



For Immediate Release

CONTACT:

Erica Hobbs  
(313) 237-3403  
ehobbs@motopera.org

**Michigan Opera Theatre and University Musical Society Add American Ballet Theatre Performance, Announce Cast**

*ABT Stars Misty Copeland, Isabella Boylston, Daniil Simpkin Set to Perform*

**Nov. 1, 2017, Detroit** - Michigan Opera Theatre is adding a fifth performance of American Ballet Theatre's production of "[Romeo and Juliet](#)," presented at the Detroit Opera House in partnership with University Musical Society (UMS) in February. The company is adding a matinee Saturday, Feb. 10 at 2 p.m. in addition to evening performances Feb. 8-10 and a matinee Feb. 11.

"Metro Detroit loves American Ballet Theatre, and we are excited to announce an additional performance that will enable anyone who wants to see the production an additional opportunity to do so," said MOT CEO and President Wayne S. Brown. "We are proud of our strong relationship with this prestigious ballet company and are delighted to have them return to our historic Detroit Opera House."

ABT also announced the dancers slated to perform the lead roles, including ballet stars Misty Copeland, Isabella Boylston and Daniil Simpkin, among others. Copeland, Boylston, Hee Soo and Devon Teuscher will alternate the role of Juliet, with Copeland dancing in the first and last performances. Herman Cornejo, Cory Stearns, Alban Lendorf, David Hallberg and Marcelo Gomes will share the role of Romeo. Simpkin, Jeffrey Cirio, Arron Scott and Gabe Stone Shayer will alternate the role of Mercutio, with Cirio in the first and last performances.

MOT and UMS last presented ABT in 2016's production of "The Sleeping Beauty," resulting in five sold-out performances.

"Dance can express emotions in a way words cannot," said MOT Principal Conductor Stephen Lord. "'Romeo and Juliet' is a beautiful story, and we know audiences will be moved by all of these incredible dancers."

Principal casting slated for each of the performances includes:

**Thu., Feb. 8 at 7:30 PM**

Misty Copeland, *Juliet* ([bio](#))  
Herman Cornejo, *Romeo* ([bio](#))  
Jeffrey Cirio, *Mercutio* ([bio](#))

**Fri., Feb. 9 at 7:30 PM**

Hee Seo, *Juliet* ([bio](#))  
Cory Stearns, *Romeo* ([bio](#))  
Daniil Simkin, *Mercutio* ([bio](#))

**Sat., Feb. 10 at 2 PM**

Devon Teuscher, *Juliet* ([bio](#))  
Alban Lendorf, *Romeo* ([bio](#))  
Arron Scott, *Mercutio* ([bio](#))

**Sat., Feb. 10 at 7:30 PM**

Isabella Boylston, *Juliet* ([bio](#))  
David Hallberg, *Romeo* ([bio](#))  
Gabe Stone Shayer, *Mercutio* ([bio](#))

**Sun., Feb. 11 at 2:30 PM**

Misty Copeland, *Juliet* ([bio](#))  
Marcelo Gomes, *Romeo* ([bio](#))  
Jeffrey Cirio, *Mercutio* ([bio](#))

The 2017-18 dance season is made possible by the Lear Corporation.

**Purchase Tickets:** Tickets for the ballet are \$39-\$139.

[www.MichiganOpera.org](http://www.MichiganOpera.org)

(313) 237-7464

Detroit Opera House (1526 Broadway, Detroit)

[www.ums.org](http://www.ums.org)

(734) 764-2538

Michigan League Ticket Office (911 N University Ave, Ann Arbor)

For more information visit: <http://www.michiganopera.org/dance/romeo-juliet/> or  
<http://tickets.ums.org/single/eventDetail.aspx?p=3606>.

###

## About Michigan Opera Theatre

Michigan Opera Theatre (Wayne S. Brown, President and CEO; Stephen Lord, Principal Conductor, Dr. David DiChiera, Founder and Artistic Director Emeritus), one of the nation's most vibrant nonprofit arts organizations, is committed to presenting opera and dance of the highest artistic caliber. Founded in 1971, the company's mission is to serve as a major cultural resource to the state of Michigan and the city of Detroit. Visit the website at [www.michiganopera.org](http://www.michiganopera.org).

## About UMS

A recipient of the 2014 National Medal of Arts, UMS (also known as the University Musical Society) contributes to a vibrant cultural community by connecting audiences with performing artists from around the world in uncommon and engaging experiences. One of the oldest performing arts presenters in the country, UMS is an independent non-profit organization affiliated with the University of Michigan, presenting over 70 music, theater, and dance performances by professional touring artists each season, along with over 100 free educational activities. UMS is committed to bold artistic leadership, engaged learning through the arts, and access and inclusiveness. Since 1990, the organization has co-commissioned and supported the production of nearly 80 new or reimagined works.