



SINGAPORE
DANCE
THEATRE

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | JANEK SCHERGEN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT

Melissa Tan
Publicity and Advertising Executive
melissat@singaporedancetheatre.com

Joseph See
Marketing Manager
Joseph.see@singaporedancetheatre.com

Office: (65) 6338 0611
Fax: (65) 6338 9748
www.singaporedancetheatre.com

Singapore Dance Theatre presents *Passages* 2 – 4 November 2012 at the National Museum Gallery Theatre



This November, three fledging choreographers will showcase their talent and fresh ideas as dancers from Singapore Dance Theatre present their stunning contemporary works at the National Museum Theatre during the annual *Passages* showcase. This year's *Passages* will feature new creations by

Tan Fang Xi, Timothy Coleman and Christopher Arzaga, who will choreograph exciting new works to be performed in the experimental black box theatre space.

Passages, an annual choreographic workshop gives upcoming local choreographers a much awaited opportunity to create inspiring new pieces and work with the professional dancers from Singapore Dance Theatre. In October this year, the three young choreographers will undergo training under the tutelage and guidance of Singapore Dance Theatre's Artistic Director Janek Schergen, while stretching their creative potential, injecting their interests and realizing their individualistic flairs. For two weeks, they will attend workshops and seminars and explore various techniques of choreography.

At the end of the workshop, the choreographers will each present a 10-minute piece in the first half of *Passages* at the National Museum Theatre this November, featuring SDT's professional dancers. The second half of the performance will showcase two captivating pieces – *Waiting...* by Christina Chan and *Absence of Story* by Toru Shimazaki.

Absence of Story by Toru Shimazaki, danced to the music of Brahms, is a work without story or words in hope of not diminishing or causing distraction to the beauty and the power of music. Toru's works have been presented by Hubbard Street Dance, the Colorado Ballet and the National Ballet in Tokyo.

Christina Chan's *Waiting...* is a piece selected from last year's workshop, to be presented as a fully realized piece of repertoire for Singapore Dance Theatre, with the addition of choreography coupled with lighting and costume. The work was inspired by its seven dancers who presented Christina with fresh and exciting options that enabled her to create the work. Christina is currently a full-time company artist with Frontier Danceland and the winner of Sprouts choreographic competition in 2011.

Be inspired by innovative and challenging choreography at the *Passages* showcase!

Selected Choreographers for *Passages*

Tan Fangxi

Fangxi, considered by Artistic Director Janek Schergen to have promising potential, was approached after SPROUTS where she presented her piece *Inhale.Rain* which earned her an Honourable Mention.

Fangxi began Chinese dance training at the age of six and moved on to modern dance subsequently. During her undergraduate days, Fangxi joined the NUS Dance Ensemble where she gained exposure in Asian contemporary dance under the tutelage of Zaini Mohd Tahir. Her interest was sparked by this fusion of dance styles and she began to develop her own artistic voice and identity in Asian contemporary dance, leveraging her background in Chinese dance to create works with a strong Asian influence for the Ensemble since 2008. She remains an active alumni member of the NUS Dance Ensemble and continues to choreograph and perform with them. In the past few years, Fangxi has also been furthering her learning and exploration of contemporary dance by attending classes conducted by T.H.E. Dance Company. In 2011, Fangxi participated in SPROUTS: New Works Platform for Budding Choreographers and her piece, *Inhale.rain* an earned Honourable Mention.



Timothy Coleman

Having danced with Singapore Dance Theatre for several years, Timothy approached Janek Schergen this year for an opportunity to choreograph a piece at *Passages*.

Timothy was born in North Queensland, Australia, and began his dance training in the RAD syllabus with Ann Roberts School of Dancing in Townsville. He later moved to Newcastle to train full-time with Marie Walton-Mahon Dance Academy. He was given the opportunity to work with Ajkun Ballet Theatre for a short period, and later returned as a guest artist. From there, he joined City Ballet of San Diego, and then moved on to Sacramento Ballet, with whom he toured to China. Tim has performed several soloist roles including Bluebird in *Sleeping Beauty*, Prince Ivan in *Firebird* and the title role in *Apollo*.

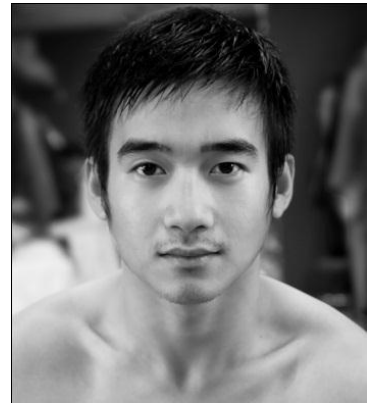
With SDT, Timothy has appeared in numerous performances performing the principle role of Cavalier in *The Nutcracker* (2011) and *Pas De Trois* in Swan Lake. He was also involved in three pieces for this year's *Ballet Under the Stars* including a soloist role in Natalie Weir's *Jabula*. Timothy was promoted to First Artist earlier this year.



Christopher Arzaga

Christopher approached Artistic Director Janek Schergen for an opportunity to choreograph a piece with the company. Janek saw potential in him and as such, he was chosen as one of the fledging choreographers for Passages 2012.

Christopher started out as a street dancer back in his hometown, Philippines. He then worked his way up to the commercial dance scene and got the chance to work abroad. Thus began his journey into learning other dance styles and falling in love with contemporary. He worked and trained under the 2nd company of T.H.E. Dance Company as a guest. He started back in 2010 for "Contact" with Yarra Iletto's piece "Cumulus" then he was part of Scarlet Yu's item "Do you want to dance with me?" for Emerging Choreographers 3 in 2011 and "As it Fades" for last years Singapore Arts Festival by Kuik Swee Boon.



FAST FACTS

Title : Passages

Date : 2 – 4 November 2012 (Friday – Sunday)

Venue : National Museum Gallery Theatre

Time : 2 November, 7.30pm
3 November, 3pm, 7.30pm
4 November, 3pm

Ticket prices : \$25, \$19* (excluding SISTIC charge)
* Concession for Students/NSF/ Senior Citizens

Admission for 6 years old and above

We apologise that we are unable to admit infants in arms and children below 6 years old. Children 6 years old and above will require a ticket for entry.

Tickets are available through all SISTIC outlets and SDT office from 27 August 2012.

ARTISTIC TEAM

Dancers for Season 2012

Artistic Team

Artistic Director	Janek Schergen			
Ballet Master	Mohamed Noor Sarman			
Senior Artists	Chihiro Uchida	Rosa Park	Chen Peng	
First Artist	Heidi Zolker	Chen Wei	Kenya Nakamura	Timothy Coleman
Artists	Akira Nakahama	Alison Carroll	Amy Bale	Ayami Miyata
	Chua Bi Ru	Elaine Heng	Iori Araya	Li Jie
	May Yen Cheah	Madeleine Halbauer	Nanase Tanaka	Nonoko Tanaka
	Sun Hong Lei	Tomoko Takahashi	Xu Lei Ting	
	Etienne Ferrère	Kensuke Yorozu	Jason Carter	Miles Gilliver
	Ryo Suzuki	Shaw Coleman	Zhao Jun	Zou Long
Apprentices	Lisha Chin	Marina Yatsushiro	Natalie Debono	Liu Yifei

THE COMPANY

The Singapore Dance Theatre (SDT) was founded in 1988 by Goh Soo Khim and the late Anthony Then. Since then, SDT has developed into Singapore's premier professional dance company comprising 34 dancers. In the course of each year, the Company performs six main seasons, including the widely popular *Ballet Under The Stars* at the Fort Canning Park, two full length classics and also *Masterpiece in Motion* which brings together three works of the finest international choreography. As an ambassador for dance and for Singapore, the company aims to be an internationally well-regarded professional dance company that is known for its unique ability to shine in classical, neo-classical and contemporary repertoire with works that are timeless and inspiring.

The Company's repertoire ranges from classical to contemporary ballet, from renowned choreographers like Goh Choo San, George Balanchine, Nacho Duato, Jiri Kylian, Stanton Welch, Marie-Claude Pietragalla, Xing Liang, Natalie Weir, Val Caniparoli, Graham Lustig, David Dawson, Jorma Elo, Edmund Stripe, Adrian Burnett, Edwaard Liang and Nils Christie.

In 2009, Janek Schergen took over the post of Artistic Director of SDT. Under his leadership, the Company has made new achievements in the international and Singapore dance arena. Janek is also the Artistic Director of the Choo-San Goh & H. Robert Magee Foundation which oversees the production of Choo San Goh's ballets.

SDT actively reaches out to the public to create greater awareness of dance through outreach to schools with its Arts Education Programme, Dance Appreciation Series (jointly presented with Esplanade Co.), Adults Dance Classes, Scholars Programme for students considering dancing as a career and One @ The Ballet, an initiative to help the public gain a better understanding of the different aspects of dance.

SDT REPERTOIRE 2009 - 2011

Swan Lake

Choreography after Petipa/Ivanov
Staging Janek Schergen

Cinderella

Choreography Graham Lustig

Glow-Stop

Choreography Jorma Elo

A Million Kisses To My Skin

Choreography David Dawson

Piano Concerto #2, Opus 102

Choreography Edmund Stripe

Concerto Barocco

Choreography George Balanchine

Unknown Territory

Choreography Goh Choo San

Raymonda Divertissements

Choreography Marius Petipa

Double Contrasts

Choreography Goh Choo San

Pellucid

Choreography Kuik Swee Boon

Sometimes I Think I Remember

Choreography Jeffrey Tan

Evening at the Ritz

Choreography Molly Lynvh

Giselle

Choreography after Coralli / Derrot
Staging Janek Schergen

Don Quixote Pas De Deux

Choreography Marius Petipa

Peter & Blues Forest Adventure

Choreography Janek Schergen

Oneiros

Choreography Adrian Burnett

Sleeping Beauty

Choreography after Marius Petipa
Staging Janek Schergen

Hold The Fourth

Choreography Daniel Roberts

As Above So Below

Choreography Edwaard Liang

Nameless

Choreography Xing Liang

Serenade

Choreography George Balanchine

Romeo and Juliet

Choreography Goh Choo San

The Winds of Zephyrus

Choreography Edwaard Liang

Maninyas

Choreography Stanton Welch

Fearful Symmetries

Choreography Nils Christie

Allegro Brilliante

Choreography George Balanchine

The Nutcracker

Choreography and Staging
Janek Schergen

REPERTOIRE ADDITIONS - 2012

Paquita

Choreography after Marius Petipa

Zin!

Choreography Nils Christie

Age of Innocence

Choreography Edwaard Liang

Chant

Choreography Val Caniparoli

Organ Concerto

Choreography Nils Christie

Jabula

Choreography Natalie Weir

Divertimento No. 15

Choreography George Balanchine

Peter & Blue Go Around The World

Choreography Janek Schergen

Absence of Story

Choreography Toru Shimazaki

Waiting...

Choreography Christina Chan

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