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HoustonBallet
50TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

PRESENTS

MARGARET ALKEK WILLIAMS

Jubilee of Dance

HOUSTON BALLET PRESENTS THE 15TH ANNUAL MARGARET ALKEK WILLIAMS JUBILEE OF DANCE

WHO: Houston Ballet

WHAT: Margaret Alkek Williams Jubilee of Dance

WHERE: Wortham Theater Center

WHEN: December 6, 2019

TICKETS: Starting at \$35 and On Sale Now at houstonballet.org or 713.227.ARTS(2787)

December 6, 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6 7:30 PM	7

HOUSTON, TEXAS [November 26, 2019] — Houston Ballet’s Margaret Alkek Williams Jubilee of Dance shimmers brighter than ever for the organization’s golden anniversary. Held on December 6, this one-night-only spectacular of dance will tell the story of Houston Ballet’s past, present and future while paying homage to the leadership who’ve made Houston Ballet one of the top American ballet companies.

“It’s unique for a company to be run by generations of choreographers like we have,” says Artistic Director Stanton Welch AM. “That rarity instills a certain type of dancer and work ethic in a company, and it creates a certain type of audience — a brave and adventurous audience who has grown with us for 50 incredible seasons.”

Welch has crafted an evening of pure ballet bliss for Houston Ballet’s devoted fans. Act I is a mixed-media experience, accompanied by projections from Wendall K. Harrington, telling the story of Houston Ballet through excerpts and ending with a new work from Welch called *Tarantella*. Act II revisits the bright crowd favorite

Reflections by Justin Peck. The evening concludes with Welch's *Nosotros*, a beloved piece in Houston Ballet repertoire that makes its way back to the stage.

The occasion brings back a star-studded list of Houston Ballet VIPs. James Clouser and Ben Stevenson, former Houston Ballet Artistic Directors, will be present to be honored and witness their eras be represented in Act I. Former Principal Dancers Mirelle Hassenboehler and Lauren Anderson will be among many former company dancers in attendance, in conjunction with the Houston Ballet alumni weekend following the performance.

"From visionary to creator, artist to administrator, all have played a role in us achieving 50 years," says Anderson. "It's so exciting to have so many of us reunite to celebrate these moments with our patrons."

Since 2004, the Jubilee has commenced every season as a one-night-only event showcasing the incredible range of talent at Houston Ballet. In 2017, Margaret Alkek Williams endowed the annual celebration ensuring its place in the nonprofit's future.

If you are a fan of ballet or even just love a good night out, you won't want to miss the Margaret Alkek Williams Jubilee of Dance. Visit HoustonBallet.org or call 713.227.ARTS(2787) to reserve your seats today.

ABOUT HOUSTON BALLET

Celebrating 50 years of creativity, Houston Ballet has evolved from a Company of 16 dancers to one of 61 dancers with a budget of \$33.9 million and an endowment of \$79.2 million (as of June 2019), making it the country's fifth largest ballet company. Its Center for Dance is a \$46.6 million state-of-the-art performance space that opened in April 2011 and remains the largest professional dance facility in America. Houston Ballet's reach is global, touring in renowned theaters in Dubai, London, Paris, Moscow, Spain, Montréal, Ottawa, Melbourne, New York City, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles and more.

Houston Ballet attracts prestigious leaders in dance. 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 legends such as Julia Adam, George Balanchine, Aszure Barton, Christopher Bruce, Alexander Ekman, William Forsythe, Jiří Kylián, Edwaard Liang, Trey McIntyre and Justin Peck. Executive Director James Nelson serves as the administrative leader of the organization, a position he assumed in February 2012 after serving as the Company's General Manager for more than a decade.

Beyond its stage presence, Houston Ballet maintains a strong foothold in continuing to foster a love for dance in future generations. Its Education and Community Engagement program reaches more than 70,000 individuals in the Houston area annually. Houston Ballet Academy trains more than 1,000 students every year, producing more than 50 percent of the elite athletes that comprise Houston Ballet's current Company.

For more information on Houston Ballet, visit houstonballet.org.

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