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Ticket Sales: 805-756-2787

Cal Poly PAC to Host 'Swan Lake' Performed by Russia's Foremost Ballet Company

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Tchaikovsky's perennial classic ballet, *Swan Lake*, will fill the Cohan Center stage with more than 50 dancers when the illustrious Russian National Ballet Theatre performs on Thursday, February 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Cal Poly Arts presents the Russian National Ballet Theatre's triumphant return engagement with a glorious production directed by legendary Bolshoi principal dancer and esteemed company founder, Elena Radchenko.

"The Company (dances) with real Russian energy and passion." (*SanDiego.com*)

During late 1980s, many of the great dancers and choreographers of the Soviet Union's ballet institutions were exercising newfound creative freedom. Artistic leaders created a vibrant company dedicated not only to the timeless beauty of classical Russian ballet, but to invigorating tradition as Russians began to accept new developments in the dance from around the world.

The then-titled Soviet National Ballet was founded by and incorporated graduates from the great Russian choreographic schools of Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Perm; the principal dancers came from the upper ranks of the great ballet companies and academies of Russia, Riga, Kiev, and even Warsaw. In 1994, Radchenko was selected by Presidential decree to assume the first permanent artistic directorship of the group. Radchenko founded the newly-named Russian National Ballet Theatre with a focus on upholding the grand national tradition of the major Russian ballet works and developing new talents throughout Russia.

Today, the RNBT is its own institution, with a corps of dancers with singular instruction and vast experience – many of whom have been with the company since its inception. As part of their 2011 international tour, the company will embark upon a four-month coast-to-coast tour of the United States.



The RNBT boasts a repertory of virtually all of the great full works of Petipa: *Don Quixote*, *La Bayadere*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Swan Lake*, *Raymonda*, *Paquita*, *Coppelia* and *La Sylphide*, as well as productions of *The Nutcracker*, *Sylvia*, and *La Fille Mal Gardee*, among others.

Patrons are invited to attend a free pre-concert lecture presented by Cal Poly Dance Dept. Emeritus Faculty Member Moon Ja Minn Suhr at 6:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center's Gallery Level lobby.

Student and adult tickets for the performance range from \$16 to \$44 and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Center 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.

24-hour on-line ordering is available at www.calpolyarts.org.

Sponsored by James Sargen and the Santa Maria Sun.

For more information on all Cal Poly Arts events, including audio and video samples, please visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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