



Marion Scrymgour
MINISTER FOR ARTS AND MUSEUMS

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PAS DE DEUX FOR DARWIN: AUSTRALIAN BALLET AND DARWIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA IN FREE PERFORMANCE OF *GISELLE*

The full company of the Australian Ballet will perform in Darwin for the first time in nearly 25 years at Telstra Ballet at the Gardens, Arts Minister Marion Scrymgour announced today.

“To see the Australian Ballet giving a free performance of one of the world’s best loved ballets—*Giselle*—will be wonderful,” said Ms Scrymgour.

“And to see *Giselle* under the Dry Season stars at the Amphitheatre will be an experienced unmatched anywhere else in Australia.

“The fact that the internationally renowned Australian Ballet will be backed by the local Darwin Symphony Orchestra will be an even greater thrill.

“I vividly remember as a young Aboriginal kid being taken to see the ballet at the Sydney Opera House and being totally entranced and captivated.

“This is a chance for thousands of Territorians to share that same wonder and excitement.”

The Northern Territory Government will be contributing \$45,000 to stage *Telstra Ballet in the Gardens* to be held at Gardens Amphitheatre at 7pm on Wednesday 19 July. Assistance will also be given by the Darwin City Council which is providing cash and in-kind support; the Federal Government through Playing Australia and the Darwin Symphony Orchestra.

“*Giselle* is recognised as the world’s first fully conceived ballet production, and was first performed in Paris on 28 June 1841,” said Ms Scrymgour.

“It’s a long way from Paris, but it’s nice to think we can celebrate its 165th anniversary in Darwin.”

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