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Ballet Arizona Presents Breathtaking Original “Eroica”
Cherished Outdoor Performances Return to Desert Botanical Garden in May

PHOENIX – Expect the unexpected as [Ballet Arizona](#) takes its performances outdoors at “An Evening at [Desert Botanical Garden](#).” Back by popular demand, Ballet Arizona will present Artistic Director Emeritus Ib Andersen’s “Eroica” for 14 performances from May 14-31. All performances begin at 8 p.m.

Surrounded by the magnificent desert landscape with the setting sun as its backdrop, An Evening at Desert Botanical Garden draws sellout crowds with a ballet that takes chances and challenges emotional boundaries in the magnificent setting of Desert Botanical Garden. “Eroica” is choreographed to Beethoven’s “Third Symphony,” which ushered in a new era of music and changed perspectives with its technical and emotional complexity. This ballet challenges conventional expectations and reawakens the human spirit.

“The beauty of Arizona’s desert comes to life within Ballet Arizona’s annual Evening at Desert Botanical Garden,” said Daniela Cardim, Ballet Arizona’s artistic director. “‘Eroica’ invites audiences to experience a journey of emotional complexity and boundless possibility that will stir the soul.”

“Eroica” first premiered in May 2018 at Ballet Arizona’s An Evening at Desert Botanical Garden. Due to the incredible outpour of love and support for this production from audiences, Ballet Arizona brought back this performance again the following year. Audiences described “Eroica” as one of Andersen’s greatest works.

Patrons are encouraged to purchase tickets well in advance, as performances frequently sell out. Options include upgraded table seating and stadium-style general admission seats. Patrons can enhance their experience by arriving early to witness the behind-the-scenes magic as Ballet Arizona’s professional company dancers warm up on stage as the sun sets, as well as enjoy a meal and cocktails or wine available for purchase at the venue before the performance. Attendees can also take a stroll through the Garden prior to the performance, as admission to “Eroica” grants you access to the beautiful Desert Botanical Garden.

The Ballet Arizona performance series at Desert Botanical Garden is made possible by support from F. Francis and Dionne Najafi of Pivotal Foundation, Twiford Family Foundation, National Bank of Arizona, and the Desert Botanical Garden

Tickets for “Eroica” start at \$60 and are available at [balletaz.org](#) or by calling 602.381.1096.

Ballet Arizona

Since 1986, Ballet Arizona has been dedicated to preserving and celebrating classical dance while creating new and innovative works. Under the new artistic direction of internationally acclaimed choreographer Daniela Cardim - a

former soloist with the Ballet of Municipal Theatre of Rio de Janeiro and Dutch National Ballet - Ballet Arizona is excited to follow her lead to the future of dance in Arizona. During its 38th season, the Valley's professional ballet company will present *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker*, the U.S. premiere of *Frida*, *Spring Mix*, *All Balanchine* and *Eroica*. The School of Ballet Arizona, under the direction of Maria Simonetti, 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 22,000 children and families every year through its free and low-cost outreach programs. For more information, visit balletaz.org.

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