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**HOUSTON BALLET PRESENTS Ben Stevenson’s Iconic Rendition of**

***The Sleeping Beauty*, March 13-23, 2025**

**PHOTOS & VIDEOS:** [[LINK HERE](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/3gk5neylggzodg4ljju10/AKDruX0V7laV2iFoEmBf5RE?rlkey=57rtfcx8jasr82e6fah6cj8c6&st=8hln2xzk&dl=0)]

**HOUSTON, TX – March 5, 2025 –** Houston Ballet invites audiences to an enchanting journey with its revival of *The Sleeping Beauty* from March 13-23, 2025. Choreographed by Artistic Director Emeritus Ben Stevenson O.B.E. and set to Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky’s iconic score, this timeless masterpiece captures the elegance, grandeur, and magic that have cemented its place in ballet history.

*The Sleeping Beauty*, widely celebrated as a pinnacle of classical ballet, unfolds the captivating French fairytale of Princess Aurora, whose fate is shaped by the forces of good and evil. The malevolent Carabosse curses Aurora, while the benevolent Lilac Fairy softens the blow with a spell that will let her awaken after a century-long slumber with the kiss of true love.

In 1967, Stevenson launched his choreographic career with his staging of *The Sleeping Beauty* for the English National Ballet in London, featuring the legendary Margot Fonteyn as Aurora. This highly acclaimed debut paved the way for future productions, and in 1990, his celebrated version graced Houston Ballet’s stage at the Wortham Theater Center, complete with stunning sets and costumes by the late Desmond Heeley, inspired by Peter Farmer’s original concepts.

“Since its debut in 1990, Houston Ballet’s *The Sleeping Beauty* has remained a flagship work for the company and is recognized as a supreme achievement of classical ballet,” said Stanton Welch AM, Artistic Director at Houston Ballet. “Stevenson’s choreography, paired with Tchaikovsky’s iconic score, sets the stage for our dancers to bring Aurora’s magical tale to life.”

Audiences will marvel at the intricate choreography inspired by Marius Petipa’s 19th-century version and Stevenson’s deep reverence for the classics. This includes his meticulous consultation of Nicholas Sergeyev's notations of the Mariinsky Ballet’s Sleeping Beauty productions, ensuring authenticity in every pirouette and pose.

**Performance Details**

Join Houston Ballet for an unforgettable experience that intertwines exquisite storytelling, lavish designs, and unparalleled artistry in The Sleeping Beauty. Performance details are as follows:

**Sleeping Beauty, March 13-23, 2025**

*Choreographer: Ben Stevenson OBE, after Marius Petipa | Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky*

Schedule: 7:30 PM on March 13-15, 21-22, 2025

1:30 PM on March 15 and 22, 2025

2:00 PM on March 16 and 23, 2025

Venue: Wortham Theater Center

501 Texas Avenue, Houston, TX 77002

Tickets: Visit [www.houstonballet.org](http://www.houstonballet.org/)

**ABOUT HOUSTON BALLET**

With over 50 years of rich history, Houston Ballet has evolved into a company with a budget of $37.6 million and an endowment of $97.5 million (as of June 2023), making it the country’s fourth-largest ballet company. Its $46.6 million state-of-the-art performance space, the Houston Ballet Margaret Alkek Williams Center for Dance opened in April 2011. In addition, Houston Ballet's reach is global, touring theaters in Dubai, London, Paris, Moscow, Spain, Montréal, Ottawa, Melbourne, New York City, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Tokyo and more.

Australian choreographer Stanton Welch AM has served as Artistic Director of Houston Ballet since 2003. Welch has choreographed 43 new works for Houston Ballet during his tenure while ensuring the growth of the Company’s repertoire by presenting works from George Balanchine, William Forsythe, Jiří Kylián, Sir Kenneth MacMillan, John Neumeier, and Jerome Robbins. Welch continues the legacy of Houston Ballet being a choreographic Eden by commissioning over 30 works from world-renowned choreographers including Aszure Barton, Trey McIntyre, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa and Justin Peck. Julie Kent joined Welch as Artistic Director in 2023, after serving as Artistic Director of The Washington Ballet from 2016 – 2023 and following a storied career as a Principal ballerina of American Ballet Theatre - the longest-tenured dancer in ABT’s 85-year history. 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 85,000 individuals in the Houston area annually. Houston Ballet Academy trains more than 1,000 students every year, producing more than 60 percent of the extraordinary artists that comprise Houston Ballet’s current Company. For more information on Houston Ballet, visit [houstonballet.org](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.houstonballet.org%2F&data=05%7C02%7CALee%40houstonballet.org%7C64e1cc87723949d1a10408dc32704e3b%7C96ffe6484e0e4d839e7a0b72af0ac187%7C0%7C0%7C638440705143801451%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=VlLWJ3L1c7HffofHZEmSzSNXbtA4wnnmnjGzrK9zMKE%3D&reserved=0) ###