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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“BALLET SUN VALLEY FESTIVAL 2018 PRESENTS STAR-STUDDED PROGRAM” *International ballet stars take the stage in Sun Valley, Idaho*

All the world's a stage, and Ballet Sun Valley Festival 2018 is bringing the world's top ballet dancers to perform July 17 and July 18, 2018 on one of the most beautiful outdoor stages in the world, the Sun Valley Pavilion in Sun Valley, Idaho. This star-studded international ballet festival, with its diverse programming and internationally celebrated dancers, musicians, and choreographers, has become one of the hottest tickets on the busy summer cultural calendar in this legendary resort destination.

Under the Artistic Direction of American Ballet Theatre Principal Ballerina and Sun Valley native, Isabella Boylston, the Festival will include two completely different mixed repertoires on July 17 and 18 featuring challenging and diverse works by renowned choreographers and performed by 22 of the world's most elite dancers. Festival dancers will come from Paris Opera Ballet, The Royal Danish Ballet, The Royal Swedish Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, and San Francisco Ballet. Martin West, famed orchestra conductor for the San Francisco Ballet, will lead the live orchestra of top musicians to accompany the performances.

“This promises to be another unforgettable event, one that showcases some of the world's best dancers performing exceptionally creative works in a venue that is simply spectacular,” remarked Robert Smelick, Founder of Ballet Sun Valley and Executive Producer of this year's Festival.

The July 17 repertoire will feature *Flower Festival in Genazo: Pas de Deux* by August Bournonville; *The Dream: Pas de Deux* by Fredrick Ashton; *Depuis Le Jour* by Gemma Bond; *Romeo & Juliet: Balcony Pas de Deux, Act 1* by Sir Kenneth MacMillan; *In the Middle Somewhat Elevated* by William Forsythe; *Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux* by George Balanchine; *Solo for Patricia* by Pam Tanowitz; *Other Dances* by Jerome Robbins and *Dying Swan* by Mikhail Fokine, danced by Misty Copeland.

The July 18 repertoire will include *Beir Halle* by Ethan Stiefel; *For Pixie* by Danielle Rowe, *Manon: Act I-Bedroom Pas de Deux* by Sir Kenneth MacMillan; *The Leaves are Fading* by Anthony Tudor; *Wallflower* by James Whiteside; *Sonatine* by George Balanchine; *After the Rain: Pas de Deux* by Christopher Wheeldon; and *In Creases* by Justin Peck.

The complete program details are available at www.balletsunvalley.com

Ballet Sun Valley Festival 2018 Festival dancers include:

American Ballet Theatre - Stella Abrera, Isabella Boylston, Misty Copeland, Gillian Murphy, Christine Shevchekno, Cory Stearns, James Whiteside, Calvin Royal III, Cassandra Trenary, Aran Bell, Tyler

Maloney, Lauren Post, Gabe Stone Shayer, and Paulina Waski; New York City Ballet - Tiler Peck; Paris Opera Ballet - Leonore Baulac and Germain Louvet; The Royal Danish Ballet - Ida Praetorius; The Royal Swedish Ballet - Dmitry Zagrebin; San Francisco Ballet - Dores Andre and Joseph Walsch; and freelance artist Patricia Delgado.

As a part of its 2018 event, Ballet Sun Valley Festival will offer a special Day of Dance Education on July 19th. Festival dancers will teach free dance classes for aspiring young dancers – a rare opportunity for those who are selected to participate. Also, as part of this day, Boylston will give a talk about her journey from her hometown of Sun Valley to Lincoln Center when she reached the top of her profession as Principal Dancer with American Ballet Theatre. To be considered for a class, students must complete an application by June 30, which can be found on the Ballet Sun Valley Festival 2018 website.

Ballet Sun Valley Festival's performance venue, the stunning covered outdoor Sun Valley Pavilion, provides an incomparable intimate connection between the dancers on stage and the audience. Boasting an award-winning design, one of the most sophisticated sound systems anywhere, and a location with spectacular mountain views from any of its 1600 seats, the Sun Valley Pavilion provides an unrivaled stage for this art form and for this festival.

Viking is the proud lead sponsor of Ballet Sun Valley Festival 2018.

For more information, visit BalletSunValley.com. Tickets available online at SunValley.Ticketfly.com or by calling the box office at 208.622.2135.

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