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[Images Available Here](#)

[Videos Available Here](#)

JOFFREY BALLET
RETURNS TO CAL PERFORMANCES
WITH WEST COAST AND BAY AREA PREMIERES
MARCH 14 AND 15 IN ZELLERBACH HALL

Residency activities are planned on the UC Berkeley campus and in the community

BERKELEY, February 5, 2015—With a program of three acclaimed works new to Bay Area audiences, [Joffrey Ballet](#) returns to Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall on **Saturday, March 14 at 8:00 p.m.** and **Sunday, March 15 at 3:00 p.m.** Two West Coast premieres include local luminary Val Caniparoli's *Incantations* (2012), set to music by minimalist composer Alexandre Rabinovitch-Barakovsky and rising star choreographer Alexander Ekman's multimedia work, *Episode 31* (2011). The Bay Area premiere of Stanton Welch's *Son of Chamber Symphony* (2012) is set to composer John Adams's weighty score of the same name. Both Welch and Caniparoli's dances were created specifically for Joffrey Ballet, and Ekman has adapted the video component of his production to showcase company dancers.

Joffrey Ballet members will participate in residency activities on campus and in the community, including a pre-performance talk on Saturday, March 14 at 7:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall; this talk is free to event ticketholders.

The arc of Val Caniparoli's most recent work for the Joffrey, *Incantations*, is a long, meditative spiral, inspired by the slowly percolating minimalism of its musical score and Caniparoli's interest in contemplation and prayer. Stanton Welch's *Son of Chamber Symphony* meets John Adams's rhythmically restless score with a mix of classicism, virtuosity and exuberant theatricality. *Episode 31*, by Swedish choreographer Alexander Ekman, first premiered in New York and is an imaginative work of dance-theater that channels urban dance into the context of contemporary ballet, beginning with frenetic energy before simmering into an intimate duet.

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For more than half a century, Chicago's Joffrey Ballet has been celebrated for its definitive and influential brand of American ballet, bringing impeccable technique and a youthful, daring spirit to contemporary works and restaged classics. Founded by Robert Joffrey in 1956, and guided by choreographer Gerald Arpino from 1988 until 2007, Joffrey Ballet continues to thrive under its current Artistic Director Ashley Wheater. The company expresses its longstanding commitment to accessibility through a rigorous touring schedule, a robust education program including Joffrey Academy of Dance, and collaborations with myriad visual and performing arts organizations. Noted for its many "firsts," Joffrey Ballet was the first American ballet company to appear on television, as well as the first and only dance company to appear on the cover of *Time* magazine. The troupe was also the subject of Robert Altman's 2003 film, *The Company*.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Joffrey Ballet** on Saturday, March 14 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 15 at 3:00 pm. in Zellerbach Hall range from \$40.00 to \$96.00 and are subject to change. Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at www.calperformances.org, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to <http://calperformances.org/buy/discounts.php>.

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Cal Performances' 2014-2015 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Residency

Residency activities are planned on campus and in the community. For the most current information, go to www.calperformances.org.

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Saturday, March 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Pre-performance Talk

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Dana Street, Berkeley

A pre-performance talk with members of Joffrey Ballet, moderated by Cal Performances' Associate Director Rob Bailis, will be held in the venue. Talks are free to event ticketholders.

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Saturday, March 14 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 15 at 3:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Dana Street, Berkeley

Dance

Joffrey Ballet

Program:

Episode 31; music by Mikael Karlsson, Ane Brun, and Erik Satie; choreography by Alexander Ekman (West Coast premiere)

Incantations; music by Alexandrew Rabinovitch-Barakovsky; choreography by Val Caniparoli (West Coast premiere)

Son of Chamber Symphony; music by John Adams; choreography by Stanton Welch (Bay Area premiere)

Tickets: Prices range from \$40.00 to \$96.00 and are subject to change. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at calperformances.org, and at the door.

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