

For Immediate Release

# SINGAPORE DANCE THEATRE OPENS THE 2014 SEASON WITH GOH CHOO SAN'S ROMEO AND JULIET

## 13 – 16 MARCH 2014, ESPLANADE THEATRE



Experience the legendary tale of love and passion next March as Singapore Dance Theatre presents *Romeo* and *Juliet*, choreographed by Singaporean master craftsman in dance, Goh Choo San. From 13 – 16 March, Singapore Dance Theatre will revive this breath-taking romantic ballet at the **Esplanade Theatre**.

Goh Choo San's moving interpretation of this romantic tragedy in three acts, is inspired by Shakespeare's timeless classic tale of two lovers from two feuding families in Verona, Italy, brought together by fate. Be mesmerised by the beauty of dance through the enduring story of the beloved star-crossed lovers, set against a powerful score by Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev.

SDT Artistic Director comments, "For a dancer to experience *Romeo and Juliet* as a ballet, it is a tremendous experience combining the essence of dance in dramatic storytelling and choreography. There is a unique pleasure in portraying real personalities as opposed to the fairy tales of 19<sup>th</sup> Century ballet, or the cool neoclassicism of 20<sup>th</sup> Century works. *Romeo and Juliet* as a story, is timeless, and the spectacle of Choo San Goh's choreography brings it to life in a way that is deeply memorable and tremendously poignant."

This production of the ballet is staged by SDT Artistic Director Janek Schergen, also Artistic Director of The Choo-San Goh and H Robert Magee Foundation, with gorgeous costume and scenic design by Peter Cazalet. Goh Choo San's Romeo and Juliet premiered in 1984 at The Boston Ballet and was first presented by SDT in 2000 and returned again in 2011.

## **SYNOPSIS**

The ballet, set in Verona tells the story of the Capulets and the Montagues who are sworn enemies. Romeo, the only son of the Montagues tricks his way into the Capulet Family's masked ball and meets the beautiful Juliet. Brought together by Fate, they fall deeply in love. As the evening draws to a close, Juliet finds out that their families are sworn enemies. Later that night, Romeo sneaks into the Capulet's orchard and visits Juliet outside her balcony. They exchange vows of love and make plans to marry in secret. Will the star-crossed lovers overcome all odds to be together? Or will destiny bring them to a tragic end...

## **FAST FACTS**

Title : Romeo and Juliet

**Date** : 13 – 16 March 2014

**Venue** : Esplanade Theatre

**Time** : 13 & 14 March – 8pm

15 March – 1pm & 8pm 16 March – 1pm & 7pm

**Ticket prices** : \$30, \$50, \$70

Various Discount Schemes available

Concession for Students/NSF/ Senior Citizens available

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 22 November 2013.

## **MEDIA CONTACT**

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## ARTISTIC TEAM

#### **Dancers for Season 2014**

#### Artistic Team

Artistic Director	Janek Schergen			
Ballet Master	Mohamed Noor Sarman			
Senior Artists	Chihiro Uchida Timothy Coleman	Rosa Park	Chen Peng	Kenya Nakamura
First Artist	Heidi Zolker Zhao Jun	Li Jie	Tomoko Takahashi	Etienne Ferrère
Artists	Akira Nakahama Chua Bi Ru Maughan Jemesen Nanase Tanaka	Alison Carroll Elaine Heng Marina Yatsushiro Sun Hong Lei	Ayami Miyata Kwok Min Yi May Yen Cheah Xu Lei Ting	Beatrice Castaneda Lisha Chin Nonoko Tanaka
	Calogero Failla Kensuke Yorozu	Huo Liang Lewis Gardner	Jason Carter Nazer Salgado	Jake Burden
Apprentices	Ma Ni	Ruth Austin	Chen Rui Feng	Stefan Morrow

## THE COMPANY

Shan Del Vecchio

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

Age of Innocence

Choreography Edwaard Liang

Chant

Choreography Val Caniparoli Created for SDT

**Organ Concerto** 

Choreography Nils Christe Created for SDT

Jabula

Choreography Natalie Weir

Divertimento No. 15

Choreography George Balanchine

Peter & Blue Go Around The World

Choreography Janek Schergen Created for SDT

**Absence of Story** 

Choreography Toru Shimazaki

Waiting...

Choreography Christina Chan Created for SDT

Coppélia

Choreography after Arthur Saint-Léon Staging Janek Schergen

Opus 25

Choreography Edwaard Liang Created for SDT

4Seasons

Choreography Natalie Weir Created for SDT

Theme and Variations

Choreography George Balanchine

Slide

Choreography Kinsun Chan Created for SDT

Shift or Go

Choreography Christina Chan Created for SDT

## **REPERTOIRE ADDITIONS - 2014**

**Don Quixote** 

Choreography after Marius Petipa Staging Cynthia Harvey

**Swipe** 

Choreography Val Caniparoli

New Works by

Natalie Weir Christina Chan Ma Cong Toru Shimazaki