

En Pointe

A dance legacy is one of the myriad reasons **Fiona Druckenmiller** supports the New York City Ballet, which this year debuts an original score by Sir Paul McCartney.

Growing up as the daughter of a former prima ballerina in New York City, I began seeing New York City Ballet performances as a young girl. I continued this tradition with my own three daughters, who remember attending performances of George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker* every year. That my mother danced this ballet years ago in London (as well as *Swan Lake* and many others) made the story and dancing even more magical to my children and me.

Supporting New York City Ballet is one of the many philanthropic activities that my husband and I have actively participated in over the years, and it is one of the first things that F.D is doing in its first year of operation. New York City is home to our business, and we wanted to support a local cause. The growth and success of F.D will inevitably be tied to the health and success of this city, and cultural institutions like New York City Ballet are a critical reason why NYC is as vital as it is.

Sponsoring the upcoming Fall Gala has additional meaning for me, as Sir Paul McCartney's fiancée, Nancy Shevell, is a



Fiona Druckenmiller



Peter Martins rehearsing Sara Mearns and Robert Fairchild in his new ballet *Ocean's Kingdom* with a commissioned score by Sir Paul McCartney.



Stella McCartney

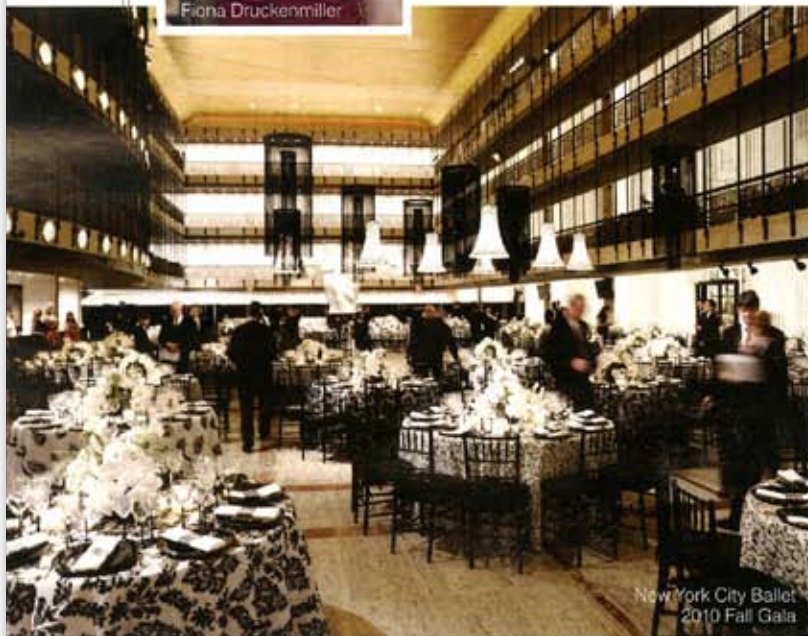


Peter Martins and Sir Paul McCartney

This milestone work will mark the first time that Sir Paul McCartney has ever written an original orchestral score for dance, and it will also feature costumes designed by the acclaimed fashion designer and Paul's daughter, Stella McCartney.

close friend. Paul is writing the score for *Ocean's Kingdom*, a new ballet choreographed by ballet master in chief Peter Martins that will make its world premiere at the Gala on Thursday, September 22. This milestone work will mark the first time that Sir Paul has written an original orchestral score for dance, and it will also feature costumes designed by the acclaimed fashion designer and Paul's daughter, Stella McCartney. Understanding a little of the way Paul thinks and works and knowing that he and Nancy will be very invested in the evening will surely make it an extraordinary one.

I would encourage others to become involved with institutions like New York City Ballet, because it needs our support to continue creating one of the most beautiful art forms. *The New York City Ballet Fall Gala takes place on Thursday, September 22 at the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center. For tickets, call 212-870-5570 or visit nycballet.com.*



New York City Ballet 2010 Fall Gala