

SINGAPORE D A N C E T H E A T R E

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | JANEK SCHERGEN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Singapore Dance Theatre presents Masterpiece in Motion 2013

International Repertory Season – A Triple Bill 25th Anniversary Season 23 – 24 August at Esplanade Theatre



Be treated to a visual spectacle as Singapore Dance Theatre (SDT) brings a trio of diverse and exquisite works to the **Esplanade Theatre stage** from **23 – 24 August**. **Masterpiece in Motion**, SDT's **International Repertory Season**, is an annual triple bill featuring three works of internationals standards, showcasing the finest examples of choreography to audiences at home.

In its fourth year, Masterpiece in Motion will feature the company premiere of George Balanchine's grand masterpiece, *Theme and Variations*. SDT will also present the dramatic *Organ Concerto* by acclaimed Dutch

choreographer Nils Christe and *Lambarena* by American choreographer Val Caniparoli, a longstanding favourite in SDT's repertoire.

"Masterpiece in Motion has become the consistent and recognisable title for our mixed repertory programme each year. For this 25th Anniversary year, the idea was to use something existing in our repertoire combined with a ballet made for us, in addition to a company premiere," says Artistic Director Janek Schergen. "Val Caniparoli's *Lambarena* became part of SDT's repertoire in 1998 and *Organ Concerto* was made for us by Nils Christe last season. These two works make SDT look exactly the way I want us to appear. George Balanchine's *Theme and Variations* is an international masterpiece that I feel is an honour for us to be able to add to our company's performing history. Dancers, as well as audiences, must be presented with challenges and this particular Masterpiece in Motion is a perfect blend of all we have to offer."

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

Nils Christe's **Organ Concerto** is a ballet of huge scoop and sweep, choreographed to Francis Poulenc's famous music score of the same name. *Organ Concerto* is a piece made specially for the company by Nils Christe, showcasing twelve couples and premiered in July 2012. This work demands great talent and extraordinary depth, and like its score, there are dramatic bursts of movements coupled with energetic leaps and jumps. Nils Christe has created works for more than 65 ballet and dance companies across the globe including Dutch National Ballet, Introdans, Paris Opera Ballet, Royal Ballet of Flanders, English National ballet, Royal Danish Ballet, Royal Swedish Ballet, Washington Ballet, Queensland Ballet and Hong Kong Ballet.

Savour a moment of nostalgia as SDT revisits Val Caniparoli's vibrant *Lambarena*, a work which has a continuing place in the repertory, first performed by SDT in 1998. This is an emotion-filled work in eight movements that boldly merges the vocabularies of classical ballet and African dance. It was inspired by an exciting and unusual score blends traditional African rhythms and melodies with extended passages from Johann Sebastian Bach. Val Caniparoli is closely associated with San Francisco Ballet where he began his career as a dancer in 1973 and was later appointed resident choreographer. He has also contributed to the repertories of more than thirty-five dance companies internationally. In 2012, he created *Chant* for SDT, an Asian-inspired work featuring thirteen dancers, danced to music interspersed with the Javanese gamelan.

FAST FACTS

Title	:	Masterpiece in Motion		
Date	:	23 & 24 August 2013 (Friday and Saturday)		
Venue	:	Esplanade Theatre		
Time	:	8pm		
Ticket prices	:	\$30, \$50, \$70 (excluding SISTIC charge)		
		 Discounts available for: Students/NSF/Senior Citizens Package of 4 		

• Group Bookings

Admission for 6 years old and above. We apologise that we are unable to admit infants in arms and children below 6 years old. Children 6 years old and above will require a ticket for entry.

Tickets are available through all SISTIC outlets and SDT office from 21 June onwards.

ARTISTIC TEAM

Dancers for Season 2013

Artistic Team

Artistic Director	Janek Schergen					
Ballet Master	Mohamed Noor Sarman					
Senior Artists	Chihiro Uchida	Rosa Park	Chen Peng			
First Artist	Heidi Zolker Timothy Coleman	Chen Wei Zhao Jun	Kenya Nakamura			
Artists	Akira Nakahama Iori Araya Marina Yatsushiro Tomoko Takahashi	Alison Carroll Li Jie Nanase Tanaka Xu Lei Ting	Ayami Miyata Maughan Jemesen Nonoko Tanaka	Chua Bi Ru May Yen Cheah Sun Hong Lei		
	Calogero Failla Luis Piva Ryo Suzuki	Etienne Ferrère Lewis Gardner	Kensuke Yorozu Ke Zhu	Jason Carter Nazer Salgado		
Apprentices	Beatrice Castaneda Liu Yifei	Huo Liang Lee Jia Xi	Kwok Min Yi Natalie Debono	Lisha Chin		

THE COMPANY

The Singapore Dance Theatre (SDT) celebrates their 25th Anniversary this year! SDT was founded in 1988 by Goh Soo Khim and Anthony Then. Since then, SDT has developed into Singapore's premier professional dance company comprising 37 dancers. In the course of each year, the Company performs six main seasons, including the widely popular *Ballet Under The Stars* at the Fort Canning Park, two full length classics, *Masterpiece in Motion* which brings together three works of the finest international choreography and *Passages* Contemporary Season.

As an ambassador for dance and for Singapore, the company aims to be an internationally well-regarded professional dance company that is known for its unique ability to shine in classical, neo-classical and contemporary repertoire with works that are timeless and inspiring.

The Company's repertoire ranges from classical to contemporary ballet, from renowned choreographers like Goh Choo San, George Balanchine, Nacho Duato, Jiri Kylian, Stanton Welch, Marie-Claude Pietragalla, Xing Liang, Natalie Weir, Val Caniparoli, Graham Lustig, David Dawson, Jorma Elo, Edmund Stripe, Adrian Burnett, Edwaard Liang, Nils Christe, Toru Shimazaki and Christina Chan.

In 2009, Janek Schergen took over the post of Artistic Director of SDT. Under his leadership, the Company has made new achievements in the international and Singapore dance arena. Janek is also the Artistic Director of the Choo-San Goh & H. Robert Magee Foundation which oversees the production of Choo San Goh's ballets.

SDT actively reaches out to the public to create greater awareness of dance through outreach to schools with its Arts Education Programme, Dance Appreciation Series (jointly presented with Esplanade Co.), Adults Dance Classes, Scholars Programme for students considering dancing as a career, *Passages* choreographic workshop focusing on local emerging talents and One @ The Ballet, an initiative to help the public gain a better understanding of the different aspects of dance.

In 2013, SDT moved to a new premise with four state of the art studios. Additionally the Company will be enhancing efforts in Education and Outreach, bringing greater awareness and appreciation for dance to a wider audience.

SDT REPERTOIRE 2009 - 2013

Swan Lake Choreography after Petipa/Ivanov Staging Janek Schergen

Cinderella Choreography Graham Lustig Created for SDT

Glow-Stop Choreography Jorma Elo

A Million Kisses To My Skin Choreography David Dawson

Piano Concerto #2, Opus 102 Choreography Edmund Stripe Created for SDT

Concerto Barocco Choreography George Balanchine

Unknown Territory Choreography Goh Choo San

Raymonda Divertissements Choreography Marius Petipa

Double Contrasts Choreography Goh Choo San

Pellucid Choreography Kuik Swee Boon Created for SDT

Sometimes I Think I Remember Choreography Jeffrey Tan Created for SDT

Evening at the Ritz Choreography Molly Lynch Created for SDT

Giselle Choreography after Coralli / Derrot Staging Janek Schergen Allegro Brilliante Choreography George Balanchine

Don Quixote Pas De Deux Choreography Marius Petipa

Peter & Blues Forest Adventure Choreography Janek Schergen

Oneiros Choreography Adrian Burnett Created for SDT

Sleeping Beauty Choreography after Marius Petipa Staging Janek Schergen

Hold The Fourth Choreography Daniel Roberts Created for SDT

As Above So Below Choreography Edwaard Liang Created for SDT

Nameless Choreography Xing Liang Created for SDT

Serenade Choreography George Balanchine

Romeo and Juliet Choreography Goh Choo San

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

ZIN! Choreography Nils Christie

Age of Innocence Choreography Edwaard Liang

Chant Choreography Val Caniparoli Created for SDT

Organ Concerto Choreography Nils Christie Created for SDT

Jabula Choreography Natalie Weir

Divertimento No. 15 Choreography George Balanchine

Peter & Blue Go Around The World Choreography Janek Schergen Created for SDT

Absence of Story Choreography Toru Shimazaki

Waiting... Choreography Christina Chan Created for SDT

Coppélia Choreography after Arthur Saint-Léon Staging Janek Schergen

Opus 25 Choreography Edwaard Liang Created for SDT

REPERTOIRE ADDITIONS - 2013

Theme and Variations Choreography George Balanchine

New Works by Natalie Weir Kinsun Chan Christina Chan

