

FORMER ROYAL BALLET PRINCIPAL VIVIANA DURANTE MAKES A SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCE IN

BALLETBOYZ GREATEST HITS AT SOUTHBANK CENTRE

**Tuesday 4 and Wednesday 5 November 2008
Queen Elizabeth Hall, 7.45pm**

Ballet Boyz **Michael Nunn** and **William Trevitt** return to Southbank Centre bringing some of their favourite works and guest artists, including the widely acclaimed former Royal Ballet principal, **Viviana Durante** and long-term collaborator **Oxana Panchencko**. Four young male dancers from Folkestone, Kent who, after recently being scouted by the Ballet Boyz at this year's National Youth Dance Festival will make their debut contribution to this two-night programme of award-winning dance.

Instantly recognisable with their trademark humour and innovative use of film – this show sees a revival of some of the Ballet Boyz most treasured pieces; works that have won critical acclaim or resonated with audiences, or even pieces that they feel they're just not done with yet. Linked with specially filmed footage of the rehearsal process and irreverent observations from the boys themselves, the show is an overview of the duo's exploits to date.

Included in the Greatest Hits show are three works from the hugely successful Ballet Boyz Gala event at the reopening of Royal Festival Hall in 2007 – *On Before*, *Yumba vs. Nonino* and *Edox*.

On Before, choreographed by William Tuckett will be performed by former Royal Ballet principal, Viviana Durante with William Trevitt to a score by John Adams.

Yumba vs. Nonino created by the BBC's *Strictly Come Dancing's*, Craig Revel Horwood, Nunn and Trevitt dance an Argentine tango-inspired duet. This is a seductive and tongue-in-cheek dance for two men.

EdOx is an arresting and highly physical duet choreographed by Rafael Bonachela, renowned for his work with Kylie Minogue as well as his own award winning company. Originally known as *AmOx*, here it features a brand new score by Ezio Bosso, created during the rehearsal period and danced by Tim Morris and Oxana Panchencko.

Laws of Motion, choreographed by Kai Downham, when he was just 15 years old is a unique opportunity to see some top emerging dance talent. Performed by Kai, Joseph Darby, Zack Dennis and Matthew Rees the group have recently been taken under the expert wing of the Ballet Boyz and will be mentored by Michael and William for the foreseeable future.

Broken Fall is a moving and sublimely crafted trio for two men and a woman; it is a master class in contemporary dance. Choreographed by Russell Maliphant and first shown at The Royal Opera House in 2003, it went on to win the Olivier Award in 2004 and toured the world to sell out houses with critical acclaim.

Propeller first featured in the company's repertoire back in 2006 as part of *Encore*.

An intimate duet for a man and woman, its subtle movements and languid style are evocative of a dreamlike encounter. Set to Vivaldi's haunting concerto in b sharp for violin and double orchestra, as well as music from acclaimed film composer Ezio Bosso, Liv Lorent's delicately crafted ballet is mesmerising to watch.

For further information and press images please contact:

Jenny Brown on 020 7921 0926, email Jenny.brown@southbankcentre.co.uk

Bookings: Tickets: £25 £20 £15 0871 663 2500

www.southbankcentre.co.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS:

SOUTHBANK CENTRE is the UK's largest arts centre, occupying a 21-acre site that sits in the midst of London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 *Festival of Britain*. Southbank Centre is home to the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and The Hayward as well as The Saison Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection. The Royal Festival Hall reopened in June 2007 following the major refurbishment of the Hall and redevelopment of the surrounding area and facilities.