

BALLET ARIZONA

IB ANDERSEN ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Laura Schairer 480-797-3111
laura@audiencemagnets.com

Leading choreographers arrive in Phoenix for Ballet Arizona's *Director's Choice* March 28 – 31 at Orpheum Theatre



Alexei Ratmansky Alejandro Cerrudo Ib Andersen

*Performances showcase genius of Ratmansky, Cerrudo and Andersen with
Carnival of the Animals, Diversions and a World Premiere*

Phoenix, Ariz.) Three of the leading choreographers on the dance scene today- Alexei Ramantsky, who serves as Artist in Residence at American Ballet Theatre in NYC and was the former Artistic Director of the Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow; the hot up-and-coming dancer/choreographer Alejandro Cerrudo of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago; and Ballet Arizona's Artistic Director Ib Andersen are joining together for the creation of DIRECTOR'S CHOICE. The program will be a visual and emotional feast, from the whimsical to the sensual.

Performances of DIRECTOR'S CHOICE are March 28th at 7:00 pm, March 29 at 7:30 pm, March 30th at 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm and March 31st at 1:00 pm at the Orpheum Theatre in downtown Phoenix. Tickets are on sale at ticketmaster.com or by calling 602-381-1096.

Alexei Ramantsky arrives with his Arizona premiere bringing a delightful menagerie of animals to life with *The Carnival of the Animals*, set to Camille Saint-Saens' beloved score, The zoomorphic dancers depict an array of creatures from lions, elephants and birds to the fascinating jellyfish in an aquarium.

The program also features the World Premiere work by Hubbard Street Dance Chicago Choreographer Alejandro Cerrudo. Cerrudo has caused a stir in the dance world, with his

innovative style and charming good looks. A native of Spain his work as a choreographer has earned him Dance Magazine's one of the top 25 "To Watch". His World Premiere is created specifically for Ballet Arizona and its company of dancers.



DIRECTOR'S CHOICE concludes with Ib Andersen's sophisticated and stylish *Diversions*, set to Benjamin Britten's *Diversions for Piano and Orchestra Op. 21*. *Diversions* received great acclaim when it made its premiere at the Kennedy Center in 2011. *Diversions* features the stunning hand-painted costumes of Fabio Toblini, Toblini painted the exotic designs directly on the bodies of the dancers while they were draped in the flesh colored fabrics. Through this technique, he was able to outline every dancer's unique shape, every vertebrae bone and nuance, creating a "tattoo effect."

WHAT: Ballet Arizona presents "DIRECTOR'S CHOICE" at Orpheum Theatre, 203 W Adams St Phoenix, AZ 85003

WHEN: February 14 – 17, 2013

Thursday, March 28th, 7:00 pm

Friday, March 29th, 7:30 pm

Saturday, March 30th, 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm

Sunday, March 31st, 1:00 pm

TICKETS: Start at \$26 and are on sale by calling 602.381.1096, visiting balletaz.org and through Ticketmaster. Tickets are also available at Ballet Arizona Box Office at 3645 East Indian School Road Phoenix, AZ 85018 (Monday – Friday 9am – 5:30pm)

ABOUT BALLEAZON:

Ballet Arizona, in its 33rd season, is dedicated to preserving and celebrating classical dance while creating new and innovative works. Under the artistic direction of internationally acclaimed choreographer Ib Andersen—a former Principal Dancer with The New York City Ballet and The Royal Danish Ballet—Ballet Arizona follows his lead to the future of dance in Arizona. The School of Ballet Arizona, under the direction of Carlos Valcárcel, promotes access to the art form of ballet through dance education, with a focus on excellence in the form, directing each student to a life-long love of dance. Following this vision, Ballet Arizona connects to more than 25,000 children and families every year through its free and low cost outreach programs.

###

Ballet Arizona 3645 East Indian School Rd. Phoenix, AZ 85018 (602)343-651 balletaz.org