



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
JANEK SCHERGEN

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Singapore Dance Theatre presents *Swan Lake* 2015**  
**3 – 6 December 2015 | Esplanade Theatre**

7 October 2015



As a grand finale to **Singapore Dance Theatre's** (SDT) performance season 2015, we will be presenting one of the world's most famous and well-loved ballet of all time, *Swan Lake*. This world-class ballet will dazzle the stage of the **Esplanade Theatre** from **3 to 6 December 2015**.

With an ever-compelling story and technically demanding choreography, this is the ballet not to be missed! An ideal performance for seasoned audiences and novice attendees, *Swan Lake* offers a clear plot to follow and a spectacle unlike any other. With exquisite costumes and enchanting moments, this classic piece remains to be the favourite ballet of many children and adults.

A timeless masterpiece by the legendary choreographers Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov, *Swan Lake* is well established in SDT's repertoire. The company premiere was in December 2007, and has since been restaged in 2009 and 2012.

“One of the greatest tests for any classically based ballet company has been *Swan Lake*. Its timeless, deeply romantic story and heroic quest is the very root of dance drama. Also, the Marius Petipa based version of the ballet marks a turning point in the sophistication in choreography that presented a large-scale production that was both literate and compelling in visual terms,” said Janek Schergen. “SDT first presented *Swan Lake* in 2007 and in every production we have done since then, we have attempted to more fully realise all the intricate nuance of the ballet. To show our audiences why *Swan Lake* remains at the heart of any repertory is a grand challenge and we become very intent in fulfilling the theatrical experience for our audiences in every element. To dance *Swan Lake* is a thrill and to witness it as an audience is, and always will be, a memorable experience.”

## Synopsis

The story begins with Prince Siegfried, who goes hunting. While hunting, Prince Siegfried sees an amazing swan. As he takes aim to shoot, the swan turns into a beautiful woman. The woman, Odette, tells the prince that she is a princess who has come under the spell of an evil sorcerer called Rothbart. During the day, she must be a swan. At night, she is allowed to be a human again. The spell can only be broken if a noble prince swears eternal fidelity to her. She tells Prince Siegfried that if he refuses her, she must remain a swan forever. Prince Siegfried falls madly in love with Odette. The Royal Family hosts a party at the palace to celebrate the Prince's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. Prince Siegfried, under a spell casted by Rothbart, accidentally proposes to Odile, Rothbart's daughter, believing that she is really Odette. Princess Odette, who appears at the party, witnesses Siegfried declaring his love for Odile and feels doomed. The prince returns to Odette at the lakeside and she forgives him. The prince defeats Rothbart in a battle which finally releases Odette and all the swan maidens from the spell to become women once again.

The music for *Swan Lake* was composed by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, one of the greatest Russian composers of all time. He wrote the music for three of the most famous ballets: *Swan Lake*, *The Sleeping Beauty* and *The Nutcracker*. *Swan Lake* was Tchaikovsky's first ballet and is considered by many to be one of the greatest classical ballets of all time. Its romance and beauty has enthralled audiences for more than 100 years.

Tchaikovsky composed the music between 1875 and 1876. The scenario was initially in four acts and the choreographer of the original production was Julius Reisinger. The ballet, billed as "The Lake of Swans", was premièred by the Bolshoi Ballet in March 1877 at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow. *Swan Lake* has been presented in many different versions, but most ballet companies base their productions, both choreographically and musically, on the 1895 revival by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov, which was first staged for the Imperial Ballet on January 15, 1895, at the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg.

## The Characters

For this production of *Swan Lake*, the main characters are:

- Odette & Odile            Rosa Park<sup>1</sup> / Chihiro Uchida<sup>2</sup>
- Prince Siegfried        Chen Peng<sup>1</sup> / Kenya Nakamura<sup>2</sup>
- Rothbart                Kensuke Yorozu
- Act 1, Pas De Trois    Zhao Jun<sup>1</sup>, Maughan Jemesen<sup>1</sup>, May Yen Cheah<sup>1</sup> /  
Etienne Ferrère<sup>2</sup>, Elaine Heng<sup>2</sup>, Li Jie<sup>2</sup>
- Big Swans              Elaine Heng, Li Jie
- Cygnets                 Marina Yatsushiro<sup>1</sup>, Akira Nakahama<sup>1</sup>, Maughan Jemesen<sup>1</sup>,  
Nanase Tanaka<sup>1</sup>/Alison Carroll<sup>2</sup>

## Legend

<sup>1</sup> = 3 Dec (8pm), 5 Dec (8pm) & 6 Dec (1pm)

<sup>2</sup> = 4 Dec (8pm), 5 Dec (1pm) & 6 Dec (7pm)

Singapore Dance Theatre's latest version of *Swan Lake* promises to be spectacular, featuring the full company of 38 dancers plus lavish costumes and sets. The dual role of Odette / Odile, which is thought to be one of great challenges for any dancer, will be played by Rosa Park and Chihiro Uchida. Prince Siegfried will be played by Chen Peng and Kenya Nakamura and the role of Rothbart by Kensuke Yorozu. Both Rosa and Chihiro have performed the roles of Odette / Odile in previous productions. They were last seen in the SDT's production of the *Sleeping Beauty* 2015.

Chen Peng is reprising his role in *Swan Lake*. Both Chen Peng and Kenya Nakamura will play the part of Prince Siegfried in this production. Kensuke Yorozu will take the part of Rothbart. The aforementioned are experienced dancers and are no strangers to this ballet. There are several new dancers that have joined SDT in 2015 and will be performing in *Swan Lake*. They are Artists Mai Suzuki and Peter Allen; and Apprentices Ines Furuhashi-Huber, Reece Hudson, and Shi Yue Tony.

## **FAST FACTS**

**Title** : Swan Lake

**Date** : 3 – 6 December 2015 (Thursday – Sunday)

**Venue** : Esplanade Theatre

**Time** : 3 & 4 Dec 8pm  
5 Dec 1pm & 8pm  
6 Dec 1pm & 7pm

**Ticket prices** : \$30, \$50, \$70 (SISTIC fees apply)  
Discounts available for:

- Students/NSF/Senior Citizens
- Package of 4
- Group Bookings

**Ticket Sales Date:** Early Bird Offer: 28 Sept – 11 Oct 2015  
(Maybank, OCBC, & Passion members only)  
General Sales: 12 Oct – 6 Dec 2015

Enjoy up to 25% discount when you purchase your tickets with Maybank credit cards.  
We apologise that we are unable to admit infants-in-arm and children below 6 years old.  
Children 6 years old and above will require a ticket for entry.  
Please visit [www.singaporedancetheatre.com](http://www.singaporedancetheatre.com) for more information.

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## ARTISTIC TEAM

Artistic Director	Janek Schergen			
Ballet Master	Mohamed Noor Sarman			
Principal Artists	Chihiro Uchida	Rosa Park	Chen Peng	Kenya Nakamura
First Artist	Elaine Heng Etienne Ferrère	Li Jie Zhao Jun	Maughan Jemesen	May Yen Cheah
Artists	Akira Nakahama	Alison Carroll	Beatrice Castañeda	Chua Bi Ru
	Emma Hanley Jones	Kwok Min Yi	Lisha Chin	Ma Ni
	Marina Yatsushiro	Mai Suzuki	Nanase Tanaka	Sun Hong Lei
	Xu Lei Ting			
	Huo Liang	Jason Carter	Jake Burden	Kensuke Yorozu
	Lewis Gardner	Nazer Salgado	Stefaan Morrow	
Apprentices	Ines Furhashi-Huber Reece Hudson	Ruth Austin Shan Del Vecchio	Chen Rui Feng Shi Yue Tony	Peter Allen

## 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. 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 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 six years, the Company has added 24 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, Singapore Dance Theatre 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 – 2015)

### **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 & 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

### **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

### **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

### **Shadow's Edge**

Choreography Ma Cong

### **Blue Snow**

Choreography Toru Shimazaki

### **Don Quixote**

Choreography after Marius Petipa  
Staging Cynthia Harvey

### **Rubies**

Choreography George Balanchine

### **Schubert Symphony**

Choreography Choo-San Goh

### **Bournonville Divertissements**

Choreography August Bournonville  
Staging Dinna Bjorn

### **Midnight Waltzes**

Choreography François Klaus  
Created for SDT

### **Incandescent Dream**

Choreography: Max Chen  
Created for SDT

### **Bliss**

Choreography: Gigi Gianti  
Created for SDT

### **Sticks and Stones**

Choreography: Kinsun Chan  
Created for SDT