Theatre Ballet

In choreographed artistry, Brigham Young University Theatre Ballet delicately balances marvelous grace with exuberant energy and poised discipline. This harmony of motion makes for moving performances not easily forgotten. Shani Robison directs the company, which has toured extensively throughout the United States since 1985, receiving praise for impressive concerts, workshops, and lecture demonstrations. The dancers of Theatre Ballet come from diverse backgrounds, and all are pursuing undergraduate degrees at BYU, many in the fine arts.

Theatre Ballet originates in the Department of Dance of the College of Fine Arts and Communications at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

Brigham Young University

Intensive learning in a stimulating setting—nurturing the mind, body, and spirit—is central to the mission of Brigham Young University. Cradled between the Rocky Mountains and Utah Lake, BYU was founded in 1875 by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The approximately 30,000 full-time students who attend BYU come from all 50 states and more than 100 countries, with about 70 percent coming from outside Utah. All major races and religions are represented on campus. BYU’s faculty number around 1,600. The university offers about 180 bachelor’s degrees, more than 60 master’s degrees, and some 25 doctoral degrees, including a juris doctor.
Swan Lake
Par de Trois
Choreographer: Marius Petipa, Composer: Pyotr Tchaikovsky, Restaged by: Suzi Wood

On the afternoon of Prince Siegfried's 21st birthday, a party is given to celebrate his coming of age. As part of the festivities the prince and two lovely ladies dance this pas de trois.

Sleeping Beauty
Prologue, Fairies
Choreographer: Marius Petipa, Composer: Pyotr Tchaikovsky, Restaged by: Suzi Wood

In a magical fairy kingdom, a princess named Aurora is born to a wonderful king and queen. Lilac, the kingdom's fairy of protection, and all of her attendants are invited to celebrate Princess Aurora's birth. Through dancing, each fairy presents a unique gift to the newborn princess in honor of the occasion.

Cinderella
Act I
Choreographer: Shani Robison, Composer: Sergei Prokofiev

In the early morning hours, Cinderella is busy doing the chores required of her by her demanding stepmother and two stepsisters. Her stepsisters enter the kitchen ecstatic as they wave around an invitation to the ball in honor of the king’s son. The sisters tease Cinderella, dancing, trying to remember the steps their dancing master taught them, but it's hopeless as they stumble and fall awkwardly—an impossible feat to teach such clumsy girls the fine art of dancing. The stepsisters mockingly wave to Cinderella as they depart for the ball, and Cinderella is left alone.

Intermission

Raymonda
Act III, Divertissements
Choreographer: Marius Petipa, Composer: Alexander Glazunov, Restaged by: Suzi Wood

Long ago in the faraway country of Hungary, there lived a beautiful young maiden named Raymonda. She had two boyfriends. The one to whom she was engaged, Jean de Brienne, was away fighting in the Crusades, and his brother was the king of Hungary. Her other boyfriend, Abderman, brought her many valuable gifts. The conflict to choose which one she loved the most caused her much concern. When it was time for Jean to return from the war and for them to be married, Abderman came with many friends to entertain her and to make her happy. Abderman then tried to kidnap Raymonda so that she would be his forever. Jean returned just in time and fought Abderman to save his beloved Raymonda. After he won the battle, Jean and Raymonda were married. A big feast and celebration was held in their honor. The wedding guests danced in a Hungarian style to celebrate this important day.

Snow White and Prince Pas de Deux
Choreographer: Shani Robison, Composer: Silvio Amato

After being tricked by the evil queen disguised as a peddler woman, Princess Snow White takes a bite of the poisoned apple and falls lifeless to the ground. Returning from work, the seven dwarves find Snow White and sadly lay her to rest in the woods near their home.

Upon entering the woods, a handsome prince finds the princess and is awed by her beauty. He kisses the fair Snow White, she awakens, and the couple fall in love. In this excerpt the happy couple celebrate their newfound love and future life together.

Sleeping Beauty
Act III, Wedding Divertissements
Choreographer: Marius Petipa, Composer: Pyotr Tchaikovsky, Restaged by: Suzi Wood

After one hundred years under the lilac fairy's protective spell of deep sleep, young Prince Florimund awaken the beautiful Princess Aurora with a kiss. The curse of the evil Carabosse is lifted and they declare their love for each other.

Their wedding is attended by various fairy-tale characters who dance their congratulations to the joyous couple. The wedding celebration culminates in a grand duet by Florimund and Aurora.