SINGAPORE BALLET

SINGAPORE BALLET FESTIVAL

Our Vision

To be a vibrant cultural institution that enriches the lives of Singaporeans through the art of dance and represents Singapore on the world stage.

Our Mission

To inspire and delight Singaporeans and international audiences by presenting world-class ballet performances and a distinctive repertoire that reflect the unique identity of the company.

To inspire future generations of dance talents by supporting their growth and development, and providing a pathway for them to pursue their passion professionally.

Patron

Dr. Tony Tan

(Patron since 2002)
President of the Republic of Singapore (2011-2017)

Founders

Anthony Then

Goh Soo Khim

Board Members

Laura Hwang
(Chairperson)

Michael Hwang

Edward D'Silva

Daniel Teo

Paige Parker

Paul Ng

Eduardo Ramos-Gomez

Lee Suan Hiang

Lisa Latip

Director Emeritus

Ms Goh Soo Khim

Ambassadors Council

Chairperson

Laura Hwang

Co-Chairperson

Paige Parker

Members

Francois Dubrulle

Lena Ng

Lisa Latip

Marcus Yeung

Paul Ng

Toshihiko Takahashi

Yasuko Yeung

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About Singapore Ballet

Singapore Ballet was founded as Singapore Dance Theatre in 1988 by Goh Soo Khim and Anthony Then. In 2002, the company was honoured with the opportunity to grace the official opening of the Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay with the opening performance of Boi Sakti's *Reminiscing the Moon*. Singapore Ballet continues to have the privilege of performing in a world-class performing arts venue, exhilarating audiences with a myriad of repertoires. The company was started with just seven dancers and has since grown from strength to strength, performing six seasons annually with three full ballet performances at the stage of Esplanade Theatre.

The highlights of the Company's annual performance season include the widely popular outdoor dance event – Ballet Under the Stars at the Fort Canning Park, two full length classics, Singapore Ballet Festival which brings together three works of the finest international choreography, as well as Passages Contemporary Season. The company also presents Made in Singapore through the choreographic workshop, where budding choreographers build on developing choreographic language through a sense of exploration. The company's repertoire ranges from classical to contemporary ballet, from renowned choreographers like Choo-San Goh, George Balanchine, Kinsun Chan, Val Caniparoli, Ma Cong, Edmund Stripe, Natalie Weir, Edwaard Liang, Nils Christe, Toru Shimazaki, Christina Chan, Timothy Harbour, François Klaus, Timothy Rushton, Paul Knobloch and Loughlan Prior.

In 2008, Janek Schergen was appointed Artistic Director. Under his leadership, the company has made new achievements in the international and Singapore dance arena. In the last 16 years, the company has added multiple new productions to its repertoire. This includes 51 world premieres, 22 company premieres, and numerous revivals of the company's existing repertoire. In 2013, Singapore Ballet moved to a new premise in Bugis+ with four state-of-the-art studios. Additionally, the company will be enhancing efforts in education and outreach, bringing the appreciation of dance to a wider audience in Singapore.

International Touring

Singapore Ballet has captivated audiences in Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Mexico, China, Australia, France, United States, London, Laos, and Switzerland. In June 2024, the company was invited to perform the opening piece for the festival – *10,000 Dreams* at the Kennedy Centre in Washington D.C. where Choo-San Goh was celebrated as a trailblazing Asian choreographer. Prior to this, the company has taken part and 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.

Singapore Ballet tours to Malaysia and Penang annually, and has seen a growth in its dedicated support to the company. Through the invitation of Sadlers Wells, the company has also performed at London's Singapore Season at the Peacock Theatre. Seen to be a little asiatic gem, "the company's strength lies in a seamless transition between strong classical technique and contemporary movement." said Graham Watts of Ballet. Co magazine. Stephanie Burridge of Ballet Dance (UK) highlighted that "The company is versatile, talented and disciplined… the breadth of the repertoire takes them internationally beyond Singapore's shores but their sensibility is undeniably Asian; underpinned by a strong local foothold and empathy."

Arts Education Programme and Outreach

Singapore Ballet has been a recipient of the National Arts Council's Major Grant since 2000. As a major grant recipient from the Singapore government and in keeping with Singapore Ballet's commitment to bring the finest in dance to the public audience, on-going Education and Outreach programmes such as Dance Appreciation Series (jointly presented with Esplanade Co.) and One @ the Ballet (a monthly in-studio presentation) are organised to provide people with the opportunity to appreciate dance.

Singapore Ballet has also created the Scholars Programme which is designed to be a pre-professional training programme for student dancers who are seriously interested in the pursuit of a professional dance career. The company also offers special courses for beginners and adult students. These efforts aim to make dance more accessible to the masses. Singapore Ballet hopes to spread the beauty, passion, and discipline of dance to as many people as possible, and place Singapore in the minds of international dance aficionados.

Join Singapore Ballet's mailing list for exclusive updates and promotions.

Message From The Artistic Director

Janek Schergen

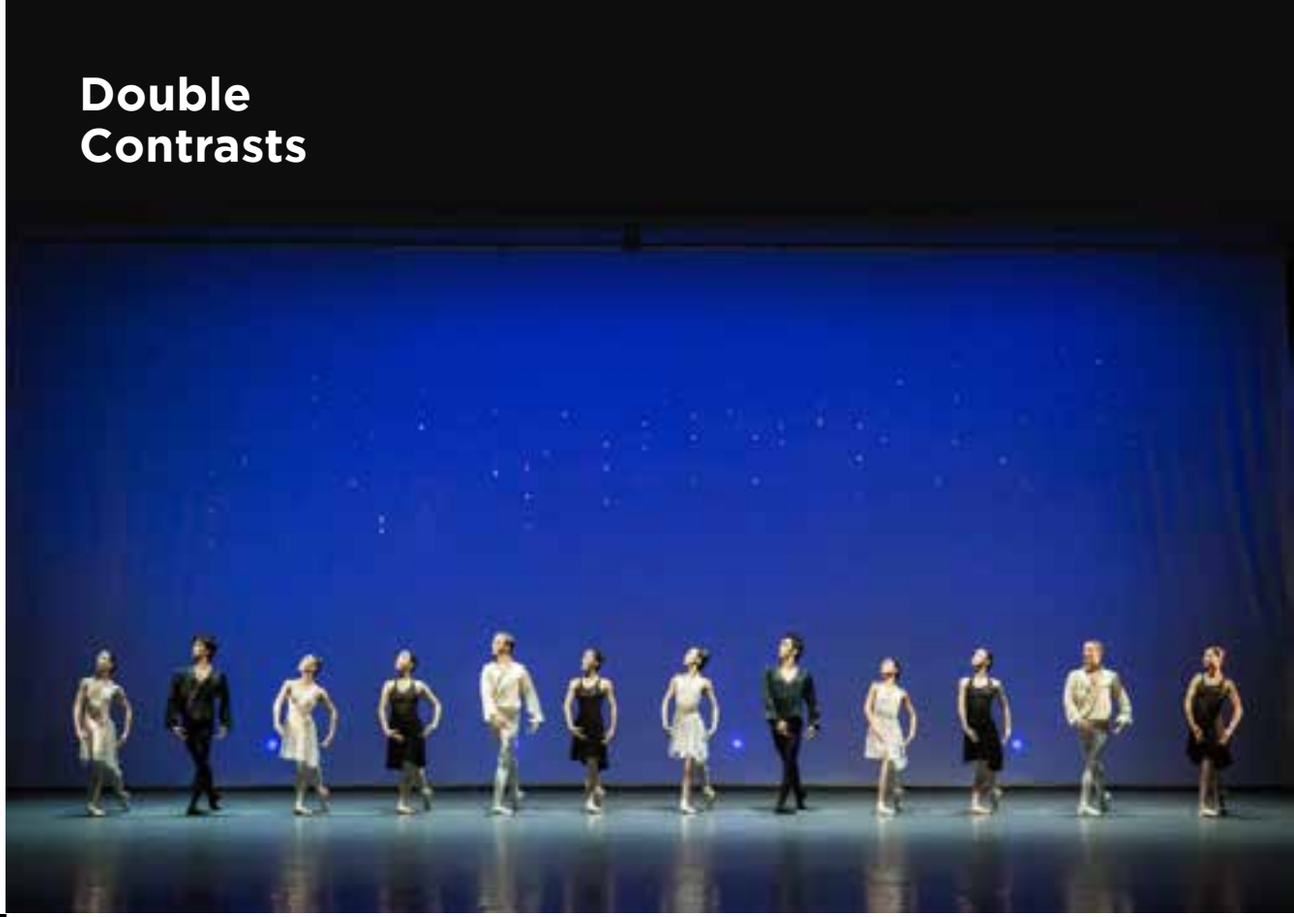
When we renamed our international repertory season, Masterpiece in Motion, to Singapore Ballet Festival in 2024, we did not alter the overall aspect of the season. In many ways, it is an acknowledgement of our history of 37 years as a professional dance organisation here in Singapore. The Singapore Ballet's repertoire now has a wealth of riches from many significant choreographers that have contributed ballets to our performances.

This season, we open the evening with Choo-San Goh's brilliant *Double Contrasts*, set to Francis Poulenc's Double Piano Concerto. Choo-San's ballets remain at the very heart of Singapore Ballet. Each one is a treasure within our repertory. New ballets, especially made for us, are the lifeblood of our repertoire and, to that end, we have two outstanding ballets, both originally created for us, with Tim Rushton's magnificent *Evening Voices* and Ma Cong's hauntingly beautiful ballet *Shadow's Edge*. Each of these three works are major milestones in the company's repertoire, representing the identity of Singapore Ballet.

Our repertoire is all about balance in presenting classical full-length ballets, neoclassical masterpieces and contemporary ballets that are made for us. The key is in giving each of them the correct place within our repertory to create the best impression of dance and choreography. I hope you will treasure this evening in your experience as I do.

Shadow's Edge
by Ma Cong

Double Contrasts



Choreographer

Choo-San Goh

Staging

Janek Schergen

Music

Francis Poulenc
Concerto in D minor
for Two Pianos and Orchestra

Costume Designer

Sandra Woodall

Cast

White
Kana Minegishi[1]/
Tamana Watanabe[2]
Takeaki Miura[1]/ Shu Igarashi[2]

Tamana Watanabe[1]/
Paloma Hendry-Hodsdon[2]
My Le
Theresa Tan
Christopher Lavilles

Black
Esen Thang[1]/ Kwok Min Yi[2]
Timothy Ng[1]/ Satoru Agetsuma[2]

Jessica Garside
Leane Lim
Ma Xiaoyu
Owen Horsford

Synopsis

Staged by Janek Schergen, *Double Contrasts* is both elegant and classical in dance form. The two sets of dancers reflect the two solo pianists; one being full and youthful enthusiasm and the other more sophisticated in nature. The work has energy, wit and style. The dancers exude chic and elegance in their formal costumes. *Double Contrasts* presents many technical challenges for the dancers. It is fast, as are all Choo-San's ballets at their heart and it leaves the audience exhilarated. It is one of Choo-San's first ballets that stood the test of time and that is performed on a consistent basis from its premiere till now.

Double Contrasts is sponsored by the Artistic Director's Fund.

Legend
1 - 18 July 8pm, 19 July 2pm, 20 July 2pm | **2** - 19 July 8pm

Evening Voices

Choreographer

Tim Rushton

Music

Sergei Rachmaninov/ Vespers

Costume Designer

Tim Rushton

Cast

Jessica Garside	Kwok Min Yi	Leane Lim	Kana Minegishi
Teo Jun Ning	Esen Thang	Tamana Watanabe	
Satoru Agetsuma	Jason Carter	Shu Igarashi	Joshua Lee
Takeaki Miura	Timothy Ng	Shan Del Vecchio	

Synopsis

"I often find myself being driven by a piece of music, it is indescribable and enthralling, it's like going on a journey with a composer. Rachmaninov is one of those composers that I find fascinating, his All-Night Vigil is tender and yet magnificent, making us feel humble but uplifted. The simple musical composition (prose) is a celebration to our believe of something bigger."

- Tim Rushton

Evening Voices was created for SDT in 2018 and acquired through the sponsorship of the Artistic Director's Fund.

Shadow's Edge

Choreographer

Ma Cong

Music

Enzo Bosso

Costume Designer

Susan Roemer

Cast

Jessica Garside	Laura Harwood	Kwok Min Yi	My Le
Leane Lim	Theresa Tan	Teo Jun Ning	Esen Thang
Satoru Agetsuma	Akira Wolfie Bischoff	Jason Carter	Merlin Erdelen
Shu Igarashi	Timothy Ng	Shan Del Vecchio	Kevin Zong

Synopsis

Shadow's Edge was created to celebrate the diverse cultures, artistry, and individuality of the dancers of Singapore Ballet. Set to powerful music by Bryce Dessner in collaboration with the Kronos Quartet, the score evokes a sense of transformation—moving through phases of change, evolution, and forward momentum. The choreography mirrors this journey, with movement that pulses with energy and progression. The dancers bring the work to life with remarkable sensitivity and vitality, elevating the theme with their unique presence and collective spirit.

Shadow's Edge was created for SDT in 2014.

Biographies
Artistic Director

Janek Schergen

Janek Schergen is from Göteborg, Sweden. He studied ballet with Richard Ellis and Christine Du Boulay of the Sadlers Wells Ballet and continued at the American Ballet Center and the Harkness House for Ballet Arts in New York. In 1971, he joined the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and the following year, became a member of the Pennsylvania Ballet in Philadelphia, under the directorship of Barbara Weisberger and Benjamin Harkarvy, spending 11 years with the Company. In 1978, he began teaching at the School of the Pennsylvania Ballet. In addition to dancing and teaching, he began staging the works of Mr. Harkarvy for Pennsylvania Ballet and other companies. In 1981, he was invited by Mary Day, the Director of Washington Ballet, and Choo-San Goh, the Company's Resident Choreographer, to guest-teach for the Washington Ballet. He joined Washington Ballet in a full-time position as ballet master and teacher, and toured through the Far East, Europe and South America, as well as the United States.

In 1988, he was invited to be the ballet master and Company teacher for the Royal Swedish Ballet in Stockholm, rehearsing full-length classics such as *Swan Lake, Sleeping Beauty,* and *La Bayadère*, as well as works by Sir Frederick Ashton and Sir Kenneth MacMillan. In 1991, he completed his studies in written dance notation in London, receiving his certification in Benesh Movement Notation. He later became a ballet master for Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre. He has staged his own production of The *Sleeping Beauty* for Ballet Met, The Milwaukee Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Pennsylvania Ballet and the Norwegian National Ballet.

As Artistic Director and a Board Member of The Choo-San Goh & H. Robert Magee Foundation, he has staged more than 120 productions of Choo-San Goh's works worldwide. He is the Chairman of the Awards Committee for the Choo-San Goh Awards for Choreography. In the past 30 years, 72 awards have been made dedicated to the creation of new works of choreography.

Since the establishment of Singapore Ballet (SB), formerly known as Singapore Dance Theatre, in 1988, he has staged 11 of Choo-San's works for SB and in December 2000, mounted the full-length *Romeo and Juliet*. At the request of SB, he was asked to author a monograph on the career and ballets of Choo-San Goh. The book, with his text, was published in Singapore, in September 1997.

From 2002-2006, he was the ballet master and staff teacher of the Norwegian National Ballet (NNB) in Oslo. He was responsible for rehearsing many full-length works, in addition to contemporary works and the Balanchine repertoire. The production he created of Tornerose (*Sleeping Beauty*) for NNB was broadcasted on NRK television in December 2006. In 2007, he was appointed Assistant Artistic Director of SB.

In 2008, Janek Schergen was appointed Artistic Director of SB. In 2009, he initiated the monthly One @ the Ballet open in-studio rehearsals and began the Ballet Associates Course. He later established the annual SB Choreographic Workshop (now called Made in Singapore) as well as added the pre-professional Scholars' programme in 2011. Over the past years, he has been part of several panels and committees for the National Arts Council. He has also been frequently invited to judge at several international ballet competitions. Under his leadership, the company continues soaring new heights and earning achievements internationally as well as in the local dance arena. His other stagings include *Swan Lake, Giselle, Sleeping Beauty, Romeo & Juliet, The Nutcracker, Paquita*, *Coppélia* and *Cinderella*. He also created his own five-part children's ballet series production, *Peter & Blue*.

He was honoured with the 'Award for Culture' by Singapore Tatler at the Leadership Awards 2015, a prestigious award that recognises the contribution of influential leaders in Singapore. He received a National Day Award – "The Public Service Medal, 2017 (PBM)" by the President of Singapore, as the Arts Advisory Panel in National Arts Council, Artistic Director of Singapore Dance Theatre, and Founding Artistic Director of Choo-San Goh & H. Robert Magee Foundation. Janek was unanimously voted to receive the "Swede of the Year 2019" Award by the Swedish Chamber of Commerce Singapore.

Janek Schergen was recently featured on the CNA show *Singaporean at Heart*, which highlighted his significant contributions to Singapore's ballet scene. It celebrated his efforts in nurturing local talent and bringing world-class productions to Singapore, showcasing his lasting impact on the cultural landscape.

Biographies

About the Choreographer
Choo-San Goh

Choo-San Goh was born in Singapore. He was first introduced to dance at the age of ten at the Singapore Ballet Academy under the guidance of Goh Soo Nee. He continued his dance studies through high school and college while completing his studies for his Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry, awarded by the University of Singapore in 1969. He decided to pursue his career in dance and in 1970, he joined the Het National Ballet in Amsterdam, Netherlands. As a dancer, he performed works by George Balanchine as well as Het National Ballet's three resident choreographers Toer van Schyk, Rudi van Dantzig and Hans van Hanen. The National Ballet Workshop provided him an opportunity to create his first ballets which were produced in 1973 and 1975. These initial efforts were so successful that he was awarded a grant from the Netherlands Ministry of Culture to further his work in choreography. In 1976, Choo-San went to the United States to join The Washington Ballet as resident choreographer. With The Washington Ballet, he created 14 original works. Many of them became his greatest choreographic pieces, such as *Fives, Variations Serieuses, Double Contrasts, In the Glow of The Night, Schubert Symphony* and *Unknown Territory*.

In 1983, he received the choreographic award in the International Ballet competition in Varna, Bulgaria for his *pas de deux* Momentum. He also received a choreography fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts in 1978. Other honors included the Mayor's Award For Excellence In Artistic Discipline in Washington, D.C. in 1986. In 1987, the Cultural Medallion of Singapore, the most prestigious award given by the government of Singapore to a citizen, was presented to Choo-San Goh in recognition of his contribution to the dance world. Today, Choo-San's ballets are in the repertoire of many companies, including the American Ballet Theatre, Boston Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Royal Swedish Ballet, Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre, Hong Kong Ballet, Singapore Ballet, and others. Choo-San established the Choo-San Goh H. Robert Magee Foundation to award grants to dance companies to produce works by young, emerging choreographers. It is a significant project that helps encourage choreographic talents. His ballets continue to be performed all over the world, and the production of his works is supervised by his long-time ballet master and artistic director of the Choo-San Goh and H. Robert Magee Foundation, Janek Schergen. His ballets remain a testament to his creative powers. To date, Singapore Ballet has acquired 12 of Choo San's ballets: *Beginnings, Ballade, Birds of Paradise, Double Contrasts, Fives, In The Glow Of The Night, Momentum, Schubert Symphony, Unknown Territory, Variations Serieuses, Configurations* and *Romeo & Juliet*.

About the Choreographer
Ma Cong

A visionary in dance, Ma Cong became Artistic Director of Richmond Ballet in July 2024. Celebrated for his bold choreography and global artistic voice, Ma trained at Beijing Dance Academy and began his career with the National Ballet of China, laying the foundation for a rich, cross-cultural artistic voice—one that would resonate around the world after he moved to the United States in 1999.

A two-decade tenure with Tulsa Ballet as both Principal Dancer and Resident Choreographer solidified his reputation as a dynamic performer and imaginative creator. During his time there, Ma danced works by choreographic legends including Jiří Kylián, William Forsythe, Nacho Duato, George Balanchine, and Christopher Wheeldon, while simultaneously building an acclaimed choreographic portfolio of his own.

Since launching his choreographic career with *Folia* in 2004, Ma has created original works for leading companies across the globe, including Houston Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Smuin Ballet, Singapore Ballet, Queensland Ballet, American Ballet Theater studio company, Royal Ballet School and the National Ballet of China. He was named Resident Choreographer of Tulsa Ballet in 2009, and his reputation as a creative force continued to grow with works such as *French Twist, Lift the Fallen, Flight of Fancy, Near Light, Carry me Anew* and many more.

Ma was named one of Dance Magazine's "25 to Watch" in 2006 and received the Choo-San Goh Award for Choreography in 2007. He also won the 21st Century Choreographic Competition, earning both the Audience Favorite and Pointe Magazine's Editor's Choice Award. In 2013, he was honored with Joffrey Ballet's Choreographers of Color Award.

Now leading Richmond Ballet, Ma brings passion and innovation, championing a repertoire that bridges classical tradition with contemporary vision.

Biographies

About the Choreogapher
Tim Rushton

Tim Rushton (MBE)* was born in Birmingham in 1963. He studied at the Royal Ballet Upper School and danced for a number of northern European ballet companies until the mid-1990s. While a dancer at The Royal Danish Ballet, he became interested in pursuing a choreographic career and decided to quit dancing.

Rushton quickly made his mark as a creator of contemporary dance, using classical ballet technique. He then went on to become the Artistic Director of the Danish Dance Theatre for 16 years.

During his time there, Rushton has transformed DDT into a multi-award winning company. Under his leadership, the company has established an international presence and today enjoys critical and popular acclaim throughout Europe, North America, Australia and Asia Pacific.

Tim Rushton's contemporary choreographic style draws on his vast experience as a dancer and choreographer. His work - described as 'emotionally-led, reflecting the nuances of human relationships' - often mixes live music, stunning lightning and design features. He uses it, he says, as "a means to communicate human emotion."

Rushton collaborates with writers, designers, visual artists and composers. He's worked with a range of music spanning diverse genres, from classical masterpieces through to beat, jazz and newly commissioned compositions.

*Tim Rushton was appointed 'Member of the Order of the British Empire' (MBE) in the 2011 New Year's Honours List in recognition of his services to dance.

Shadow's Edge
by Ma Cong

Evening Voices
by Tim Rushton

Double Contrasts
by Choo-San Goh

Biographies — Principals

Kwok Min Yi

Min Yi trained at Singapore Ballet Academy and received the SBA Scholarship in 2007 and 2008. In 2009, she was a finalist in the Adeline Genée International Ballet Competition and was awarded the National Arts Council (Overseas) Arts Scholarship to train at English National Ballet School in London. As a student, Min Yi performed in SDT's productions of *The Nutcracker, Giselle, La Sylphide* and *Cinderella*. She also performed with The Royal Ballet in *Swan Lake* (2005) and The Washington Ballet in *The Nutcracker* (2007).

Min Yi joined the company as an apprentice and was promoted to Artist in 2014, Soloist in 2019 and Principal in 2020. She has taken on Principal and featured roles in *Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella, The Nutcracker, Coppélia, Romeo and Juliet, Swan Lake, Don Quixote, Theme and Variations, Serenade, Configurations, Schubert Symphony, Momentum, Lines Adora, Protecting Veil, Sync, Raymonda Divertissements, Flower Festival in Genzano, Birds of Paradise, In the Glow of the Night, Double Contrasts, Jabula, Bittersweet, Dark Waves, Opus 25, Ibsen's House, Chant, Quiver, Organ Concerto, Purcell Pieces, The Four Temperaments, Paquita Divertissements* and *Midnight Waltz*. She has also performed in *Variation Serieuses, Rubies, Concerto Barocco, Divertimento No. 15, Fives, Unknown Territory, Beginnings, Symphony in Three Movements, Zin!, Incomparable Beauty, Shadow's Edge, Another Energy, Blue Snow, Without You, Evening Voices, Triptych, Bournonville Divertissements- Folk Tale pas de sept, La Ventana* and *Tarentella, 4Seasons* and *The Rite of Spring*.

Satoru Agetsuma

Satoru was born in Yamagata, Japan. At the age of eight, he started to learn Ballet in his hometown and Fukushima coached by Emi Suzuki, Takashi Shouji and Shigeki Sato. Satoru started his training in 2014 at The Australian Ballet School, Melbourne. He was trained in classical ballet, contemporary, and spanish dance and also performed with The Australian Ballet.

Satoru joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in January 2017 and was promoted to Artist in January 2018, Soloist in 2020 and Principal in 2023. His repertoire highlights include Principal and featured roles in *Swan Lake, Romeo and Juliet* (Romeo and Mercutio), *Don Quixote, The Nutcracker, Coppelia, Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Theme and Variations, Configurations, Momentum, Birds of Paradise, Linea Adora, Protecting Veil, Without You, Dark Waves, 4Seasons, Opus 25, Quiver, Evening Voices, After Happy Ever* and *Organ Concerto*. He also performed in *Blue Snow, Purcell Pieces, Sticks and Stones, Symphony in Three Movements, 13th Heaven, SYNC, Midnight Waltzes, Fives, The Rite of Spring, Family Reunion, The third reset* and *The Light Behind Us*.

Biographies — Soloists

Kana Minegishi

Kana began her ballet training at Reiko Yamamoto Ballet School in Japan. She furthered her training at Elmhurst School for Dance, which is in association with Birmingham Royal Ballet, in UK. While at the Elmhurst, she danced in Peter Wright's *Coppélia* as Swanilda, Frederick Ashton's *Rhapsody* pas de deux, and the pas de quatre from *Swan Lake*. She also won the 1st prize at the All Japan Ballet Competition sponsored by Tokyo Newspaper and Saitama All Japan Ballet Competition in 2008 and 2009 respectively.

Kana then joined the Atlantic City Ballet from 2011 to 2015, where she performed in various productions including Principal roles in *The Nutcracker, Dracula, Carmen* and *Sleeping Beauty*. She returned to Japan in 2015 and joined the Reiko Yamamoto Ballet Company and has performed in many classical and contemporary pieces.

Kana joined Singapore Ballet as an Artist in October 2016. Kana was promoted to Demi-Soloist in January 2020 and Soloist in January 2022. Her repertoire highlights include the Principal roles of Kitri in *Don Quixote* (2023) and Odette / Odile in *Swan Lake* (2019), Dew Drop and Snow Queen in *The Nutcracker* (2022), Swanilda's friends in *Coppélia* (2022), Juliet's friends in *Romeo and Juliet* (2020), Fairy of the songs in *Sleeping Beauty* (2018) She has also performed in *Giselle*, *Peter & Blue's series, Paquita, The Four Temperaments, Theme and Variations, Serenade, 13th Heaven, Opus 25, Age of innocence, Unexpected B, Linea Adora, Protecting Vell, SYNC, ZIN!, Purcell Pieces, Unknown Territory, Momentum, Glow of the Night, Schubert Symphony, Variation Serieuses, 4seasons, Quiver, Without you, The third reset, Faux Contact* and *After Happy Ever*.

Tamana Watanabe

Born in Osaka, Japan, Tamana started dancing at the age of three at Ono Ballet Studio. From the age of 10, she continued her ballet education at Ballet Academy RELEVÉ. In 2014, she was accepted to train at National Theatre Ballet School in Australia under the direction of Beverly Jane Fry. She graduated in 2016 after three years of training.

Tamana joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in January 2017, and was promoted to Artist in January 2018. Her repertoire highlights includes *Romeo and Juliet* (2020), Cygnets in *Swan Lake* (2019), *Coppélia, The Nutcracker, Giselle* and *Sleeping Beauty*. She has also danced in *13th Heaven, Paquita, Linea Adora, SYNC, The Four Temperaments, Fives, The Light Behind Us* and *Quiver*.

Tamana was promoted to Demi-Soloist in January 2024 and to Soloist in January 2025.

Biographies — Soloists

Jason Carter

Born in Central Queensland, Australia, Jason started dancing when he was five. He trained under the tutelage of Sandra Pincham in the RAD syllabus. Jason was accepted into the New Zealand School of Dance for the classical course in 2008 and started his training at the school in 2009. He appeared in a range of performances by the school including *Company B* by Paul Taylor, *Napoli, Evening Songs* and *Continuo*. He graduated at the end of 2011 and joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in January 2012. He was promoted to Artist in September 2012.

His repertoire highlights include Albrecht in *Giselle*, Benvolio in *Romeo and Juliet*, Shepherd and Spanish in *The Nutcracker*, Gamache in *Don Quixote*, Pas de Trois in *Sleeping Beauty*, Spanish in *Swan Lake* (2015, 2019), *Paquita* pas de trios, Phlegmatic in *The Four Temperaments* and *Bittersweet*. He also performed in *Reflections, Protecting Veil, Linea Adora, Another Energy, Purcell Pieces, Sync, Organ Concerto, Symphony in Three Movements, Fearful Symmetries, Zin!, Incomparable Beauty, Shadow's Edge, Chant, Ibsen's House, Swipe, Lamberena, 4Seasons, Jabula, Theme and Variations, Rubies, Allegro Brillante, Serenade, Momentum, Configurations, In the Glow of the Night, Double Contrasts, Shubert Symphony, Fives, Variation Serieuses, Without You, Quiver, Evening Voices, Bournonville Divertissements* (Folk Tale pas de sept and Tarantella), *Raymonda Divertissments, Opus 25, Age of Innocence, The Winds of Zephyrus, 13th Heaven, After Happy Ever, Piano Concerto No.2, Opus 102, Sticks and Stones, Midnight Waltzes, Blue Snow, Absence of Story, Zer0, Faux Contact* and *The Rite of Spring*.

Takeaki Miura

Takeaki was born in Japan and started his dance training at the age of seven under Mrs. Mika Tamaru at the International Ballet Academy in Hiroshima. He went on to study at the Goh Ballet School from 2005 to 2008, before moving on to the Academy de Dance Princess Grace where he graduated in 2011 with a Certificate of Honour. He received a full scholarship to continue his studies at the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater (PBT) Graduate programme from 2011 to 2013. He danced in various repertoires at PBT including *Don Quixote, Serenade, The Nutcracker*, and *Coppélia*.

He has won many awards including a Bronze medal at the Youth America Grand Prix San Francisco Regionals 2009, a Bronze at The Margot Fonteyn International Ballet Competition 2009 (formerly the Genée International Ballet Competition).

Takeaki joined the Atlantic City Ballet Company from 2013 to 2015, where he took on Soloist and Principal roles in repertoires like *A Midsummer Night's Dream, Sleeping Beauty, Dracula* and *Bournonville Divertissements*.

Takeaki joined Singapore Ballet as an Artist in January 2016. His repertoire highlights include Gypsy King in *Don Quixote* (2023), the Mandolin Dance in *Romeo and Juliet* (2020), Tarantella in *Swan Lake* (2019), Spanish in *The Nutcracker* (2017, 2022), the lead in *Raymonda Divertissements* (2017). He has also performed in *Sleeping Beauty, Giselle* and *Coppélia, Peter & Blue* series, *A Folk Tale pas de sept in Bournonville Divertissements*, *Age of Innocence, Symphony in Three Movements, Another Energy, Jabula, Sticks and Stones, Organ Concerto, Theme and Variation, 13th Heaven, Double Contrasts, Linea Adora, SYNC, Shadow's Edge, Opus 25, Midnight Waltzes, Trptich, Schubert Symphony, Unknown Territory, Fives, Quiver, Momentum, Pursell Pieces, 4season, Without You, Configurations, Serenade, Protecting veil* and *Faux Contact*.

Takeaki was promoted to Demi-Soloist in January 2023 and to Soloist in January 2024.

Timothy Ng

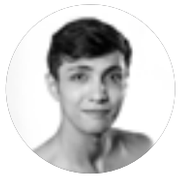
Timothy was born in Singapore, and he began learning ballet with Ms Sylvia McCully at the age of seven. He continued his training in ballet with SDT's Scholars Programme after he finished serving his National Service and performed with Youth Dancers Singapore in Ballet Under the Stars 2011 and Macau International Youth Dance Festival 2012.

Concurrent with his training in classical ballet, Timothy also enrolled in Singapore University of Technology and Design where he graduated with a First Class Honours Bachelors degree of Engineering (Engineering Product Development Mechanical Engineering).

Since joining Singapore Ballet (SB) as an Apprentice in 2016 and being promoted to Artist in 2017, Timothy has enjoyed performing in much of the company's repertoire. He has had the honour of dancing in *Organ Concerto, Symphony in 3 Movements, ZIN!, The Four Temperaments, Theme and Variations, 13th Heaven, Opus 25, Linea Adora, Another Energy, Shadow's Edge, Quiver, Ibsen's House, Peter and Blue, Swan Lake, The Nutcracker*, and *The Sleeping Beauty*, and many others. Timothy has also danced the role of Paris in *Romeo and Juliet* (2020), The Espada in *Don Quixote* (2019), and the Spanish Couple in *Swan Lake* (2019).

Timothy has also performed many of Choo-San Goh's works in the SB repertoire. He danced as the Principal couple in the 3rd movement of *In the Glow of the Night*, and has danced in *Fives, Momentum, Variation Serieuses, Schubert Symphony*, and *Birds of Paradise*.

In January 2022, Timothy was promoted to a Soloist of Singapore Ballet.



Shan Del Vecchio

Half Thai half Italian, Shan was born in Chiang Mai, Thailand. He started dancing at the age of 11, learning ballet at Chiang Mai Ballet Academy on a yearly scholarship from 2005 to 2013.

He trained under Kim Matthews and under the director of the school Preeyapun Sridhavat. Shan received the RAD Solo Seal Award in November 2012. He performed numerous lead roles with the Chiang Mai Ballet Performing Group including the Annual Charity Musical Dance Play (2008) where he danced the role of Captain Hook in *Peter Pan*, Bluebird in *Sleeping Beauty* (2010), The Mad Hatter in *Alice in Wonderland* (2011), Conrad in *Le Corsaire* and Aladdin in *Aladdin* (2012), Prince Eric in *The Little Mermaid* (2013). Additionally, Shan has won the first prize multiple times at the Asia Pacific Dance Competitions.

He joined Singapore Ballet as Apprentice in January 2014 and was promoted to Artist in January 2016. His repertoire highlights include *Variations From A Distance*, *The Light Behind Us*, Mandolin Dance in *Romeo and Juliet* (2020), *Don Quixote, Sleeping Beauty, Swan Lake, The Nutcracker, Coppélia* and *Giselle*.

He has also danced in *Opus 25, Midnight Waltzes, Serenade, Theme and Variations, Bliss, Peter & Blue series, Sticks and Stone, Shadow's Edge, Age of Innocence, Symphony in Three Movements, Piano Concerto No.2 Opus 102, Unexpected B, Double Contrasts, Linea Adora, SYNC, 13th Heaven, Unknown Territory*, *Evening Voices*, *Quiver* and *Ibsen's House*.

Shan was promoted to Demi-Soloist in January 2022 and to Soloist in January 2024.

Biographies — Soloists

Kevin Zong

Kevin was born in Corning, New York and began his formal ballet training at age 12 at the School of First State Ballet Theatre in Wilmington, Delaware. His training has led him to the Shanghai Dance School, Next Generation Ballet, and finally Ellison Ballet where he is a graduate of. Prior to joining Singapore Ballet, Kevin had danced with Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida as well as in his hometown at the First State Ballet Theatre.

Outside of dance, he also holds a college degree from Harvard University. Kevin joined Singapore Ballet in November 2021 as an Artist.

Kevin was promoted to Demi-Soloist in January 2024 and to Soloist in January 2025.

Biographies — Demi-Soloist

Esen Thang

Esen was born in Singapore, trained in the Australia and United Kingdom with Queensland Ballet, Melbourne Ballet Company, and Encore Dance Company before joining Singapore Ballet (SB). She started ballet at the age of five and was accepted into School of the Arts, Singapore. Esen was awarded the David Marshall Young Artist Scholarship and graduated with International Baccalaureate (Career-related). She performed a featured role in the South East Asian Games Opening Ceremony.

In 2015, she won 5th place in the Asian Grand Prix International Ballet Competition under the tutelage of Jacinta Walsh. Esen's repertory with various companies includes, *Giselle, The Nutcracker*, Simon Hoy's *Archè and Guernica*. Esen joined the UK tour of the Encore Dance Company and had worked with choreographers such as Ernst Meisner, Antony Dowson and Kerry Nicholls. She performed the Principal role in Kenneth McMillan's *Concerto* and also Drew Mconie's *Be Mine*.

Esen joined SB in 2019 and was promoted to Artist in 2021. She has performed in *Romeo and Juliet*, *Swan Lake, Sleeping Beauty, Don Quixote, The Nutcracker, Serenade* by George Balanchine, *Rite of Spring* by Kinsun Chan, *Linear Adora* by Timothy Harbour, *Opus 25* by Edward Liang and *Jabula* by Natalie Weir. Esen also performed in numerous iconic works choreographed by Goh Choo-San such as *Momentum, In The Glow Of The Night* and *Fives*.

Esen was later promoted to Demi-Soloist in January 2024.

Biographies — Artists

Felicia Er

Born in Singapore, Felicia started dancing at the age of four under Mrs Lim Soo Chern. She was accepted into School of the Arts (SOTA), Singapore at 13 and studied under the tutelage of Ms Cheah Mei Sing, and many others. She also trained under Mr Jeffrey Tan between 2014 to 2016. Felicia was awarded the RAD Summer School Scholarship at 14 years old to attend the International Summer School 2015 in Sydney. In 2015, Felicia represented Singapore Ballet Academy (SBA), and won 2nd place at the RAD Challenge. Felicia was also chosen to represent SOTA to take part in New Zealand School of Dance (NZSD) Winter School in 2016.

Since 2009, she participated in Singapore Ballet's (SB) Ballet Associates Course (BAC) trained under Artistic Director Mr Janek Schergen and joined the Scholar's Programme in 2017. Felicia joined SB as a Trainee in January 2018 and was promoted to Apprentice in January 2019.

Her repertoire includes *Romeo and Juliet, The Nutcracker, Coppélia, Paquita, Sleeping Beauty, Giselle, Don Quixote, Swan Lake, Peter & Blue Children's* Ballet Series and *Cinderella*. She has also danced in other works such as *Without You* by Tim Rushton, George Balanchine's *Serenade*, *Linea Adora* by Timothy Harbour, Edwaard Liang's *Opus 25* and *Rite of Spring* by Kinsun Chan. Felicia has enjoyed performing ballets by Choo-San Goh, such as *Schubert Symphony* and *Fives*.

Felicia was promoted to Artist in January 2022.

Jessica Garside

Born in Perth, Western Australia, Jessica started ballet at the age of six at Terri Charlesworth Ballet Centre. In 2011 she was accepted into the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA). At WAAPA she had the opportunity to work with choreographers such as Nils Christe, Kim McCarthy and Xiaoxiong Zhang, and perform in a range of repertoire, including Balanchine's *Serenade* and *Jardi Tancat* by Nacho Duato.

After graduating from WAAPA, she moved to Germany in 2015 to complete her Masters at the Akademie des Tanzes in Mannheim. During that year, she danced with Badisches Staatsballett Karlsruhe, where she performed in The Taming of the Shrew, Youri Vámos' *The Nutcracker* and *The Sleeping Beauty*, and Terence Kohler's *Das Kleine Schwarze/ The Riot of Spring*. Jessica has also performed professionally with West Australian Ballet in *Serenade* (2012) and *Giselle* (2014).

Jessica joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in March 2017, and was promoted to Artist in January 2018. Her classical repertoire highlights include soloist roles as Carabosse in *Sleeping Beauty*, the Stepmother in *Cinderella*, and Big Swans in *Swan Lake*. She has also danced in a range of neoclassical and contemporary ballets, including *Serenade, Blue Snow, Jabula* and *Opus 25*, as well as *Organ Concerto, SYNC, ZIN!* and *Purcell Pieces* by Nils Christe.

Jessica has enjoyed performing many of the ballets by Choo-San Goh, including *Fives, In the Glow of the Night, Birds of Paradise* and *Double Contrasts*, and being a part of new creations, such as *Evening Voices, Quiver* and *Without You* by Tim Rushton, *After Happy Ever* by Alice Topp, *Rite of Spring* by Kinsun Chan, and *Reflections* by Paul Knobloch.

Biographies — Artists

Gemma Gum Gee

Gemma was born in Sydney, Australia. She began dancing at the age of three years old at Northern Ballet Studios and, at the age of 15, progressed to full-time ballet training at Tanya Pearson Academy and later at Dance North Academy.

Throughout her training, she had opportunities to perform in various productions, including *The Nutcracker, Le Corsaire*, and *Paquita*. She also participated in several competitions, including becoming a semi-finalist in the Margot Fonteyn International Ballet Competition in 2021. In 2022, she was awarded the Royal Academy of Dance Solo Seal Award.

Gemma joined Singapore Ballet (SB) as an Apprentice at the end of 2023. She has performed in *Rite of Spring* by Kinsun Chan, *Linea Adora* by Timothy Harbour and *Opus 25* by Edwaard Liang, along with the classic ballets *Swan Lake, Don Quixote, Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella*, and *The Nutcracker*.

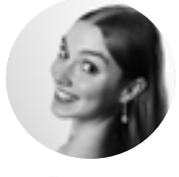
Gemma joined SB as an Apprentice at the end of 2023 and was promoted to Artist in 2025.

Laura Harwood

Laura began her dance training in Hobart, Australia when she was four years old. In 2014, she moved to Melbourne to attend full-time training at The Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School (VCASS). At VCASS, she performed in *Serenade* under the guidance of Eve Lawson from The George Balanchine Trust.

She continued her training in Perth, with the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA), gaining a Bachelor of Arts (Dance) in 2022. While at WAAPA, she performed in many original choreographies. Her graduating performances included the Waltz and pas de deux in *Les Sylphides*.

Laura joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in May 2023 and was promoted to Artist in 2025.



Paloma Hendry-Hodsdon

Paloma was born in Sydney, Australia and started dancing at two years old. At eight years old she was accepted into The Australian Ballet School and that year she led the school on stage at the State Theatre and she continued training at ABS and Queensland Ballet Academy.

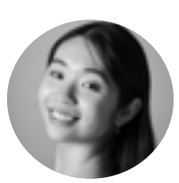
In 2017, Paloma was a finalist in the Robert & Elizabeth Albert Junior Classical Ballet Scholarship. She has also worked with The Wiggles since she was 12 years old.

In 2019 Paloma qualified for The RAD Genee International Ballet Competition in Toronto where she won the Silver Medal.

During the Covid years, she continued to work with The Wiggles and also achieved the Royal Academy of Dance Certificate in Ballet Teaching Training.

Paloma joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in January 2023 performing in *Don Quixote*, George Balanchine's *Serenade*, *Ballet Under The Stars - The Nutcracker* and *Swan Lake* and Janek Schergen's *Cinderella*.

Paloma was promoted to Artist in January 2024.



My Le

My Le grew up and started ballet in Brisbane, Australia and begun her training at Kick Dance Studio and then Classical Coaching Australia. She later joined The Australian Ballet School in Melbourne to further complete her training and graduated in 2021.

In her graduate year she had the opportunity to work with Loughlan Prior for a digital collaboration with partner schools to create a short dance film, 'Inklings.'

My Le joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in August 2022 and was later promoted to Artist in September 2023.

Leane Lim

Born in Singapore, Leane began her dance training at the age of four under the guidance of Lena Foo and later attended the School of the Arts, Singapore. She was awarded a scholarship to further her training at the Central School of Ballet (CSB) in London, graduating in 2015 with a First Class BA (Hons) degree.

During her time in London, she worked with renowned guest teachers and choreographers, including Carole Gable, Aurora Bosch, and Christopher Hampson, as part of Ballet Central's touring company.

Her time at CSB also provided valuable opportunities in choreography. Notably, her neoclassical piece won a prize at the school's choreographic platform and was performed at the City of London Festival.

Upon returning to Singapore, Leane joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in 2017 and was promoted to Artist in 2019. Her repertoire highlights include Soloist roles such as the Fairy of Grace in *Sleeping Beauty* (2024), as well as Icicles and Chinese Flowers in *The Nutcracker* (2024). She has also performed in other classical works, including *Swan Lake, Cinderella, Romeo and Juliet, Coppélia, Don Quixote*, and *Paquita*, as well as Balanchine's *Serenade*, *The Four Temperaments*, and *Theme and Variations*.

Her versatility extends to contemporary works, including the recent creations *Dark Waves* (2024) by Natalie Weir and *Rite of Spring* (2024) by Kinsun Chan. She has also performed in *Opus 25* by Edwaard Liang, *Organ Concerto* by Nils Christe, *Linea Adora* by Timothy Harbour, and *Quiver* and *Without You* by Timothy Rushton.

Additionally, Leane's repertoire features Choo-San Goh's ballets, including *Fives*, *Schubert Symphony*, *Double Contrasts*, *In the Glow of the Night*, and *Birds of Paradise*.

Joey Lum

Born and raised in Singapore, Joey is a graduate from Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. Joey was also trained under Yan Reksten-Monsen in Yan Ballet Academy. Joey was the first Singaporean female dancer qualified to Youth American Grand Prix Finals in New York, the first Singaporean to win 1st place in Dance Prix Indonesia, the first Singaporean to compete with professional ballet school students at the International United Dance Competition, where she won the Overall Gold Award. Joey was the Overall Winner of GTB International Dance Competition in 2016 and 2019. In 2019 she was also awarded the highest scoring Soloist out of 1500+ dancers. She was the highest scoring soloist for Masterpiece Int. Ballet Competition in 2019. She was the Overall Winner of the Asian Dance Arts Festival in 2017 and 2019.

Joey joined Singapore Ballet as a Trainee in Jan 2024 and was promoted to Artiste in July 2025.

Ma Xiaoyu

Xiaoyu was born in Jinan, China. She trained at the Liaoning Ballet school, affiliated to Liaoning Ballet of China from 2006 to 2013, After her graduation, She was awarded a scholarship by the Singapore Ministry of Education to continue her studies with a Diploma in Dance at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) in Singapore. Upon graduation in 2016, she joined the Singapore Ballet's (SB) Scholars Programme.

Xiaoyu joined SB as a Trainee in January 2018 and was promoted to Apprentice in September 2018. She has performed in *The Nutcracker, Coppélia, The Four Temperaments, Sleeping Beauty, Giselle, Serenade, Don Quixote, Swan Lake* and *Romeo and Juliet*.

Xiaoyu was promoted to Artist in January 2022.

Moyu Sakai

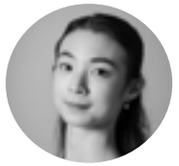
Born and raised in Fukushima, Japan. Moyu began her training at Takeuchi Hitomi Ballet School at the age of three and was coached by Hitomi Takeuchi, Shigeki Sato and Miwa Takeuchi.

She experienced short-term study at Joffrey Academy of Dance, The Washington School of Ballet, Royal Winnipeg Ballet School, and Dutch National Ballet Academy.

She then furthered her training at the Dutch National Ballet Academy in 2017. From 2018 to 2022, she went to the European School of Ballet directed by Jean-Yves Esquerre and learned various methods such as Béjart, Bournonville, David Dawson, and Ashton etc. She also started teaching as an associate teacher since 2021.

Competition awards: 2014 Tokyo Art Bridge 1st Place, 2016 Ballet Competition in Nagoya 1st place, 2016 Youth America Grand Prix in Japan Contemporary top 12. 2017 Tohoku Ballet Competition 1st place.

Moyu joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in September 2023 and was promoted to Artiste in July 2025.



Theresa Tan

Theresa was born in Singapore and was accepted into School of the Arts, Singapore at the age 13. She trained under Ms Joan Wang, Ms Xia Hai Ying and Ms Lee Jae Shin and furthered her training at Elmhurst Ballet School, Birmingham. Later on, she danced with Europaballett, Sankt. Pölten where she got to work with choreographers such as Renato Zanella and Peter Breuer.

Theresa was given various performing opportunities during her time at Elmhurst including, the Principal role in Paquita, Princess Florine in Sir Peter Wright's *Sleeping Beauty* and the leading role in Wayne McGregor's *Entity*.

She was chosen to represent the school and performed with the Japan International Youth Ballet in Tokyo and 'Gala de Jeunes Promesses' in Florence. Theresa holds a BA (Second Upper-Class Honours) from Middlesex University in Professional Practice, Arts and Creative Industries. She has performed in *The Nutcracker, Serenade, Swan Lake Act II* and *Don Quixote*.

Theresa joined Singapore Ballet in January 2022 as a Trainee and was later promoted to Apprentice in July 2022.

Theresa was promoted to Artist in September 2023.

Teo Jun Ning

Jun Ning was born in Singapore and started ballet at the age of five. She was accepted into School of the Arts Singapore aged 13, training under Jacinta Walsh, Hazel Sabas, Donato Ferrer and many others. She graduated with an International Baccalaureate (Career-related Programme), and joined Singapore Ballet's (SB) Scholar Programme in 2018.

She went on to further her studies at Central School of Ballet (London), graduating with a First Class BA(Hons) degree in 2021. During her time in London, she had the opportunity to work with Christopher Marney, Etta Murfitt and Charlotte Edmunds as part of Ballet Central.

Her repertoire includes *Coppélia, The Nutcracker, Don Quixote*, George Balanchine's *Serenade* and *Cinderella*. She has also performed in works by other choreographers such as *Quiver, Linea Adora, Reflections* and *Rite of Spring*.

Jun Ning joined SB as a Trainee in January 2022 and was promoted to Artist in May 2023.

Sayaka Yamauchi

Sayaka was born in Hong Kong and grew up in Japan. She started her ballet training at the age of six at Keiko Inoue Ballet in Okayama, Japan. She then went on to study at the Shanghai Dance School and trained in Ballet, Character Dance and Modern Dance from 2012 to 2014.

In 2014, Sayaka received a scholarship from the Ministry of Education when she enrolled in the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA), where she earned a Diploma in Dance. While studying at NAFA, she participated in an study programme at the Purchase College State University of New York. In 2015, she won the silver award in the Grasse International Competition in France.

Sayaka joined Singapore Ballet as a Trainee in January 2018 and was promoted to Apprentice in January 2019. Her repertoire includes *Sleeping Beauty, Giselle, The Nutcracker, Don Quixote, Swan Lake* and *Romeo and Juliet*.

Sayaka was promoted to Artist in January 2022.

Ye Li-Lin

Born in Taoyuan, Taiwan, Li-Lin began her ballet training at the age of three. In 2014, she won the Gold medal at Taiwan Grand Prix and was awarded a scholarship to Canada's National Ballet School (NBS) by Deborah Hess.

Li-Lin moved to Canada in 2015 to continue her professional ballet training. Under the direction of Mavis Staines, she had the opportunities to represent NBS at international summer exchanges with the Australian Ballet School (2018) and Royal Danish Ballet School (2019).

She graduated from NBS in 2020, receiving the Ballet Staff Award in recognition of her artistic excellence and exceptional work ethic.

After graduating, Li-Lin furthered her training in NBS's Company Life Program. During this time, she performed in short-term contracts with The National Ballet of Canada, including Karen Kain's *Swan Lake*, James Kudelka's *The Nutcracker*, George Balanchine's *Symphony in C* and James Kudelka's *Cinderella*.

Li-Lin joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in August 2023 and was promoted to Artist in September 2024.

Biographies — Artists

Akira Wolfie Bischoff

Akira started his ballet education at the Western Ballet Theatre under the direction of Nana Badrena where he was first introduced to the classical arts. He then studied under Beth McLeish under her conservatory, Project Ballet, formerly New American Youth Ballet. Through her guidance, Akira was accepted into the School of American Ballet, where he received the Jerome Robbins Foundation Scholarship. He later earned a full scholarship to the San Francisco Ballet School to further his training. He finished his education under the direction of Patrick Armand and closely with his primary teacher Pascal Molat.

Akira first joined the Grand Rapids Ballet as an apprentice where he spent two seasons under James Sofranko as Artistic Director. He went on to perform with the United Ballet Theatre and Ballet RI formerly Festival Ballet Providence. He then joined Artistic Director Roy Kaiser to dance with the Nevada Ballet Theatre.

Some of the repertoire Akira has performed include, 3rd solo dancer (Jiri Kylian's "Sarabande"), Men's Regiment (George Balanchine's "Stars and Stripes"), Solar (Rearranged by George Birkadze "La Bayadere"), Sugar Plum Cavalier (Marius Petipa "The Nutcracker), Frederick (Ben Stevenson's "Dracula"), Tinman (Septime Weber's "Wizard of Oz"), and Pas de trois (Ben Stevenson's "Swan Lake").

Akira joined Singapore Ballet as an Artist in July 2024.

Christian Carlo-Stella

Christian is from Sydney, Australia. He began ballet when he was seven years old and started training full-time at the age of 15 at Alegria Dance Studios under Hilary Kaplan and Archibald McKenzie. Christian then moved to London when he was 17 after getting accepted into the English National Ballet School where he graduated after three years in 2023. While he was there, he competed in the Fonteyn International Ballet Competition where he was selected as a finalist. In his graduate year, Christian was chosen to perform with the English National Ballet Company during their season of the *Nutcracker* at the London Coliseum. He also performed in *Who Cares?* By George Balanchine for his graduating performance.

Christian joined Singapore Ballet in November 2023 as an Apprentice and was promoted to Artist in 2025.

Merlin Erdelen

Born in Germany, Merlin started dancing at the age of three in his hometown and extended his training at Tanzgymnasium Essen-Werden, where he joined Aalto Ballet Essen for *Queeny Unplugged* and did an internship at Ballet Dortmund. He completed his Bachelor of Arts at the Academy of Dance Mannheim coached by Yuhao Guo and Grant Scruggs. During that time he had the chance to dance choreographies like *Knock Knock* by Kinsun Chan.

After graduation, he joined the Thuringia state ballet under the artistic direction of Silvana Schröder, where he danced ballets like *Giselle*, *Coppélia* and *Nutcracker*. He also danced modern pieces like *Le Sacre du printemps* by Edward Clug and *La Valse* by Stephan Thoss. His first debut as main role was Don Quijote in the ballet of Mauro de Candia.

Merlin joined Singapore ballet as an Artist in August 2024.

Asuku Fukamizu

Asuku was born in Kobe, Japan. He started to dance when he was three and joined Sadamatsu Hamada Ballet School to focus his training on ballet at the age of seven. He has taken part in performances such as *Don Quixote, the Nutcracker, Sleeping Beauty*, and *Swan Lake* with Sadamatsu Hamada Ballet Company. While training in Japan. he won 1st place in The Ballet Competition in Osaka and The National Ballet Competition in Nagoya.

He participated in YAGP Japan semi-final 2020 and selected as a finalist. He also received a short-term scholarship from the European School of Ballet in the Netherlands, directed by Jean-Yves Esquerre. Through this opportunity, he was offered admission and officially joined the school in 2020.

In the school, he was taught by Olivier Wecxsteen and Cédric Ygnace and he learned several methods such as Béjart, Bournonville, Dawson, and Ashton. He graduated in 2022. Asuku joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in September 2023 and was promoted to Artist in 2025.

Owen Horsford

Owen Horsford is from London, UK, where he developed a passion for dance and movement from the age of eight. At 16 years old, he went to train full-time at Central School of Ballet, where he completed a BA (Hons) Degree in Professional Dance and Performance.

He began his career at the Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, where he performed ballets such as *Coppelia, Nutcracker, Spring Waters Pas de Deux* by Asaf Masserer as well as ballets by Vicente Nebrada such as *Pentimento* and *Double Clef*.

Owen has also toured across the 16 different States in America, performing Magical Christmas *Nutcracker* productions while dancing in America's biggest cities such as LA, Dallas, San Francisco and Seattle. Owen is delighted to be dancing with Singapore Ballet and can't wait to share his passion for the arts with the people of Singapore.

Owen joined Singapore Ballet as an Artist in January 2024.

Biographies — Artists

Shu Igarashi

Shu was born and raised in Saitama, Japan, and began his training at Shimura Masahiro Yuko Ballet Studio at the age of three. Shu competed in and won prizes at several international ballet competitions, and he was awarded full scholarships from The Australian Ballet School, Staatsballettschule Berlin, and Portugal National Ballet School. In 2016, he decided to further his training at The Australian Ballet School, where he received the Award of Excellence in 2018. During his time at the school, he danced many soloist roles and got mentioned in Dance Australia and Chacott Web Magazine. He also toured around Australia with The Australian Ballet Regional Tour program.

After graduating in 2019, Shu joined K Ballet Tokyo (formerly K Ballet Company) in 2020 as an Artist. His repertoire highlights at K Ballet Tokyo include the Chinese Doll in *The Nutcracker*, the Shoemaker in *Cinderella*, Polonaise and Czardas in *Swan Lake*, *Don Quixote*, *Carmina Burana* by Tetsuya Kumakawa, and *Flow Route* by Rei Watanabe.

In 2022, Shu joined Singapore Ballet as an Artist. Shu has performed in many classical and contemporary pieces by international choreographers. His repertoire highlights include Pas de Trois and Puss in Boots in *Sleeping Beauty*, the Summer Fairy in *Cinderella*, the Toreador in *Don Quixote*, Shepard in *Nutcracker*, *Configuration* by Goh Choo-San, Solo in *Reflections* by Paul Knobloch, Solo in *Without You* by Tim Rushton, Ending duet in *The Third Reset* by Christina Chan, *Meeting Point* by Christina Chan, *The Sound Was Our Ocean* by Loughlan Prior, *Purcell Pieces* by Nils Christie and *Protecting Veil* by Tim Harbour.

Christopher Lavilles

Christopher began dancing in Wollongong, NSW at Beverley Rowles School of Dance. Whilst studying a Bachelor of Finance on full scholarship at the University of Technology Sydney he was accepted into the Alberta Ballet School Canada's postgraduate programme on scholarship. Graduating from both, he moved back to Australia and joined the Victorian State Ballet in 2021 where he was promoted to Company Artist in 2022.

During this time, he concurrently trained under Jacinta Walsh M.A., while also guesting with various youth ballet companies in Melbourne, such as the Melbourne State Youth Ballet and the Melbourne Youth Ballet Company and the Australian Conservatoire of Ballet.

Christopher joined Singapore Ballet as an Artist in January 2024.

Joshua Lee

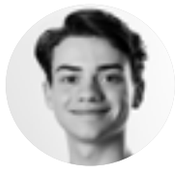
Joshua is from Devon, UK. After dancing locally at Sarah Anne Westcott School, Joshua began training at Elmhurst Ballet School in Birmingham.

During his time at Elmhurst, Joshua was fortunate enough to perform various works with Birmingham Royal Ballet, such as Sir David Bintley's *Prince of the pagodas*, Sir Peter Wright's *Nutcracker*, Sir Fredrick Ashton's *Façade*.

After graduating, Joshua extended his learning in Canada with The Alberta Ballet II program. Working with Aram Manukyan and Edmund Stripe. Performing various works choreographed by Edmund Stripe.

Joshua started his professional career at Divadlo jk tyla (Czech Republic). Over the course of six seasons there, Joshua gained much experience performing works from the likes of Youri Vámos, Jiri Horak and Jiri Pokorny. Joshua's Highlight was performing as Julien Sorel in Youri Vámos *Le Rouge et le Noir*, Des Grieux in Filip Veverka's *Manon* and Beno in Jiri Horak's *Swan Lake*.

Joshua joined Singapore Ballet as an Artist in January 2023.



Stanislas Prieto

Born in Frejus, France in 2004, Stanislas started dancing at the age of eight in 2012. He then began his training at the Paris Opera Ballet School in January 2016 and graduated in June 2023 as a professional dancer.

During these years, Stanislas took part in a few summer intensives organised by The Royal Ballet, le Prix de Lausanne and Masterclass in Prague.

Following his graduation, he did three contracts at the Paris Opera, in the company where he was able to dance Bolero, l'Oiseau de Feu, Seasons Cannon and La Fille mal gardée.

Stanislas joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in September 2024 and was promoted to Artist in 2025.

James Willis

James Willis started dancing in 2016, at the Lisa Clark Dance Centre in Canberra after many years as a national level gymnast.

In 2021 James joined Queensland Ballet Academy, relocating to Brisbane to pursue full-time ballet studies. He completed the Academy's Pre-Professional Program in 2024.

During his time at Queensland Ballet Academy, he worked with various choreographers including Natalie Weir, Paul Boyd and Louise Deleur performing lead roles in newly created works. He made his professional debut with Queensland Ballet in Greg Horsman's *Coppelia* (2024).

James joined Singapore Ballet as an Artist in 2025.

Biographies — Apprentices

Han Xin Yi

Born in Singapore, Xin Yi studied at School of the Arts, Singapore and graduated with an International Baccalaureate (Career-related Programme) in 2017. In her final year, Xin Yi attended the Royal Ballet School Summer Intensive and visited the New Zealand School of Dance on scholarship .

In 2018, she began training at NZSD and graduated in 2019. While at the school, she danced in Les Sylphide, and performed at Kokomai Dance Festival in Waltz of The Flowers.

She joined Singapore Ballet's (SB) Scholars programme in 2020. Through it, she had the chance to guest in SB's 2022 productions of *Coppelia* and *The Nutcracker*.

Xin Yi joined SB as a Trainee in January 2023 and was promoted to Apprentice in January 2024.

Emily Koe

Born in Singapore, Emily began dancing at the age of four. She joined the School of the Arts (SOTA) in 2017 and studied at Staatliche Ballettschule Berlin in 2020. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Stage Dance from Hochschule für Schauspielkunst Ernst Busch Berlin in 2023. In her final year, she earned second place in ballet and third in student choreography at her school competition.

Her international recognition began in 2015 when she won Best Performer in Ballet at the Hong Kong Challenge Cup. She also won first place in the RAD Dance Challenge in Singapore and the gold medal at the Asian Grand Prix in Hong Kong.

Emily earned numerous accolades, including third place in Senior Classical at Youth America Grand Prix in Paris. She was the first Singaporean selected for the Prix de Lausanne in 2020. She joined Singapore Ballet in 2024 and was promoted to Apprentice in 2025.

Lee Yoo Jin

Born in Korea, Yoojin trained under the Yoo's Ballet Conservatory. She joined various competitions and earned top ranks and notable awards, including first prize at International Ballet Grand Prix Singapore, Taiwan International Grand Prix and Malaysian International Grand Prix, as well as second prize at Tanzolymp Asia – South Korea. Her performances gained her many scholarships from world renowned vocational schools including National Ballet Theatre (Australia) and Elmhurst Ballet School (UK).

She received the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) scholarship at the International Ballet Grand Prix Singapore and began training at NAFA in 2021, where she graduated in 2023.

Yoojin joined Singapore Ballet as a Trainee in January 2024 and was promoted to Apprentice in January 2025.

Miguel Herrera

Miguel Lorenzo Herrera was born in New Zealand to Filipino parents. He started ballet at the age of 10, trained and graduated at Chilton Ballet Academy, receiving his Cambridge International University Entrance certificate in 2021.

In 2022, Miguel began studying full-time at the New Zealand School of Dance, where he received the award of Solo Seal from the Royal Academy of Dance and was selected for an exchange program with Canada's National Ballet School.

In 2024, Miguel was selected to compete in the prestigious Prix de Lausanne, toured with the Royal New Zealand Ballet and graduated with a Diploma in Dance Performance.

Miguel joined Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in January 2025.

Keith Seow

Keith Seow was born in 2004 in Malaysia. He began learning ballet at age four in Passion Ballet & Dance Studio and was taught by his mother.

Keith competed in and won scholarships and prizes at a few International Ballet Competitions. He also received scholarships to the New Zealand School of Dance , Central School of Ballet and Canada National Ballet School. Recently, he won first place in the Youth America Grand Prix Indonesia 2023, second place in Youth America Grand Prix Indonesia 2024 and got selected for the Youth America Grand Prix Final in New York.

Keith joined Ballet Theatre Malaysia company as a scholar in 2021 and 2022. In 2023, Keith joined Marlupi Dance Academy's full-time programme. He joins Singapore Ballet as an Apprentice in January 2025.

Biographies — Trainee

Valerie Tan

Biographies — Ballet Master

Mohamed Noor Sarman

Mohamed Noor Sarman joined Singapore Ballet (SB), formerly known as Singapore Dance Theatre, as part of its pioneer batch when the company was first established in 1988. In 1993, he was awarded a French scholarship for an attachment at IFEDEM Paris, academy for contemporary dance. He was also a recipient of the National Arts Council's Young Artist Award in 1995 for his contribution to dance. In 1996, his choreographic work, Living Greens, represented Singapore in the 8th ASEAN Dance Festival and was later performed in the Philippines (1998) and in Australia (1999).

Mohamed Noor was appointed Assistant Ballet Master in 1997 and was promoted to Ballet Master in 2009. He danced important roles in various productions including Vicente Nebrada's *Gemini* (Pas de Deux), Anthony Then's *Schumann Impressions*, Helen Lai's *Exits and Entrances* and David Lichine's *Graduation Ball*, Graham Lustig's *ApPassionato*, Choo-San Goh's *Romeo and Juliet*, the title role in *Petruschka* and Goro in *Madame Butterfly*.

In 2005, he performed in Marie-Claude Pietragalla's *Les Noces*, and played the role of the prophet in *Rite of Spring*. Mohamed Noor is also the choreographer for Stand Up For Singapore, a contribution to the National Day Parade in 2007, which was also performed in *Ballet Under The Stars* as a tribute to the nation's birthday.

Mohamed Noor has been involved in several dance education programmes with schools such as the Ministry of Education's National Student Leaders Dance Camp in November 2006. In April 2008, he conducted an intermediate ballet workshop for the Putrajaya Arts Festival in Kuala Lumpur. He has worked with many choreographers like Nils Christe, Val Caniparoli, Natalie Weir, Ma Cong, Edwaard Liang, Kinsun Chan, Timothy Harbour, Toru Shimazaki and Francois Klaus in recent SB productions.

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

Biographies — Ballet Mistress

Rosa Park

Rosa is a versatile artist and dedicated educator, with unwavering dedication and boundless passion.

Rosa's journey began with six years of intensive training at Sunhwa Arts School, where she graduated as the top performer in her class. She furthered her academic pursuits, earning a Bachelor's Degree from Ewha Womans University and later, a Master's Degree from Sejong University. Committed to continuous personal growth, she expanded her horizons by completing a Certificate in Leadership Principles at Harvard Business School Online in 2022.

Since then, her journey in the world of dance has been nothing short of remarkable. During her tenure as Principal Artist at Singapore Ballet (SB) under the guidance of Janek Schergen, she achieved significant recognition, even gracing the cover of Dance Europe Magazine. Through the years, she has received plaudits for her astute performance in classical ballet pieces such as *Swan Lake, Romeo and Juliet, Sleeping Beauty, Don Quixote* and many more. She also had the privilege of dancing in several pieces choreographed by the renowned Choo-San Goh and Gorege Balanchine. Her versatility and artistry shone through as she worked with world-class choreographers such as Edwaard Liang, Nils Christe, Val Caniparoli, Stanton Welch, Ma Cong, Kinsun Chan and Natalie Weir, participating in premier works for the company.

Her unwavering dedication and talent as a dancer led to her securing the prestigious role of Principal in the production of *The Nutcracker* with the Korean National Ballet. This remarkable debut as a professional dancer was an honor bestowed upon her in the final year of her university studies, during which she obtained her Bachelor's Degree. Additionally, she had the privilege of dancing with the esteemed Royal Swedish Ballet in *Swan Lake* during her tenure with the Korean National Ballet.

In addition to her remarkable career with SB, Rosa generously shares her passion and expertise with the next generation of dancers. She serves as an adjunct lecturer at Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, imparting her knowledge and inspiring budding talents.

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This list reflects all donations made from 1 June 2024 to 1 June 2025.

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The Artistic Development Fund aims to propel the growth of Singapore Ballet through the strengthening of our performance repertoire. We would like to thank everyone who has contributed towards this objective.

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We would like to extend our gratitude to the following donors who have enabled us to make the arts accessible to all segments of our society.

Alexis Gan
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Mavis Lim Geck Chin
The Speech Atelier

This list reflects donations made from 1 June 2024 to 1 June 2025.

Evening Voices by Tim Rushton

Shadow's Edge by Ma Cong

Double Contrasts by Choo-San Goh

Double Contrasts by Choo-San Goh

Evening Voices by Tim Rushton

Repertoire List

Swan Lake
Choreography after Petipa/Ivanov
Staging: Janek Schergen

Glow-Stop
Choreography: Jorma Elo

A Million Kisses To My Skin
Choreography: David Dawson

Piano Concerto No.2, Opus 102
Choreography: Edmund Stripe
Created for SDT

Concerto Barocco#
Choreography: George Balanchine
Staging: Elyse Borne

Unknown Territory*
Choreography: Choo-San Goh
Staging: Janek Schergen

Raymonda Divertissements
Choreography: Marius Petipa

Double Contrasts*
Choreography: Choo-San Goh
Staging: Janek Schergen

Giselle
Choreography after Coralli / Perrot
Staging: Janek Schergen

Allegro Brillante
Choreography: George Balanchine
Staging: Elyse Borne

Peter & Blue's Forest Adventure
Choreography: Janek Schergen
Created for SDT

Sleeping Beauty
Choreography after Marius Petipa
Staging: Janek Schergen

As Above, So Below
Choreography: Edwaard Liang
Created for SDT

Beginnings
Choreography: Choo-San Goh
Staging: Janek Schergen

Birds of Paradise*
Choreography: Choo-San Goh
Staging: Janek Schergen

In The Glow of The Night*
Choreography: Choo-San Goh
Staging: Janek Schergen

Momentum*
Choreography: Choo-San Goh
Staging: Janek Schergen

Variations Serieuses*
Choreography: Choo-San Goh
Staging: Janek Schergen

Serenade#
Choreography: George Balanchine
Staging: Elyse Borne

Romeo and Juliet
Choreography: Choo-San Goh
Staging: Janek Schergen

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
Staging: Janek Schergen

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
Staging: Elyse Borne

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
Staging: Janek Schergen

4Seasons
Choreography: Natalie Weir
Created for SDT

Lambarena
Choreography: Val Caniparoli

Theme and Variations
Choreography: George Balanchine
Staging: Elyse Borne

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
Staging: Dinna Bjørn

Midnight Waltzes
Choreography: François Klaus
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Sticks and Stones#
Choreography: Kinsun Chan
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Incomparable Beauty
Choreography: Ma Cong
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Symphony in Three Movements#
Choreography: Nils Christe

Another Energy
Choreography: Timothy Harbour
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Unfound
Choreography: Christina Chan
Created for SDT

The Four Temperaments#
Choreography: George Balanchine
Staging: Elyse Borne

13th Heaven*
Choreography: Edwaard Liang
Created for SDT

Triptych*
Choreography: Val Caniparoli

Unexpected B
Choreography: Toru Shimazaki
Created for SDT

Linea Adora#
Choreography: Timothy Harbour
Created for Singapore Ballet's 30th Anniversary

SYNC#
Choreography: Nils Christe

Evening Voices*
Choreography: Timothy Rushton
Created for SDT

Family Reunion#
Choreography: Lucas Jervies
Created for SDT

Peter & Blue School Holiday
Choreography: Janek Schergen
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Meditation
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Variations From A Distance
Choreography: Pam Tanowitz
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The Light Behind Us
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Choreography: Rachel Lum
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Quiver*
Choreography: Timothy Rushton
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Ibsen's House#
Choreography: Val Caniparoli

Protecting Veil*
Choreography: Timothy Harbour
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The Sound was our Ocean#
Choreography: Loughlan Prior
Created for Singapore Ballet

Faux Contact
Choreography: Étienne Ferrère
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Emerald Blue
Choreography: Janek Schergen
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Without You#
Choreography: Tim Rushton
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Configurations*
Choreography: Choo-San Goh
Staging by Janek Schergen

Purcell Pieces*
Choreography: Nils Christe
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After Happy Ever
Choreography: Alice Topp
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Don't Panic
Choreography: Étienne Ferrère
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Cinderella#
Choreography: Janek Schergen
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Peter & Blue's Treasure Hunt
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Pact of Water
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Artists	Felicia Er, Jessica Garside, Gemma Gum Gee, Laura Harwood, Paloma Hendry-Hodsdon My Le, Leane Lim, Joey Lum, Ma Xiaoyu, Moyu Sakai, Theresa Tan, Teo Jun Ning, Sayaka Yamauchi, Ye Li-Lin Akira Wolfie Bischoff, Christian Carlo-Stella, Merlin Erdelen, Asuku Fukamizu Owen Horsford, Shu Igarashi, Christopher Lavilles, Joshua Lee Stanislas Prieto, James Willis
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1pm – 2.15pm

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Price
$22 per person

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2025 One @ the Ballet Calendar

25 January
Meditation, Music & Movement

22 February
Romeo & Juliet

29 March
Singapore Ballet

26 April
Repertory Treasures

24 May
How to Dress a Dancer

14 June
A Dancer's Perspective

12 July
The Three Pillars of Dance

16 August
Ballet 101

13 September
Terpsichore, the Goddess of Dance

18 October
Behind the Front Curtain

15 November
Cinderella

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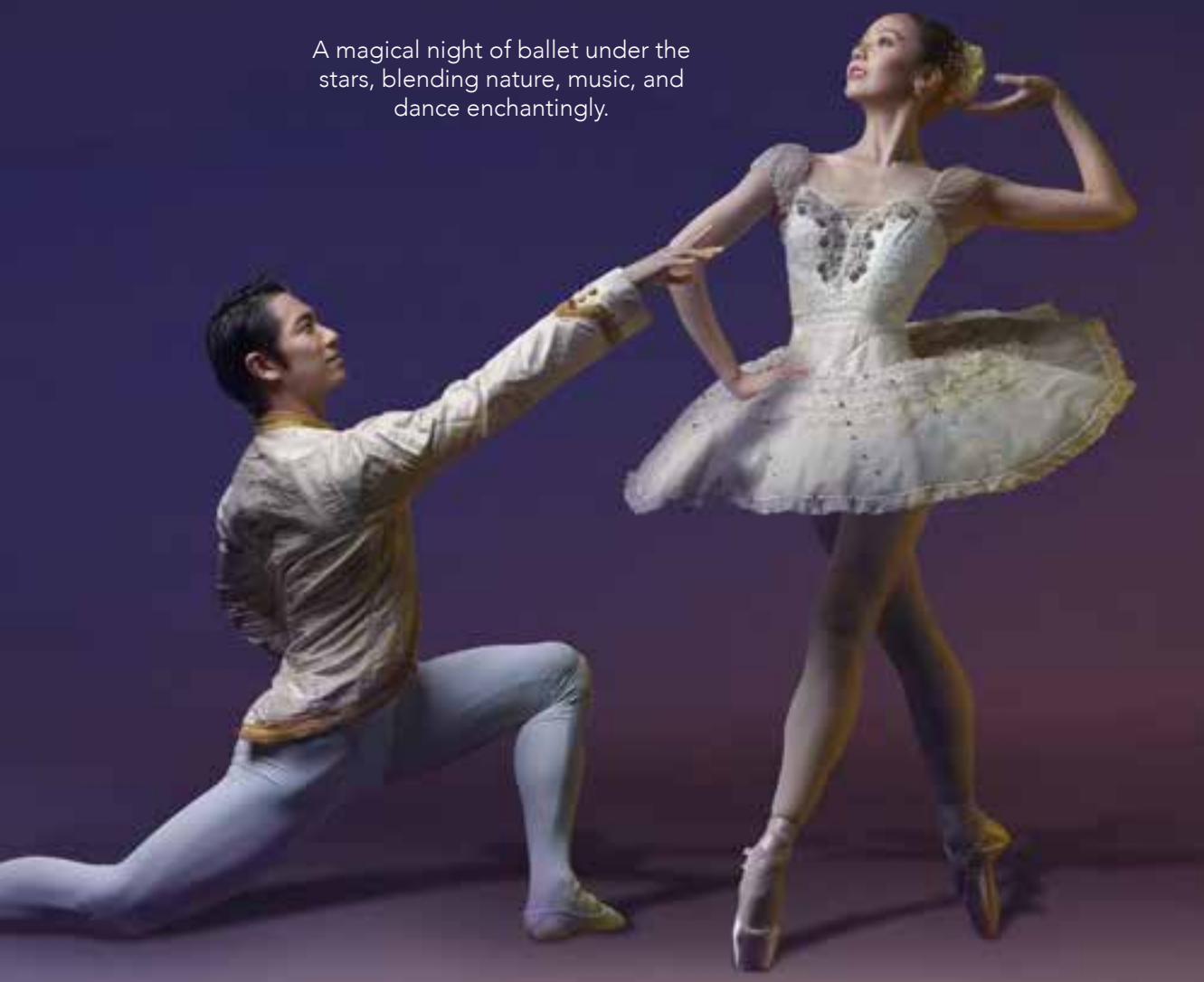

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