

The Australian Ballet Regional Tour hits the road, taking the romantic and ghostly production of *Giselle* to regional Victoria and New South Wales in 2016



Artists of The Australian Ballet in *Giselle*. Photo by Jeff Busby

Hearts will melt across regional Victoria and New South Wales when **The Australian Ballet Regional Tour** presents the quintessential classical ballet, *Giselle*. With the support of Principal Partner Telstra, The Australian Ballet Regional Tour is pleased to announce it will perform in six Victorian venues from **1-23 July 2016**, and five New South Wales venues from **4-20 October 2016**.

Giselle has enthralled audiences since its creation in 1841, with its heartbreaking love story, famous mad scene, sea of ghostly white tutus and impressive display of ballet technique. The lead role has made the career of many dancers, and will be played, along with the role of Prince Albrecht, by artists of The Australian Ballet.

Since 1982 The Australian Ballet Regional Tour, formally known as The Dancers Company, brings the magical experience of ballet to communities around the country. The tour showcases the artistry and technical skills of The Australian Ballet School, alongside artists from The Australian Ballet.

Telstra's Chief Financial Officer Warwick Bray said the company's 32-year partnership with The Australian Ballet aims to connect more Australians with the joys of ballet.

"Telstra is incredibly proud to be supporting The Australian Ballet's regional touring arm which provides more opportunities for Australians in regional centres to experience live, world-class ballet right on their doorstep."

The Australian Ballet's Executive Director Libby Christie said, "From our earliest years The Australian Ballet has been committed to regional touring and we're thrilled to be taking this new production of *Giselle* to the regions in 2016."

"It has been wonderful for the Company to bring these productions from the main stage to the regions and to receive such warm responses from audiences all over Australia. We look forward to bringing more of our performers and productions to regional Australia in the future."

About *Giselle*

Giselle follows the story of a village girl who falls in love with a man who is not all he seems. When she discovers his deception, she dies of a broken heart. Transformed into a spirit, she is reunited with her lover in a forest haunted by the ghosts of jilted women, and must dance with him until dawn to save his life.

What the critics had to say:

"A marvel of precision and ethereal beauty.... *Giselle* is really the perfect ballet" **Sunday Herald Sun**

"Phenomenal dramatic impact" **The New York Times**

For all media enquiries, including interviews and images, please contact:

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PERFORMANCE DETAILS

VICTORIA

Geelong, Geelong Performing Arts Centre
Friday 1 July 7:30pm
Saturday 2 July 1.30pm

Bendigo, Ulumbarra Theatre
Friday 8 July 7:30pm
Saturday 9 July 1.30pm & 7:30pm

South Morang, Plenty Ranges PA&C Centre
Tuesday 12 July 7:30pm
Wednesday 13 July 7:30pm

Frankston, Frankston Arts Centre
Friday 15 July 7:30pm
Saturday 16 July 1:30pm & 7.30pm

Warrnambool, Lighthouse Theatre
Tuesday 19 July 7:30pm
Wednesday 20 July 7:30pm

Mildura, Mildura Arts Centre
Saturday 23 July 1:30pm & 7:30pm

NEW SOUTH WALES

Chatswood, Concourse Theatre
Tuesday 4 October 7:30pm
Wednesday 5 October 1:30pm

Orange, Civic Theatre
Friday 7 October 7.30pm
Saturday 8 October 1:30pm & 7.30pm

Griffith, Griffith Regional Theatre
Tuesday 11 October 7:30pm
Wednesday 12 October 7:30pm

Wagga Wagga, Civic Theatre
Friday 14 October 7:30pm
Saturday 15 October 1:30pm & 7:30pm

Newcastle, Civic Theatre
Tuesday 18 October 7:30pm
Wednesday 19 October 7:30pm

STEP INSIDE the Ballet

The Australian Ballet's much-loved Step Inside program gives a rare look behind the curtain.

In **Dancers' Class on Stage**, audiences can watch the company as they are guided through their daily class by a member of the artistic staff. It's a chance to get an insight into the working life of a touring dancer, and is followed by a Q&A session with dancers and staff.

Newcastle, Civic Theatre
Wednesday 19 October 11:30am – 12:30pm
\$15 or \$9 for groups of 10+

Open classes give dance students the chance to participate in a class on stage with a member of the artistic staff, with live piano accompaniment.

Warrnambool, Lighthouse Theatre
Tuesday 19 July 4:30pm – 5:45pm
\$27

Griffith, Griffith Regional Theatre
Tuesday 11 October 4:30pm – 5:45pm
\$27

Wagga Wagga, Civic Theatre
Friday 14 October 4:30pm – 5:45pm
\$27

Newcastle, Civic Theatre
Tuesday 18 October 4:30pm – 5:45pm
\$27

Please note: The Victoria tour will go on sale to the general public on Thursday 12 May. The New South Wales tour will go on sale in September.

This year Telstra wants to help ballet audiences across Australia to be even closer to the beauty of ballet, with 'First Position', an online guide to Giselle, which you can view here: www.telstra.com/ballet

For further information on The Australian Ballet Regional Tour and Step Inside events, visit

australianballet.com.au
australianballet.com.au/step-inside

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