



# PRESS RELEASE AMERICA IN CONCERT

Produced by

Southwest Jazz Ballet Company  
P.O. Box 38233 / Houston, Texas 77238  
(713) 694-6114

CONTACT: Debbie Dalton or Jim Myers Phone 784-5560 Date 9/90

## SOUTHWEST JAZZ BALLET CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF ANNUAL MILLER THEATRE SHOWS WITH STAR-SPANGLED EXTRAVAGANZA

(HOUSTON) For eleven years, Southwest Jazz Ballet (SJB) has entertained over three million people in Houston and at more than 200 military bases and ships throughout the country with their rousing, patriotic celebration of American music and dance.

This energetic troupe, nicknamed the "unofficial USO" because of their dedication to touring and performing for members of the Armed Forces, will celebrate its 10th anniversary of free Houston performances at Miller Outdoor Theatre in Hermann Park: Friday and Saturday, September 21st and 22nd at 8:00 p.m.

The two-hour star-spangled "America in Concert" features more than 50 dancers and singers. Special guests include the 40-piece U.S. Army Concert Band which will provide live musical accompaniment for both shows and the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne "All American" Chorus which will perform for Saturday night's show.

This 10th annual extravaganza features a tribute to George M. Cohan titled "Star Spangled Spectacular" choreographed with lively tap dancing, as well as other stirring American music.

"It's about as patriotic as you can get," said Rita Brosh, the co-founder and artistic director of

"America in Concert". It's a legendary Beatle and the Navy Hymn "Eternal Language, never fades echoes our pride DeFillipo, co-f



Production saluting the Southwest Jazz Ballet, America in Concert with sign

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CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENT: EVENT DATES September 21 & 22, 1990

These performances are spo

(HOUSTON) For a toe-tapping, finger-snapping, good time don't miss SOUTHWEST JAZZ BALLET'S two-hour patriotic extravaganza: "America in Concert". The free performances are Friday and Saturday, September 21st and 22nd at 8:00 p.m. at Miller Outdoor Theatre in Hermann Park. Houston's own Southwest Jazz Ballet is celebrating their tenth anniversary of annual Miller Theatre shows with this star-spangled song and dance jubilee featuring energetic performances by over 50 dancers and singers. These anniversary performances feature tributes to George M. Cohan and the Beatles, as well as Southwest Jazz Ballet's usual combination of dance, music and comedy! The 40-piece U.S. Army Concert Band will provide live musical accompaniment for both performances. Special guests for this year's show include the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne "All-American" Chorus which will perform Friday night and VADM John S. Disher, Chief, Naval Education & Training, Pensacola who will preside over an entertaining military awards celebration on Saturday night. "America in Concert X" is an exciting, patriotic musical variety show for the entire family...and it's FREE! Call 784-5560 for more information.

### WS RELEASE

Debbie Dalton

WHO: SOUTHWEST JAZZ BALLET (SJB)

\*\*Patriotic song and dance troupe as flexible and innovative as the wide variety of performance situations it encounters  
\*\*"unofficial USO" touring military bases/ships and providing free shows for members of the Armed Forces and their families for the past ten years

WHAT: "AMERICA IN CONCERT X" 1990

\*\*Rousing salute to patriotism through American music and dance featuring 50 talented dancers and singers, live musical performances and special tributes to the Armed Forces  
\*\*This Houston performance is the highlight of SJB's exciting, national tour celebrating the U.S. Naval Reserve's 75th Anniversary

WHEN: Friday, September 21, 1990 and Saturday, September 22, 1990--8:00 p.m.  
WHERE: MILLER OUTDOOR THEATRE, Hermann Park; Houston, Texas

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS:

\*\*U.S. ARMY CONCERT BAND will accompany Southwest Jazz Ballet throughout the two nights of performances; first-time the full 40-piece band has performed in Houston or with SJB

\*\*Special anniversary tributes to the U.S. NAVAL RESERVE--75 years (Saturday only) and the U.S. COAST GUARD--200 years (Friday only)

\*\*U.S. ARMY 82nd AIRBORNE "ALL-AMERICAN" CHORUS is SJB's featured guest on Friday; performing their first public appearance in Houston

\*\*OUTSTANDING MILITARY AWARDS PRESENTATION (Saturday only) featuring VADM John S. Disher, Chief, Naval Education & Training, Pensacola

\*\*Ma. Elizabetha Melchiorri, professional dancer from Rome, Italy will be the featured performer in the dance troupe both nights

BACKGROUND (SJB):

\*\*Most decorated dance team in American history receiving over 565 awards from the military including the "American Spirit" plaque from the U.S. Air Force (SJB was the 8th national organization to be honored, and only the 2nd Texas group); Navy Meritorious Public Service Award (Navy's highest civilian honor); and "Honorary Entertainment Unit" for the U.S. Naval Reserve

\*\*Troupe has appeared before audiences ranging in size from 500,000 people at Ellington Air Force Base to a children's burn ward where cast members outnumbered the audience

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