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San Francisco Ballet at 75: New Exhibition at San Francisco International Airport Celebrates The 75th Anniversary of America's Oldest Professional Ballet Company

SAN FRANCISCO -- San Francisco International Airport is pleased to present *San Francisco Ballet at 75*. This new exhibition celebrates the seventy-fifth anniversary of America's oldest professional ballet company, San Francisco Ballet, by presenting lavish costumes, historical photos and artifacts from the company's diverse repertory. The eighteen ballets showcased in the exhibition - ranging from classical works such as Lew Christensen and Michael Smuin's *Cinderella* (1973), to more contemporary choreography such as Lar Lubovitch's *Elemental Brubeck* (2005) - reflect both SF Ballet's deeply rooted classical foundation and its ability to take chances with innovative programming and commissioned work. The exhibition also includes objects and photographs from many of SF Ballet's artistic "firsts," including the first American productions of *Swan Lake* (1940) and *Nutcracker* (1944).

San Francisco Ballet at 75 is located pre-security in the International Terminal Main Hall. The exhibition is on view 24 hours a day, free of charge, through May 11, 2008. Photographs from the exhibition are available online at <u>http://www.flysfo.com/web/page/about/news/pressres/exh-ballet.html</u>.

San Francisco Airport Museums

The San Francisco Airport Museums program was established by the Airport Commission in 1980 for the purpose of humanizing the Airport environment, providing visibility for the unique cultural life of San Francisco, and providing educational services for the traveling public. The Museum was granted initial accreditation from the American Association of Museums in 1999, reaccredited in 2005, and has the distinction of being the only accredited museum in an airport. Today, the San Francisco Airport Museums features approximately twenty galleries throughout the Airport terminals displaying a rotating schedule of art, history, science, and cultural exhibitions, as well as the San Francisco Airport Commission Aviation Library and Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum, a permanent collection dedicated to the history of commercial aviation.

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About San Francisco International Airport

SFO (www.flysfo.com) offers non-stop links with more than 29 international points on 25 international carriers. The Bay Area's Airport of Choice connects non-stop with more than 60 cities in the United States on 20 domestic airlines, including more than twice as many non-stop flights to the New York area than other Bay Area airports combined.