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ITHACA BALLET PRESENTS **WINTERDANCE**,
ITS ECLECTIC REPERTORY PERFORMANCE

ITHACA – On February 27 at 7:30 p.m., the Ithaca Ballet takes the stage at the State Theatre with *winterdance*, showcasing its breadth of talent as Upstate New York's only repertory company. Highlighting a challenging show is the world premiere of *basic black and baby blue etudes* by guest choreographer Byron Suber. This pyrotechnically dazzling piece is set to music by Prokofiev. Suber teaches ballet and modern technique, dance history and criticism, dance composition and digital media at Cornell University.

The Ithaca Ballet will also feature a revival of Larry Brantley's *Trip-Tic*, last performed in 2004. This three-part contemporary ballet is classic hilarious Brantley and culminates in a Johnny Mathis tune complete with Bartender and Bathing Beauties. Also included in this year's show are two other pieces by Brantley: *Tilyou's Revenge* takes a funny-serious look at carnival life set to a musical collage and, with a haunting score by Eric Coates, *Wintersong* is an extremely moving modern ballet about lost loves. The *Romeo and Juliet pas de deux* is beautifully danced by Company Principal Nadia Drake and Resident Guest Artist Johann Studier to Prokofiev's soaring score.

Rounding out the evening is a beautiful, neoclassical ballet staged by Principal Dancer Nadia Drake. Choreographed by award-winning artist Robert Kelley, it features breathtaking corps work with 14 dancers.

Ticket prices to the Winter Repertory concert range from \$7-\$19 and are available at the State Theatre box office, online at www.stateofithaca.com, or by calling 277-8283. Discounts for groups of 10 or more are available.

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RELATED EVENTS

Giselle

Saturday, April 24, at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 25, at 3:00 p.m.

Both shows at the State Theatre in Ithaca, NY

This full-length premiere of *Giselle* is derived from original choreography by Marius Petipa and set to music by Adolphe Adam, with additional choreography and staging by Cindy Reid. A **gala event** of dinner, champagne and dancing to celebrate the premiere will be held before the Saturday performance at the Holiday Inn Ithaca. For ticket information on the gala and show, visit the ballet's website at ithacaballet.org.

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Founded in 1961, The Ithaca Ballet, housed at the Ballet Center of Ithaca, is Upstate New York's only repertory company. The ballet is a pre-professional ensemble corps with a varied repertoire of classical and contemporary works.

www.ithacaballet.org

Enclosed:

- Nadia Drake and Christopher Fellows dance the pas de deux in *Romeo & Juliet*.
- The Bartender and Bathing Beauties in Larry Brantley's *Trip-Tic*.
- Publicity poster for *winterdance*.