

SINGAPORE DANCE THEATRE

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR **JANEK SCHERGEN**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Singapore Dance Theatre presents **Masterpiece in Motion 2017** 7-8 July 2017 | Esplanade Theatre

World Premiere by Edwaard Liang
Company Premiere of *The Four Temperaments* by George Balanchine
Paquita by Marius Petipa

25 May 2017



Paquita after Marius Petipa | Photo: Bernie Ng

Singapore Dance Theatre will be presenting the highly anticipated dynamic world premiere by Edwaard Liang at **Masterpiece in Motion 2017**, his fifth work with the company. We will also see the exquisite company premiere of *The Four Temperaments* by George Balanchine and the captivating work of *Paquita* after Marius Petipa. Happening on **7 & 8 July**, this international repertory season will be held at the **Esplanade Theatre**.

Masterpiece in Motion speaks for itself – featuring classic jewel pieces that stand the course of time in SDT's repertoire list. This season presents the most compelling and exquisite works by renowned international choreographers.

“The acquisition of George Balanchine's masterpiece, *The Four Temperaments*, is a sign of the maturity of SDT as an internationally recognised ballet company. It is a ballet that demands a sophisticated group of dancers to accomplish its stylistic and technical demands. This is balanced by the pure classicism of *Paquita*, one of the most beautifully structured of all of Marius Petipa's ballet. The highlight to the evening is the new work created for SDT by Edwaard Liang. He has worked with us several times before and *Age of Innocence* and *Opus 25* were two of the memorable moments in recent SDT performances. To have a world premiere from him is something not to be missed. Each of these choreographer's works has balanced our repertoire equally 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.

World Premiere

Choreography

Edwaard Liang

This will be Edwaard Liang's fifth work for SDT. His other works include *As Above, So Below* and *The Winds of Zephyrus* both made especially for SDT, *Opus 25* created for SDT's 25th anniversary and also *Age of Innocence*.

A former soloist with New York City Ballet and Nederlands Dans Theater, Edwaard Liang has built an international reputation as a choreographer. Over the last decade, he has created work for the Bolshoi Ballet, Houston Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Maryinsky Ballet, New York City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Shanghai Ballet and Washington Ballet. He is the Artistic Director of BalletMet Columbus in Ohio

The Four Temperaments (Company Premiere)

Choreography

George Balanchine

Staging

Elyse Borne

Music

Paul Hindemith

Balanchine choreographed *The Four Temperaments* for the opening program of Ballet Society, the forerunner of New York City Ballet. It is one of his earliest experimental works, fusing classical steps with a lean and angular style. The ballet is inspired by the medieval belief that human beings are made up of four different humours that determine a person's temperament. Each temperament was associated with one of the four classical elements (earth, air, water, and fire), and the four temperaments – Melancholic, Sanguinic, Phlegmatic and Choleric.

Hindemith's music was commissioned by Balanchine, an accomplished pianist who wanted a short work he could play at home with friends during his evening musicales. It was completed in 1940 and had its first public performance at a 1944 concert with Lukas Foss as the pianist.

The ballet has been presented worldwide at New York City Ballet, The Australian Ballet, The Paris Opera Ballet as well as companies throughout America and Europe.

SDT's company premiere of *The Four Temperaments* was acquired through the Ambassadors' Circle 2017.

Paquita

Choreography

Marius Petipa

Staging

Janek Schergen

Music

Ludwig Minkus

Taken from the full length ballet of the same name, *Paquita* is a divertissement, choreography comprising a series of group dancers as well as pas de deux and solo variations. *Paquita* incorporates brilliant technique in performance, and culminates in a grand coda which lends it the reputation of a ballet with great style and character. The piece features a mainly female cast with only two men, and it is often included in the repertoire of world-renowned ballet companies.

SDT first presented *Paquita* in 2002 and has since been an established work in the company's active repertoire list.

FAST FACTS

Title : Masterpiece in Motion
Date : 7 & 8 July 2017 (Friday & Saturday)
Venue : Esplanade Theatre
Time : 8pm
Ticket prices : \$35, \$55, \$75 (SISTIC fees apply)
20% concessions for:
• Children aged 12 and below/Students/NSF/Senior Citizens

Ticket Sales Date: General Sales: 1 Apr – 8 July 2017

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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MEDIA CONTACT

Amanda Teo
Assistant Marketing Manager
Amanda.teo@singaporedancetheatre.com

Larissa D'cruz
Executive, Marketing and PR
larissa@singaporedancetheatre.com

Office: (65) 6338 0611
Fax: (65) 6338 9748
www.singaporedancetheatre.com

ARTISTIC TEAM

Artistic Director	Janek Schergen			
Ballet Master	Mohamed Noor Sarman			
Principal Artists	Chihiro Uchida	Li Jie	Kenya Nakamura	
First Artist	Chua Bi Ru Etienne Ferrère	Elaine Heng Jason Carter	May Yen Cheah Kensuke Yorozu	Nazer Salgado
Artists	Akira Nakahama Ma Ni Ruth Austin	Beatrice Castañeda Mai Suzuki Sun Hong Lei	Kana Minegishi Marina Yatsushiro Xu Lei Ting	Kwok Min Yi Nanase Tanaka Yeo Chan Yee
	Huo Liang Shan Del Vecchio Wan Jiajing Jerry	Justin Zee Shi Yue Tony	Peter Allen Takeaki Miura	Reece Hudson Timothy Ng
Apprentices	Jessica Garside Valerie Yeo	Leane Lim Jeremie Gan	Niki Wong Satoru Agetsuma	Tamana Watanabe

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 Choo-San Goh, George Balanchine, Jiri Kylian, Stanton Welch, Natalie Weir, Val Caniparoli, Graham Lustig, David Dawson, Jorma Elo, Edmund Stripe, Kinsun Chan, Edwaard Liang, Nils Christie, Toru Shimazaki, Christina Chan, Ma Cong, and most recently Timothy Harbour, resident choreographer of Australian Ballet.

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 27 world premieres and 16 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, SDT 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

Living Greens

Choreography: Mohamed Noor Sarman

Beginnings

Choreography: Choo-San Goh

Birds of Paradise

Choreography: Choo-San Goh

In The Glow of The Night

Choreography: Choo-San Goh

Momentum

Choreography: Choo-San Goh

Variations Serieuses

Choreography: Choo-San Goh

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

Fives

Choreography: Choo-San Goh

4Seasons

Choreography: Natalie Weir
Created for SDT

Lambarena

Choreography: Val Caniparoli

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

Symphony in Three Movements[#]

Choreography: Nils Christe

Another Energy

Choreography: Timothy Harbour
Created for SDT

Unfound

Choreography: Christina Chan
Created for SDT

2017 ADDITIONS

The Four Temperaments[#]

Choreography: George Balanchine

Triptych^{*}

Choreography: Val Caniparoli

World Premieres by Toru Shimazaki and and
Edwaard Liang^{*}

[#] Acquired through the Ambassador's Circle

^{*} Sponsored by Artistic Director's Fund