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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CAL POLY ARTS
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Moscow Festival Ballet Brings 'Giselle' To Cohan Center Feb. 22

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- After their triumphant San Luis Obispo performance of "Swan Lake" in 2001, the Moscow Festival Ballet company returns with a full-scale production of the Romantic classical ballet, "Giselle," on Sunday, February 22, 2004 at the Christopher Cohan Center. Special curtain time is 4 p.m.

"Giselle," having had its Moscow premiere in 1843, features passionate and athletic choreography and a melodic, evocative score.

Cal Poly Arts presents the 50-member Moscow Festival Ballet, under the direction of former Bolshoi Ballet principal dancer, Sergei Radchenko.

The Moscow Festival Ballet was founded in 1989 when the legendary Radchenko brought together the highest classical elements of the great Bolshoi and Kirov Ballet companies in an independent new company, while keeping within the framework of Russian classic ballet.

Under Radchenko's direction, leading dancers from across the Russias have performed in new productions of timeless classics such as "Giselle," "Don Quixote," "Paquita," and "Carmen."

Radchenko and the Moscow Festival Ballet continue to expand the company's repertoire. In addition to commissioning new works from within Russia and abroad, the Moscow Festival Ballet specializes in twentieth-century full-length ballets, such as "Cinderella," "Romeo and Juliet," "Legend of Love," "Stone Flower" and "The Golden Age."

Since its inception, the Moscow Festival Ballet has completed two tours of Europe, garnering acclaim in Italy, France, Spain, Germany, and the
Netherlands. Two tours of the United Kingdom, including capacity audiences at London's famed Coliseum, have resulted in continual return engagements.

The company has also performed at the Istanbul Festival and at the Athens Festival, and recently completed a two-month tour of Japan, Korea, Singapore, and Hong Kong.

A pre-show lecture will be held by Cal Poly Theatre/Dance Dept. professor Moon Ja Minn Suhr, beginning at 3 p.m. in the Philips Recital hall.

Tickets for the performance range from $36 - $48, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088. Order on-line at www.pacslo.org.

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