

CALIFORNIA BALLET COMPANY ANNOUNCES

Beer & Ballet

AT THE CALIFORNIA BALLET CENTER

May 21-22, 2016

San Diego, CA - California Ballet Company (CBC) presents ***Beyond the Barre: Beer and Ballet*** at the California Ballet Center in Kearny Mesa, May 21-22, 2016. Ballet becomes social! Attendees will enjoy a casual setting where they can enjoy local craft beers before, during and after an intimate, low-tech performance debuting new works. Audience members can grab a beer with a dancer following the performance in a rare chance to get to know the artists off the stage.

Food will be available at the Saturday and Sunday evening performances from local gourmet food trucks invited to the event. Light snacks will be provided during the Sunday matinee performance.

The performance program will include brand new works by local choreographers Jared Nelson, Trystan Merrick, and Jeremy Zapanta alongside classical repertoire such as excerpts from *Don Quixote* and *Swan Lake*. The mixed program is a visual representation of the company's mission to preserve the classics while pioneering new works.

CBC dedicates part of each season to encouraging and developing new works with the annual production of *Beyond the Barre* so that: artists explore new ideas, audiences see dance as an evolving art, we stay current with global trends, local artists have opportunities to show their work.

When May 21, 2016 at 8pm (gourmet food truck)

May 22, 2016 at 1pm (light snacks) and 5:30pm (gourmet food truck)

Where: California Ballet Center; 4819 Ronson Court, San Diego, CA 92111

Price: \$30 reserved seating; \$20 general admission. Must be 6 and older to attend.

One free alcoholic beverage provided with the purchase of each ticket (Must be 21 or older). Additional beverages will available for purchase. California Ballet promotes responsible drinking; all Designated Drivers and under aged attendees will be provided with complimentary soft drinks.

Tickets may be purchased at www.CaliforniaBallet.org or (858) 560-6741

For info on the current season, go to www.californiaballet.org/press.

Choreographer Bios on back

Jared Nelson - began dancing professionally at the age of 14 with the Sacramento Music Circus and became an apprentice with the Sacramento Ballet that same year. Mr. Nelson performed as a principal dancer with the Washington Ballet in Washington DC where he originated the role of Jay Gatsby for the World Premiere of *The Great Gatsby* at the Kennedy Center. He reprised the role for the West Coast Premiere presented by California Ballet at the San Diego Civic Theatre. Mr. Nelson was responsible for the restaging of *The Great Gatsby* on California Ballet Company in October 2015. He premiered a new work with California Ballet in March of 2016 titled *Ruled by Secrecy* which was received with critical and popular success.

Trystan Merrick - joined California Ballet as a Principal in 2014. He has appeared with such companies as the Nevada Ballet, Malashock, Owen Cox Dance, and Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo. He regularly appears with Jean Isaacs San Diego Dance Theater, and is an instructor at the California Ballet School. Mr. Merrick has previously choreographed new works throughout San Diego. His most recent new work with California Ballet was *With Love*, which premiered in *Beyond the Barre 2015*.

Jeremy Zapanta - Born in the Philippines, Mr. Zapanta moved to the United States at the age of 1. He began his dance training at the age of 13 at the Burbank School of Ballet, and continued his training at the University of California, Irvine where he worked with the great Donald McKayle. He joined California Ballet in 2013 as a member of the Corps de Ballet, and was promoted to Soloist in 2014. He has twice been commissioned by California Ballet to create new works, most recently *At the Center* which premiered at *Beyond the Barre 2015*. Mr. Zapanta has also created new works for the California Ballet School which have been entered into the Youth America Grand Prix ballet competition.

For more information please visit www.CaliforniaBallet.org
or email Joe Shumate at jshumate@californiaballet.org.

California Ballet Season Sponsors



