

Arts San Antonio announces 2015-'16 season

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"Don Quixote," Sahrdaya Foundation. Sept. 13 at the Charline McCombs Empire Theatre. Photo: Courtesy Photo

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"Adios!", Buena Vista Social Club Orchestra. Oct. 17 at Laurie Auditorium, Trinity University.

"Carmen.Maquia," Ballet Hispanico. Oct. 22 at the Lila Cockrell Theatre.

"ZooZoo," Imago Theater. Nov. 8 at the Aztec Theatre.

Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker," Mejia Ballet International and San Antonio Metropolitan Ballet. Dec. 18 at the Lila Cockrell Theatre.

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Arts San Antonio's 2015-'16 season holds a performance by the Buena Vista Social Club Orchestra as part of its "Adios!" tour; a multimedia dance piece from a pair of French dancers titled "Mr. and Mrs. Dream"; and the return of Hal Holbrook's acclaimed solo show "Mark Twain Tonight!"

Season subscriptions go on sale at 10 a.m. Wednesday at artssa.org.

The season has "been simmering for a long time, then, like a pudding, suddenly, it's ready," said John Toohey, president and executive director of the organization.

The season holds:

"Don Quixote," Sept. 13, Charline McCombs Empire Theatre: The dance theater piece was produced by the Sahrdaya Foundation of Chennai, India, which is one of San Antonio's sister cities. Arts San Antonio is teaming with the Anuja San Antonio, which promotes ties between the cities, for the performance.

National Acrobats and Circus of China, Oct. 6, Majestic Theatre: Arts San Antonio presented the Peking Acrobats last month, and it went over well, so similar programs will be a staple of upcoming seasons, Toohey said.

"This is truly an art form and it's really fun," he said.

Buena Vista Social Club Orchestra, Oct. 17, Laurie Auditorium, Trinity University: The legendary Cuban group is hitting the road one last time for its aptly titled "Adios!" tour.

"Carmen.Maquia," Oct. 22, Lila Cockrell Theatre: New York-based Ballet Hispanico's piece "probes the psychological struggle that the key characters have," Toohey said.

“ZooZoo,” Nov. 8, Aztec Theatre: The piece marks the return of Portland’s Imago Theatre, which brought its show “Frogz!” here last year. The group specializes in pantomimed works.

“The Nutcracker,” Dec. 18-20, Lila Cockrell Theatre: Fort Worth-based Mejia Ballet International will make its sixth appearance here with the holiday ballet.

Yamato Drummers, Feb. 9, Majestic Theatre: Toohey described the Japanese percussion troupe’s work as “drumming on steroids.”

“Fiesta Mexicana!,” Feb. 12, Majestic Theatre: The ballet folklorico show brings together Los Lobos and the Los Angeles-based Ballet Folklórico Mexicano.

Band of the Royal Marines and Highland Pipes and Dancers, Feb. 17, Lila Cockrell Theatre: Military ensembles from the U.K. have done well with Arts San Antonio patrons in the past, Toohey said. This group hails from Scotland.

“Mr. and Mrs. Dream,” March 22, Aztec Theatre: Paris-based dancers Marie-Claude Pietragalla and Julien Derouault collaborated with tech company Dassault Systemes on this multimedia work. The stage is framed by three screens, and the dancers interact with projections that alter the reality of the scene.

“Mark Twain Tonight!,” March 24, Laurie Auditorium: Holbrook returns with his acclaimed solo show.

“Pedal Punk,” April 1, Majestic Theatre: Los Angeles-based Cirque Mechanics will present this acrobatic show featuring a variety of pedal-powered conveyances.

“Memories of Rio,” April 14, Charline McCombs Empire Theatre: Classical guitarists Sergio and Odair Assad are touring with Sergio Assad’s daughter, vocalist Clarice Assad, with a program of Brazilian music.

There is a possibility that a few more performances will be added to the season, Toohey said. And there also is a possibility that some of those shows will take place at the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts. So far, available dates for the building and the artists haven't aligned.

Subscription packages include the Whole Enchilada, which covers all 13 shows; the Grande Package, which covers nine of them, with the option of adding others; and three "You Pick" packages, in which the savings increase depending on the size of the subscription.

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