

CALIFORNIA BALLET COMPANY ANNOUNCES

Septime Webre's

Peter Pan

**AT THE SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE
March 4-5, 2017**

**There will be a Press Invitational at the Civic Theatre on Friday, March 3, 2017 at 7pm.
Please RSVP with Joe Shumate to attend: jshumate@californiaballet.org.**

San Diego, CA - California Ballet Company (CBC) announces the West Coast premiere of Septime Webre's *Peter Pan* on March 4-5, 2017 at the San Diego Civic Theatre. The production features classical ballet, slapstick comedy, and aerial choreography set to an original score by Cincinnati Ballet Music Director Carmon DeLeone and choreographed by Septime Webre.

California Ballet Director Maxine Mahon made the decision to first bring Septime Webre's choreography to San Diego with the West Coast Premiere of *The Great Gatsby*, which was received with great critical and popular success in October of 2015. Mr. Webre is known for creating cutting edge and delightfully approachable contemporary story ballets.

Peter Pan will feature California Ballet Principal Dancers Ana da Costa as Tiger Lily, Reka Gyulai as Wendy Darling, Trystan Merrick as Captain Hook, and Soloists Tess Lane as Tinkerbell and Jeremy Zapanta as Peter Pan. Also appearing in featured roles are Guest Artist Stephano Cadreva and Soloist Tiffany Smith.

When: March 4-5, 2017

Where: San Diego Civic Theatre; 1100 Third Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101

Price: \$25 - \$105; Recommended for children ages 4 and up.

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

About the Ballet

Based on the 1911 novel by J.M. Barrie, Septime Webre brilliantly translates the swashbuckling coming of age tale of *Peter Pan* into movement through a mix of Marius Petipa inspired 19th century classical ballet, contemporary ballet, aerial ballet, and slapstick comedy. Of his ballet, Mr. Webre says, "The story of *Peter Pan* is a compelling one as it reminds us to live our lives cherishing the child within."

The production is a visually vivid romp through Neverland with mermaids, sprites, fairies, pixies, pirates, Indians, and a hip-hopping, tango dancing crocodile. The main characters (with the exception of Captain Hook) all take to the air on their way to Neverland with the help of world-renowned Flying by Foy, the most prolific and widely respected theatrical flying service in the world.

Dancer & choreographer bios on the back 

For images and video related to Peter Pan, please go to www.californiaballet.org/press.

Bios:

Septime Webre – (Choreographer) has created works that appear in the repertoires of many companies in North America including California Ballet Company, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, and Ballet Austin. His works include innovative contemporary story ballets such as *The Great Gatsby*, *Peter Pan*, and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. Mr. Webre served as the Artistic Director of The Washington Ballet from 1999 to 2016, where many of his works were staged at The Kennedy Center.

Jared Nelson – (Restaging) will stage Septime Webre's *Peter Pan* on California Ballet. He joined California Ballet in 2015 as a Guest Artist, Stager and Choreographer. Since his retirement from The Washington Ballet in 2015, he has been staging and creating ballets for companies around the country. In 2016, Mr. Nelson was appointed California Ballet's Associate Artistic Director, and has staged his own works, as well as those by Septime Webre, for the company.

Ana da Costa – (*Tiger Lily*) joined California Ballet as a principal in 2014 when she first appeared on the Civic Theatre stage in the title role of *Giselle*. She was born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and received her ballet training from Centro de Danca Rio. She started her professional career at 16 with the Young Ballet of France in Paris, before joining the Theatro Municipal de Rio de Janeiro where she rose through the ranks to soloist.

Reka Gyulai – (*Wendy*) comes to California Ballet from her native country of Hungary. She received her professional training at the Hungarian Dance Academy in Veszprem, Hungary. Ms. Gyulai was a finalist at the International Ballet Competition in Vienna in 2004. She has danced with the Hungarian National Ballet, Columbia Classic Ballet, Tulsa Ballet, and New Jersey Ballet Company before joining California Ballet Company in 2016.

Trystan Merrick – (*Captain Hook*) 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.

Tess Lane – (*Tinkerbell*) received her dance training at South Bay Ballet where she had a strong focus in ballet, modern and jazz training. She received scholarships to summer intensives with the Joffrey Ballet School, The Washington ballet, Sacramento Ballet, and Twyla Tharp Summer Workshop. Ms. Lane performed as an Apprentice with Sacramento Ballet before joining California Ballet in 2013, where she was promoted to Soloist in 2015.

Jeremy Zapanta – (*Peter Pan*) was born in the Philippines and 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.

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

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