

CINCINNATI *Ballet*

VICTORIA MORGAN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
CARMON DELEONE, MUSIC DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(please include in all calendar listings)
[6/01/06]

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CINCINNATI BALLET DANCERS VIE FOR CASH AND RENOWN AT JACKSON COMPETITION

(Cincinnati, OH) – Four Cincinnati Ballet dancers will compete in the USA International Ballet Competition in Jackson, Mississippi, June 17 – July 2, 2006.

Principal dancers Adiaris Almeida, Cervilio Amador, and Janessa Touchet, and Senior Soloist Joseph Gatti will present classical and contemporary choreography during two weeks of intense elimination rounds, in a thrilling “Olympic style” competition.

They will vie for the Grand Prix City of Jackson, a \$10,000 award, and for individual gold medals and cash awards in the Senior Division.

Cincinnati audiences can get a taste of this thrilling competition on June 10. From 5 – 6 pm, Almeida and Gatti, and Touchet and Amador (who perform as couples) will present the pieces they are taking to the competition at Cincinnati Ballet’s Mickey Jarson Kaplan Performance Studio, 1555 Central Parkway (for more information call 513-621-5219).

The dancers will also host a reception with refreshments. The performance is free, but any donation to help the dancers attend the competition will be accepted.

COMPETITION AT CENTER OF BALLET WORLD

Designated by Congress as the official USA competition, the 2006 USA IBC, or Jackson Competition, as it is familiarly known, will host 121 competitors from 27 countries.

“The Jackson Competition is one of the top three competitions in the world,” says Touchet. “Everybody knows about it. You are competing with dancers from all over the world, and if you win, your name will be known all over the world!”

“It is one of the most revered competitions,” says Cincinnati Ballet Artistic Director Victoria Morgan. “It happens only once every four years. It has helped launch the careers of dancers like José Carreno, Sarah Lamb, Vladimir Malakhov, Agnes Oakes and Irena Dvorovenko.

“The dancers decided they wanted to do it themselves. They are raising the money, nearly \$7,000, themselves.

“If you are accepted into the program (and there is a rigorous audition process) they pay for your hotel and food. As a competing dancer, you have to get yourself there, and pay for choreographers, ballet masters, choreography, costumes, rights to music and coaches.”

At the competition and in the Cincinnati showing, Touchet and Amador, performing as a couple, will dance the Grand Pas de deux from *Don Quixote*, and the Pas de Deux from *Le Corsaire* as their required classical selections. In the contemporary category, they will perform *Duet* and *Remix 03*, by Viktor Kabanov, who will also function as their coach.

Adiarys and Gatti, also performing as a couple, will present the Pas de deux from *Le Corsaire*, and additionally, the Grand Pas de deux, Act III (Black Swan) from *Swan Lake*. Their contemporary selections are the Pas de deux from Val Caniparoli’s *Lambarena*, and *Nothing*, by Jamal Story. Their coach is Orlando Molina.

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MEDIA NOTE: For more information, digital images, or to set up an interview, please contact Patrick Jones at 513-562-1127 or at pjones@cincinnatiaballet.com.

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