



SDT
— 1988 - 2016 —

Singapore Dance Theatre presents Ballet Under the Stars 2016
1 – 3 July & 8 – 10 July 2016 | Fort Canning Green

18 April 2016



Bournonville Divertissements by August Bournonville

Ballet Under the Stars is back for its 21st edition! Established as Singapore's most loved and iconic outdoor dance event at the **Fort Canning Green**, Singapore Dance Theatre will be presenting two weekends of performances on **1 – 3 July** and **8 – 10 July 2016**. The first weekend will include the world premiere of *Incomparable Beauty* by resident choreographer of Tulsa Ballet, Ma Cong, specially sponsored by the U.S. Embassy Singapore.

"2016 will mark the 21st year that Singapore Dance Theatre has presented Ballet Under the Stars in Fort Canning Park. I doubt anyone realised when it was first started in 1995 that the outdoor performances we presented would become the iconic annual event it has grown into. Now, with two back-to-back weekends presenting sophisticated ballets in an outdoor setting, we always look forward with anticipation to these performances. Our first weekend will present the world premiere of an exciting new work by choreographer Ma Cong. The rest of the programme will consist of Toru Shimazaki's *Blue Snow* and Val Caniparoli's exciting piece, *Swipe*. Our second weekend is a special treat with *Bournonville Divertissements*, *Shadow's Edge* and *Paquita*. We've made new costumes for *Paquita* for these performances to enhance the overall beauty to this classical ballet treasure. The concept of Ballet Under the Stars has developed over the last several years to provide the highest quality of ballet repertory in the unique setting of the park for our audiences," said artistic director, Janek Schergen.

Ballet Under the Stars started in 1995, and has since grown from a single weekend performance to a two-weekend experience, complete with balloon sculpting, food and beverage booth, exclusive merchandise on sale, and more. From local dance enthusiasts, to picnic-loving tourists, all are invited and welcomed to unwind with a sumptuous picnic spread at the park, and enjoy an evening of dance with family and friends!



Shadow's Edge



Swipe



Blue Snow



Paquita

PERFORMANCE SYNOPSES

1 -3 July 2016

***INCOMPARABLE BEAUTY* by Ma Cong** (World Premiere)
Sponsored by the U.S. Embassy Singapore



Incomparable Beauty was inspired by the beautiful and emotive scores of Italian Composer, Ezio Bosso. Delving into the depth of our humanity, this dance explores the four pinnacles of the human state – purity, pangs, passion, and power; each incomparable to the other, and yet seamlessly melded into the beauty of our existence. Through the contrasting style of contemporary movements combined with classical ballet technique, *Incomparable Beauty* is an earthy and organic work that traverses through the diverse and transcendent dynamics of our being.

Created especially for SDT by Tulsa Ballet’s Resident Choreographer, Ma Cong.
Incomparable Beauty is Ma Cong’s second creation for Singapore Dance Theatre.

***BLUE SNOW* by Toru Shimazaki**

“After having worked with the dancers of Singapore Dance Theatre on my previous ballet for them, *Absence of Story*, I wanted to explore a new direction in movement and stylistic content. In my mind were the ideas of trying to reach for something seen from a distance and combined with some underlying emotional longing. This developed as a choreographic work meant to be an impressionistic journey, giving a sensation and emotional feeling of moving toward something that is always just slightly out of reach. The dancers are looking forward, as if to a horizon, that is beautiful, but unattainable. It is with the thought that the journey is more important than the end.” – Toru Shimazaki
Blue Snow was created especially for SDT for Esplanade’s da:ns festival 2014.

***SWIPE* by Val Caniparoli**

Originally created and premiered in 2011 for Richmond Ballet, *Swipe* is performed to the music of London based composer and producer of Electro, Hip- Hop and Dance music, Gabriel Prokofiev, who is the grandson of Sergei Prokofiev. What gives his contemporary classical writing its unique edge is his background in dance music combined with his classical roots. Here in *Swipe*, movements from his String Quartet No. 2, as played by the Elysian String Quartet, is coupled with Remixes of the original quartet. Featuring a cast of four men and three women, *Swipe* is packed with originality, utilising every possible extremity, with solos, couples, trios, quartets and the full cast. The piece, in its abstract form, brings out the depth of personalities of the dancers.
Swipe was successfully brought into the repertoire with the support of the Ambassador’s Circle 2014.

8 – 10 July 2016

***BOURNONVILLE DIVERTISSEMENTS* by August Bournonville**

Bournonville ballets are represented in every major ballet company in the world and considered to be amongst the purest form of ballet that has ever been established. This set of divertissements has been drawn from four ballets including *A Folk Tale*, *La Ventana*, *Flower Festival in Genzano* and *Napoli Tarantella*. They have been connected seamlessly together to form this set of charming and delightful divertissements. August Bournonville (1805-1879) was the greatest choreographer of his generation. The Royal Danish Ballet has been the home of his choreographic works since his period with them as chief choreographer.

***SHADOW’S EDGE* by Ma Cong**

“This piece and its music were created and selected especially to highlight the diverse cultures and talents possessed by the dancers in Singapore Dance Theatre. The powerful music, the inspiration for this piece, is a collaboration between Bryce and Kronos Quartet, and seems to take the listener through phases of change and progression. And so the movements reflect the same: onward. The talented dancers effortlessly portray this concept and take the theme to a whole new level by adding their own energy and awareness to the music.” – Ma Cong
Shadow’s Edge was created especially for SDT for Esplanade’s da:ns festival 2014.

***PAQUITA* after Marius Petipa**

Taken from the full length ballet of the same name, *Paquita* is a divertissement, choreography comprising a series of pas de deux and solo variations. *Paquita* incorporates brilliant technique in performance, and culminates in a grand coda which lends it the reputation of a ballet with great style and character. The piece features a mainly female cast with only two men, and it is often included in the repertoire of world-renowned ballet companies. It is staged for the company by SDT’s Artistic Director, Janek Schergen.

FAST FACTS

Production : Ballet Under the Stars
Date : 1 – 3 July & 8 – 10 July 2016
Venue : Fort Canning Green
Time : 7.30pm (Doors open at 6.30pm)
Ticket prices : \$30 (excluding SISTIC charge)
Discounts available for:

- Students/NSF/Senior Citizens/Children aged 12 and below
- Package of 4
- School and Group Bookings

Ticket Sales Date: Early Bird Offer: 22 April – 6 May 2016
(Maybank, OCBC, & PAssion members only)
General Sales: 7 May – 10 July 2016

Enjoy up to 25% discount when you purchase your tickets with Maybank credit cards.
Free admission for infants-in-arm and children below 4 years old.
Children 4 years old and above will require a ticket for entry.

Please visit www.singaporedancetheatre.com for more information.

MID-YEAR 2016 PASS

Get the MID-YEAR 2016 PASS today to enjoy exquisite ballets from July to December, and a holistic experience of what Singapore Dance Theatre offers. The Mid-year 2016 Pass includes performances of Ballet Under the Stars, Masterpiece in Motion, Passages Contemporary Season, and The Nutcracker. For more information, visit www.sistic.com.sg/events/csdsea2016!

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ARTISTIC TEAM

Artistic Director	Janek Schergen			
Ballet Master	Mohamed Noor Sarman			
Principal Artists	Chihiro Uchida Chen Peng	Rosa Park Kenya Nakamura	Li Jie	
First Artist	Elaine Heng Etienne Ferrère	Maughan Jemesen Zhao Jun	May Yen Cheah Kensuke Yorozu	Nazer Salgado
Artists	Akira Nakahama Ines Furhashi-Huber Marina Yatsushiro Sun Hong Lei Huo Liang Shi Yue Tony	Alison Carroll Kwok Min Yi Mai Suzuki Xu Lei Ting Jason Carter Takeaki Miura	Beatrice Castañeda Lisha Chin Nanase Tanaka Peter Allen	Chua Bi Ru Ma Ni Ruth Austin Shan Del Vecchio
Apprentices	Niki Wong Timothy Ng	Yeo Chan Yee Wan Jiajing Jerry	Emanuele Del Celo	Reece Hudson

THE COMPANY

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. 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 Choo-San Goh, George Balanchine, Nacho Duato, Jiří Kylián, Stanton Welch, Natalie Weir, Val Caniparoli, Graham Lustig, David Dawson, Jorma Elo, Edmund Stripe, Edwaard Liang, Nils Christie, Toru Shimazaki, Ma Cong, Christina Chan, and Kinsun Chan.

In 2008, Janek Schergen was appointed as the Artistic Director of SDT, after his extensive involvement with SDT since its inception years in 1988. Under his leadership, the Company has made new achievements in the international and Singapore dance arena. In the last eight years, the Company has added 24 world premieres and 15 company premieres to the repertoire, in addition to numerous revivals of the existing Company's repertoire. Janek is also the Artistic Director of the Choo-San Goh & H. Robert Magee Foundation which oversees the licensing and production of Choo-San Goh's ballets and the annual Choo-San Goh Awards for Choreography.

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.), Adult Dance Classes, Scholars Programme for students considering dancing as a career, Singapore Dance Theatre 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 – 2015

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: Choo-San Goh

Raymonda Divertissements

Choreography Marius Petipa

Double Contrasts

Choreography: Choo-San Goh

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 Brillante

Choreography: George Balanchine

Peter & Blue's Forest Adventure

Choreography: Janek Schergen
Created for SDT

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: Choo-San Goh

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

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

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

4Seasons

Choreography: Natalie Weir
Created for SDT

Theme and Variations

Choreography: George Balanchine

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 Bjorn

Midnight Waltzes

Choreography: François Klaus
Created for SDT

Incandescent Dream

Choreography: Max Chen
Created for SDT

Bliss

Choreography: Gigi Gianti
Created for SDT

Sticks and Stones

Choreography: Kinsun Chan
Created for SDT

REPERTOIRE ADDITIONS – 2016

Symphony in Three Movements

Choreography: Nils Christe

New works by Ma Cong and Timothy Harbour.