

SINGAPORE DANCE THEATRE

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR **JANEK SCHERGEN**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Singapore Dance Theatre presents **Masterpiece in Motion** 16-17 August 2019 | Esplanade Theatre

Serenade and *Theme and Variations* by George Balanchine
Fives by Choo-San Goh

17 June 2019



Serenade by George Balanchine | Photo: Bernie Ng

Masterpiece in Motion is back! As SDT's annual triple-bill evening, this season is truly unlike any other. A phenomenal line-up including George Balanchine's *Serenade* and *Theme and Variations*, as well as Choo-San Goh's *Fives*, this season is unparalleled in its presentation of world renowned works.

This season is set to leave you captivated the moment the rich scores tingle your ears. Masterpiece in Motion presents a true reflection and statement of Singapore Dance Theatre's brilliance and remarkable skill. Immerse yourself in the sophisticated world of dance, and let us transport you into the mesmerising of realm of delicate and dynamic artistry.

"Our Masterpiece in Motion series was established in 2010 as a title to indicate that we are bringing our audiences ballets of unquestioned brilliance, from some of the most major choreographers in the world. This is especially true this year, with two of the finest ballets of George Balanchine, co-founder of New York City Ballet, the undisputed master of neoclassical ballet. First is *Serenade* to Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for Strings*, which was presented on the opening night of the first performance of New York City Ballet. This is followed by the magnificent *Theme and Variations*, originally created for American Ballet Theatre and now a proud part of our repertoire. One of the inspirations for the start of Singapore Dance Theatre was the choreography of Choo San Goh, and for this evening we present one of his most iconic works, *Fives*, as a representation of why Choo San became such an international sensation as a choreographer." says Artistic Director Janek Schergen.

Serenade

Choreography

Staging

Music

Costume and Set Designer

George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust

Elyse Borne

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky (Serenade for Strings)

Barbara Karinska

Serenade is a milestone in the history of dance. It is the first original ballet Balanchine created in America and is one of the signature works of New York City Ballet's repertory. The ballet is performed by 28 dancers in blue costumes in front of a blue background. Originating it as a lesson in stage technique, Balanchine worked unexpected rehearsal events into the choreography. When one student fell, he incorporated it. Another day, a student arrived late, and this too became part of the ballet. After its initial presentation, *Serenade* was reworked several times. In its present form there are four movements – "Sonatina," "Waltz," "Russian Dance," and "Elegy."

Serenade was successfully brought into SDT's repertoire with the generous support of the members from Ambassadors' Circle 2010.

The performance of *Serenade*, a Balanchine® Ballet, is presented by arrangement with The George Balanchine Trust and has been produced in accordance with the Balanchine Style® and Balanchine Technique® Service standards established and provided by the Trust.

Theme and Variations

Choreography

Staging

Music

George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust

Elyse Borne

Peter Il'yich Tchaikovsky (Suite No 3 in G major, Op. 55 IV)

The legendary George Balanchine's® *Theme and Variations*, a company premiere, is a grand masterpiece of ballet. This breath-taking ballet showcases the intensive development of the classic ballet lexicon, featuring a cast of 26 dancers. Performed to Tchaikovsky's brilliant score, "the moment" for the ballet is found in the grand polonaise which exudes drama and excitement. This ballet is a crowd pleaser, offering the audience any number of favourite moments, with dazzling choreography, gorgeous music, spectacular costumes and the remarkable culmination of all these elements on stage in performance.

This performance was originally sponsored by the Ambassador's Circle 2013.

The performance of *Theme and Variations*, a Balanchine® Ballet, is presented by arrangement with The George Balanchine Trust and has been produced in accordance with the Balanchine Style® and Balanchine Technique® Service standards established and provided by the Trust."

Fives

Choreography

Staging

Music

Choo-San Goh

Janek Schergen

Ernest Bloch / Concerto Grosso No. 1

"There is enormous symmetry in all of Goh's choreography, but it is in *Fives* that he asks the most of his dancers, with intricate and precise ensemble work... His patterns are exquisite and this heavily textured ballet never lost momentum despite its complexity." - Carol Brown

Fives was first performed by SDT in 2000.

Presented by arrangements with the Choo-San Goh & H Robert Magee Foundation.



FAST FACTS

Title : Masterpiece in Motion
Date : 16 & 17 August 2019 (Friday & Saturday)
Venue : Esplanade Theatre
Time : 8pm
Ticket prices : \$40, \$60, \$80 (SISTIC fees apply)
20% concessions for:
• Children aged 12 and below/Students/NSF/Senior Citizens

Ticket Sales Date: General Sales: 5 June – 17 August 2019

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	Etienne Ferrère	Kenya Nakamura	
First Artist	Akira Nakahama May Yen Cheah	Chua Bi Ru Huo Liang	Elaine Heng Jason Carter	Kwok Min Yi Kensuke Yorozu
Artists	Beatrice Castañeda Leane Lim Nanase Tanaka Yeo Chan Yee	Henriette Garcia Ma Ni Tamana Watanabe	Jessica Garside Mai Suzuki Valerie Yeo	Kana Minegishi Marina Yatsushiro Yayoi Matches
	Ivan Koh Reece Hudson Takeaki Miura	Jasper Arran Reo Mizuno Timothy Ng	Jeremie Gan Satoru Agetsuma	Justin Zee Shan Del Vecchio
Apprentices	Esen Thang Sayaka Yamauchi	Felicia Er Erivan Garioli	Ma Xiaoyu	Reiko Tan

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 of 34 dancers plus apprentices and trainees. 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.

The Company's repertoire ranges from 19th century traditional classical to contemporary works, from renowned choreographers like Choo-San Goh, George Balanchine, Stanton Welch, Natalie Weir, Val Caniparoli, Edmund Stripe, Kinsun Chan, Edwaard Liang, Nils Christe, Toru Shimazaki, Christina Chan, Ma Cong, Timothy Harbour and most recently, Timothy Rushton.

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 30 world premieres and 19 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 has captivated audiences in Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Mexico, China, Australia, France, United States, London, Switzerland, Thailand and most recently Laos. The Company has taken part and has performed in numerous international festivals and events, such as Le Temps d'Aimer la Danse a Biarritz in France, Mexico's Festival Internacional Cervantino, Chang Mu Arts Festival in Korea, Philippines Festival of Dance, and was part of the Victorian Arts Centre's Made to Move subscription series. SDT tours Kuala Lumpur and Penang annually, and has seen a growth in its dedicated support to the company.

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.

In celebration of SDT's 30th Anniversary as well as for the Nation's birthday, SDT's ballet master, Mohamed Noor Sarman choreographed the dance music video for NDP 2018 theme song 'We are Singapore'.

SDT ACTIVE REPERTOIRE LIST

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

Linea Adora[#]

Choreography: Timothy Harbour

SYNC[#]

Choreography: Nils Christe

Evening Voices^{*}

Choreography: Tim Rushton

[#] Acquired through the Ambassador's Circle

^{*} Sponsored by Artistic Director's Fund