



***For Immediate Release***

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**BOCA BALLET THEATRE PRESENTS  
THE GREAT ROMANTIC BALLET *GISELLE***

**Boca Raton, FL** – (June, 2016) Boca Ballet Theatre's upcoming performance of the quintessential romantic ballet *Giselle* under the direction of Dan Guin, Executive Director & Co-Artistic Director of Boca Ballet Theatre, will be performed July 29, 30 & 31 at The Countess de Hoernle Theatre, Spanish River High School, 5100 Jog Road, Boca Raton.

Considered one of the great Romantic ballets, *Giselle* was first performed in Paris in 1841. It revolves around the themes of forces of nature, forest spirits, and death. A peasant girl falls in love with a nobleman who unbeknownst to her is already betrothed to the daughter of the Duke. When the deception is revealed Giselle goes mad and dies of a broken heart. The second act takes place in a forest beside Giselle's grave where she is accepted by the Queen of the ghostly wilis, young women who have died of unrequited love. The spurned wilis seek their revenge on all men who wander into their domain. Even in death, Giselle's love compels her to save the very man who caused her death from this gruesome fate.

We are excited to announce the role of Giselle will be performed by Bridgett Zehr. When Zehr was 17, she joined Houston Ballet as an apprentice working with Maina Gielgud, and became a soloist in 2006. The National Ballet of Canada took her on as a soloist in 2007, promoting her to principal in 2009. In both Houston and Toronto, Zehr established a close personal and professional relationship with Zdenek Konvalina. Following Konvalina, in 2011 she joined English National Ballet as a principal. Boca Ballet Theatre audiences will remember Zehr's beautiful portrayal of Aurora in our 2015 presentation of *The Sleeping Beauty*.

Returning to Boca Ballet Theatre to perform the role of Albrecht is an audience favorite - Gray Davis. Davis was named Grand Prix winner at the Youth American Grand Prix finals 2004 in New York. He joined American Ballet Theatre's Studio Company in 2005, and American Ballet Theatre's main company in 2007. Davis has performed worldwide as a guest artist for many galas and companies. Audiences will remember Davis as our Cavalier in *The Nutcracker* in 2012 and 2015, as well as his portrayal of Franz in *Coppelia*. Both Zehr and Davis performed multiple roles in *The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Performance*.

Boca Ballet Theatre is thrilled to welcome back Nicole Muratov, a former Boca Ballet Theatre student, who will be performing the role of Myrtha – Queen of the Willis. Nicole started her dance career at Boca Ballet Theatre then attended the Dreyfoos School of the Arts. She also participated in summer sessions at American Ballet Theatre in 2005 and 2006. Nicole then ventured "across the pond" and received her Trinity degree at Elmhurst School for Dance in Birmingham, England. In 2010 she joined the National Opera Ballet of Bordeaux in Avignon, France under the direction of Charles Jude, and recently received tenure.

***Giselle Performance:***

Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 @ 7:30PM | Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 @ 7:30PM | Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016 @ 2:00PM  
The Countess de Hoernle Theatre  
Spanish River High School, 5100 Jog Road, Boca Raton, FL 33496  
Box Office: 561-995-0709 | Tickets are \$25 - \$35

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**About Boca Ballet Theatre:** Established in 1990, BBT is a nonprofit, award-winning civic ballet company that trains dance students, entertains audiences, and inspires the community through successful outreach programs. Under the guidance of Co-Artistic Directors Dan Guin and Jane Tyree, the mission is to enrich the cultural landscape of our community and educate its youth in classical ballet and concert dance through focused training, interaction with professional dancers and participation in full-length ballets and contemporary choreography. For more information please visit [www.bocaballet.org](http://www.bocaballet.org) or call 561-995-0709.