1-16-1970

The Dayton Civic Ballet as Third Cameo Concert

Follow this and additional works at: https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls

Recommended Citation

https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls/3589
DAYTON, Ohio, January 16, 1970 --- The University Arts Series of the University of Dayton will present The Dayton Civic Ballet as the third Cameo Concert of the season, Tuesday, January 20, at 8:15 P.M. in the Kennedy Union Boll Theater.

Founded in 1937, the Dayton Ballet is the second oldest civic company in the United States and is nationally known for its performances throughout the United States and Canada. The company has danced for colleges, universities, festivals, artist series, and return engagements with major symphony orchestras, such as the Cleveland, Akron, Hamilton and Dayton. The repertoire of the Company offers a variety of classic, romantic and contemporary ballets. The New York Times said of them: "...stimulating, eye-opening and heart warming."

The Ottawa (Canada) Journal said: "...Greeted at the end of their performance by a thundering ovation, this American group, the Dayton Ballet, staged a performance which was nothing short of a masterpiece."

Jon Rodriguez, principal dancer and choreographer with the Dayton Ballet Company since 1964, began his study in Detroit and continued his training with Igor Schwezoff and Vitale Fokine in New York. He then studied abroad at the School of Royal Ballet and with Marie Rambert in London, Olga Preobrajenskya in Paris and Karen Marie Taft in Madrid.

In addition, he received training in character, Spanish, and modern dance both in the United States and Europe and studied acting at the Teatro Espanol and the Actors Workshop. He has performed professionally as solo dancer and actor with the Ballets de Espana, Madrid, the Detroit Ballet Theatre, and the Actors Workshop. He has also taught ballet and Spanish dance in Madrid, Detroit and Dayton.

Bess Saylor, a native Daytonian, is principal dancer, choreographer and assistant to the Artistic Director. She was trained in ballet and modern dance at the Schwarz School and danced with the Dayton Ballet Company during her high school years.

After graduation she studied in New York at Robert Joffrey's American Ballet Center and with Mary Anthony, and danced professionally with the latter's modern dance company. She then taught and performed in the San Francisco Bay Area while studying with various teachers from the Jose Limon Company.

In 1966 Miss Saylor returned to the Dayton Ballet Company. In addition to performing, she also maintains a heavy teaching schedule with the Schwarz School.