

September 11, 2014

For Immediate Release

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Dan Guin, Anna Willis and Carl LeMaster



Photos by Silvia Pangaro



Sara Mearns and Simon Ball

Boca Ballet Theatre's Après Celebrates a Spectacular *Swan Lake*, Starring NYC Ballet's Sara Mearns and Houston Ballet's Simon Ball

BOCA RATON - After a mesmerizing Saturday night performance of *Swan Lake*, dancers, patrons and friends of Boca Ballet Theatre were greeted with great food and warm hospitality at J. Alexander's in Boca Raton, thanks to General Manager Carl LeMaster. Boca Ballet Theatre's sold-out production of *Swan Lake* proudly featured guest artists Sara Mearns, Principal dancer with New York City Ballet, and Simon Ball, Principal dancer with Houston Ballet. The audience at Olympic Heights Performing Arts Theater was clearly entranced, in awe as Ms. Mearns, renowned for her double role of Odile/Odette, danced flawlessly with Mr. Ball as Prince Siegfried.

"It was such a huge pleasure to perform with Boca Ballet Theatre. Dan and Jane are some of the nicest and most gracious people that I have ever worked for and have gotten the pleasure to know. Simon Ball was awesome to dance with and I hope our paths cross again soon. I would definitely not turn down another trip to South Florida or Boca Ballet!"

-Sara Mearns

Guest artist Ariel Soto of the Cuban Classical Ballet of Miami also wowed the crowd, along with Sanjay Saverimuttu of Louisville Ballet (a former student of Boca Ballet Theatre).

In addition to the guest artists, *Swan Lake* featured three dancers from BBT's Exchange Program with Elmhurst School of Dance in association with Birmingham Royal Ballet, a program that has been thriving for the past seven years. The cultural and artistic exchange provides travel, housing, meals, and supervision for a group of male dancers for the duration of the Summer Workshop and performance.

Boca Ballet Theatre's Summer Intensive Performance Workshop culminated in the production of *Swan Lake* after five weeks of intensive training. The Workshop featured renowned faculty comprised of top artistic directors from around the country: Michael Pink—Milwaukee Ballet; Adam Sklute - Ballet West; Stephen Mills - Ballet Austin; and Devon Carney - Kansas City Ballet., as well as jazz classes with special guest instructor Jimmy Locust—professional dancer, choreographer and teacher.

Boca Ballet Theatre's lavish production, staged after the original choreography of Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov, was set to the music of Peter Tchaikovsky. Considered one of the most famous of classical ballets, *Swan Lake* has mesmerized audiences for more than 100 years.

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“The show was phenomenal! Sara Mearns was exquisite! We'll definitely be coming back for more BBT productions.”

-an audience member, post-performance



Holli Rockwell and Marleen Forkas



Frank and Mary Csar,
Madelyn Savarick, Poppy Mercier,
Frank and Phyllis Loconto



Dennis Lue, Elizabeth Dudley, Ariel Soto

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. Please call 561.995.0709 or visit www.bocaballet.org for more information.

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