



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
JANEK SCHERGEN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Singapore Dance Theatre presents Masterpiece in Motion 2016
19-20 August 2016 | Esplanade Theatre

Schubert Symphony by Choo-San Goh
Company Premiere of *Symphony in Three Movements* by Nils Christe
Age of Innocence by Edwaard Liang

12 May 2016



Singapore Dance Theatre's (SDT) will be presenting a new company premiere, *Symphony in Three Movements* by Nils Christe at **Masterpiece in Motion 2016**, its international repertory season. Happening from **19 & 20 August 2016**, this season will be held at the **Esplanade Theatre**.

Be captivated by a visual spectacle of exquisite contemporary works, as SDT presents a triple-bill, featuring three works of international standards. This incredible season will see *Schubert Symphony* by Singaporean choreographer Choo-San Goh, the company premiere of symphony premiere of *Symphony in Three Movements* by Nils Christe, as well as Edwaard Liang's magnificent *Age of Innocence*.

"Masterpiece in Motion is the name given to our international repertory season to give an overarching theme to the evening. It is a "triple bill" of three works representing what it is that stands at the heart of the foundation of SDT. We challenge ourselves with works by choreographers of impeccable distinction, in ballets that add tremendous richness to our performances. Choo-San Goh's *Schubert Symphony* is one of his most significant works and has become one of the "jewels in the crown" of our repertoire. Edwaard Liang's *Age of Innocence* was first presented by us in 2012, and represents this extraordinary choreography perfectly. The company premiere of Nils Christe's *Symphony in Three Movements*, with Igor Stravinsky's exciting score of the same name, will give SDT an edge to the evening not otherwise explored. Each of these three choreographer's works has figured prominently in the repertoire of SDT over the years and to experience all three, on the same night, is a privilege for our dancers, as well as our audiences." says Artistic Director Janek Schergen.

Schubert Symphony

Choreography Choo-San Goh
Staging Janek Schergen
Music Franz Schubert's Symphony No. 2 in B flat.

By now, the hallmarks which distinguish the best of Choo-San Goh's creations are well known: an inimitable sense of propulsion and timing, keen eye for line, extraordinary sensitivity to the music and the intelligent sculpting of dance gestures from Asian and Western classical traditions within a modern sensibility and language. There was no doubt that Goh was an artist well in tune with the demands and needs of his time. Yet, given his penchant to experiment with his Asian heritage and Western training, he was capable of surprises set to Franz Schubert's symphony No. 2. Goh's ballet is conceived as a purely classical work. After its premiere it was stated that Schubert Symphony was "a major triumph... An eagerly awaited world premiere..." By the prevailing standard of ballet choreography, Schubert Symphony is unquestionably a fine work. It demonstrates, beyond a fine work. It demonstrates, beyond a shadow of doubt, that Goh can manipulate a stripped down neoclassical idiom skilfully.

Symphony in Three Movements (Company Premiere)

Choreography Nils Christe
Music Igor Stravinsky

Symphony in Three Movements was choreographed by Dutch choreographer, Nils Christe, and features a large cast of twelve couples. With movements that embody the ache and longings during a war time, Nils Christe shares more:

"Igor Stravinsky wrote "Symphony in Three Movements" while he was in America during the Second World War, after having seen photos and film material of the terrible things that went on in Europe. This is why the symphony is also called "War Symphony". Although my choreographic work of *Symphony in Three Movements* is not a story ballet about the war, there are many elements that refer to the feelings and emotions of people during a war: fright, anger, hiding, running, saying farewells, to name just a few. The last image is that of a woman, telling her man who is about to leave for the war, that there is a new life inside of her.

Symphony in Three Movements was originally created for The Royal Ballet of Antwerp.
Symphony in Three Movements was acquired through the Ambassadors' Circle 2016.

Age of Innocence

Choreography Edwaard Liang
Music Philip Glass and Thomas Newman

Created for the Joffrey Ballet in 2008, Age of Innocence is inspired by the novels of Jane Austen and women of her era. This piece encapsulates the complications of male-female relationships in a world that is all at once modern and historical, capturing the tragedy in the hierarchy endured by the women. Danced to the music of Philip Glass and Thomas Newman, the dynamism of the exuberant, potent music lifts the dancers from the stage to present an enthralling piece. Age of Innocence is a staple in Joffrey Ballet's repertory and has been performed several times by the company since its conception, including this year's spring mixed repertory, Spring Desire. This piece is the Edwaard Liang's third work performed by SDT. Previous works include *As Above, So Below* (2010, Da:ns Festival 2012) and *The Winds of Zephyrus* (2011, Masterpiece in Motion). Age of Innocence was successfully brought in with the support of SDT's Ambassador's Circle.

FAST FACTS

Title : Masterpiece in Motion
Date : 19 & 20 August 2016 (Friday & Saturday)
Venue : Esplanade Theatre
Time : 8pm
Ticket prices : \$30, \$50, \$70 (SISTIC fees apply)
20% concessions for:
• Children aged 12 and below/Students/NSF/Senior Citizens

Ticket Sales Date: Early Bird Offer: 13 May – 27 May 2016 (Maybank & OCBC)
General Sales: 28 May – 20 August 2016

Tickets are available at all authorised SISTIC outlets and SDT Office.
Email ticketing@singaporedancetheatre.com or call 6338 0611 for ticket enquires.

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ARTISTIC TEAM

Artistic Director	Janek Schergen			
Ballet Master	Mohamed Noor Sarman			
Principal Artists	Chihiro Uchida	Li Jie	Rosa Park	Kenya Nakamura
First Artist	Elaine Heng Kensuke Yorozu	Maughan Jemesen Nazer Salgado	May Yen Cheah	Etienne Ferrère
Artists	Akira Nakahama Ines Furhashi-Huber Mai Suzuki Sun Hong Lei	Alison Carroll Kwok Min Yi Marina Yatsushiro Xu Lei Ting	Beatrice Castañeda Lisha Chin Nanase Tanaka	Chua Bi Ru Ma Ni Ruth Austin
	Huo Liang Shan Del Vecchio	Jason Carter Shi Yue Tony	Justin Zee Takeaki Miura	Peter Allen
Apprentices	Niki Wong Timothy Ng	Yeo Chan Yee Wan Jiajing Jerry	Emmanuele Del Celo	Reece Hudson

THE COMPANY

SDT was founded in 1988 by Goh Soo Khim and Anthony Then. Since then, SDT has developed into Singapore's premiere professional dance company comprising. 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, Kinsun Chan, Edwaard Liang, Nils Christie, Toru Shimazaki and Christina Chan and Ma Cong.

In 2008, Janek Schergen was appointed as the Artistic Director of SDT, after his extensive involvement with SDT since its inception years in 1988. Under his leadership, the Company has made new achievements in the international and Singapore dance arena. In the last eight years, the Company has added 25 world premieres and 15 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 ACTIVE REPERTOIRE LIST (2009 – 2016)

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: Choo-San Goh

Raymonda Divertissements

Choreography: Marius Petipa

Double Contrasts

Choreography: Choo-San Goh

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

Peter & Blue's Forest Adventure

Choreography: Janek Schergen
Created for SDT

Oneiros

Choreography: Adrian Burnett
Created for SDT

Sleeping Beauty

Choreography after Marius Petipa
Staging Janek Schergen

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: Choo-San Goh

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

ZIN!

Choreography: Nils Christe

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
Created for SDT

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

Peter & Blue's Birthday Party

Choreography: Janek Schergen
Created for SDT

Slide

Choreography: Kinsun Chan
Created for SDT

Shift or Go

Choreography: Christina Chan
Created for SDT

Bittersweet

Choreography: Natalie Weir
Created for SDT

Swipe

Choreography: Val Caniparoli

Traces We Left Behind

Choreography: Christina Chan
Created for SDT

Shadow's Edge

Choreography: Ma Cong
Created for SDT

Blue Snow

Choreography: Toru Shimazaki
Created for SDT

Don Quixote

Choreography after Marius Petipa
Staging Cynthia Harvey

Rubies

Choreography: George Balanchine
Staging: Elyse Borne

Schubert Symphony

Choreography: Choo-San Goh
Staging Janek Schergen

Bournonville Divertissements

Choreography: August Bournonville

Midnight Waltzes

Choreography: François Klaus
Created for SDT

Bliss

Choreography: Gigi Gianti
Created for SDT

Incandescent Dream

Choreography: Max Chen
Created for SDT

Sticks and Stones

Choreography: Kinsun Chan
Created for SDT

Incomparable Beauty

Choreography: Ma Cong
Created for SDT

REPERTOIRE ADDITIONS – 2016

Symphony in Three Movements

Choreography: Nils Christe

New works by Timothy Harbour and Christina Chan