

2013–2014 Touring Season

State St
BALLET
SANTA BARBARA



ABOUT THE COMPANY

State Street Ballet is a vibrant, innovative professional dance company based in Santa Barbara, California. The company was founded in 1994 and remains dedicated to promoting original dance through public performances and educational outreach programs.

The company combines the rigors and timeless beauty of classical technique with updated looks, special effects and digital technology, producing original works that satisfy today's diverse audiences.

By melding familiar storylines with exciting dance movement and special effects, State Street Ballet gives each tale a modern, passionate and unique twist. The heady mix of movement, music, lighting, scenery and acting is successfully reaching new audiences, introducing dance as mainstream entertainment while honoring classical training, style and tradition.

As a fully professional dance company with well-known credentials, State Street Ballet attracts dancers from around the world and teams with top-notch choreographers to produce new works that showcase the company's signature elegant-but-edgy tone.

Well-known choreographers whose works have been performed by State Street Ballet include Peter Pucci and Margo Sappington, as well as legends Agnes de Mille and George Balanchine.

Innovative new works draw from a team of choreographers including Founder and Artistic Director Rodney Gustafson, San Francisco choreographer and Emmy Award winner Robert Sund (*Alice in Wonderland*, *Beauty and the Beast*) and New York choreographer William Soleau (*Carmen*).

The company tours domestically and internationally, boasting a 90% rebooking rate. Original touring productions from State Street Ballet currently include *Beauty and the Beast*, *Nutcracker*, and *The Jungle Book*.

DIRECTOR



Rodney Gustafson's vision, energy and mastery of the classics are propelling State Street Ballet to explore new and untapped areas of entertainment.

Gustafson holds an undergraduate and master's degree in business, enhanced by a successful dance career with American Ballet Theatre.

As a dancer with American Ballet Theatre, Gustafson worked with many of the greatest dancers of our time including Mikhail Baryshnikov and famous choreographers like Alvin Ailey, George Balanchine, Rudolf Nureyev, Jerome Robbins and Antony Tudor. He also appeared in the films *Turning Point* and *Nutcracker* (Baryshnikov) and several *Live from Lincoln Center* productions.

During his tenure as Artistic Director for State Street Ballet, he has created several full-length ballets for the company, including *Romeo and Juliet*, *Nutcracker*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Cinderella*, and most recently, *The Jungle Book*.

"Gustafson has built a company respected for its choreography, dancing and management, proving against all odds, and nay-sayers, that ballet is alive and kicking in Southern California."

—Los Angeles Times

State Street Ballet remains not only a classical company, but also a classy one, freely combining traditional dance forms with modern music, costumes, mood and energy”

-Santa Barbara Independent



STATE STREET BALLET DANCERS



SAMANTHA BELL trained with the Anaheim Ballet on full scholarship and joined their company in 2008. She won third place at Youth America Grand Prix SF and went onto the New York finals. Bell is an Orange County Performing Arts Center Artsteach dancer and recently graduated with her BA in History from UCSB. Training includes American Ballet Theatre, Boston Ballet, and Oregon Ballet Theatre.



ANNA CARNES trained with the Santa Clarita Ballet Academy and is a recipient of the RAD Solo Seal Award. She holds a BFA in Dance from UC Irvine, where she was a member of Donald McKayle's Etude Ensemble. Anna has danced with Oakland Ballet, Menlowe Ballet, and was a principal with Peninsula Ballet Theatre.



RYAN CAMOU Joined State Street Ballet in 2005. He performed in *Romeo & Juliet*, *Hamlet*, *Nutcracker*, *La Bayadere*, *Black Swan Pas*, and *Carmina Burana*, and has performed as Don Jose in State Street Ballet's production of *Carmen* by choreographer William Soleau. Ryan joined Smuin Ballet in 2008 and his performances have included the Drummer boy in *The Christmas Ballet*, and Augie in *St. Louis Woman*.



BONNIE CROTZER Began her training with Lisa Abshere, and continued her education at UC Irvine where she earned a BA in Dance. Bonnie has performed with Oakland Ballet, Ballet Pacifica, and Merce Cunningham Dance Company. Bonnie joined State Street Ballet in 2008.



SERGEI DOMRACHEV graduated from the Perm Ballet Academy. He was a bronze medalist in the Vaganova Competition and the Internathiol Arabesque '92 Competition, and earned the Audience Favorite Award. He has danced professionally as a soloist with both Moscow Classical Ballet and Los Angeles Classical Ballet. Domrachev joined State Street Ballet in 1997.



LEILA DRAKE is from Santa Cruz, California. Since joining SSB in 2005, she has performed locally and nationally, dancing the lead roles in William Soleau's *Carmen* and *Love, Love, Love*, Arabian in Rodney Gustafson's *Nutcracker*, and soloist roles in works by Robert Sund, Nancy Colahan, and Robert Battle.



DAVID MICHAEL ECK received his classical ballet training from his coach, Maria Vegh. David's professional experience includes Houston Ballet, North Carolina Dance Theater, and Royal Winnipeg Ballet (Canada), among others. David joined State Street Ballet in 2005.



JULIA GIORDANO trained in classical ballet and contemporary dance at Master Ballet Academy under the direction of Slawomir and Irena Wozinak. She then danced professionally with Ballet Tucson for two years. This will be her second year with State Street as a company member.



LILITH HOGTALIAN trained with Yuri Grigoriev and graduated from Academie Danse Princess Grace, Monaco, on full scholarship. She won first place in YAGP, Long Beach and was in LA Times Faces to Watch 2009. She performed lead roles in the *Nutcracker*, *Waltz Fantasie*, *Minkus (Balanchine)* and participated the Monaco Dance Forum.



KATE KADOW, age 21, was born in Winter Park, Florida. Kate previously danced as a soloist with the Cuban Classical Ballet in Miami, Florida and performed a variety of pas de deux and featured roles in the classical repertoire, including *Le Corsaire*, *La Bayadere* and full length productions of *Swan Lake* and *Giselle*.



JAMESON KEATING trained with Gustafson Dance. He performed with State Street Ballet Young Dancers for four years, and was part of the RDA/Pacific Company that performed at the 2010 International Ballet Competition in Jackson, Mississippi. In 2011, he joined State Street Ballet as an apprentice.



SERGEY KHEYLIK, guest artist, has danced with Vienna State Opera, Carolina Ballet, Los Angeles Ballet, Odyssey Dance Theatre, and was a performer with Cirque du Soleil. He can also be seen as a dancer in the hit film *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, starring Brad Pitt.



JENNIFER PHILLIPS, company manager. During her tenure as a principal dancer with State Street Ballet, Jennifer performed many title roles. At this point in her career she has turned her focus to the business of ballet. Her passion, insight and nearly 20 years of complete immersion in the dance world, have enabled her to transition into an essential role among the company's leadership.



JOHN CHRISTOPHER PIEL was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He trained at the Harid Conservatory in Florida, The Rock School of Pennsylvania Ballet, Ballet Austin in Texas, North Carolina Dance Theatre, and at the Chautauqua Institution in New York. He joined State Street Ballet in 2006.



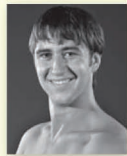
SAMANTHA SCHILKE grew up in Ventura, Ca. She trained in ballet at Ballet Academy Ventura since the age of five under Kathleen Noblin, Marina Fliagina, and Colleen O'Callahan. In addition she's trained at Footworks Youth Ballet, Washington School of Ballet, and Miami City Ballet.



CECILY STEWART studied with Santa Barbara Ballet Center and Marin Dance Theatre. She has danced professionally with Allegro Theatre Company, Richmond Ballet and New York Theatre Ballet. Stewart is thrilled to be back in Santa Barbara and dancing with State Street Ballet.



HARRISON STEVENSON was born in Kansas City, Missouri. His training includes Arizona School for the Arts, in multiple styles of dance, most intensely in classical ballet, as well as Master Ballet Academy under the direction of Slawomir and Irena Wozniak.



JACK STEWART has danced principal roles in *The Nutcracker*, *Coppelia*, *Dracula*, *Les Patineurs*, *Swan Lake* and many other original ballets with New Mexico Ballet Company, Ballet Repertory Theatre of New Mexico and Festival Ballet of Albuquerque. Jack has appeared in the title role of the *Nutcracker* for State Street Ballet.



RUKAKO TAKAHASHI is from Japan. She trained with Elmhurst School for Dance in associate with Birmingham Royal Ballet in UK on full scholarship, and The Washington Ballet School for the Trainee program. In 2004 she was a finalist at the YAGP Ballet Competition in NY and in 2006 she won the gold medal at All Nippon D.A.T.E Classic Ballet Competition. She joined State Street Ballet in 2011.



KAORI TAKAI is from Osaka Japan. She received her training at Yamada Chie Ballet School and graduated from Osaka University of the arts. She danced with New National Theatre Ballet Tokyo, Roxey Ballet and Minnesota Ballet. She has danced roles in *Who Cares?*, *Nutcracker*, *Cinderella*, *Giselle*, *Carmen* and *A Midsummer Nights Dream*.



MAURICIO VERA started his studies in 2000 at the School of Ballet "Municipal Theater" in Santiago and at the "Musical & Show dance Academy." After five years, he became a member of the "Ballet de Santiago" under the direction of Marcia Haydee and has worked with outstanding choreographers such as: Jon Cranko, Ivan Nagy, George Balanchine, Sir Kenneth MacMillan, André Prokovsky, Ricardo Bustamante, Ronald Hynd, Eduardo Yedro, Luis Ortigoza, Jaime Pinto, Vicente Nebrada, Glen Tetley and many more.



YOSUKE YAMAMOTO is from Osaka Japan. He trained with Yamamoto Sanae Ballet School, and Homura Tomoi Ballet School and Arts Educational School in London. He graduated from Osaka University of the Arts. He danced with Roxey Ballet and Minnesota Ballet. A few memorable performances include George Balanchine's *Who Cares?* and Twyla Tharp's *Sinatra Suite*. He joined State Street Ballet in 2010.

STATE STREET BALLET ARTISTIC STAFF



BRIAN ASHER ALHADEFF is an internationally recognized conductor of ballet, opera, symphony, and musical theater. Currently he is Artistic Director and Conductor for Opera San Luis Obispo. Past conducting highlights include the Eastern Bohemian Philharmonic, Ballet Tucson, Beverly Hills Symphony, Opera Pasadena, Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra, Tulsa Ballet, Karlove Vary Sinfonie, Albanian Radio and Television Orchestra, South Florida Opera Company, Eastern Sierra Symphony, Bourgas State Opera, Rio Hondo Symphony, St. Cloud Symphony and Long Beach Opera to name a few.



A. CHRISTINA GIANNINI, Costume Designer, has designed for Broadway, off-Broadway, opera, and numerous dance companies. Her work can be seen in the repertoires of Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre in N.Y.C.; Joffrey Ballet Chicago; Nevada Dance Theater; North Carolina Dance Theater; Ballet Florida; and Buglisi Dance Theatre in N.Y.C. She designed costumes for Vicente Nebrada's Ballet National in Caracas, Venezuela, where she was twice awarded the Venezuelan Oscar for Design. Giannini designed scenery and costumes for State Street Ballet's *Seasons*, *Texas Fourth*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *5 Tangos*, *Cinderella*, *The Nutcracker*, and *The Jungle Book*.



ANAYA CULLEN, Assistant to the Costume Designer/In-house designer, has designed costumes for numerous dance and opera companies including State Street Ballet, Chautauqua Ballet Company, Aspen Opera Theater Center, State Street Ballet Young Dancers, SonneBlauma Danscz Theatre, Gustafson Dance, Santa Barbara Dance Institute, Salsa Lolita, Clave Libre Productions, and the Western Slope Concert Series.



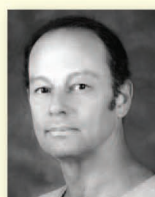
MARK SOMERFIELD, Production Manager and Lighting Designer, is the Production Manager for the Department of Music at the University of California, Santa Barbara, as well as Resident Lighting Designer for Opera Santa Barbara and State Street Ballet. Other credits include The Guthrie Theatre, New York City Opera, Theatre de la Jeune Lune, Provincetown Theatre Company, Pennsylvania Stage Company, the Santa Fe Opera, Virginia Stage Company, Cincinnati Ballet, Pennsylvania Dance Theatre, American Music Theatre Festival and the Adriatic Music Festival in Termoli, Italy.



JEAN-FRANÇOIS REVON, Set Designer, made his State Street Ballet debut in 2004 with his scenic designs for *Cinderella*, and in 2009, designed the sets for the world premiere of *The Jungle Book*. His credits list over 300 productions for opera, ballet and musical theatre, including the world premiere of *Earthquake* in San Francisco for Diablo Ballet, and *Once Upon a Ballroom*. His designs for Opera Santa Barbara include *Cavaleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *The Elixir of Love*, *Tosca*, *Suor Angelica*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *La Bohème*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Così fan tutte*, and *Lucia di Lammermoor*, among others.



MARINA FLIAGINA, Ballet Master, was born in Russia, and graduated with distinction from Perm State College of Choreography in Russia. In 1990, she was admitted to the Moscow State Theatre Kremlin Ballet where she worked with the renowned Vladimir Vasiliev and Ekaterina Maximova. She has performed roles in all of the famous classical ballets and has toured internationally with the Russian Imperial Ballet, Moscow Classical Ballet, and the Moscow Festival Ballet. Fliagina joined State Street Ballet as a dancer in 1998, and was promoted to Ballet Master for the 2000-01 Season.



GARY MCKENZIE, Ballet Master, received his primary training from Marguerite Phares, Vladimir Luppov, Alonzo King, and at Harkness House under David Howard in New York. While his performing career was primarily with Ballet Florida, he was also a member of the original Santa Barbara Ballet under the direction of Tamara Kinsell, Southwest Ballet, San Diego Ballet, and a founding member of State Street Ballet. In addition to teaching, McKenzie has choreographed numerous ballets for various companies as well as working as a choreographer for Opera Santa Barbara.



TIM MIKEL, Managing Director is a Founding Member of the State Street Ballet Board, was President for thirteen years, and has been Managing Director for the past five years. He has danced professionally and semi-professionally for Plexus Dance Theatre, Channel Islands Ballet, and Pacific Coast Ballet, among others, and continues to attend ballet class daily. He is a professional Marine Biologist involved in water pollution research and is the President and owner of Aquatic Bioassay and Consulting Laboratories in Ventura. He has received Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Marine Biology.



WILLIAM SOLEAU, Choreographer, has created over 80 ballets on companies around the world. Soleau first gained international recognition in 1987 for his creation of *Universe* for The Shanghai Ballet of China during the first International Shanghai Arts Festival. As resident choreographer and principal dancer for both Finis Jhung's Chamber Ballet U.S.A. and Dennis Wayne's DANCERS in New York City, he established himself as an emerging international choreographer. As a dancer, Soleau had the opportunity to tour over 30 countries while working with such notable choreographers as Alvin Ailey, John Butler, Toer van Schayk, Antony Tudor, Joyce Trisler, Gray Vereden, and Norman Walker. His works can be seen in the repertoires of Ballet British Columbia, Richmond Ballet, Ballet de Montreal, Ballet Austin, The Icelandic Ballet, BalletMet, American Ballroom Dance Theater, Ballet Florida, Ballet Gomonet, and The Louisville Ballet among many others.

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Get the Most from Your Programming

**State St
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Magnify the benefit for your community by signing up for a week residency. State Street Ballet offers innovative and effective outreach programs that can make a deep and lasting impact on both adults and children. They include in-school programs, in-theatre performances for students and civic groups, master classes, and much more.

EXAMPLE WEEK RESIDENCY AT THE REDLANDS BOWL

During the 5-day residency, more than 16,000 citizens of Redlands, CA were served.

Day 1: Tuesday

- 45 minute performance at Burrage Mansion and Family Services Association
- Radio Interview with the Director and dancers

Day 2: Wednesday

- 45 Minute performance at Lugonia Elementary
- TV interview with the Director and dancers

Day 3: Thursday

- 45 minute performance at Smiley Elementary and Franklin Elementary

Day 4: Friday

- Master Class open to local ballet students
- Public Performance, filmed by PBS

Day 5: Saturday

- Public Performance

STATE STREET BALLET'S THEATRE OUTREACH PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- 45 Minute Performances, followed by Question and Answer Sessions
- Interactive Demonstrations, with available Study Guides

SCHOOL OUTREACH PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- 25 Minute Mini Performance followed by Question and Answer Sessions
- Interactive Demonstrations

DANCE STUDIO OUTREACH PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- A production including 20 to 40 community dancers
- Master Classes

"State Street Ballet is accessible and extremely professional, on and off the stage. Everyone from the dancers to the crew has a can-do attitude. Because our schools have no performing arts component, State Street Ballet offers opportunities to introduce kids to dance."

— Marsha Gebara, Redlands Bowl

For more information call
805.563.3262 or email
contact@statestreetballet.com
www.statestreetballet.com

AN AMERICAN TANGO

From the clubs of Havana to Miami and Beverly Hills, Veloz and Yolanda danced their way through the ballrooms of the Jazz Age. Experience their love story through a wide spectrum of multi-media-period staging, music, acting and dance.

Written by
Guy Veloz.



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CHOREOGRAPHY:

William Soleau

MUSIC:

Gershwin, Ellington and other popular music of the era

PROJECTIONS BY:

David Bazemore

COSTUME DESIGN:

Chritina Giannini

LIGHTING DESIGN:

Mark Somerfield

RUNNING TIME:

2 hours with intermission

DANCERS: 18

OUTREACH:

Info available, call for details

PRODUCTION INFO:

State Street Ballet
805.563.3262
contact@statestreetballet.com

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JUNGLE BOOK

Be transported to the fabled jungle of Rudyard Kipling's India as you experience the visual delights of this original production by Rodney Gustafson, with additional choreography by Gary McKenzie. Set to an original score by Milan Svoboda of the Czech Republic, this exciting new work will spark the spirit of adventure in audiences of all ages.

CHOREOGRAPHY:

Rodney Gustafson
and Gary McKenzie

MUSIC:

Milan Svoboda

SET DESIGN:

Jean-Francois Revon

COSTUME DESIGN:

A. Christina Giannini

LIGHTING DESIGN:

Mark Somerfield

RUNNING TIME:

2 hours with intermission

DANCERS: 18

OUTREACH:

Info available, call for details

PRODUCTION INFO:

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State St BALLET

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BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

This magical ballet adapted by Emmy Award-winning choreographer Robert Sund from the classic story based on the Jean Cocteau film of 1925 features a beautiful score by Tchaikovsky, combined with lavish sets, masks, and stunning costumes.



CHOREOGRAPHY:

Robert Sund

MUSIC:

Tchaikovsky

SET DESIGN:

Daniel Nyiri

COSTUME DESIGN:

Mary Etta Lang

LIGHTING DESIGN:

Mark Somerfield

RUNNING TIME:

2 hours with intermission

DANCERS: 18

OUTREACH:

Info available, call for details

PRODUCTION INFO:

State Street Ballet

805.563.3262

contact@statestreetballet.com

THE NUTCRACKER

The classic tale of adventure, fantasy, romance, and the triumph of good over evil. For more than 175 years, E.T.A Hoffman's story of Clara and her Nutcracker prince has delighted children of all ages. Set to music by Tchaikovsky, with period costumes and opulent sets, the Nutcracker's story enchants as never before.

**State St
BALLET**
SANTA BARBARA



CHOREOGRAPHY:

Rodney Gustafson
and Gary McKenzie
with additional choreography
by Marina Fliagina

MUSIC:

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

SET DESIGN:

Daniel Nyiri and
Yuriy Samodurov

COSTUME DESIGN:

A. Christina Giannini
and Mary Etta Lang

MASK/DOLL DESIGN:

Robert Joyce

LIGHTING DESIGN:

Mark Somerfield

RUNNING TIME:

2 hours with intermission

DANCERS: 18

OUTREACH:

Info available, call for details

PRODUCTION INFO:

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contact@statestreetballet.com