

LIVELY ARTS – DANCE - NEWS

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ISTANBUL NATIONAL OPERA & BALLET

LOS ANGELES -- The exotic streets of Istanbul will come alive Aug. 24 & 25 at the Ford Ampitheatre in a performance called EAST SIDE STORY. Presented by the Istanbul National Opera & Ballet company (in its first appearance in the USA), EAST SIDE STORY is adapted, choreographed and directed by Aysun Aslan.

This timeless tragicomedy set in the 1970s uses costume, color and movement to show love and hate, poverty and wealth, and most of all what it takes to stay afloat in a multi-ethnic, urban environment. Helping to bring the Istanbul streets to life is the music of Washington DC resident, Fahir Atatoglu.



The Turkish Ministry of Culture & Tourism and uniCvisions, an LA-based film production company, have teamed up to invite forty of the original Turkish cast to make the trip to Los Angeles. They will be supported by twenty local dancers and actors.

Turkish National Opera & Ballet is a government-funded institution, founded in 1958 by Dame Ninette de Valois, originally as the Istanbul Ballet (under the directorate of the Ministry of Culture & Tourism). Today each of the major cities of Turkey has its own company, with regular tours to outlying regions and rural areas to bring art at affordable prices to the masses.