

April 5, 2013

Boca Ballet Theatre Celebrates *Romeo and Juliet* “Après” at Burt & Max’s Bar and Grille

After a captivating Saturday night performance of *Romeo and Juliet*, dancers, patrons, and friends of Boca Ballet Theatre gathered at Burt & Max’s Bar and Grille at the new Delray Marketplace. to celebrate a sensational production. More than 125 guests donned chic attire and big smiles as they sipped cocktails and mingled with the show’s star artists, while dancing to the bar’s upbeat live band. Thanks to Burt & Max’s owners, Burt Rapoport and Dennis Max, for hosting the fabulous venue.

Prior to the après, Boca Ballet Theatre’s production at Olympic Heights Performing Arts Theater infused Shakespeare’s tragic tale with finesse and flair. From the brisk and captivating battle scenes to the beauty of the bedroom, Co-Artistic Director Dan Guin’s evocative choreography and graceful dancers earned a deafening applause from the audience . providing a real reason to revel in the festivities.

Dan Guin and Jane Tyree greeted guests and thanked them for coming to the performance, and also expressed sincere gratitude to the guest stars for contributing to an outstanding production. “Simon Ball (*Romeo*) is truly a prince among dancers and men+, states Dan of the Houston Ballet principal. “It is seldom that a dancer with such professional abilities and experience has this degree of humility and willingness to work with young dancers+. Dan is equally impressed with Sarah Smith, the stunning Juliet; his former student is now a member of American Ballet Theatre (ABT): “It makes me really proud to think that I might have even a small part to do with the artist that she’s become,+he says.

In addition to Sarah Smith and Simon Ball, guest stars Alexey Kulpin (Mercutio), Samuel Beckman (Benvolio), and Shannon Smith (Tybalt) were in attendance. Boca Ballet Theatre Board Members also enjoyed the après, including David Hammond (President), Vanessa Boltz (Vice President), Laurie Udine, Sharon Alpert, and John Keever, as well as Boca Ballet Theatre patron and friend, Marleen Forkas, and Seton Smith, one of Boca Ballet Theatre’s Founders.

Romeo and Juliet sets the *barre+* for Boca Ballet Theatre’s 2013 season, leading into the next production, *Return to Russe*, on August 3-4th, 2013 at FAU’s University Theatre in Boca Raton.

For more information please call Boca Ballet Theatre at 561-995-0709 or visit www.bocaballet.org.