTACT: Elizabeth Parker  
919 719-0800

**CAROLINA BALLET OPENS 2008-2009 SEASON  
WITH TWO RALEIGH PREMIERES**

RALEIGH, NC --- Carolina Ballet opens the doors on its second decade with two new ballets choreographed by artistic director Robert Weiss and principal guest choreographer Lynne Taylor-Corbett in July, during the company's summer residency on the campus of UNC Wilmington. These new works will be presented together on the inaugural program of the 2008-2009 season, *Artistic Expressions*, at Raleigh Memorial Auditorium September 18-21, 2008. The schedule of performances is as follows:

Thursday, September 18, at 8pm  
Friday, September 19, at 8pm  
Saturday, September 20, at 2pm and 8pm  
Sunday, September 21, at 2pm

The word most often heard from the audience following the premiere performances of *Code of Silence* (Taylor-Corbett) and *Time Gallery* (Weiss) was "powerful" and the two new dances were received with standing ovations at UNC Wilmington's Kenan Auditorium at the end of the residency. Lynne Taylor-Corbett choreographed *Code of Silence* to music of contemporary Estonian composer Arvo Part, and Robert Weiss chose *Time Gallery* by Paul Moravec for his new ballet. In a preview article about the new ballets, the *Wilmington Star News* wrote "this year Carolina Ballet is back with a conscience" referring to Taylor-Corbett's comment that she was trying "to give voice to something," saying she was inspired by Amnesty International which "works for truth and forgiveness." The ballet explores the "tacit agreement among human beings that these are things we don't discuss." The costumes for *Code of Silence* were designed by Anne Porterfield and the lighting by resident lighting designer Ross Kolman.

When asked at an open rehearsal in Wilmington what his ballet is about, Robert Weiss said “its about time, a day in the life of mankind, a day experienced through time keeping devices – heartbeat, bells, clocks...” All of this he feels is embodied in Paul Moravec’s music. It isn’t the first time Weiss has used music by Moravec, in 2006 he created a ballet to Moravec’s 2004 Pulitzer Prize winning score *Tempest Fantasy* which will be revived later in the season with *The Kreutzer Sonata* played live by the Ciompi Quartet of Duke University.

The scenery for *Time Gallery* was designed by Jeff AR Jones and the NC State University College of Textiles obtained the fabric for the drops and digitally painted them. Several drops were seen at the premiere of *Time Gallery* in Wilmington but the production in Raleigh will bring together all the scenic elements for the first time. The costumes designed by Anne Porterfield were also digitally painted by NCSU College of Textiles. “We are fortunate to have so many wonderful resources in the Triangle to draw upon when putting our productions together,” says Robert Weiss. Earlier this year, the College of Textiles assisted with the scenery for Carolina Ballet’s *Sleeping Beauty*.

Tickets for Carolina Ballet’s *Artistic Expressions* may be purchased by calling the Carolina Ballet box office at 919 719-0900 or through Ticketmaster at 919 834-4000. Tickets may also be purchased on line at [www.carolinaballet.com](http://www.carolinaballet.com). Ticket prices range from \$15-65 and there is a \$10 student rush ticket one hour before the show.

After ten seasons, Carolina Ballet, Inc. has taken its place among America’s premiere arts organizations. Under the innovative direction of artistic director Robert Weiss, a talented company, fiscally responsible management and community support, Carolina Ballet exposes audiences to traditional ballet by legendary masters and new works of contemporary choreographers. The company represents the vibrant entrepreneurial spirit and ever-increasing quality of life experienced here in North Carolina.

# # #

Media sponsors for Carolina Ballet are:  
The News & Observer, Capitol Broadcasting, Time Warner Cable  
The Herald-Sun, Clear Channel, Triangle Business Journal, UNC-TV