

Joffrey Ballet returns for six performances

The Joffrey Ballet will return to Ford Auditorium for six performances, including a world premiere ballet, with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Feb. 22-26.

The ballet company made its first Detroit appearance in many years two seasons ago as the guest of the symphony. The reception in Detroit was so stunning that plans for a return engagement were made immediately, resulting in last year's successful trio of performances.

This season, the Joffrey will offer the most spectacular series to date—ten ballets to be presented in six performances.

The opening night performance, Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 8:30 p.m., will feature Ashton's "Les Patineurs" (music by Meyerbeer), Limon's "The Moor's Pavane" (music by Purcell), St. Leon's "La Vivandiere Pas de Six" (music by Auber and a fourth ballet to be announced.

The second performance will be Thursday Feb. 23, at 8:30 p.m. It will include the world premiere of a new Margo Sappington Pas de Deux out of "Face Dancers" with music, by Michael Kayman.

In addition, the company will do Ashton's "Jazz Calendar" (music by

Richard Rodney Bennett) and two ballets by Gerald Arpino, "Kettenanz" (music by J. Strauss) and "Touch Me," a solo dance performed by Christian Holder to recorded music by the Rev. James Cleveland and the Charles Iold Singers.

For the third performance, Friday Feb. 24 at 8:30 p.m., the Joffrey Ballet will dance "Les Patineurs," "Jazz Calendar," "Touch Me," and a new Pas de Deux by Arpino, set to music by Adolph Adam.

The fourth performance will be Saturday, Feb. 25, at 2 p.m. and will feature a special young people's program danced to tapes. Details of this program will be announced later.

The fifth and sixth performances will be Saturday, Feb. 25, at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 26, at 3:30 p.m. The Joffrey Ballet will perform Prokofiev's full-length ballet "Romeo and Juliet," choreographed by Oscar Araiz.

Tickets for all 8:30 p.m. performances are available at \$7.50, \$5.50 and \$3.50.

Tickets for the special children's program and the "Romeo and Juliet" matinee are \$6.50, \$4.50 and \$2.50 with children 12 and under admitted for half price.



Dance in America

Karen Attix, Meg Harper, Robert Kovich and Julie Roess-Smith dance "Septet" when "Dance in America" presents Merce Cunningham and Dance Co. at 9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18, on Channel 56.

Elks 'free throw' contest scheduled

Farmington Lodge of B.P.O. Elks annual "hoop shoot" or "free throw" contest will begin at 6 p.m. tomorrow at North Farmington High School, 3200 W. Thirteen Mile.

The contest is open to all boys and girls 8-13 years old as of April 1, 1978 within the Farmington, Southfield and Walled Lake school districts.

The contest will be divided into three age brackets: 8 and 9 year olds, 10 and 11 year olds, and 12 and 13 year olds, with a boy and girl division within each age group. Six winners will be selected.

The winners of the Farmington con-

tests will compete in the Michigan Southeast District contest to be held Jan. 14 in Ann Arbor. Subsequent winners will progress to state, regional and national contests. National winners will be listed in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass.

This contest is similar in concept to the National Punt, Pass and Kick contest with one exception—the basketball competition includes girls.

In five years of competition, more than 3 million youngsters have participated, and a 10 per cent increase is expected this year.



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