



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 *Sleeping Beauty* 13 – 16 December 2012 at the Esplanade Theatre



In celebration of the magical Christmas season, a time of love, hope and festivities, Singapore Dance Theatre will enchant audiences with *Sleeping Beauty*, a ballet often considered as the pinnacle of classical repertoire. Staged by artistic director Janek Schergen featuring choreography by Marius Petipa, Singapore Dance Theatre will bring this beloved fairy-tale to life at the Esplanade Theatre as

a grand finale to the 2012 season, with stunning costumes, spectacular sets and principal dancers of incomparable technique. This is the second time SDT is performing *Sleeping Beauty*, following the company premiere of the piece in 2010.

A treat for all ages, audiences will be captivated by this timeless tale about a beautiful princess, a spell of 100 years sleep, a charming prince and a true love's kiss which awakens the kingdom's slumber. *Sleeping Beauty* is set to a rich score by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, with stunning costumes designed by Tracy Grant Lord.

Sleeping Beauty was made famous by the legendary production of The Royal Ballet in London. Their production links directly back to the original performance of the ballet in 1890 at the Mariinsky Theatre in St Petersburg, Russia. The original score was created by P. I. Tchaikovsky especially for the first performance of the ballet. It remains one of the most well-known pieces of classical music in the world today. *Sleeping Beauty* is a perfect blend of music and dance, combined to become a visual spectacle.

Janek Schergen comments, "*Sleeping Beauty* is the turning point for technique for a company, and is often considered as the finest achievement in classical ballet. It is one of the most demanding ballet productions with over 150 roles, involving more classical dancing than any other ballet. To produce *Sleeping Beauty* is to declare that the company is mature."

Indeed, staging *Sleeping Beauty* is exhilarating for Singapore Dance Theatre especially with the large cast essential for the production, the massive amount of costumes involved and dramatic set changes which reflect the transposition of time between acts. With its awe-inspiring opulence and outstanding choreography, *Sleeping Beauty* is set to turn heads this year.

Be spellbound by one of the most famous ballets in the classical repertoire!

Synopsis

The tale begins as the court assembles for Princess Aurora's christening. In their excitement, the royal family forgets to invite the wicked and powerful fairy, Carabosse. Furious at being overlooked, Carabosse turns up unannounced and places a curse on Aurora. She declares that Aurora shall die on her 16th birthday after pricking her finger. The Lilac Fairy, equal in power to Carabosse, intervenes. She gives her own blessing – the princess, instead of dying, will fall into a deep sleep for a hundred years. She will only be awaked by true love's kiss.

For 16 years, Princess Aurora is kept safe, but tragedy strikes on her 16th birthday. She pricks her finger and falls into a deep sleep. The Lilac fairy casts a spell to ensure that the kingdom slumbers with her. A hundred years later, Prince Florimund is hunting in the woods. The Lilac Fairy appears and shows him a vision of Princess Aurora. He immediately falls in love with her and embarks on a quest to break the spell. The ballet ends in a grand finale celebrating the wedding of Princess Aurora and Prince Florimund.

The Characters

For this production of *Sleeping Beauty*, the main cast are:

Princess Aurora	Rosa Park/Chihiro Uchida
Prince Florimund	Chen Peng/ Kenya Nakamura
Lilac Fairy	Chihiro Uchida/ Tomoko Takahashi
Carabosse	Heidi Zolker
Bluebird	Zhao Jun/ Kensuke Yorozu
Princess Florine	Nanase Tanaka/ Ayami Miyata

This production of *Sleeping Beauty* promises sheer sophistication in performance, leaving nothing but the best on view. The role of Princess Aurora is the greatest test of a classical ballerina. She has to be of incomparable technique, perfect in the entire spectrum of ballet movements. This role will be played by senior artists Rosa Park and Chihiro Uchida who have also performed this role in the 2010 production.

Senior Artist Chen Peng will be reprising his role in this production. Prince Florimund will be played by both Chen Peng and Kenya Nakamura. This season will also see both Chihiro Uchida and Tomoko Takahashi playing the role of the Lilac Fairy. First Artist Heidi Zolker will be playing the role of Carabosse. Zhao Jun and Kensuke Yorozu will also be playing the role of Bluebird once again in this production while Nanase Tanaka will reprise her role of Princess Florine alongside Ayami Miyata.

FAST FACTS

- Title** : Sleeping Beauty
- Date** : 13 – 16 December 2012 (Thursday – Sunday)
- Venue** : Esplanade Theatre
- Time** : 13 & 14 December, 8pm
15 December, 1pm, 8pm
16 December, 1pm, 7pm
- Ticket prices** : \$90, \$75*, \$50, \$30 (excluding SISTIC charge)
*\$50 concession for Students/NSF/Senior Citizens

Various discount schemes are available

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 24 September 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	Marina Yatsushiro	Nanase Tanaka	Nonoko Tanaka
	Sun Hong Lei	Tomoko Takahashi	Xu Lei Ting	
	Calogero Failla	Etienne Ferrère	Kensuke Yorozu	Jason Carter
	Miles Gilliver	Ryo Suzuki	Shaw Coleman	Zhao Jun
Apprentices	Beatrice Castaneda	Kwok Min Yi	Lisha Chin	Liu Yifei
	Natalie Debono			

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 35 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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