



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Milwaukee Ballet Stages Iconic *Swan Lake* as Season Finale**

*World-Famous Ballet Returns to Marcus Center, May 31-June 3*

**MILWAUKEE** – May 11, 2018 – Milwaukee Ballet closes its 2017-18 season with the world-famous classical ballet, *Swan Lake*, May 31-June 3, 2018 at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.

“*Swan Lake*’s story of young love and heartache is universal and compelling. It’s no wonder that it remains so popular more than 100 years after its creation” said Milwaukee Ballet Artistic Director Michael Pink. “Presenting this work is always an exciting time for a ballet company. It offers a chance for the dancers to showcase their technical prowess and perform the most famous roles in the ballet world.”

*Swan Lake* features the choreography of Michael Pink after Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov. Pink preserves many elements from the original production, while enhancing the story to shed light on Rothbart’s motivation to curse Princess Odette. Similarly, he split the role of Odette-Odile into two separate roles and reworked the ballet to be presented in two acts, from the original four.

Tchaikovsky’s score will be played by Milwaukee Ballet Orchestra under Conductor Pasquale Laurino.

### **Story Summary**

*Swan Lake* follows Odette, a beautiful princess who is transformed into a white swan by an evil sorcerer, who conjures Odile to seduce Prince Siegfried and steal the throne. Odette must win Prince Siegfried’s love to break the curse and save the kingdom.

### **Casting**

The principal cast of *Swan Lake* features Milwaukee Ballet’s established leading artists and dancers making their role debut.

**Odette:** Luz San Miguel; Nicole Teague-Howell (role debut)

**Odile:** Marize Fumero (role debut); Annia Hidalgo

**Prince Siegfried:** Davit Hovhannisyanyan; Randy Crespo (role debut)

### **Ticket Information and Performance Schedule**

*Swan Lake* runs May 31-June 3, 2018 at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water Street, Milwaukee. There are five public performances. The schedule is as follows:

Thursday, May 31 | 7:30pm

Friday, June 1 | 7:30pm

Saturday, June 2 | 1:30pm

Saturday, June 2 | 7:30pm

Sunday, June 3 | 1:30pm

Tickets range from \$40-\$115 and are available at (414) 902-2103 or [milwaukeeballet.org](http://milwaukeeballet.org).

Discounts available for senior citizens (62+), college students, and groups of 10 and larger.

### **Community Events**

#### **Barre Talk: *Swan Lake***

May 15, 6:30-8pm

88Nine Radio Milwaukee, 220 E Pittsburgh Ave, Milwaukee

Milwaukee Ballet's Barre Talk events feature a member of Milwaukee Ballet artistic staff and a guest speaker leading animated conversation on topics important to the ballet world and beyond. For *Swan Lake*, we'll focus on the "Ladies of the Lake" and dive into the real life of ballerinas. Join us for a riveting conversation featuring Jayne Pink, Luz San Miguel, and Jennifer Miller.

British ballerina Jayne Pink enjoyed a successful career in Europe, originating the role of Odette in Michael Pink's *Swan Lake*. Milwaukee Ballet Leading Artist Luz San Miguel has danced as both swans in Michael Pink's adaptation and returns as Odette in the upcoming production. Jennifer Miller enjoyed an 18-year career with Milwaukee Ballet, and is now teaching the next generation at Milwaukee Ballet School & Academy.

Free and open to the public.

RSVP to Milwaukee Ballet Marketing and Promotions Manager Casey Seneczko at [caseys@milwaukeeballet.org](mailto:caseys@milwaukeeballet.org) or call (414) 902-2107.

### **Sponsors**

*Swan Lake* is presented by Eileen and Barry Mandel.

The 2017-18 season is presented by Donna and Donald Baumgartner, with support from the United Performing Arts Fund.

## **About Milwaukee Ballet**

Founded in 1970, Milwaukee Ballet celebrates its 48th season as a staple of Milwaukee's arts and culture scene. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Michael Pink, Milwaukee Ballet has become world-renowned for presenting bold new interpretations of story ballets and cutting-edge contemporary works. Milwaukee Ballet is the home to an international company of dancers and is one of only a few companies in the nation to maintain its own orchestra. Milwaukee Ballet School & Academy is the only professional dance school in the Midwest accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD). Milwaukee Ballet's award-winning Community Engagement Department serves more than 30,000 people in Southeastern Wisconsin through original, interactive programs.

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*Interviews with Milwaukee Ballet Artistic Director Michael Pink and the dancers in leading roles are available upon request.*