

 

Jan. 30, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: LISA WOSKE, 805/756-7110

## Russian National Ballet Brings 'La Bayadere' to Cohan Center Feb. 19

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA -- Sixty of the Russian National Ballet's most talented dancers brilliantly perform the full-length story ballet, "La Bayadere," in Harman Hall at the Christopher Cohan Center on Sunday, February 19, 2006.

Cal Poly Arts presents the 4 p.m. matinee performance of "La Bayadere," the story of Solor the noble warrior, torn between the beauty of a powerful Rajah's daughter and his love for the willful "bayadere" or temple dancer.

The original Kirov production features the choreography of the legendary Marius Petipa, who was also the choreographic force behind "Swan Lake" and "Sleeping Beauty."

Sergei Radchenko is the company's artistic director.

"La Bayadere" features monumental processions and the famed "Kingdom of the Shades" corps de ballet dream scene. The piece combines the supernatural drama of the Romantic period with the purity and simplicity of Classicism, creating one of the masterpieces of 19th century Russian ballet.

The Russian National Ballet was founded in 1989 when Bolshoi Ballet principal dancer Sergei Radchenko sought to realize his vision of a company that would bring together the highest classical elements of the great Bolshoi and Kirov Ballet companies in an independent new company within the framework of Russian classic ballet.

Radchenko researched the original choreography and stage productions of several of Marius Petipa's classic ballets. Leading dancers from across the Russias helped create an exciting new company, forged under Radchenko's direction, staging new productions of timeless classics such as "Giselle," "Don Quixote," "Paquita," and "Carmen."

Under the direction of Radchenko, the Russian National Ballet continues to expand its repertoire. In addition to commissioning new works from within Russia and abroad, the company specializes in 20th century full-length ballets such as "Cinderella," "Romeo and Juliet," "Legend of Love," "Stone Flower," and "The Golden Age."

Since its inception, the Russian National Ballet has completed two tours of Europe, with extraordinary receptions in Italy, France, Spain, Germany and the Netherlands.

Two tours of the United Kingdom, including capacity audiences at London's famed Coliseum, resulted in five return engagements.

The company has also performed with great success 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-concert lecture will be held by Cal Poly Theatre and Dance department professor Moon Ja Minn Suhr, beginning at 3 p.m. in the Philips Recital hall.

Tickets for the performance range from \$42 - \$54, 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](http://www.pacslo.org).

Sponsored by Sheila and Yosef Tiber and by KCBX 90.1 FM

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit [www.calpolyarts.org](http://www.calpolyarts.org).

- 30 -

•  
**Cal Poly Update E-newsletter • Contact Public  
Affairs • Alumni • Giving • Athletics**

**Cal Poly Public Affairs**  
California Polytechnic State University  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407  
805.756.7266  
[polynews@calpoly.edu](mailto:polynews@calpoly.edu)