

# NEWS

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*Educating, Elevating, and Enriching  
St. Louis for over 20 Years!*

For Immediate Release

## **Alexandra Ballet** *presents* **A Midsummer Night's Dream** & **Paquita**

**Saturday, March 18, 2006, 7:30 pm & Sunday, March 19, 2006, 2:00 pm**

**BLANCHE M. TOUHILL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

**University of Missouri-St. Louis**

**8001 Natural Bridge Road**

**St. Louis, MO 63121**

**314-516-4949 Touhill Box Office**

### **Paquita—bullet “pointes”**

- ♥ **Paquita has a rich mixed heritage.** Known as the epitome of the French style which was exported to Russia in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, this ballet nonetheless contains a decidedly Spanish flavor. Originally choreographed by Mazilier, the ballet was revised in 1848, with a grand pas added by Marius Petipa, and additional music by Minkus. Zhanna Dubrovskaya, artistic director of Salt Creek Ballet of Chicago, has restaged this majestic classic for Alexandra Ballet.
- ♥ **Paquita** is the story of a “Gypsy” girl (Paquita) who falls in love with Lucien, son of a French general, but their different stations in life make the romance impossible. Subsequently, Paquita discovers that she is actually of noble birth, and she and Lucien are happily united.
- ♥ **Alexandra Ballet’s** CiCi Houston has restaged the Polonaise from **Paquita** for this production, a portion of the original ballet rarely seen in America today. Performed by the younger dancers of the Company, this piece shines with nobility and grace, and is a taste of what is to come in the future from this talented group.
- ♥ **AB’s Aggie Schmank, and Anthony Krutzkamp,** Principal Dancer with Cincinnati Ballet, portray Paquita and Lucien in this powerful and exciting production. Krutzkamp, who trained at The Virginia School of the Arts, is known for his bravura technique and exciting jumps. Aggie Schmank, a junior in high school at St. Joseph’s Academy, has studied with Alexandra Ballet artistic director Alexandra Zaharias since she was 11 years old.
- ♥ **Costumes for Paquita** were designed for Alexandra Ballet by Judith Bonnot, award-winning British designer and seamstress. The result is a ballet that shines with the vibrant jewel tones of royalty, with shades of amethyst and magenta serving to magnify the majesty of the ballet.

**CALL THE TOUHILL BOX OFFICE AT 314-516-4949 FOR TICKETS TODAY!**  
**\$5.00 SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT**

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