

FESTIVAL BALLET PERFORMS "OVATION" PERFORMANCE AT IRVINE BARCLAY THEATER OCTOBER 13-14

By Lydia E. Ringwald

A medley of new, fresh contemporary ballet choreography will be presented at Festival Ballet's 'Ovation' performance October 13-14 at Irvine Barclay Theater. The contemporary ballet works are created by southern California choreographers and performed by Festival Ballet Theatre, Orange County's resident professional company.

Texture of Time: Choreography by Josie Walsh is an original and thought-provoking ballet explores the essence of time as it changes and morphs from moment to moment. As we travel through the many stages of development and navigate the complex chambers of our hearts, we discover that the child is never lost but instead deeply woven into our ever-evolving personal story. The ballet is set to original music by Jealous Angel and includes special effects by Academy Award winner Jim Doyle. With the help of light, projections and cutting-edge choreography, the dancers transcend time and space to present a full sensory experience.

Oops: Choreography by Viktor Plotnikov is a comical, award-winning piece was presented on the US tour of YAGP's 2011 Gala, Stars of Today Meet the Stars of Tomorrow, and performed in Tennessee, South Carolina and Florida, among other states. The dancers playfully maneuver red pull-on skirts in this innocent and carefree presentation of ballet and modern technique, set to Ponchielli's iconic Dance of the Hours and performed by the inspired young artists of Southland Ballet Academy. The dancers express a range of emotion by using the skirts in creative ways; and both the dancers and the audience experience obvious enjoyment from the delightful lightness of the choreography.

In a world of much beauty, **Feathered Warning:** Choreography by Andrea Schermoly reminds us of how fragile this ecosystem is. The world's birds fly far and wide bringing back messages of global health. As humans we have to listen...as it is not always the messages we like to hear. We have the means to preserve this beauty before it's too late.

Tickets are available at the Irvine Barclay Theatre for performances Saturday, October 13, 2018 @ 7:00 PM and Sunday, October 14, 2018 at 2:00 PM.

Festival Ballet Theatre is Orange County's premier, accomplished



professional ballet company, with mission to enrich Orange County's artistic and economic vitality, to inspire love and appreciation for dance, and to invigorate ballet by:

- Presenting a season of exhilarating classical and contemporary performances,
- Providing a nurturing environment for dancers and choreographers,
- Offering stimulating educational outreach programs.

With reverence for classic masterpieces and a focus on developing future tours de force, Festival Ballet Theater is committed to presenting the best of dance, enriching lives, and developing a new generation of audiences and artists. Professional-quality classical productions and highlight the works of world-renowned choreographers, give audiences a rich, fulfilling experience with each of our nearly two dozen annual performances.

Festival Ballet Theatre is a well-established nonprofit arts organization founded in 1988 by Artistic Director Salwa Rizkalla. For nearly three decades, Festival Ballet Theatre has continuously presented a complete ballet season with world-class artists in Orange County.

FBT was also the bid winner of Ballet Pacifica's Assets Auction in 2007, purchasing the dissolved company's name, sets, costumes and photography archive in order to preserve these treasures for both Festival Ballet Theatre and the Orange County dance community.

FBT presents treasured classical ballets in high-quality productions from a varied repertoire of full-length classical ballets including The Nutcracker, Coppelia, Don Quixote, Giselle, Sleeping Beauty and Swan Lake, while also striving to enrich the experience of Orange County's

dance audiences by presenting cutting-edge contemporary works, highlighting the work of world-renowned guest and resident choreographers who have received critical acclaim for original ballets around the globe, and fostering the next generation of contemporary choreographers.

Festival Ballet Theatre is passionate about its role in keeping the arts alive and thriving in Orange County, creating and presenting dance for residents who appreciate excellence in dance performance.

The season each year includes more than 20 performances at the Irvine Barclay Theatre: "The Nutcracker" in December and two full-length ballet productions, and the International Ballet Festival: Gala of the Stars. All of these use local dancers, enriching and enlivening the performing arts experience in our Orange County community.

For tickets and further information about the performance of 'Ovation' October 13-14, please visit www.thebarclay.org.

