

**Singapore Dance Theatre presents Giselle 2018**  
**12 – 15 April 2018 | Esplanade Theatre**

13 February 2018



Photo: Justin Koh

Singapore Dance Theatre (SDT) celebrates 30 years of traditional and modern choreography with the opening of a great romantic ballet, *Giselle* from **12 -15 April**. For the first time, *Giselle* will be performed at the Esplanade Theatre.

Drawing audiences into a work that embodies elements of the Romantic period, *Giselle* is a ballet filled with thrilling, mysterious and captivating beauty. As breath taking as it is heart-breaking, *Giselle* tackles the gamut of human emotions, delving into the darker shades of humanity, including elements of madness and revenge, thus making many critics refer to *Giselle* as ‘the Hamlet of ballets’.

“*Giselle* has established itself to be one of the greatest romantic ballets in history. First created for The Paris Opera Ballet in 1841, it was first seen in performance by Singapore Dance Theatre in 1999, with a staging by Jean Pierre Comelin. *Giselle* has been presented in several seasons following but, most recently, as part of our Ballet Under the Stars season in 2013. The staging has been revamped over its performance history to keep current with the strength of the company. In many ways, *Giselle*, with its dark gothic scenes and supernatural plot of ghosts and unrequited love, is an unlikely ballet to have become so beloved and have had such an enduring legacy.”

“The music for the work is by Adolphe Adam and the original choreography was by Jules Perrot and Jean Coralli. As with most ballets of that time, it was considerably updated by Marius Petipa when it was presented in Russia for the Imperial Theatre. Any present staging links itself back to the classical heritage established in the most significant era of ballet’s history. Most ballet companies hold their productions of *Giselle* to be one of the greatest treasures they possess. It is a ballet that has to be acted, danced and unfold flawlessly in technique, style and authority to complete the spell of the narrative. There is a great fragility to how the ballet progresses from innocence to tragedy. It is a masterpiece of spectacle and an experience for an audience to be a part of.” says Artistic Director Janek Schergen.

## Synopsis

### Act 1

The ballet opens in a village on the river Rhine. The villagers are off to the vineyard to pick the season's grape harvest. Opposite the cottage of Giselle and her mother, Berthe, lives a nobleman, Albrecht, who has disguised himself as a peasant named Loys who has fallen in love with the beautiful Giselle. Against the advice of his squire Wilfrid, Albrecht flirts with a peasant girl named Giselle who falls completely in love with him. Hilarion, a gamekeeper, is also in love with Giselle and warns the girl against trusting the stranger, but she refuses to listen. A love duet for Giselle and Loys is danced, with Giselle picking the petals from a daisy to divine her lover's sincerity. The couple is interrupted by Giselle's mother, who, worried about her daughter's fragile health, ushers the girl into the cottage.

Horns are heard in the distance and Loys retreats from the scene. A hunting party enters and refreshments are served. Among the hunters are Bathilde, Albrecht's fiancée and her father, the Duke of Silesia. Giselle returns to the scene, dances for the party, and receives a necklace from Bathilde. When the party departs, Loys reappears with the grape harvesters. A celebration begins. Giselle and the harvesters dance but the merriment is brought to a halt by Hilarion who, having investigated Albrecht's cottage now brandishes the nobleman's horn and sword. The horn is sounded, and the hunting party returns. The truth about Loys is learned and Giselle runs mad and dies of a broken heart.

### Act 2

Beneath some tree stands a cross on which is carved the name, Giselle. Hilarion mourns Giselle at her tomb but an air of mystery pervades the forest and Wilis, led by their queen, Myrtha, appear. The Wilis are female spirits of betrothed girls who have died before their wedding day.

Attired in their bridal dresses, they dance in the moonlight, determined to be revenged on all men. They lure any passers-by to their part of the forest, force them to dance until they collapse from exhaustion and die. Albrecht, too, visits Giselle's grave, repenting and begs for her forgiveness. Both Hilarion and Albrecht are trapped by the Wilis. For Hilarion, there is no escape. Giselle's deep love for Albrecht saves him from the power of the relentless Queen and her attendant wilis. With the coming of dawn the wilis' power is ended and they disappear leaving Albrecht to take a last farewell of Giselle.

## FAST FACTS

<b>Title</b>	:	Giselle
<b>Date</b>	:	12 – 15 April 2018 (Thursday - Sunday)
<b>Venue</b>	:	Esplanade Theatre
<b>Time</b>	:	12 - 13 Apr: 8pm   14 Apr: 1pm & 8pm   15 Apr Dec: 1pm & 7pm
<b>Ticket prices</b>	:	\$35, \$55, \$75 (SISTIC fee applies)

20% concessions for:

- Children aged 12 and below/Students/NSF/Senior Citizens

**Ticket Sales Date:** General Sales: 1 December – 15 April 2018

Tickets are available at all authorised SISTIC outlets and SDT Office.

Email [ticketing@singaporedancetheatre.com](mailto: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	Etienne Ferrère	Kenya Nakamura
First Artist	Chua Bi Ru Huo Liang	Elaine Heng Jason Carter	May Yen Cheah Kensuke Yorozu	
Artists	Akira Nakahama Kwok Min Yi Nanase Tanaka Yeo Chan Yee	Beatrice Castañeda Ma Ni Ruth Austin	Jessica Garside Mai Suzuki Sun Hong Lei	Kana Minegishi Marina Yatsushiro Tamana Watanabe
	Ivan Koh Satoru Agetsuma Wan Jiajing Jerry	Jeremie Gan Shan Del Vecchio	Justin Zee Takeaki Miura	Reece Hudson Timothy Ng
Apprentices	Leane Lim	Valerie Yeo	Jasper Arran	Reo Mizuno
Trainee	Felicia Er	Ma Xiaoyu	Sayaka Yamauchi	

## 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, Stanton Welch, Natalie Weir, Val Caniparoli, 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 ten years, the Company has added 28 world premieres and 18 company premieres and new productions 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. Since, the Company has enhanced efforts in Education and Outreach, bringing greater awareness and appreciation for dance to a wider audience. We also cater the Ballet Associate's Course (BAC) for students who intend to develop their dance skills and techniques. Last year, we introduced Adopt an Audience to make arts accessible for everyone, including the low-income, underprivileged, and disabled in our society.

## SDT ACTIVE REPERTOIRE 2009 – 2017

### **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

### **The Four Temperaments#**

Choreography: George Balanchine

### **13th Heaven\***

Choreography: Edwaard Liang

### **Triptych \***

Choreography: Val Caniparoli

### **Unexpected B**

Choreography: Toru Shimazaki

# Acquired through the Ambassador's Circle

\* Sponsored by Artistic Director's Fund