

BALLET SAN JOSE

DENNIS NAHAT ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

BALLET SAN JOSE ANNOUNCES 2010-2011 SEASON
25th ANNIVERSARY SEASON of MASTERWORKS
Includes: GISELLE, SWAN LAKE and CARMEN
Saturday Matinees Added
NEW SUBSCRIPTION PAYMENT DEFERRAL PLANS ANNOUNCED

FOR RELEASE AUGUST 4, 2010
Photos are available Upon Request:
lkopp@balletsj.org
408.288.2820 x 210

(San Jose, CA) Ballet San Jose has announced its 25th Anniversary Season in San Jose. The three-show 2010-2011 lineup is a **Season of Masterworks** consisting of *Giselle* (Oct 22-24, 2010) *Swan Lake* (February 25-27, 2011) and Roland Petit's *Carmen* (April 1-3, 2011). The annual production of *The Nutcracker* will also be presented in an extended run from December 11 through 26 and a Ballet San Jose School performance of *Silly Simon* will be offered (May 28 and 29). All performances will be held at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts in downtown San Jose (with the exception of the May school performances which will be presented at the California Theatre).

The company has also announced a change in performance scheduling. Friday evenings will now be the opening night for most programs and the company is adding Saturday matinee performances. The Saturday Matinee series will have two package options. One is a Regular Series that includes the three regular subscription programs (*Giselle*/Saturday, October 23, *Swan Lake*/Saturday, February 26, and *Carmen*/Saturday, April 2). The second option will be a Family Series (*Giselle*/Saturday, October 23, *Swan Lake*/Saturday, February 26, and the Ballet San Jose School production of *Silly Simon*/Saturday, May 28). The Family Series will replace the one-hour programs that have been presented for young audiences over the last 5 years. Said Marketing Director Lee Kopp, "Many of our families have been asking for expanded performances, and we are happy to accommodate that. These new matinees will be full-length productions, but in keeping with our family-friendly philosophy, our pricing will be discounted from regular single ticket rates." Kopp further notes that anyone (with children or not) is welcome to attend these discounted programs. "Just be aware, that we expect there will be lots of kids in the audience, and they tend to be quite involved in the action; cheering the heroes and booing the villains is not unusual. But it's all part of the fun of these performances."

Ballet San Jose is also pleased to announce an unprecedented payment deferral option. Patrons can choose to pay in full when they purchase their subscriptions, or they can select to be billed on December 31st, or even choose to pay at the end of the season on April 4th, 2011. "We have never before been this flexible in our payment options," said Box Office Manager Dennis Keefe, "but we are very much aware of the slow economy right now and we want to make it as easy as possible for people to come to the theater and enjoy these fabulous ballets. If delaying payment helps our renewing subscribers and encourages new subscribers to join us, we are happy to oblige."

Subscriptions are available now by calling the Ballet Box Office at **408.288.2800**. Subscription prices run from \$78 To \$255 for Friday and Saturday nights and Sunday matinees, and from \$45 To \$165 for the Saturday Matinee Programs (which include *Giselle*, *Swan Lake*, and *Carmen* for the Regular Series and *Giselle*, *Swan Lake*, and the Ballet San Jose School production of *Silly Simon* offered in May for the Family Series.) Single tickets to *The Nutcracker* are on sale now. *Giselle* will open for single ticket sales to the general public on September 20th. *Swan Lake* and *Carmen* will open for single ticket sales in January. Group Sale reservations for all programming may be made now. Single ticket prices range from \$30 to \$100 with Saturday Matinee tickets ranging from \$16 to \$60. Single ticket discounts are available for

seniors and students, and pre-reservations and discounts are available for group sales. All performances are held at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts, 255 Almaden Boulevard in downtown San Jose with the exception of *Silly Simon*, which will be presented at the California Theatre, 345 South First Street in downtown San Jose.

THE 2010-2011 SEASON AT A GLANCE

Giselle (October 22–24, 2010)

Choreography: Dennis Nahat (after Coralli and Perrot)

Composers: Adolphe Adam (with Peasant Pas de Deux, Act I by Friedrich Burgmuller)

Certainly the best-loved ballet of the French Romantic era, ***Giselle*** is a haunting story of love and forgiveness threatened by supernatural forces. Set to the thrilling music of Adolphe Adam, *Giselle* tells the tale of a young girl who falls in love with Albrecht, a nobleman from a neighboring land who disguises himself as a villager to win her heart--and the betrayal that leads to her death. The loss of her love and his own guilt drives the young man to *Giselle*'s graveside, where Albrecht encounters the Wilis...beautiful, but deadly spirits who force men to dance to their deaths. Only *Giselle* can protect him...if she can find it in her heart to first forgive him.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Friday, October 22 at 8pm (Opening Night)

Saturday, October 23 at 1:30pm (Reduced Price Matinee Series)

Saturday, October 23 at 8pm

Sunday, October 24 at 1:30pm

Swan Lake (February 25-27, 2011)

Choreography: Dennis Nahat (after Petipa and Ivanov)

Composer: Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Swan Lake is the undisputed crown jewel of classical ballet. Dennis Nahat's dramatic four-act setting of this masterpiece features over 135 characters with opulent costumes and scenery from designer David Guthrie. Performed to one of Tchaikovsky's most memorable scores, this powerful tale of love's triumph over evil follows Prince Siegfried as he attempts to rescue his beloved Princess Odette from the wicked and lecherous Baron Von Rothbart, who has cast a spell on the young beauty and turned her into his Swan Queen.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Friday, February 25 at 8pm (Opening Night)

Saturday, February 26 at 1:30pm (Reduced Price Matinee Series)

Saturday, February 26 at 8pm

Sunday, February 27 at 1:30pm

Carmen (April 1-3, 2011)

Choreography: Roland Petit

Composer: Georges Bizet

Orchestration: David Garforth

Carmen has captured audiences throughout the world since French Dance Master Roland Petit first presented this tale of intrigue and passion in Paris in 1949. This vivid and emotionally charged story of

seduction and betrayal is based on the fabled temptress of Seville. The sultry Carmen lures local official Don José into her world of mystery, excitement, and crime only to dismiss him when a handsome Toreador arrives in town. Enveloped in passion and anger, Don José seeks revenge for her roaming eyes, setting the stage for a dramatic, electric climax. Ballet San Jose is one of only a handful of ballet companies in the world that has been granted permission to produce this masterwork—a rare and wonderful opportunity. (This program will also feature an additional ballet to be announced subsequently.)

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Friday, April 1 at 8pm (Opening Night)
Saturday, April 2 (Reduced Price Matinee Series)
Saturday, April 2 at 8pm
Sunday, April 3 at 1:30pm

The Nutcracker (December 11-26, 2010)
Subscription Add-On/**Single Ticket event**
Choreography by Dennis Nahat
Music by Tchaikovsky

Ballet San Jose presents its magnificent production of Dennis Nahat's ***The Nutcracker*** December 11 through 26 at San Jose Center for the Performing Arts amid the sparkle of downtown holiday decorations. For many Bay Area families, Nahat's version of the popular ballet is the anchor of their holiday tradition. Ballet San Jose anticipates as many as 30,000 people will attend the production this December. This is the 31st Anniversary of Nahat's production.

This triumphant tale of Maria and her beloved nutcracker will delight audiences, young and old alike; and downtown San Jose's holiday decorations, Outdoor Ice Rink and "Christmas In The Park" display provide the perfect backdrop for a fun-filled family outing. The theater itself is a wonderland of surprises, replete with lavish lobby decorations, a boutique of ballet and holiday treasures, choirs singing carols, the "Pocket Lady" passing out free toys, and characters from the show posing for photos with the children and their families.

Tickets for ***The Nutcracker*** range from \$30 to \$100 with discounts available for students, seniors and groups.

Note: Ballet San Jose presents three Family Matinee performances of The Nutcracker for young audiences and their families on Saturday, Dec. 11, Tuesday, Dec. 21 and Sunday, Dec. 26. Presented at reduced prices of \$16-\$60. Curtain times are 1:30pm.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Saturday, Dec. 11 at 1:30pm (Reduced Price Family Matinee)
Saturday, Dec. 11 at 7:30pm
Sunday, Dec. 12 at 1:30pm
Friday, Dec. 17 at 7:30pm
Saturday, Dec. 18 at 1:30pm
Saturday, Dec. 18 at 7:30pm
Sunday, Dec. 19 at 1:30pm
Tuesday, Dec. 21 at 1:30pm (Reduced Price Family Matinee)
Tuesday, Dec. 21 at 7:30pm
Wednesday, Dec. 22 at 1:30pm
Wednesday, Dec 22 at 7:30pm
Thursday, Dec. 23 at 1:30pm
Thursday, Dec. 23 at 7:30pm

Friday, Dec. 24 at 1:30pm
Saturday, Dec. 25 (no performances)
Sunday, Dec. 26 at 1:30pm (Reduced Price Family Matinee)

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S BALLET PRESENTED BY THE
STUDENTS OF THE BALLET SAN JOSE SCHOOL

Silly Simon (May 28 and 29, 2011)

Presented in the beautifully restored California Theatre, 345 South First Street in downtown San Jose

Choreography by Lise la Cour

Music by Bent Fabricius Bjerre

Hans Christian Andersen's story of *Klod Hans* comes to life on the ballet stage in **Silly Simon**. "Silly" Simon and his very clever brothers compete to win the attentions of a princess who is on the hunt for a husband and is very particular about what she is looking for. This one-hour fully-staged ballet is brought to life by the students of Ballet San Jose School and has been especially created for young audiences. When combined with Saturday Matinee performances of **Giselle** and **Swan Lake**, the 3-show series makes a wonderful Family Subscription Series. (Priced at \$45 to \$135; Single tickets, \$16 to \$60)

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Saturday, May 28 at 1:30pm

Sunday, May 29 at 1:30pm

*** end ***

ABOUT BALLET SAN JOSE

Ballet San Jose, located in the heart of Silicon Valley, enriches lives by providing world class dance performances. Celebrating its 25th Anniversary Season in San Jose, Ballet San Jose is internationally recognized for its extraordinary dancers, rich repertoire of ballets, and its artistic innovation and excellence.

In 2008 the company toured China, visiting eight cities in five weeks in the most extensive tour by any western ballet company in China's history.