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QueenslandBallet

Media Release

27 January, 2016

Cuban star returns to join Queensland Ballet



Queensland Ballet has lured one of Cuba's rising ballet stars to Australia to join its Company ranks for the 2016 season.

Victor Estévez, who visited Brisbane as a guest star for Queensland Ballet's 2015 season of *The Sleeping Beauty*, will join the Company next week as a Principal Dancer.

"We're so pleased to welcome Victor to our Company and I'm sure audiences will greet this news with enthusiasm also," said Mr Li.

"I already knew that Victor would impress audiences when he danced in our production of Greg Horsman's *The Sleeping Beauty*, but he certainly exceeded our expectations.

"Not only is his dancing strong and engaging, he also partners beautifully as he demonstrated when dancing the role of Prince to our wonderful Laura Hidalgo as Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty*."

"I first saw Victor dance two years ago at Ballet Nacional de Cuba when we recruited our current Principal Yanela Pinera and Soloist Camilo Ramos. Victor certainly stood out due to his great charisma, his dynamic musicality and strong technique.

"He definitely has the X factor as a dancer and is one of the premier dancers in Cuba. Our Company and our audiences will benefit greatly in having Victor as a part of the QB family."

Victor has performed widely throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia, and he added Australia to this list when performing with Queensland Ballet as a guest in 2015.

His repertoire is quite diverse encompassing both romantic-classical soloist roles as well as extensive contemporary work. Victor's career highlights included *The Nutcracker*, *Giselle*, *Don Quixote*, *Pacquita*, Balanchine's *Chaikovsky pas de deux* and Eduardo Blanco's *Tiempo de danzón* and *Accents*.

Victor joins Queensland Ballet at an exciting time as the Company of 46 dancers, including Young Artists and Character Artists, looks to grow and expand its national and international reputation.

2015 was an impressive year for Queensland Ballet with sold out seasons, a successful London tour and the announcement of a significant increase in government funding and philanthropic support which will enable the Company's bold vision for growth including increasing its full time dancer numbers by eight by 2020.

Victor's first performance with Queensland Ballet will be in the Company's season of Liam Scarlett's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* opening on 1 April at QPAC.



Media inquiries:

Kendall Battley

Queensland Ballet Publicity Manager

Ph: 0401 739 159

Email: kbattley@queenslandballet.com.au



Behind the scenes at QB

If you're just getting to know QB, our fan pages on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Pinterest](#) and [Instagram](#) are a great way to keep up-to-date with what the Company is doing, both behind the scenes and on the stage.

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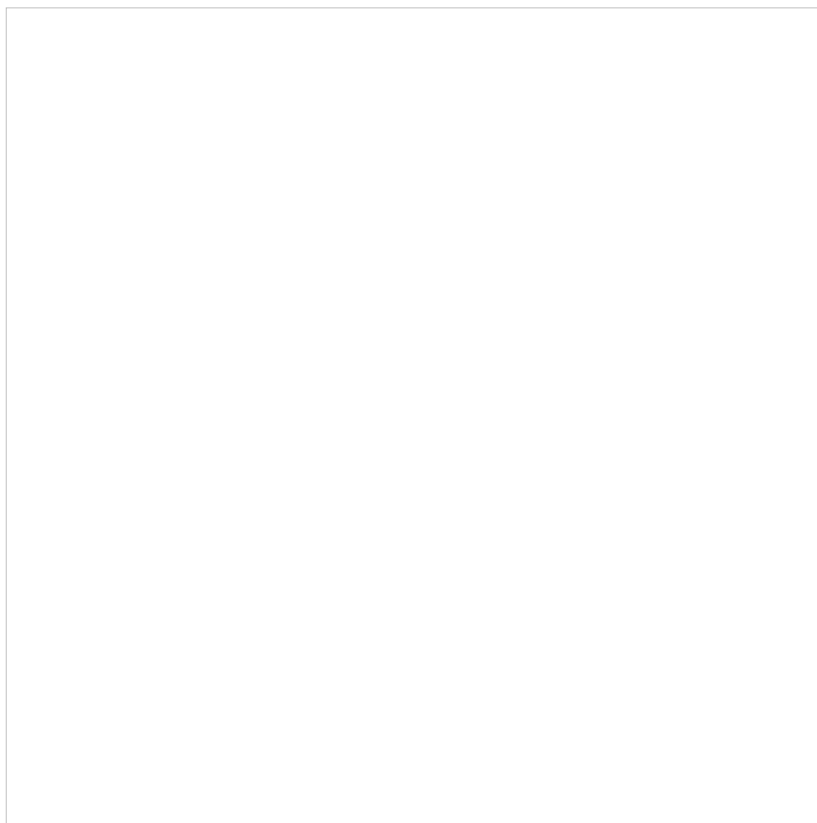
mail@queenslandballet.com.au | queenslandballet.com.au

Photography**

Victor Estévez - Photo courtesy Ballet Nacional de Cuba

Queensland Ballet Principal Laura Hidalgo rehearsing with Victor Estévez as a guest artist in *The Sleeping Beauty*.

Photo Christian Tiger



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