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HOUSTON BALLET TO GIVE FREE PERFORMANCES AT MILLER OUTDOOR THEATRE



WHO: Houston Ballet
WHAT: Don Quixote
WHEN: May 11, 12 & 13, 2018 at 8:00 PM
WHERE: Miller Outdoor Theatre
TICKETS: All tickets are free!

PHOTOS: <u>https://bit.ly/2H0ZQWQ</u> VIDEO: <u>https://bit.ly/2q6ozPN</u>

HOUSTON, TEXAS [April 20, 2018] — Houston Ballet is proud to present the charming, family-friendly classic tale of former Artistic Director Ben Stevenson **OBE**'s **Don Quixote**. The company will present these free performances at Miller Outdoor Theatre on Friday, May 11, Saturday, May 12, and Sunday, May 13 at 8:00 PM.

Enjoy the charm of 17th century Barcelona, Spain, brought to life onstage from the pages of the original novel by Miguel de Cervantes. The comical tale follows elderly adventurer Don Quixote in his search for his idyllic woman, Dulcinea, as he is caught between the budding romance of temperamental Kitri and mischievous Basilio. Audiences are sure to love this famously jovial ballet, full of dazzling choreography, stunning sets, and gorgeous costumes.

This is a ticketed event for the covered seating area. 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. As always, open seating on the hill.

Along with the presentation of **Don Quixote**, Miller Outdoor Theatre will also be celebrating their 95th anniversary the same weekend! Join us before the curtain raises on Saturday, May 12 when Mayor **Sylvester** Turner proclaims May 12, 2018 as Miller Outdoor Theatre Day! Also, help us complete the Mayor's Challenge by bringing a friend to all performances at Miller Outdoor Theatre to set an all-time attendance record to help celebrate the theatre's special anniversary.

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 <u>www.houstonballet.org</u>.

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