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IN GOOD COMPANY

Generously Underwritten by Leticia Loya

HOUSTON BALLET MOVES TO A DIFFERENT BEAT FOR “IN GOOD COMPANY”

WHO: Houston Ballet

WHAT: *In Good Company*

WHERE: Free on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#)

WHEN: New videos weekly, starting March 10

HOUSTON, TEXAS [March 10, 2021] — As a continuation of its commitment to creativity while away from the stage, Houston Ballet presents eight weeks of new dance film releases for free on its social media channels. *In Good Company*, set to music by The Dead South and generously underwritten by Leticia Loya, premieres March 10 and promises at least one new video per week through the end of April.

“For us, this time has really become about connection.” says Stanton Welch AM, Houston Ballet Artistic Director. “Everything we are offering stems from our desire to connect with our Houston Ballet family and community.”

That connection is infused into Welch’s vision for *In Good Company*. The corroboree-inspired pieces are meant to feel as familiar and lively as a family gathering. The audience will be pulled into the journey through the filming techniques, choreography and varying emotional stories.

“I’ve spent a lot of this pandemic trying to learn about dance on film,” says Welch. “I really focused on how the technical and directorial aspects relate to the dancers. Hopefully you will see it in this work, giving you the feeling of a pas de deux between each dancer and the camera.”

The new work consists of 11 songs by [The Death South](#), courtesy of Six Shooter Records. The tracks include “Achilles,” “Ballad for Janoski,” “Banjo Odyssey,” “Down That Road,” “Honey You,” “In Hell I’ll Be In Good Company,” “Long Gone,” “Manly Way,” “That Bastard Son,” “The Dead South” and “The Recap” from the album “Good Company.” Native of Saskatchewan, The Dead South is an acoustic quartet comprised of the gnarled baritone of Nate Hilts, Scott Pringle on mandolin, whistling cellist Danny Kenyon and virtuosic banjo player Colton Crawford. The gritty folk sounds of this fourpiece are quickly gaining popularity, and their single “In Hell I’ll Be In Good Company” appears on the second season of Netflix’s *The Umbrella Academy*.

“Through *In Good Company*, we continue to expand our community by trying to reach more people with this exceptional music,” says Welch. “We hope ballet lovers will enjoy exploring the band’s music with us and The Dead South’s fans might find something new in ballet as well. The band has been so wonderful to work with and so supportive of us creating with their music. We hope there will ultimately be more opportunities to collaborate when we return to performing onstage.”

Houston Ballet continues to work with Houston Methodist to ensure safe practices when creating its projects, including throughout filming *In Good Company*. A micro-sized film crew minimized risk of exposure to staff and dancers. Each dancer was filmed one at a time with only Welch, Lisa J. Pinkham, lighting design, David Rivera, Associate Director of Audio/Visual Services, Nicole Foreman, Audio/Visual Associate, and one Ballet Master. In addition to masked staff and shield barriers throughout the space, the Margaret Alkek Williams Dance Lab at the Houston Ballet Center was fully disinfected, and the air underwent a purification process between dancers.

Follow Houston Ballet's social media accounts for the most up-to-date information on new releases of *In Good Company* and the nonprofits commitment to creativity: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

ABOUT HOUSTON BALLET

With more than 50 years of rich history, Houston Ballet has evolved into a 61-dancer Company with a budget of \$33.9 million and an endowment of \$79.2 million (as of June 2019), making it the country's fifth largest ballet company. Its Center for Dance is a \$46.6 million state-of-the-art performance space that opened in April 2011 and remains the largest professional dance facility in America. Houston Ballet's reach is global, touring in renowned theaters in Dubai, London, Paris, Moscow, Spain, Montréal, Ottawa, Melbourne, New York City, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles and more.

Houston Ballet attracts prestigious leaders in dance. Australian choreographer Stanton Welch AM has served as Artistic Director of Houston Ballet since 2003, raising the level of the Company's classical technique and commissioning works from dance legends such as Julia Adam, George Balanchine, Aszure Barton, Christopher Bruce, Alexander Ekman, William Forsythe, Jiří Kylián, Edwaard Liang, Trey McIntyre and Justin Peck. Executive Director James Nelson serves as the administrative leader of the organization, a position he assumed in February 2012 after serving as the Company's General Manager for more than a decade.

Beyond its stage presence, Houston Ballet maintains a strong foothold in continuing to foster a love for dance in future generations. Its Education and Community Engagement program reaches more than 70,000 individuals in the Houston area annually. Houston Ballet Academy trains more than 1,000 students every year, producing more than 50 percent of the elite athletes that comprise Houston Ballet's current Company.

For more information on Houston Ballet, visit houstonballet.org.

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