

SINGAPORE
DANCE THEATRE

FRENCH CONNECTION

Alliance Française
2 October, 7pm



Bittersweet by Natalie Weir

ABOUT

ABOUT FRENCH CONNECTION

Specially curated for audiences, French Connection is a compilation of five artistically revolutionary works in a single night. This is a first time collaboration between Alliance Française and Singapore Dance Theatre.

ABOUT SINGAPORE DANCE THEATRE

Our Vision

Singapore Dance Theatre is an ambassador for dance and for Singapore – bridging any divides and differences to establish resonance for both practitioners and audiences through quality performances and engaging educational and outreach activities, thereby strengthening the appreciation and love of dance as an art form.

Our Mission

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.

Patron

Tony Tan (Patron since 2002)

Founders

Anthony Then

Goh Soo Khim

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Laura Hwang (Chairperson)

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Daniel Teo

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Paige Parker

Eduardo Ramos-Gomez

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Director Emeritus

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Ambassadors Council

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(Co-Chairperson) Ms Paige Parker

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Lisa Latip

Marcus Yeung

Paul Ng

Yasuko Yeung

Christian Duhain

Francois Dubrulle

Toshihiko Takahashi



Alliance Française
Singapour

PROGRAMME

Meditation

Choreography: Janek Schergen

Sleeping Beauty pas de deux

Choreography: Marius Petipa

Bittersweet

Choreography: Natalie Weir

Don Quixote pas de deux

Choreography: Rudolf Nureyev

Singular

Choreography: Etienne Ferrère

Artistic Director

Janek Schergen

Ballet Master

Mohamed Noor Sarman

Assistant Ballet Mistress

Rosa Park

Principals

Chihiro Uchida, Kwok Min Yi, Kenya Nakamura, Etienne Ferrère

Soloists

Akira Nakahama, Chua Bi Ru, Elaine Heng, May Yen Cheah
Huo Liang, Jason Carter, Kensuke Yorozu, Satoru Agetsuma

Demi-Soloists

Beatrice Castañeda, Kana Minegishi, Nanase Tanaka, Yeo Chan Yee

Artists

Esen Thang, Henriette Garcia, Jessica Garside, Leane Lim, Ma Ni, Mai Suzuki
Marina Yatsushiro, Stephanie Joe, Tamana Watanabe, Valerie Yeo
Ivan Koh, Jasper Arran, Jeremie Gan, John De Dios, Justin Zee, Reece Hudson
Reo Mizuno, Shan Del Vecchio, Takeaki Miura, Timothy Ng

Apprentices

Felicia Er, Ma Xiaoyu, Reiko Tan, Sayaka Yamauchi

MEDITATION

Choreography

Janek Schergen

Music

William Walton

Costume Design

Chloei Hew

Cast

Chihiro Uchida

Ng Pei-Sian, Principal Cello, The HEAD Foundation Chair



The sound of a cello is unique and personal to me and the quality of a single cellist evokes a mood, which is primary in this piece. It is meant to be a communication between cellist and a single dancer and, in some way, expresses the inner thoughts and memories of a person in the experience of contemplation and reflection.

Meditation was commissioned for the Singapore International Festival of Arts 2021.

SLEEPING BEAUTY

PAS DE DEUX

Choreography

Marius Petipa, staged by Janek Schergen

Music

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Costume Design

Tracy Grant Lord

Cast

Yeo Chan Yee*, Timothy Ng*



The Sugarplum Fairy and her Cavalier dance a grand pas de deux from Act II of the full length classical ballet *The Nutcracker*.

*Debut in this role

BITTERSWEET

Choreography

Natalie Weir

Music

Hans Zimmer (The Gladiator OST)

Cast

Kwok Min Yi, Jason Carter



Bittersweet is a pas de deux created by Natalie Weir for SDT in 2014. Natalie Weir is an established and acclaimed choreographer, known for her highly physical partner work, her organic movement style and her touching insight into human nature. She has created over 150 professional works in her 20+ year career. She was a founding member of Expressions Dance Company (EDC) and has worked extensively throughout Australia, creating many works for most of the country's major classical and contemporary dance companies including the Australian Ballet, West Australian Ballet, Queensland Ballet, Expressions Dance Company, Australian Dance Theatre, Dance North, Tasdance and more.

DON QUIXOTE PAS DE DEUX

Choreography

Rudolf Nureyev

Music

Ludwig Minkus

Costume Design

Bruce McKinven

Cast

Akira Nakahama*, Etienne Ferrère*



Set in Spain, *Don Quixote* tells a story of love and eternal devotion written by Miguel de Cervantes. Kitri has fallen in love with Basilio, a poor young barber, the pair tie the knot in a grand wedding.

*Debut in this role

SINGULAR

Choreography & Costume

Etienne Ferrère

Music

Piano Concerto No.1, Piano Concerto No. 3-4, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Cast

Beatrice Castañeda, Chua Bi Ru, Jessica Garside, Kwok Min Yi,
Leane Lim, Marina Yatsushiro, Huo Liang, Jeremie Gan, Kensuke Yorozu



“...characters are not born like people, of woman; they are born of a situation, a sentence, a metaphor containing in a nutshell a basic human possibility that the author thinks no one else has discovered or said something essential about”. Milan Kundera, *The Unbearable Lightness Of Being*. In this piece, I explored the different emotional relationships between individuals in the absence of a story context, so in the purity of the feelings.

Singular was created for Made In Singapore, SDT Choreographic Workshop 2021.

SUPPORT SDT



Theme and Variations
Choreography by George Balanchine
© The George Balanchine Trust

Singapore Dance Theatre (SDT) was founded in 1988 by Goh Soo Khim and Anthony Then and it is Singapore's only premier professional dance company, comprising of 36 Company dancers plus apprentices. In the course of each year, the Company performs six seasons annually, including the widely popular Ballet Under the Stars at the Fort Canning Park, two full length classics at the Esplanade Theatre, Masterpiece in Motion which brings together three works of the finest international choreography, and Passages Contemporary Season.

As a non-profit organisation, every donation counts towards the further development of the company. Your contribution to support SDT will be multiplied, as it is entitled to a dollar-for-dollar Cultural Matching Grant, by the Ministry of Culture, Community, and Youth.

Your donation will also entitle you to a 250% tax deduction.
Thank you for your continuous support towards our organisation.

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