

BALLET ARIZONA

IB ANDERSEN ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Balletaz.org

BALLET ARIZONA PRESENTS BALLET UNDER THE STARS

Annual Series of FREE performances in Valley Parks



Local Grade School Children to be Part of the Production

Phoenix, AZ – This September 19 – 28, 2013 Ballet Arizona presents the 16th annual **Ballet Under the Stars**. This ever popular sunset performance series attracts over 15,000 citizens annually. Free and open to the public at six different Valley locations from Fountain Hills to Sun City West. **Ballet Under the Stars** allows Arizona communities to enjoy a professional ballet performance in a unique outdoor setting complete with stage, lighting, costumes and beautiful Arizona weather. Instead of attendees sitting quietly in rows of seats in Symphony Hall, they can bring a blanket or a lawn chair and experience Ballet Arizona up-close in their own community making it the perfect show for the entire family and a great way to introduce ballet to children.

In addition **Ballet Under the Stars** will feature a presentation of Class Act, one of Ballet Arizona's Education and Outreach programs. Class Act gives local students the opportunity to learn and create a dance under the guidance of Ballet Arizona dancers, and then perform that dance during the **Ballet Under the Stars** performance. This September, participating schools include: Clarendon Elementary of Phoenix, Broadmor School of Tempe, McDowell Mountain Elementary School of Fountain Hills, Evergreen Elementary of Casa Grande, Estrella Mountain Elementary School of Goodyear, and Boys & Girls Club of Peoria. Class Act enlivens the school-children's creative spirit and increases their exposure to and appreciation of dance and the performing arts while sharing the stage with Ballet Arizona's nationally recognized professional dancers.

Ballet Under The Stars is made possible this season because of generous support from Arizona Lottery, APS, NEA Art Works, US Bank, The Steele Foundation, US Airways, City of Tempe, Estrella by Newland Communities, The Arizona Republic, Town of Fountain Hills, and City of Goodyear.

BALLET ARIZONA'S 2013 – 2014 SEASON

BALLET UNDER THE STARS

September 19 – 28, 2013

Spend a relaxing evening under the gorgeous Arizona sky as Ballet Arizona continues its annual season opening tradition with the 16th annual presentation of **Ballet Under the Stars**. Enjoy classical and contemporary ballet in a casual setting for FREE.

SCHEDULE: All performances begin at 7:00pm and run approximately one hour.

Thursday, September 19, 2013 at Beardsley Park
12775 Beardsley Road, Sun City West, AZ 85375

Friday, September 20, 2013 at Estrella Lakeside Amphitheater
10300 South Estrella Parkway, Goodyear, AZ 85338

Saturday, September 21, 2013 at Paul Mason Sports Complex
2525 North Pinal Avenue, Casa Grande, AZ 85122

Thursday, September 26, 2013 at Fountain Park
12925 N Saguaro Blvd, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

Friday, September 27, 2013 at Tempe Center for the Arts Amphitheater
700 W. Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe, AZ 85281

Saturday, September 28, 2013 at Steele Indian School Park
300 E Indian School Rd, Phoenix 85012

DETAILS: balletaz.org (602)381-0184

BALLET ARIZONA NEW HOME UNVEILING AND COMMUNITY DAY

Oct 7- 12, 2013

2835 E. Washington Street

Week of festivities and events leading up to the ribbon-cutting ceremony and Opening Night Gala on Friday October 11 and Free Community Day on October 12.

SCHEDULE: Complete schedule TBA

DETAILS: balletaz.org (602)381-0184

CINDERELLA

October 31 – November 3, 2013

with The Phoenix Symphony at Symphony Hall

Choreography: Ib Andersen
Music: Sergei Prokofiev

As if stepping between the pages of a beloved storybook, Ib Andersen's **Cinderella** vividly delights audiences with the beauty and majesty of classical ballet, wrapped in the promise of "happily ever after," and generously sprinkled with a wonderful dose of humor. Complete with a fairy Godmother, a handsome prince and an unforgettable ball, the magnificent staging, music and costumes make this production a delight for all ages.

TICKETS: \$25 - \$158, discounts for seniors, students, military and groups.
Ballet Arizona Box Office: (602)381-1096 balletaz.org

THE NUTCRACKER

December 6 – 24, 2013
with the Phoenix Symphony at Symphony Hall
Choreography: Ib Andersen
Music: Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

The magic of the holidays comes alive with Ballet Arizona's classic **The Nutcracker**. Surrender to the grand sweep of Tchaikovsky's score and the wonders of childhood. Join Clara and her Nutcracker Prince as they embark on a thrilling adventure full of dancing toys, mischievous mice, waltzing flowers and sparkling snowflakes. Ballet Arizona rings in the season with Ib Andersen's **The Nutcracker** creating memories to cherish forever.

TICKETS: \$25 - \$158, discounts for seniors, students, military and groups.
Ballet Arizona Box Office: (602)381-1096 balletaz.org

LA BAYADERE ("The Temple Dancer")

February 13 – 16, 2014
with The Phoenix Symphony at Symphony Hall
Choreography: Ib Andersen World Premiere
Music: Léon Minkus

Set in exotic India, Ib Andersen's world premiere of **La Bayadère** follows the heartbreaking tale of a temple dancer and a young warrior kept apart in life and united only in death. With rich lavish set designs that conjure up exotic locales like The Arabian Nights, this ballet will transport you with dream-like sequences to a world of noble warriors, cruel princesses and beautiful temple dancers. **La Bayadère** features mesmerizing classical performances highlighted by the famous Shades scene, staged for the entire company.

TICKETS: \$25 - \$158, discounts for seniors, students, military and groups.
Ballet Arizona Box Office: (602)381-1096 balletaz.org

MASTERS OF MOVEMENT

March 27 – 30, 2014
at Orpheum Theatre

Masters of Movement features works by acclaimed modern day dance choreographers that push the boundaries of classical ballet. Alejandro Cerrudo, acclaimed choreographer from Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, presents *Off Screen*, with dance inspired by film scores; it's slinky and modern, with sexy steps

and eccentric moves. Ib Andersen's elegant and intricate masterpiece *Symphonie Classique* returns with costumes by Martin Pakledinaz, the two-time Tony Award-winning designer.

TICKETS: \$25 - \$158, discounts for seniors, students, military and groups.

Ballet Arizona Box Office: (602)381-1096 balletaz.org

ALL BALANCHINE

May 1 – 4, 2014

with The Phoenix Symphony at Symphony Hall

Choreographer George Balanchine set the bar for his protégé Ib Andersen, who brings together three works for this **All Balanchine** program. *Episodes*, danced to a moody score by Webern, is largely resistant to fantasy but invokes a world of possibility - for us and for the dancers. The Arizona premiere of *Walpurgisnacht* fills the stage with feminine charm and intoxicating beauty. The finale of the program is the Arizona premiere of *Western Symphony*, a joyous ballet based on traditional western songs.

TICKETS: \$25 - \$158, discounts for seniors, students, military and groups.

Ballet Arizona Box Office: (602)381-1096 balletaz.org

INNOVATIONS

May 22 – June 1, 2014

Dorrance Theatre

2835 East Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85034

Join Ballet Arizona at the intimate Dorrance Theatre for an evening of captivating new choreography. Ib Andersen's commitment to dance innovation and encouragement of emerging choreographers finds a home in Ballet Arizona's new space. Don't miss being a part of this new tradition to support the cultivation of young dance-makers.

TICKETS: \$55 Ballet Arizona Box Office: (602)381-1096 balletaz.org

STUDIO SPOTLIGHTS

CINDERELLA, October 17 -18, 2013

LA BAYADERE, January 30-31, 2014

MASTERS OF MOVEMENT, March 13-14, 2014

ALL BALANCHINE, April 17-18, 2014

Dorrance Theatre

2835 East Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85034

Step inside the studio at Ballet Arizona's intimate new Dorrance Theatre on Washington Street and experience a behind-the-scenes look at each upcoming production. This is the closest you will ever be to the work without being on the stage! Each one-hour gathering includes time for a Q & A discussion.

TICKETS: \$30 Ballet Arizona Box Office: (602)381-1096 balletaz.org

ABOUT BALLET ARIZONA:

Ballet Arizona, in its 34th season, is dedicated to preserving and celebrating classical dance while creating new and innovative works. Under the artistic direction of internationally acclaimed choreographer Ib Andersen - a former Principal Dancer with The New York City Ballet and The Royal Danish Ballet - Ballet Arizona follows his lead to the future of dance in Arizona. The School of Ballet

Arizona, under the direction of Carlos Valcárcel, promotes access to the art form of ballet through dance education, with a focus on excellence in the form, directing each student to a life-long love of dance. Following this vision, Ballet Arizona connects to more than 25,000 children and families every year through its free and low cost outreach programs.

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