Boston Ballet promotes three dancers

Paul Craig (left) and Irlan Silva.

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In an unusual move, Boston Ballet is promoting three dancers mid-season. Paul Craig and Irlan Silva are stepping up to the rank of soloist, and Alexander Maryanowski is joining Boston Ballet’s corps de ballet, rising from Boston Ballet II. Craig was hailed as “a dapper, rather whimsical” Drosselmeier in “The Nutcracker” last month, while Silva was noted for a sinuous performance in Helen Pickett’s “Eventide” last May. In announcing the promotions of Craig and Silva, Boston Ballet artistic director Mikko Nissinen also praised their dancing in John Neumeier’s “Third Symphony of Gustav Mahler” last fall. A native of Rio de Janeiro, Silva is a subject of the acclaimed 2009 documentary “Only When I Dance,” which will have a free screening at the Strand Theatre in Dorchester on Feb. 5. For information, visit www.bostonballet.org/community-events.