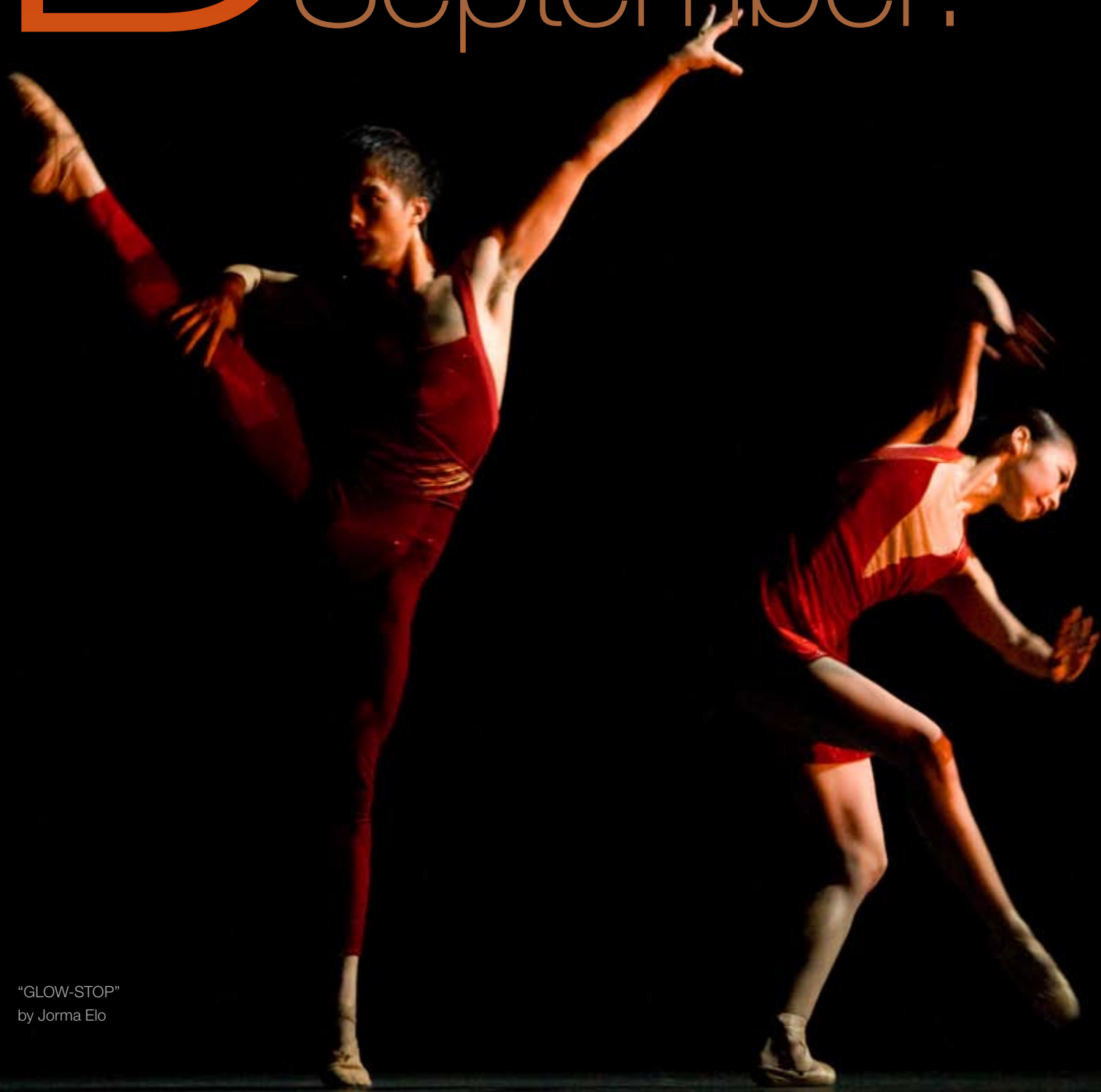


Balan-Shine with SDT this September!



"GLOW-STOP"
by Jorma Elo

It seems that whichever way you turn or look these days, there's something to put a downer on your day. If it isn't the ongoing economic depression, it's a new strain of virus that has invaded the human immune system.

A quote attributed to George Balanchine seems to sum all how we all need to brace ourselves for the worst to build up and dissipate before the sunshine can come after the rain: "First comes the sweat, then comes the beauty... if you're very lucky and have said your prayers."



"UNKNOWN
TERRITORY"
by Goh Choo San

Indeed, if you have had enough of the doom and gloom of the current horizon, we strongly suggest that you quick-step your way to the University Cultural Centre on 4 and 5 September to catch Singapore Dance Theatre's newest presentation, a contemporary triple bill aptly and optimistically called "Season Of Brilliance".

In store for you are three exceptional and excellent dance works by master choreographers George Balanchine, Jorma Elo, and Goh Choo San. Each is a celebrated creator of dance of the 20th Century, with the highly prolific Balanchine once heralded as one of the era's foremost choreographers, and a pioneer of ballet in the United States. He was also the co-founder and ballet master of the New York City Ballet (the same company that

produced a workout DVD in 2000 with a special introduction by Sarah Jessica Parker from "Sex And The City"), a leading light in the industry.

Balanchine's "Concerto Barocco" is set to Bach's strings-driven music, "Concerto in D minor for Two Violins". On October 11, 1948, Concerto Barocco was featured as one of three ballets on the programme at New York City Ballet's first performance. This SDT company premiere of "Concerto Barocco" is credited to the SDT's Ambassador's Circle, a new initiative which

sees supporters contributing amounts between \$500 and \$2,500 towards the acquisition of this new work for the company's repertoire.

Another must-see is "Glow-Stop" by Finnish choreographer Jorma Elo. This luminous piece is set to music by Mozart and Philip Glass. Says Elo, "I've always been very fond of the pieces of music that were used for "Glow-Stop".

Mozart's work contrasts beautifully with Philip Glass's pieces, and create a very musical experience for the audience. Both composers produce very cleverly structured, almost architectural works. They are from different time periods and the juxtaposition of the dynamics is truly remarkable. Mozart's music is very bubbly and champagne-like, thus framing the element of 'Glow', while Glass's piece has a driving and pulsating beat that seems to move the dance to its eventual end, thus forming the 'Stop' component to my choreography." Glow-Stop was first performed by SDT as an Asian premiere during the Singapore Arts Festival 2008.

Closing the evening is a haunting yet incandescent piece by Goh Choo San,

"Unknown Territory", which uses music by Jim Jacobsen that was specially commissioned for its creation in 1986. The Washington Times review said that the work "reflects the choreographer's Asian roots" and that "the ballet offers a fine example of Goh Choo San's striking style and highlights the company's early blend of classical technique and clean modernism." As the chief custodian of the wonderful dance works of Goh Choo San, SDT's Artistic Director Janek Schergen is the perfect person to bring out the best of this work as it is revived for this latest staging.

Be sure to catch this "Season Of Brilliance" to send your blues a-packing this September! ♦

Season Of Brilliance is a co-presentation by Singapore Dance Theatre and NUS Centre for the Arts. Performances are on 4 and 5 September, at the University Cultural Centre Hall. Tickets at \$50, \$40 and \$30 (Student/NSmen/Senior Citizen tickets at \$25) are available from Sistic on +65 6348 5555 or www.sistic.com.sg. For more information on the Singapore Dance Theatre, please visit www.singaporedancetheatre.com



"CONCERTO
BAROCO"
by George
Balanchine