



For Immediate Release

EDGING INTO SPRING
**ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK DIVIDES TIME BETWEEN
ROCKEFELLER CENTER AND RIVERBANK PARK WITH
SIX PERFORMANCES, FEBRUARY 27 – APRIL 2**

Ice Theatre of New York celebrates the beginning of spring with six free public performances: three at Riverbank State Park (February 28, March 6 and March 13; each at 10:30am) and three at The Rink at Rockefeller Center (February 27, March 12 and April 2; each at 1pm). The Riverbank concerts are followed by public school skating clinics taught by company skaters.

The programs for both venues will be selected from among Ice Theatre's active repertory. The dances include Twyla Tharp's "After All," originally choreographed in 1976 by Tharp for Olympic skater and ice dance pioneer John Curry. David Liu, co-artistic director and also an Olympic skater, will perform the seven-minute, nonstop solo piece, which received its Ice Theatre premiere in November 2007. The music is by Tomaso Albinoni. Other ice dances include Douglas Webster's "Hot Chocolate," whose chorus line of skating waiters was inspired by Rockefeller Center restaurant waitstaff; it is set to the soundtrack of Polar Express. There is also JoAnna Mendl Shaw's snappy, hip quartet "Heart," set to Mouth Music and Peter DiFalco's fiery "Mi Andalucia" which joins elements of Andalusian dance, flamenco, and bull fighting. And finally, look out for the New York premiere of Mr. Webster's "Skater's Waltz" to music by Bob Crosby's swing version of Strauss' work of the same name.

Ice Theatre of New York was founded in 1984 by its artistic director Moira North who wanted to merge contemporary dance and ice-skating. Ice Theatre's first work, a collaboration with choreographer Marc Bogaerts, was skated by

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**ICE THEATRE OF NY
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North and Patrick Dean and won them first place in the 1984 Professional Championships in Jaca, Spain. Since then, Ice Theatre has amassed a repertory of over 65 dances, including works by major modern dance and ballet choreographers such as Twyla Tharp, Lar Lubovitch, Peter Martins, Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux, David Parsons, David Dorfman, and Laura Dean. Jacquelyn Buglisi, Ann Carlson, Elisa Monte, Alberto Del Saz, Donlin Foreman, JoAnna Mendl Shaw, and Heather Harrington have also choreographed works for the Company. Most recently ITNY commissioned downtown choreographer Susan Marshall to create a new dance, marking Ms. Marshall's first work for ice. The dance will receive its world premiere this spring. (Date and venue to be announced.)

Ice Theatre has performed throughout New York, with annual seasons at The Rink at Rockefeller Center, Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers, and Riverbank State Park, as well as at national and international venues. It has also developed numerous educational outreach programs to perform for and provide skating clinics for local public school students. The Company is the first ice-dancing ensemble to be awarded grants as a dance company by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

MOIRA NORTH was designated one of the 25 Most Influential Names in Figure Skating by International Figure Skating Magazine in 1998 and 2003. Ms. North has choreographed for film and skating productions in addition to her work for Ice Theatre. Her credits include teaching actress Ileana Douglas to skate for her role in the film "To Die For," teaching and choreographing a skating scene in the film "The Preacher's Wife" with Whitney Houston and Denzel Washington, choreographing five productions of "Montreal Fashions on Ice" for the Québec Delegation at Rockefeller Plaza and choreographing the opening ceremonies for

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both the National Hockey League All-Star Game and World Cup Hockey. She also served as creative consultant for Arts & Entertainment's "Winter Solstice on Ice," a 1999 holiday season television special.

DAVID LIU was born in Taiwan, immigrated to the United States at the age of six and began studying dance and figure skating at the age of eight. He studied on full scholarship at the School of American Ballet (SAB). George Balanchine promoted him to the first "Special Class" at SAB under the intensive training of the late Stanley Williams. After completing his dance training there, Liu pursued his skating career and represented Taiwan at three Olympic Games. He teaches, choreographs and performs in both skating and dance. He has performed and given workshops and intensive classes in the United States, Taiwan, Japan, Hong Kong and Finland. Liu has choreographed programs for skating luminaries such as Brian Boitano, Lu Chen, Midori Ito, Nicole Bobek, Rosalynn Summers, and for major television specials including Kurt Browning's "Gotta Skate," "Divas on Ice" with Katarina Witt, PBS' "An Evening with Champions," and NBC's "Rockefeller Center Christmas" specials. In 2002, Liu received a commissioning grant from New York State Council on the Arts through Ice Theatre for a collaborative work with choreographer JoAnna Mendl Shaw. In April 2004, Liu was invited to China where he created a full-length ice ballet, "Spherical" which was also aired on China Television. In June 2005, Liu had the world premiere of his latest dance choreography "Visual Reference" presented as part of H.T. Chen's "Ear to the Ground" project at the Mulberry Street Theatre in New York City. Francis Mason of WQXR Radio called Liu, "Nijinsky on ice." Liu, who has choreographed five works for Ice Theatre New York, was appointed co-artistic director of the Company in 2007.

For additional information, visit www.icetheatre.org.

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