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HOUSTON BALLET ANNOUNCES FREE PERFORMANCES AT MILLER OUTDOOR THEATRE

WHO: Houston Ballet

WHAT: Free performances at Miller Outdoor Theatre

WHEN: September 13-15, 2018 at 8 PM

TICKETS: Free tickets available for covered seating, open seating available on the lawn

PHOTOS: <https://bit.ly/2vurpAV>

VIDEO: <https://bit.ly/2KRK2DA>

HOUSTON, TEXAS [August 13, 2018] — Houston Ballet is excited to announce a weekend of free performances September 13-15, 2018 at Miller Outdoor Theatre. The local community is invited to join Houston Ballet in Houston's unique outdoor venue to see the ballet's talented dancers perform selections from beloved favorites and new premieres.

Audiences will see a variety of selections from works performed by Houston Ballet, including sequences from the classic tales of *Romeo and Juliet*, *Swan Lake*, and *Don Quixote*; as well as dazzling excerpts from *Raymonda*, *Sons de L'ame*, *Spring Waters*, *The Ladies*, and even Stanton Welch AM's latest work *Just!*

Welch's *Just!* will premiere first at the prestigious Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival August 15-18 and tells the story of a couple struggling to stay in love. Attendees at Miller Outdoor Theatre will be the first local audiences to see this exciting and emotional new work on stage.

This free 3-day event is open to the public with both covered seating and lawn space available. The covered seating is ticketed. Free tickets are available (4 per person over age 16, while they last) at the Miller Outdoor Theatre box office the day of the performance between the hours of 10:30 AM-1 PM. If any tickets remain at 1 PM, the box office will re-open one hour before show time to distribute the remaining tickets. Lawn seating is open, and participants are encouraged to bring blankets and snacks to further enjoy this thrilling experience.

Miller Outdoor Theatre is a 95-year Houston tradition that Houston Ballet is proud to continue to partake in. The theatre has stood by its mission to provide cultural and educational events free of charge for the public. Like the ever-changing city it resides in, Miller has evolved. It has transformed Hermann Park's "permanent bandstand" to a first-class proscenium theatre and professional operation that is committed to providing quality and diverse performances worthy of the great international city that Houston has become.

For more information about these performances, please visit www.houstonballet.org.

ABOUT HOUSTON BALLET

Houston Ballet has evolved into a company of 60 dancers with a budget of \$33 million, making it the country's fifth largest ballet company. With a state-of-the-art performance space built especially for the company—also the largest professional dance facility in America—Houston Ballet's \$46.6 million Center for Dance opened in April 2011, with an endowment of just over \$74.1 million (as of July 2017).

Australian choreographer Stanton Welch AM has served as Artistic Director of Houston Ballet since 2003, raising the level of the company's classical technique and commissioning works from dance makers such as Christopher Bruce, Alexander Ekman, William Forsythe, Jiří Kylián, Trey McIntyre, Julia Adam, Edwaard Liang, and George

Balanchine. Executive Director James Nelson serves as the administrative leader of the company, a position he assumed in February 2012 after serving as the company's General Manager for more than a decade.

Houston Ballet has toured extensively both nationally and internationally. Over the past fifteen years, the company has appeared in renowned theaters in London, Paris, Moscow, Spain, Montréal, Ottawa, Melbourne, New York City, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and in cities large and small across the United States.

Houston Ballet's Education and Community Engagement Program reaches more than 60,000 individuals in the Houston area annually. Houston Ballet Academy teaches more than one thousand students every year, and approximately 50 percent of the current company was trained by the Academy.

For more information on Houston Ballet, visit www.houstonballet.org.

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