



Contact: Missie Santomo

Director of Marketing

Direct: 513-562-1106

Cell: 859-466-5724

msantomo@cincinnatiaballet.com

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Cincinnati Ballet

in collaboration with

BalletMet Columbus

presents

SWAN LAKE

COMBINED COMPANIES SET TO STAGE BELOVED FULL-LENGTH PRODUCTION ON ARONOFF STAGE

Cincinnati, OH – September 24, 2009 – In the latest collaborative effort between Cincinnati Ballet and BalletMet Columbus, the two companies combine to bring the beloved full-length romantic ballet *Swan Lake* to the Aronoff stage October 23 – 25 in two evening and two matinee performances.

Cincinnati Ballet last presented *Swan Lake* in February 2006. The original *Swan Lake* premiered at the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow on March 4, 1877. Today it remains a crown jewel for every major ballet company in the world.

With choreography after Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov by Cincinnati Ballet Artistic Director Victoria Morgan, Cincinnati Ballet Associate Artistic Director Devon Carney and BalletMet Artistic Director Gerhard Charles, the production brings over fifty professional dancers to the stage, and includes fifteen additional children's roles.

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Undisputedly the most popular ballet in the world, *Swan Lake* is set to a ravishingly beautiful score by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, capturing in its story of love and betrayal the full range of human emotions. Cincinnati Ballet Music Director Carmon DeLeone will conduct the Cincinnati Ballet Orchestra during all performances at the Procter and Gamble Hall, Aronoff Center.

ENURING BALLET STORY IMPRESSIVE, MOVING

In *Swan Lake* the young Prince Siegfried falls in love with the Swan Queen Odette, who has been transformed into a swan by the evil sorcerer von Rothbart on the shore of an enchanted lake.

She may only be rescued by a man's undying love.

However, Siegfried is tricked by von Rothbart into declaring his love for Odette's evil twin, Odile.

Swan Lake's dramatic conclusion communicates the full spectrum of human emotion—from hope to despair, from terror to tenderness, and from melancholy to ecstasy.

From its performers, *Swan Lake* demands a flawless melding of technically demanding dancing and acting, and remains today the most impressive, moving and enduring of the classic ballets.

COMPANIES TO SHARE PERFORMERS AND PRODUCTION ELEMENTS

The ballet will feature a blend of Cincinnati Ballet and BalletMet dancers in group sections, but principal roles will be taken by Cincinnati Ballet dancers when *Swan Lake* is performed in Cincinnati (the production will also run in Columbus, Ohio with BalletMet dancers in principal roles). Production staff and wardrobe departments have been combined, with sets from BalletMet and lighting equipment from Cincinnati Ballet.

Once again, Morgan and Carney have shared choreographic duties, drawing strongly on their choreographic contributions from the 2006 Cincinnati version, but significant portions of the current production are from Charles.

“This collaboration is significant for the artists of Cincinnati Ballet,” says Morgan. “They will experience an expanded performance opportunity by performing both in Columbus and Cincinnati. They will receive new stimulation in the studio during the preparation for performances. They will also be exposed to a different venue and new audiences will be able to experience their work.”

“*Swan Lake* is all about holding onto the lineage of our art form,” says Carney. “It’s definitely one of those milestones, a huge story ballet and a fairy tale, something both kids and adults can relate to alike.

“It’s beautiful and moving, with expansive themes and music. If there is one ballet in the world to see, this is it.”

WHAT:

CINCINNATI BALLET, IN COLLABORATION
WITH BALLETMET COLUMBUS, PRESENTS *SWAN LAKE*

WHEN

Friday, October 23rd at 8 pm
Saturday, October 24th at 2 pm & 8 pm
Sunday, October 25th at 2 pm

WHERE:

The Aronoff Center for the Performing Arts
Procter and Gamble Hall
650 Walnut Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

TICKETS: \$25 - \$80 at the Cincinnati Ballet Box Office, 513-621-5282; or online at www.cincinnatiaballet.com.

ABOUT CINCINNATI BALLET: For 46 years, Cincinnati Ballet has been the cornerstone professional ballet company of the Cincinnati tri-state area, presenting a mix of full-length and mixed repertory ballets, regularly with live orchestral accompaniment. The company has maintained an annual *Nutcracker* series since 1974. During 2009-10, Cincinnati Ballet celebrates the thirteenth season of Artistic Director Victoria Morgan, who has choreographed extensively for the company, and attracted an intriguing mix of renowned choreographers to challenge her dancers in well-received world premieres. Under Morgan's guidance, Cincinnati Ballet has also established a national and international presence and enjoyed ground-breaking collaborations. The 2008-09 Season marked the 40th anniversary of longtime Music Director Carmon DeLeone. The Otto M. Budig Academy, the official school of Cincinnati Ballet, is dedicated to developing dancers with a strong classical technique and unified style.

ABOUT BALLETMET COLUMBUS: BalletMet Columbus, renowned for its versatility and innovative repertory, ranks among the nation's 15 largest dance companies, and its Dance Academy ranks among the five largest professional dance-training centers. Since its inception in 1978, BalletMet has added 147 company premieres to its repertoire and produced 122 world premieres. It has also developed DanceReach, a series of educational and outreach programs that serve 20,000 people annually, as well as a scholarship program that provides tuition for youth based on financial need or talent.

Cincinnati Ballet's 2009-2010 Season is generously sponsored by Season Sponsor The Otto M. Budig Family Foundation and Associate Sponsor Rhonda and Larry A. Sheakley Family Foundation

Cincinnati Ballet gratefully acknowledges support from organizations and individuals throughout the Tri-state region including Dinsmore & Shohl LLP Attorneys, Frisch's Restaurants, Hilton Hotel, Seta Music, Wellington Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine.

Additional funding is provided by the Fine Arts Fund, Ohio Arts Council and the Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission.

Swan Lake is sponsored by The Oliver M. Gale Fund, Ms. Dorothy A. O'Brien & Mr. Richard L. Antoine and Mr. & Mrs. Chip Homan.

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