

# BALLET SAN JOSE

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S I L I C O N V A L L E Y

## **A GRAND FINALE**

May 5-8, 2005

Thursday, May 5 @ 8pm

Friday, May 6 @ 8pm

Saturday, May 7 @ 8pm

Sunday, May 8 @ 1:30pm

San Jose Center for the Performing Arts  
255 Almaden Boulevard in downtown San Jose

Tickets: \$22-68

Box Office: (408) 288.2800 or TicketMaster  
or buy online at TicketMaster

More information follows:

*Ballet San Jose Announces May Program*  
*Flemming Flindt Master Work, THE LESSON, Highlights Varied Program*

Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley will present its final program of the 2004-05 season with a collection of diverse dances entitled, "A Grand Finale", May 5 - 8 at San Jose Center for the Performing Arts in downtown San Jose. Featured on the program are two dances by BSJSV Artistic Director Dennis Nahat, a pas de deux from a ballet by Jules Perrot, and a master work from Danish choreographer Flemming Flindt.

Dennis Nahat's *SOME TIMES* is a romantic jazz ballet set to a commissioned score by Claus Ogerman. It was first presented by American Ballet Theatre at the New York State Theatre, Lincoln Center, New York on July 14, 1972. George Balanchine describes the piece as, "A ballet about young people in these times...without a narrative. [It] plots the interaction of the sexes in a series of dances. A lone girl moves through a social scene as if she were alone. Two boys and a girl fantasize together. The scene, an abstract one, might be any contemporary place in which young persons might be alone, and be themselves."

Flemming Flindt's masterpiece, *THE LESSON*, is set to music by Georges Delerue and is based on a play by Eugène Ionesco. It tells of a private

lesson given by a psychopathic ballet master that turns into a murder. A young girl arrives for her lesson. At first the lesson goes well, but when the pupil has difficulties with her pointe work, the ballet master becomes more demanding and aggressive. He soon loses control and strangles her. THE (PRIVATE) LESSON was created for Danish television in September of 1963 and was first performed onstage at the Opera Comique in Paris, April 6, 1964. Its first performance by San Jose Cleveland Ballet was April 6, 1992. It is one of eight Flindt ballets in Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley repertoire including, OUT OF AFRICA, PHAEDRA, THE TOREADOR, MIRACULOUS MANDARIN, LA VENTANA and THE OVERCOAT.

Dennis Nahat's MOMENTS is a striking and endearing large company work in four movements set to the dazzling Piano Trio No.1 in D Minor, Op. 49 by Felix Mendelssohn. It showcases the individual talents of the Company members. Each of the four movements is given a name evocative of the moods of the music: "Winged hearts", "Suspended in Time", "A Fleeting Moment", and "Spontaneity." MOMENTS was first performed by Cleveland San Jose Ballet, October 28, 1998 at the State Theatre, Cleveland, Ohio. It received its San Jose debut on October 12, 2000 in the first program performed by the newly-formed Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley.

Completing the program is a pas de deux from La Esmeralda, "DIANA AND ACTEON." La Esmeralda is a 3-act ballet with libretto and choreography by Jules Perrot and music by Cesare Pugni that dates back to 1844. The ballet is based on Victor Hugo's novel of Notre-Dame de Paris (1831). It shows the hopeless love of the deaf and hunchbacked Quasimodo for the gypsy girl Esmeralda. For the Maurice Petipa production of 1886 in St. Petersburg, Riccardo Drigo composed several new pieces of music for the ballet including the "DIANA and ACTEON" pas de deux. The pas de deux is excerpted and performed without the Hugo story line. Today, the version most performed is from the later Agrippian Vaganova version of around 1935. It is based on the Greek myth about the hunter Acteon, who spies on the goddess Diana while she is bathing.

Combined into Ballet San Jose's spring repertory program, these FOUR diverse dances create "A Grand Finale" to an exciting season. Tickets are available through the Ballet Box Office at (408) 288-2800, TicketMaster, or online at [www.balletsanjose.org](http://www.balletsanjose.org). Prices are \$22 to \$68 with discounts available for students, seniors, and groups.

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