



SINGAPORE
DANCE
THEATRE

Presents

Coppelia

23 – 25 March, 2007, 8pm at the Victoria Theatre

*Singapore - 16 January, 2007 - Singapore Dance Theatre (SDT) proudly presents the well-loved full-length classical ballet, **Coppelia**, a story that delves into the mind of a weird scientist Dr Coppelius, who has created a menagerie of ugly-beautiful creations that he yearns to bring to life.*

Set against an agrarian Western village, this sentimental comic ballet concerns a mysterious and faintly diabolical inventor, Doctor Coppelius who has a wondrously unnerving collection of sinister dolls in his secret laboratory that he desires to breathe life into. One of his prized possessions is a life-size dancing doll he fondly names Coppelia. With his abundant creativity, the doctor manages to animate her and puts her out on his balcony.

On one of her sittings in the sun, Coppelia is noticed by Franz - a handsome young villager and fiancée to Swanilda, the daughter of the town's burgomaster. Charmed by her beauty, Franz flirts and blows kisses at Coppelia, unaware that she is nothing but a doll. His betrayal is witnessed by Swanilda, who is outraged at his cheating behavior a day before their wedding.

With a stroke of luck, Swanilda finds the key to Doctor Coppelius' laboratory. Piqued by her jealousy she breaks into the mysterious house to find out what goes on inside - and to meet this strange young woman. Upon her entrance into his house, she discovers the many charming automations the doctor has created and is delighted to find out that Coppelia is in fact a mechanical doll and she has nothing to worry about.

Alas! Swanilda's break-in is interrupted by Doctor Coppelius who is extremely agitated by this intruder. Frightened, she tries to flee but ends up getting trapped in his alcove. Franz suddenly appears on the balcony in a bid to win Coppelia's heart. The Doctor seizes him and drugs him in an attempt to transfer Franz's 'life-force' to Coppelia so he will finally have someone to share his lonely life with.

Probably one of the best-known and most performed comedy ballet, Coppelia is the last hoorah for the Paris Opéra before it fell into decay. Will good triumph over evil in this fairytale? Come catch Coppelia this March to find out!

FAST FACTS

Programme Title	<i>Coppelia</i>
Date	23 - 25 Mar 2007, 8pm 24-25 Mar 2007, 3pm (standby timings)
Venue	Victoria Theatre
Time	8.00 pm

Tickets prices: \$58, \$48, \$38 and \$28

No entry for infants in arms and children below 3 years old

Children from 3 years old will require a ticket for entry

Available at:

All SISTIC outlets; SISTIC Hotline: 6348-5555 and SISTIC website: www.sistic.com.sg.
and SDT office from at 6338-0611 or ticketing@singaporedancetheatre.com

Discounts Schemes :-

- 25% discount for SDT Friends with no minimum purchase
- 25% discount for early bird bookings for a minimum purchase of 5 tickets for any combine price categories (till 22 Feb)
- 20% discount to DBS staff pass holders with no minimum purchase
- 15% discount to DBS credit card holders with no minimum purchase
- 15% discount for a minimum purchase of 2 tickets for any combine price categories to:-
 1. Kinokuniya Privilege Card holders
 2. PAssion Card
 3. International Researcher's Club Card
- 10% discount with no minimum purchase to SDT partners:-
 1. PrettyFIT/BeetleBug/Silverline card holders
 2. Gaia Yoga Centre Membership card holders
- Sweet Sixteen tickets at \$16 per ticket available to all full-time students and NSmen & Senior Citizens. The label on the ticket will read as "Sweet Sixteen".

All relevant cards must be produced in order to enjoy the discounts.

Discounts above are not valid with any other promotions/or discounts.

All prices exclude SISTIC handling fee of \$1 per ticket, for less than S\$20; \$2 per ticket for S\$20 and above.

Enclosures:

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STOP PRESS: Also catch Singapore Dance Theatre's Dance Appreciation Series on March 6, 4pm, at the Esplanade Concert Hall, where you can watch how our dancers limber up behind the scenes, peek at what happens during a typical class, and even catch an excerpt of *Coppelia*, all for the amazingly low price of \$11 (inclusive of \$1 SISTIC fee). Tickets for Dance Appreciation Series are available from SISTIC at 6348-5555 or www.sistic.com.sg

Annex 1.1

BIOGRAPHIE Paul DE MASSON



Born in Western Australia, Paul De Masson was trained in ballet from the age of eight, with Kira Bousloff and Kiril Vasilkovsky. At 14, he joined the West Australian Ballet. In 1972, he danced with Roland Petit's Ballet de Marseilles. He performed in Petit's *Pink Floyd*, *La Rose Malade*, with Maya Plisetskaya in the title role and toured with the company to Paris. Later, he joined the London Festival Ballet, where he worked with Leonard Massine, Jack Carter, Anthony Tudor, John Taras, Mary Skeaping, Rudolf Nureyev, Barry Moreland and others.

After touring Australia in 1975 with London Festival Ballet's production of Nureyev's *The Sleeping Beauty*, Paul was invited to join the Australian Ballet as a Senior Soloist by the artistic director, Sir Robert Helpmann, in 1976. He was promoted to Principal Dancer in 1980 and danced in all the major classics, as well as many one-act ballets by Glen Tetley, Jiri Kylian, Sir Frederick Ashton, Goh Choo San, George Balanchine and Domy Reiter-Soffer.

In 1988, Paul embarked on a freelance career and performed as actor/dancer in the play, *Pastrana*, in Melbourne, which earned him a nomination for best supporting actor in the Melbourne Greenroom Awards. He has also made guest appearances and has been guest teacher with The West Australian Ballet, the Queensland Ballet, Philippines Ballet Theatre, Singapore Dance Theatre, Hong Kong Ballet, Norwegian National Ballet and The National Ballet of Canada. He also worked as Ballet Master and Principal/Character Dancer with Bern Staatsopera, The Australian Ballet and The Royal Danish Ballet. Paul has assisted Jiri Kylian, John Neumeier, Maurice Bejart, Ronald Hynd, Jean-Paul Comelin, Stanton Welch, Stephen Baynes and Boi Sakti, as well as co-produced and staged Nureyev's *Don Quixote* with Maina Gielgud for The Royal Danish Ballet.

Paul was the Ballet Master with John Neumeier's Hamburg Ballet before returning to SDT in January 2003.

He has created the concept, narrated, arranged the music and co-choreographed *The Little Mermaid* with Jeffrey Tan for the tribute to Hans Christian Andersen for BUTS 2005.

Annex 1.2

SINGAPORE DANCE THEATRE “Sweet Sixteen” TICKET DEAL

As part of the Singapore Dance Theatre’s ongoing efforts to develop and grow its audience base, it is launching a “Sweet Sixteen” ticket deal that is available to full-time students and NSmen.

Says the General Manager of SDT, Alvan Loo: “We understand that Singapore are inundated with numerous choices when it comes to entertainment and the arts. By availing a specific allotment of tickets to full-time students and NSmen at a special price of \$16, we hope that it will help them to stretch their dollar and engage more with us. I am confident that a night out at the ballet, whether it is a classical show like Coppelia in March, or a contemporary one like our next season in May, is comparable to, if not more uplifting and interesting than, watching a movie at the Cineplex or hanging out with friends at a club. Since prices of our tickets for full-length productions are now closer to the cumulative cost of these competing forms of entertainment, where cover chargers, drinks and nibbles are often part and parcel of the experience, I sincerely hope that the issue of cost will no longer be a deterrent for new audiences to enjoy any show by the Singapore Dance Theatre.”

Tickets sold under the “Sweet Sixteen” deal are originally priced at \$28. For each SDT performance, the company will designate a fixed quantity of tickets to be sold under the “Sweet Sixteen” deal and tickets are available through its regular sales channels like SISTIC and the SDT office. There is no limit to the number of tickets for each sales transaction, and ticket-buyers will only need to show proof of their full-time student or NSmen status at the point of purchase. “Sweet Sixteen” tickets for each SDT season are available while stocks last.

A concerted campaign on the “Sweet Sixteen” deal will be directed towards schools, junior colleges, tertiary and arts institutions, and the Singapore Armed Forces, to raise awareness of this new ticketing initiative.

For more information, please email ticketing@singaporedancetheatre.com or visit the website www.singaporedancetheatre.com

Annex 1.3

SINGAPORE DANCE THEATRE - THE COMPANY

The Singapore Dance Theatre (SDT), co-founded by the late Mr. Anthony Then and Artistic Director Ms Goh Soo Khim, is one of the finest and leading professional dance companies in the Asia-Pacific region. The accomplished Ms Goh leads a company of 22 professional classical dancers that hails mainly from the Asia-Pacific region.

With a repertoire ranges from classical to contemporary ballet, of well-known choreographers like Jean Paul Comelin, Stanton Welch, George Balanchine, Jiri Kylian, Nacho Duato, Boi Sakti, Goh Choo San, Sakiko Oshima, Ohad Naharin and Marie-Claude Pietragalla, the Company performs six seasons in a year. Its seasons include performances at the Esplanade Theatre, Performing Home of the SDT and at the Fort Canning Green, resident of the widely popular Ballet Under The Stars (BUTS) series of our outdoor performances. BUTS has to date, attracted over 160, 000 audience from all walks of life and have seen many converted to dance aficionados. 2005 will mark the 10th anniversary of the popular BUTS series.

“The way SDT dancers’ move, the way they are built, they are exciting to watch as dancers.” commented Sylvia McCully, an established dance teacher.

Artistic Director of Houston Ballet, Stanton Welch added, “SDT is the most contemporary company I’ve worked with. But they do classical classes and they are on Pointe. They are very fast in picking up contemporary movement, which classical dancers can find it hard to do. And they are very expressive, which comes without you having to pull it out from them.”

SDT constantly receives international acclaim for its works both locally and overseas. Described as an “Asiatic gem” by Graham Watts of Ballet.com.UK for its London debut, SDT has captivated audiences from the Asia-Pacific, North America and Europe. Dance Magazine, UK, has complimented the SDT for being “an outstanding company of versatile dancers” and for its “full and mixed repertoire that could grace stages worldwide”

Additionally, in 2002, the SDT was given the single honour to stage a commissioned work, Reminiscing the Moon by Indonesian dance artist Boi Sakti, for the Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay, one of Singapore’s newest arts centres. This commission established the Company’s status as a leading arts institution in Singapore as well as in the Far East region.

International Touring

During these recent years, SDT has captivated many audiences in Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Korea, China, Australia, France and the United States. The Company has participated and performed at numerous international festivals and events such as Le Temps d’Aimer la Danse a Biarritz in France, Mexico’s Festival Internacional Cervantino, ChangMu Arts Festival in Korea, Philippines Festival of Dance, and part of the Victorian Arts Centre’s Made to Move subscription series.

Frequent invitations to perform in Russia, Spain and return visit to Australia, attest to the Company's growing reputation in the dance world.

In March this year, SDT made its debut in London at the invitation of the Sadler's Wells Theatre to perform at Peacock Theatre. And, in September 2005 SDT has a two-week season in Australia.

Nurturing Choreographic Talents

Besides constant development of its repertoire, the company aims at nurturing young choreographic talents in Singapore as well as the Asia-Pacific region. Its widely popular Ballet Under The Stars seasons at Fort Canning Green have become a viable working space for up-and-coming choreographers, who present their creations through the Singapore Young Choreographers' Platform and the Asia Pacific Choreographic Workshop.

Arts Education Programme and Outreach

As a major grant recipient from the government and in keeping with the SDT's commitment to bring the finest in dance to the public audience, on-going education and outreach programmes are organised to provide people with opportunities to appreciate dance. SDT continues to make extensive school visits and offer special courses for non-dancers and adult students with the aim to make dance more accessible to the masses. Through these events, the Company hopes to spread dance's beauty and passion to as many people as possible.

For more information on SDT, please visit www.singaporedancetheatre.com