

SEASONS

Long ago, in a land across the great waters, our ancient father had a dream.

In his dream the Great Spirit came to our father and carried him away on wings of fire.

The spirit told our father he would lead him to a new land—

A place of bounty, a promised land—

For he had walked in truth and in light in all seasons.

So begins the legend.

It is the story of the seasons of a people:

Seasons of faith and prosperity, pride and war, forgiveness and rebirth;

Seasons known to all people, in all nations, from the beginning of time.

We invite you to journey with us through this timeless legend.

It is our story.

It is your story.

—Janielle Christensen
Artistic Director

SEASON OF PROMISE

North America: Eagle

The eagle, which flies highest and nearest to our Creator, is sacred to natives of North America. Embodying strength, courage, and wisdom, the eagle shows us that we have the ability to develop the same qualities.

Los Andes: Tinku

This energetic dance celebrates the strength needed to build a happy community.

Hawaii: Noho Ana Ke 'Ala Anuheia

This dance contrasts the violent, volcanic elements of creation with the beauty and life that eventually emerge.

Alaska: Yupik

Using their hands, the dancers tell stories of fishing exploits and of building friendships.

SEASON OF PLENTY

Ecuador: Por Eso Te Quiero Cuenca

Through this traditional song, the dancers relish in the history and great culture of Ecuador.

Samoa: Sasa, Lapa Lapa, Slap

Young Samoans demonstrate their love for life in the rousing *sasa* and *lapa lapa* and prove their agility in the powerful slap dance.

Paraguay: El Pájaro Campana

El pájaro campana is the national bird of Paraguay, and its dance symbolizes liberty. In mythology, Tupá (God) turned the bell tower of a Jesuit church into the white bird, whose sound resembles a bell's.

North America: Bow and Arrow

This dance reverences the bow and arrow for providing sustenance and protection and also honors past warriors.

SEASON OF PROSPERITY

Tahiti: Ote'a Tavevo, Ote'a Amui

From the island known as "the pearl of the sea," Tahitian dance expresses the many vibrant journeys of life.

Argentina: Chacarera del Violin

The energetic *chacarera* emphasizes the grace and beauty of the *paisana* (Argentina's cowgirl) and the strength and masculinity of the *gaucho* (Argentina's cowboy).

North America: Fancy

The women's fancy dance shows the emergence of the butterfly and the beginning of a new direction in life. The men's fancy dance depicts the warriors' battlefield feats.

Bolivia: Mamacha Candila

In this display of skill and power, the caporal uses his elaborate costume to represent his strength, pride, and wealth.

SEASON OF WAR

North America: Warrior's Suite

These dances pay respect to all Native American warriors.

New Zealand: Te Wa o Tumatauenga, He Korero Riri

Carried on the wind of dawn come the voices of war and of supplication to Tumatauenga, god of war, by both warrior and loved one. Preparations for battle are made, and through

the *haka* and *poi*, the challenge is issued: "We will not back down but will gain victory."

Mexico: Sangre Azteca

Representing an Aztec ritual from southern Mexico, this dance honors the great white god Ce Acatl Topiltzin Quetzalcoatl.

SEASON OF REBIRTH

Hawaii: Ku'u Leo Aloha

A spirit of love influences every aspect of Hawaiian life. Good things brought from other cultures are welcomed in the spirit of aloha.

North America: Jingle, Grass

To the Ojibwe tribe in Minnesota, the Jingle dress is said to have special healing powers. The male grass dancers imitate the tall, flowing sweet grass of the prairie, symbolizing the balance between man and nature.

Tonga: Tata'ili, Laka Laka

The grace of these dances reflect the purity and conviction of the devoted Tongan people.

Mexico: Mariachi, La Negra

With their intricate footwork, beautiful dresses, and energetic music, these dancers capture the soul of México.

North America: Hoop Dance

The hoop symbolizes eternity to many Native Americans. Dancers position the hoops to honor the creations of Mother Earth.

FINALE

North America: Go, My Son

A wise chief teaches that family and education are the keys to success and happiness.

