

DANCE St. NEWS

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DANCE ST. LOUIS ANNOUNCES 2010-11 SEASON

ST. LOUIS, March 26, 2010.....Dance St. Louis will open its 45th season of bringing great dance of the world to St. Louis in October with one of America's premier ballet companies, Houston Ballet, and will close the following August with the 2009 Tony Award-winning Best Musical, *Billy Elliot the Musical*.

"Through the year we will journey to emotions only dance can bring, with each performance from a company admired all over the world," said Michael Uthoff, Dance St. Louis artistic & executive director.

Dance St. Louis' 2010-11 season opens October 8 and 9 at the Touhill Performing Arts Center when, as part of the first-ever American Arts Experience—St. Louis, **Houston Ballet** brings an intimate program of sweet and playful classical dances by George Balanchine, Houston Artistic Director Stanton Welch, and Houston Associate Choreographer Christopher Bruce. The holiday season kicks off at the Fox Theatre on December 2-5 with **The Joffrey Ballet in *Nutcracker at the Fox***, combining dancing of "exceptional fire and exuberance" (*Chicago Sun-Times*), Tchaikovsky's evergreen score played live by the Ballet Orchestra of St. Louis, luscious Victorian sets and costumes, and performances by young St. Louis-area singers and dancers.

Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet comes to St. Louis for the first time at the Touhill on January 28 and 29. In just seven years, this New York-based troupe of 16 international dancers has vaulted into the front ranks with its cutting-edge repertory from Europe's most daring choreographers. On March 11 and 12, the monumental **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** returns to the Fox on March 11 and 12 for a mixed program blending modern dance and African American spirit, climaxed by the celebration of 50 years of its signature masterwork, *Revelations*. On March 25-27, the Fox explodes with the ever-popular international percussion sensation **STOMP**, co-presented by the U.S. Bank Broadway Series. On April 8 and 9, the Touhill blossoms into phantasmagoric visions of Mother Nature with **MOMIX in *Botanica***. Creatures real and mythical materialize thanks to props, costumes, lighting, and the impossibly nimble dancer-illusionists.

On May 26, 27 and 28, Dance St. Louis and the Touhill co-present **SPRING TO DANCE® FESTIVAL 2011**, the fourth annual Memorial Day Weekend extravaganza of 30 dance companies from across the Midwest and beyond, for three completely different programs over three nights at only \$10 per night.

The season concludes on August 10-28 at the Fox Theatre with ***Billy Elliot the Musical***, co-presented with the U.S. Bank Broadway Series. Based on the smash hit movie about a coal miner's son who discovers a surprising passion for ballet, *Billy Elliot* is the winner of ten 2009 Tony Awards including Best Musical and Best Choreography for Peter Darling's dances, with music by Elton John.

Season ticket packages are currently on sale. For more information, call the Dance St. Louis box office at 314-534-6622 or visit dancestlouis.org. Single tickets for Houston Ballet, *Nutcracker at the Fox*, Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and MOMIX in *Botanica* go on sale September 7, Tuesday after Labor Day. *SPRING TO DANCE FESTIVAL 2011* goes on sale in Spring 2011. On-sale dates for single tickets to *STOMP* and *Billy Elliot the Musical* are TBA. – 30 –