



Lee Lung Nien and Daniel Teo



Oei Hong Leong, Lee Boon Yang and Ng Hsueh Ling



Dance Encounters

THE MOON AND THE STARS

Close friends and long-time supporters of the Singapore Dance Theatre (SDT) came together in late February at its home in Bugis+ for its inaugural The Moon and The Stars fundraiser (a reference to the Singapore flag and SDT's position as the nation's "flagship" professional dance company). The evening was also a showcase of what SDT, led by artistic director Janek Schergen, was capable of and the support it needs to bring the company to the next level. As SDT board member Laura Hwang said later that evening, "We want our friends to appreciate what we do in our own home."



SDT artistic director Janek Schergen (left) led president Tony Tan Keng Yam and Mrs Mary Tan to view an exhibition of costumes from its various performances



Naoto Orui



Lee Yap Mee Mee and Angela Oei



Michael and Laura Hwang



Lena Goh and Paul Ng



Oscar Mico and Bernard Cheong



Paige Parker and Jim Rogers



Melissa Ong, Tan Lu Hong, Stuart McLelland and Teo Chen Hian



Fany Soenardy and Audrey Mico



Goh Soo Khim, Dawn Weller and Colin Peasley

Guest of honour and SDT patron, president Tony Tan Keng Yam, who was accompanied by Mrs Mary Tan, took the seats in the front row in the Founder's Studio to enjoy excerpts from three iconic ballets: the pas de deux and polonaise from *Theme and Variations* by the legendary George Balanchine as well as the first movements from both *Blue Snow*, which was created especially for SDT by Japanese choreographer Toru Shimazaki, and *Schubert Symphony* by Singaporean choreographer Choo-San Goh, performed to rapturous applause from the audience.

The evening was also one to commemorate the continuing legacy of the late Goh, one of the inspirations for the founding of the company 28 years ago. In recognition of his contributions, SDT dedicated its Rehearsal Studio as the Choo-San Goh Studio. This studio, along with the adjacent Community Studio, was the location for dinner, where guests took their seats at tables christened with the names of popular ballets such as *Romeo and Juliet*, *Schubert Symphony* and *Organ Concerto*.

Before the night drew to a close, Hwang highlighted SDT's dedication to audience development, public education, fundraising, as well as development of its international presence with more tours overseas, as it is not only a dance company for Singapore but also a cultural diplomat, doing its part to promote the country's arts and culture on the international stage. All funds raised from the evening will go towards supporting SDT's efforts in realising this dream.