



SINGAPORE
DANCE
THEATRE

SDT
— 1988 - 2014 —

**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
JANEK SCHERGEN**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Singapore Dance Theatre presents the 19th Edition of Ballet Under the Stars

**18 – 20 July & 25 – 27 July 2014
Fort Canning Green**



Immerse yourself in the perfect evening at Singapore Dance Theatre's (SDT) 19th Edition of the annual Ballet Under the Stars. This year, SDT will be presenting two weekends of exquisite choreography by award-winning international choreographers from 18 – 20 July and 25 – 27 July at Fort Canning Green.

Expect spectacular works in the likes of George Balanchine's joyous *Allegro Brillante* and the grand masterpiece, *Theme and Variations*, Val Caniparoli's Asian-inspired *Chant*, Edwaard Liang's *The Winds of Zephyrus* and *Opus 25*, Edmund Stripe's breath-taking *Piano Concerto No. 2, Opus 102*, and a world premiere by internationally acclaimed Australian contemporary choreographer Natalie Weir.

SDT Artistic Director Janek Schergen comments, "For Singapore Dance Theatre, Ballet Under the Stars remains an iconic, signature event in our annual performance calendar. Now, with two consecutive weekends of performances, we can offer a more diverse range of repertoire to our audiences. Certain pieces lend themselves better in an outdoor setting and this year's choice of seven ballets comprises the finest of both our classical and contemporary repertoire. Of special interest will be a new pas de deux created by Natalie Weir, especially for the park performances. Our audience will remember her from last year's haunting *4Seasons* and 2012's performances of *Jabula*. Ballet Under the Stars is a time stamp – it is one of those events that lasts in memory long beyond the experience itself!"

Since its conception in 1995, Ballet Under the Stars has become one of SDT's trademarks of our yearly performance seasons and remains as Singapore's favourite annual outdoor dance event. Unwind with a sumptuous picnic spread at the park and enjoy an evening of dance together with your family and friends!



Opus 25 by Edwaard Liang



Chant by Val Caniparoli

Performance Line up 18 – 20 July

***Piano Concerto No. 2, Opus 102* by Edmund Stripe**

Piano Concerto in F Major (music composed by Dimitri Shostakovich) by Edmund Stripe, is a 20-minute piece that features 7 female and 6 male dancers on stage in a fast-paced and exciting work. Audiences will probably find the music of the first movement of this choreography familiar as it was featured in the Disney movie, *Fantasia 2000*. This ballet was created for SDT and premiered in 2007 at Ballet Under the Stars.

***Bittersweet* by Natalie Weir (World Premiere)**

Bittersweet is a pas de deux created by Natalie Weir for SDT. The pas de deux will be danced by two different couples for each weekend of Ballet Under the Stars. Natalie Weir is an established and acclaimed choreographer, known for her highly physical partner work, her organic movement style and her touching insight into human nature. Natalie Weir has created over 150 professional works in her 20+ year career. She was a founding member of Expressions Dance Company (EDC) and has worked extensively throughout Australia, creating many works for most of the country's major classical and contemporary dance companies including the Australian Ballet, West Australian Ballet, Queensland Ballet, Expressions Dance Company, Australian Dance Theatre, Dance North and Tasdance.

***Chant* by Val Caniparoli**

Created especially for SDT in 2012, *Chant* is an Asian-inspired work featuring thirteen dancers, performed to Lou Harrison's *Double Concerto for Violin and Cello with Javanese Gamelan*. In the movement Caniparoli created, one will eventually see a repetitive movement motif that corresponds to a way a chant is repeated over and over to create a sense of harmony and purpose. Val Caniparoli is one of the most sought after American choreographers in the United States and abroad and has created ballets for more than 35 companies including Pacific Northwest Ballet, Boston Ballet, Northern Ballet Theatre, Pennsylvania Ballet, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Ballet West, Washington Ballet, Singapore Dance Theatre and Tulsa Ballet.

***The Winds of Zephyrus* by Edwaard Liang**

First created for SDT in 2011, *The Winds of Zephyrus* brings contemporary dance to stratospheric heights with dancers portraying the wind in all its forms. Winner of the Prince Prize Grant for Choreography and the Choo San Goh Award for Choreography, Edwaard Liang's pieces have been performed all around the world by companies such as New York City Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Shanghai Ballet and the Joffrey Ballet. Edwaard Liang is currently the Artistic Director of BalletMet Columbus.

Performance Line up 25 - 27 July

***Allegro Brillante* by George Balanchine**

Choreographed in 1956, *Allegro Brillante* by George Balanchine demonstrates the dramatic possibilities inherent in pure dance when coupled with the Russian romanticism of Tchaikovsky's score. The music's vigorous pace makes the steps appear even more difficult, but the ballet relies on strong dancing, precise timing, and breadth of gesture. Balanchine once said of the ballet, "It contains everything I know about the classical ballet in 13 minutes."

***Bittersweet* by Natalie Weir**

A world premiere by Natalie Weir, also performed at Ballet Under the Stars from 18 – 20 July.

***Theme and Variations* by George Balanchine**

The legendary George Balanchine's *Theme and Variations*, a company premiere, is a grand masterpiece of ballet. This breathtaking ballet showcases the intensive development of the classic ballet lexicon, featuring a cast of 26 dancers. Performed to Tchaikovsky's brilliant score, "the moment" for the ballet is found in the grand polonaise which exudes drama and excitement. This ballet is a crowd pleaser, offering the audience any number of favourite moments, with dazzling choreography, gorgeous music, spectacular costumes and the remarkable culmination of all these elements on stage in performance.

***Opus 25* by Edwaard Liang**

Opus 25 is a specially commissioned work for SDT's 25th Anniversary in 2013, choreographed to showcase the talents of SDT. Danced to a dynamic composition by American composer Michael Torke, this piece showcases the development of the organisation over the past 26 years. The ballet is a grand spectacle, featuring 32 dancers, and brings out the unique attributes and personalities of the dancers in SDT.

FAST FACTS

Title : Ballet Under The Stars

Date : 18 – 20 July 2014 (Fri – Sun)
25 – 27 July 2014 (Fri – Sun)

Venue : Fort Canning Green

Time : 7.30pm (Main Performance)
Gates open from 6.30 pm for picnic

Ticket prices : \$25, \$20*
*Concession for Students/NSF/Senior Citizens
(Excluding SISTIC charges)

Free Admission for children below the age of 4 years old.

Double Weekend Offer at \$40 (Excluding SISTIC charges)
(purchase tickets for 2 weekends and enjoy \$10 savings)

Early Bird Offer from 1 – 23 May
General Sale from 24 May – 27 July

For discounts, please refer to www.sistic.com.sg

Tickets are available through all SISTIC outlets and SDT office from 1 May onwards.

ARTISTIC TEAM

Dancers for Season 2014

Artistic Team

Artistic Director	Janek Schergen			
Ballet Master	Mohamed Noor Sarman			
Senior Artists	Chihiro Uchida Timothy Coleman	Rosa Park	Chen Peng	Kenya Nakamura
First Artist	Heidi Zolker	Li Jie	Etienne Ferrère	Zhao Jun
Artists	Akira Nakahama	Alison Carroll	Beatrice Castaneda	Chua Bi Ru
	Elaine Heng	Emma Hanley Jones	Kwok Min Yi	Lisha Chin
	Maughan Jemesen	Marina Yatsushiro	May Yen Cheah	Nonoko Tanaka
	Nanase Tanaka	Sun Hong Lei	Xu Lei Ting	
	Gianluca Sermattei	Huo Liang	Jason Carter	Jake Burden
	Kensuke Yorozu	Lewis Gardner	Nazer Salgado	
Apprentices	Ma Ni Shan Del Vecchio	Ruth Austin	Chen Rui Feng	Stefan Morrow

THE COMPANY

SDT was founded in 1988 by Goh Soo Khim and Anthony Then. Since then, SDT has developed into Singapore's premier professional dance company comprising 37 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, *Masterpiece in Motion* which brings together three works of the finest international choreography and *Passages* Contemporary Season.

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, Nils Christie, Toru Shimazaki and Christina Chan.

In 2008, Janek Schergen was appointed Artistic Director of SDT. Under his leadership, the Company has made new achievements in the international and Singapore dance arena. In the last six years, the Company has added 16 world premieres and 12 company premieres to the repertoire, in addition to numerous revivals of the existing Company's repertoire. Janek is also the Artistic Director of the Choo-San Goh & H. Robert Magee Foundation which oversees the licensing and production of Choo San Goh's ballets and the annual Choo San Goh Awards for Choreography.

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, *Passages* choreographic workshop focusing on local emerging talents and One @ The Ballet, an initiative to help the public gain a better understanding of the different aspects of dance.

In 2013, SDT moved to a new premise with four state of the art studios. Additionally the Company will be enhancing efforts in Education and Outreach, bringing greater awareness and appreciation for dance to a wider audience.

SDT REPERTOIRE 2009 - 2013

Swan Lake

Choreography after Petipa/Ivanov
Staging Janek Schergen

Cinderella

Choreography Graham Lustig
Created for SDT

Glow-Stop

Choreography Jorma Elo

A Million Kisses To My Skin

Choreography David Dawson

Piano Concerto #2, Opus 102

Choreography Edmund Stripe
Created for SDT

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
Created for SDT

Sometimes I Think I Remember

Choreography Jeffrey Tan
Created for SDT

Evening at the Ritz

Choreography Molly Lynch
Created for SDT

Giselle

Choreography after Coralli / Derrot
Staging Janek Schergen

Allegro Brillante

Choreography George Balanchine

Don Quixote Pas De Deux

Choreography Marius Petipa

Peter & Blues Forest Adventure

Choreography Janek Schergen

Oneiros

Choreography Adrian Burnett
Created for SDT

Sleeping Beauty

Choreography after Marius Petipa
Staging Janek Schergen

Hold The Fourth

Choreography Daniel Roberts
Created for SDT

As Above So Below

Choreography Edwaard Liang
Created for SDT

Nameless

Choreography Xing Liang
Created for SDT

Serenade

Choreography George Balanchine

Romeo and Juliet

Choreography Goh Choo San

The Winds of Zephyrus

Choreography Edwaard Liang
Created for SDT

Maninyas

Choreography Stanton Welch

Fearful Symmetries

Choreography Nils Christe

The Nutcracker

Choreography and Staging
Janek Schergen
Created for SDT

Paquita

Choreography after Marius Petipa

Age of Innocence

Choreography Edwaard Liang

Chant

Choreography Val Caniparoli
Created for SDT

Organ Concerto

Choreography Nils Christe
Created for SDT

Jabula

Choreography Natalie Weir

Divertimento No. 15

Choreography George Balanchine

Peter & Blue Go Around The World

Choreography Janek Schergen
Created for SDT

Absence of Story

Choreography Toru Shimazaki

Waiting...

Choreography Christina Chan
Created for SDT

Coppélia

Choreography after Arthur Saint-Léon
Staging Janek Schergen

Opus 25

Choreography Edwaard Liang
Created for SDT

4Seasons

Choreography Natalie Weir
Created for SDT

Theme and Variations

Choreography George Balanchine

Slide

Choreography Kinsun Chan
Created for SDT

Shift or Go

Choreography Christina Chan
Created for SDT

REPERTOIRE ADDITIONS - 2014

Don Quixote

Choreography after Marius Petipa
Staging Cynthia Harvey

Swipe

Choreography Val Caniparoli

New Works by

Natalie Weir
Christina Chan
Ma Cong
Toru Shimazaki