



For Immediate Release

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Michigan Opera Theatre to Present The Joffrey Ballet

"Beyond the Shore" to feature works by European choreographers

Nov. 2 - 3 at the Detroit Opera House

DETROIT, Oct. 22, 2019 - Michigan Opera Theatre (MOT) will present Chicago's renowned Joffrey Ballet company Nov. 2-3 at the Detroit Opera House. The program, "Beyond the Shore," features works by three of Europe's most in-demand choreographers: Liam Scarlett, Nicolás Blanc and Alexander Ekman. It features diverse pieces performed to classical and electronic music that explore new worlds and emotions.

MOT Artistic Advisor for Dance Jon Teeuwissen, the former Executive Director for The Joffrey, said the program features works representative of the Company's style.

"The mixed-repertoire program is a testament to The Joffrey's commitment to diverse dance styles, reflective of both the expected and the unexpected," he said. "It features three dynamic young choreographers from Europe with works that pay homage to the lavish classical productions of the past while also exploring the uncharted territory of the future."

The program opens with Scarlett's "Vespertine," a sumptuous ode to the Baroque period. Dancers dressed in flowy maroon costumes move under a sky of chandeliers, dancing with the lights themselves to intricate violin compositions.

Blanc's "Beyond the Shore," from which the program is named, takes audiences through different worlds. Composed to the music of electronic music composer Mason Bates, dancers travel through six distinct landscapes that range from under the sea to a mysterious desert to outer space, featuring original Houston recordings of the astronauts during the first moon landing in 1969.

The program concludes with Ekman's self-descriptive "Joy." Dancers clad in flesh-toned costumes explore what it means to be joyful with playful, quirky movements that spread the feeling to the audience.

This is the company's first performance at the Detroit Opera House since 2014.

Ticket prices for the performance start at \$35. Tickets may be purchased online at www.MichiganOpera.org, by calling (313) 237-7464 or in person at the Detroit Opera House (1526 Broadway, Detroit).

MOT's 2019-20 dance season is generously supported by Richard and Joanne Brodie.

For more information visit <https://michiganopera.org/season-schedule/joffrey-ballet/>.

The Joffrey Ballet's "Beyond the Shore"

Saturday, Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 3, 2:30 p.m.

Performed at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit

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About Michigan Opera Theatre

Michigan Opera Theatre, one of the nation's most vibrant nonprofit arts organizations, is committed to presenting opera and dance of the highest artistic caliber. Founded in 1971 by Dr. David DiChiera, the company's mission is to serve as a major cultural resource to the state of Michigan and the city of Detroit. The organization is led by President and CEO Wayne S. Brown and Chairman of the Board R. Jamison Williams. Visit the website at www.michiganopera.org.