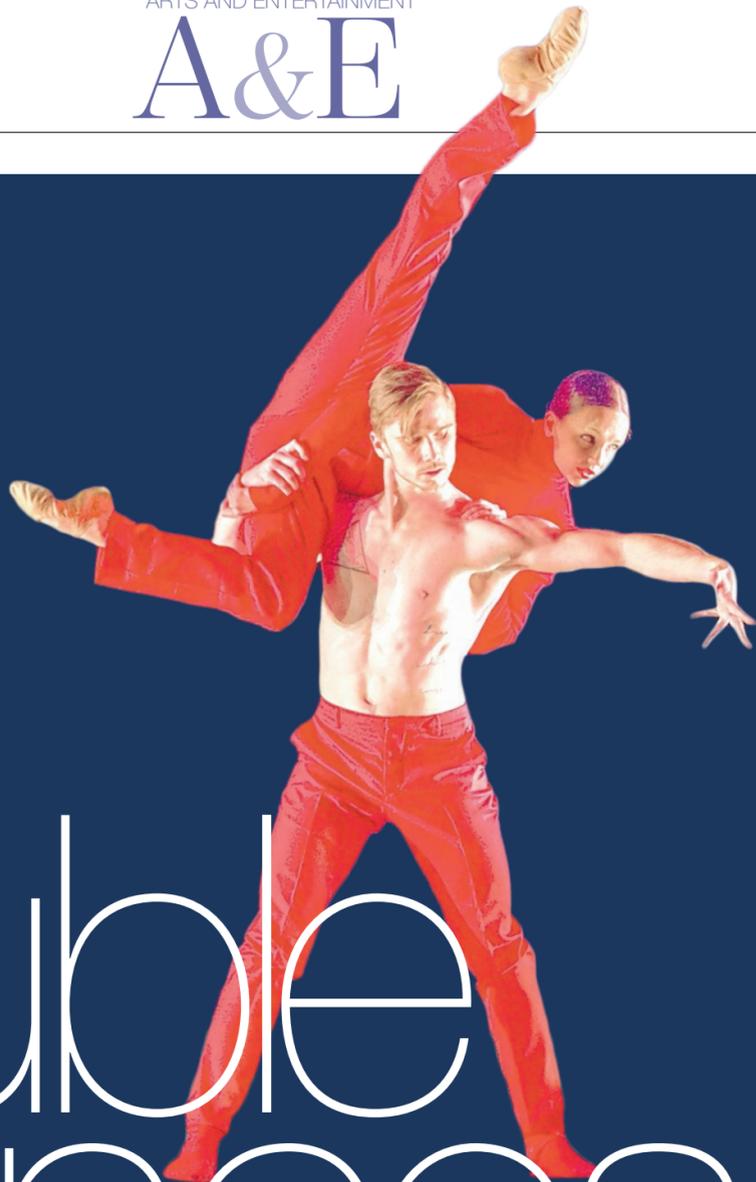


Samantha Campanile and Lukasz Zieba in "Huma Rojo."

PHOTO BY
JORDAN CURET

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet celebrates its 20th anniversary with twice as many specially commissioned works as usual



Double the dances

BY JACKIE JADRNAK
JOURNAL NORTH

In celebration of its 20th anniversary, the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet is looking to have twice the amount of fun this year.

Or at least twice the number of new dances — four instead of the customary two in one year — commissioned expressly for the corps.

"We decided, for our

anniversary, instead of looking back, we'd look forward," said Tom Mossbrucker, artistic director, by phone from New York City.

Audience members can join that look forward when two of the dances premiere in Santa Fe (they were performed earlier this year in Aspen) in a three-dance program taking place tonight at the Lensic Performing Arts Center.

And at least one of the works is significantly different from anything the group has done before, by a choreographer whose work the company has commissioned for the first time.

"Re:play" by Fernando Melo, a Brazilian choreographer based in Sweden, "is almost mathematical in construction," Mossbrucker said. As a matter

SEE DOUBLE // PAGE 7



Francis Menotti

OUR PICKS FOR THE WEEK

BY JACKIE JADRNAK
JOURNAL NORTH

What better time to put on a magic show than April Fool's Day?

The Jean Cocteau Cinema, 418 Montezuma Ave., is bringing in Francis Menotti, touted as "the magician who stumped Penn and Teller," at 9 p.m. tonight, and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday.

Menotti says he is an entertainer, not pretending that what he is doing is anything more than an illusion, but describes his show as "watching a professional ballerina or shortstop perform in a superhuman way." Admission to those superhuman feats is \$10-\$20, available at www.jeancocteaucinema.com.

That venue completes an entertaining weekend with music by Eryn Bent and Johnny Broomdust at 7 p.m. Sunday. Bent, who is working on her third album, has a rich, expressive voice that should go well with the musicianship of Broomdust, best known for his work with Broomdust Caravan. Tickets are \$7.



"Self-Image in Cochiti Lake, 1978," is a gelatin silver print by Anne Noggle, whose photographs are going on exhibit today at the New Mexico Museum of Art.

UNFLINCHING PORTRAITS: Folks over at the New Mexico Museum of Art think that photographer Anne Noggle should be way better known than she is, so they've put up an exhibition of her works, "Assumed Identities." This is a lady who once was a crop-duster and pilot during World War II, moved to Albuquerque when she was 38 (after that crop-dusting gave her emphysema), enrolled in art history at the University of New Mexico and launched a career as a photographer, focused on portraiture. She also turned the camera on herself, recording the effects of aging with no regard as to whether she looked "pretty" or not. This exhibition opens 5:30-7:30 p.m. tonight and runs through Sept. 11.

MUSICAL MEDLEY: There's some fine playing coming down the pike with The Greyhounds, made up of guitarist Andrew Trube and keyboardist Anthony Farrell from Austin. Blues, funk and soul are described as influencing their music, which Trube describes as "Hall & Oates meets ZZ Top." The duo appear at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Center Stage, 505 Camino de los Marquez. Tickets are \$19 in advance through 800-838-3006 or www.brownpapertickets.com; cost is \$23 at the door.

Also, when it comes to guitarists, it may take one to know one. Accomplished jazz guitarist Bruce Dunlap is hosting Richard Smith at his GiG Performance Space, 1808 Second St., at 7:30 p.m. tonight. Smith has toured the world performing music that spans a range of musical genres. And, if you get tired of guitar, he plays banjo and violin, too. All this and he's only 30 years old.



Richard Smith



Craig Black, left, and Joseph Watson are shown in "Re:play," a new work by Fernando Melo.

PHOTO BY
MICHAEL ALVAREZ

THE POWER OF LIES

'The Children's Hour' may be 82 years old, but it's still relevant today, says actor

BY JACKIE JADRNAK
JOURNAL NORTH

"The Children's Hour" may have debuted 82 years ago, but it's as relevant today as it was in the days when Lillian Hellman wrote it.

At least that's the contention of the cast and director who will present the tale of the power of a child's lies and how they can destroy

the lives of the adults around them.

"People's lives get ruined by lies and rumors all the time," said Mairi Chanel. "It's a really important subject that we need to look at."

Chanel plays Karen, who runs a girls' boarding school with Martha (Jody Durham). Their school and their reputations are ruined when a manipulative student, Mary Tilford (Gillian

Garcia), wants to leave the school and, to get her way, whispers something to her grandmother, Amelia Tilford (Rose Provan), an influential matriarch in the town and school, that suggests the two schoolteachers are having a lesbian affair.

The word "lesbian" is never mentioned, but the play still was considered shocking when it first was staged. It was banned in Boston, Chicago and London (and probably other places) when it first was written. The

SEE POWER // PAGE 7



PHOTOS BY LYNN ROYLANCE

From left, Leina Gries, Mairi Chanel and Lulu Sulich are shown in a scene from Lillian Hellman's classic play, "The Children's Hour," opening Thursday at the Santa Fe Playhouse.

DOUBLE // ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET CELEBRATES ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY WITH TWICE THE NUMBER OF NEW DANCES

FROM PAGE 6

of fact, the choreographer attached giant sticky notes to the studio walls and dancers carried written notes in their hands as they learned the “formula” for the piece. “The dancers loved it. It was a completely different way of working,” Mossbrucker said. “It was really stimulating for the company.”

“Re:play” is rather fast-paced, with “images that come and go very quickly,” he said. “It’s like a time-lapse view of a metropolitan city.”

To accomplish that effect, people managing the lighting have to follow some 800 different lighting cues — anywhere from 10 to 60 is usual for a dance, according to Mossbrucker.

The result is a number of brief vignettes, lacking the usual robust physicality of the company, that show fleeting gestures and elicit an emotion. All together, it has a deep sense of humanity and relationships, he said, calling the dance both “cinematic” and “theatrical.”

While it’s cerebral, constructing and deconstructing a scene, it also connects with the audience, he said.

Relatively new on the dance scene, much of Melo’s work has been in Europe. “I’ve been looking at his work for quite some time,” Mossbrucker said. “Everything he has sent me has been creative, intriguing — I liked it all. I was

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Aspen Santa Fe Ballet

WHEN: 7:30 p.m. today

WHERE: Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 W. San Francisco St.

HOW MUCH: \$25-\$72

FOR TICKETS: 988-1234, www.ticketssantafe.org

attracted by what I felt was a strong voice and a unique voice.”

The second premiere that audiences will see at the Lensic in today’s program is by a familiar face — choreographer Cayetano Soto has put together five pieces now for Aspen Santa Fe Ballet — but with an about-face from his usual mood.

“His work tends to be very serious, dark, shadowy ...,” Mossbrucker said. “Yet he’s the craziest, funniest, most carefree (person).”

So he asked Soto to express that other side of himself with something “upbeat, joyous and celebratory” to mark the anniversary.

“He was really eager,” Mossbrucker reported, and Soto came up with an outgoing, rollicking, athletic piece, “Huma Rojo,” set to ’50s and ’60s music, with men and women dancing in identical bright red outfits.

It still includes the choreographer’s intricate partnering and super-physical movement, he said,



PHOTO BY ROSALIE O’CONNOR

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet dancer Craig Black lifts Emily Proctor in “Silent Ghost.”

adding that he expects it to become a new audience favorite.

An audience favorite from last year, “Silent Ghost” by Alejandro Cerrudo, returns to complete the program.

“It premiered last summer and was the hit of the whole

year,” Mossbrucker said.

Looking back over the past two decades, Mossbrucker, a co-founder of the company, said it has been evolving throughout the time and will continue to do so.

After some initial exploration, “I can

confidently say we know who we are and what we do,” he said. “When you look at our repertoire, I don’t think we look like any of the other companies” of a similar size around the country.

The company has been invited back to the Jacob’s

Pillow dance festival in Massachusetts this June as the opening act, while the affiliated Juan Siddi Flamenco group will be appearing there for the first time, he said.

“We’re super-excited,” Mossbrucker added.

CALENDAR

FRIDAY

ONSTAGE

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

Two new company commissions, one by the Brazilian choreographer Fernando Melo and the other by Cayetano Soto, as well as last summer’s audience favorite, “Silent Ghost,” by Alejandro Cerrudo, will be performed 7:30 p.m. at the Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 W. San Francisco St. \$25-\$72. 988-1234 or ticketssantafe.org.

TGIF CONCERT

Jakob-Kaare Rasmussen and Rue Allison perform the music of Bach, Beethoven, Debussy, Haydn and Rachmaninoff. 5:30-6 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church Santa Fe, 208 Grant Ave. Freewill offering. 982-8544.

RICHARD SMITH With a repertoire spanning an incredible range of musical styles, guitarist Smith even plays John Phillip Sousa’s marches. 7:30 p.m. at GiG Performance Space, 1808 H Second St. \$20 at the door. gigsantafe.com.

“CIRCLE MIRROR TRANSFORMATION” A group of unlikely strangers attends a six-week drama class and are drawn into each other’s orbit, colliding briefly to find themselves transformed. 7:30 p.m. at Adobe Rose Theatre, 1213 B Parkway Drive. \$15-\$20. 988-1234 or ticketssantafe.org.

A NIGHT OF MAGIC WITH FRANCIS MENOTTI The Magician Who Stumped Penn and Teller is also a creator, writer and lecturer. 9 p.m. at the Jean Cocteau Cinema, 418 Montezuma Ave. \$10-\$20. 466-5528.

DAY OF THE FOOL — COMEDY SHOW An April Fool’s weekend comedy concert featuring Jerry Winn, Keith Breckenridge and Jessica Osborn. 8:15-10 p.m. at The Lodge at Santa Fe, 750 N. Saint Francis Drive. \$12. 992-5800.

GETTING OUT

BUSINESS OVER BREAKFAST Join Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce members to make connections, network, win door prizes and eat food. 8:30 a.m. at the Hilton Santa Fe Historic Plaza, 100 Sandoval St. \$15 for members/\$20 for guests. 988-3279.

LEWIS WINN AND GEORGE LANGSTON Jazz guitar duo will perform as part of “Medieval to Metal: Art and Evolution of the Guitar World.” Noon-1 p.m. at the New Mexico Museum of Art, 107 W. Palace Ave. By admission. 476-5072.

ORIENTATION TO GARDENER VOLUNTEERING Santa Fe Botanical Garden’s prime gardener, Linda Churchill, leads an orientation for new volunteers who would like to work in the garden. 9-10 a.m. at the Santa Fe Botanical Garden on Museum Hill, 471-9103 or santafebotanicalgarden.org.



The Morris Miniature Circus goes on display again at the Museum of International Folk Art, with an opening reception Sunday.

FIRST FRIDAY WITH THE RALPH T. COE FOUNDATION Get behind-the-scenes access to a collection of global indigenous art. Meet the staff and learn what they do. 1-4 p.m. at the Ralph T. Coe Foundation for the Arts, 1590 B Pacheco St. in Aspen Court. Free. 983-6372 or info@ralphtcoefoundation.org.

ART ACTIVITY Create your own drawings while exploring the use of color in modern artwork. All ages welcome. 5-7 p.m. at the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum, 217 Johnson St. By admission. 946-1000.

PRAYING WITHOUT WORDS AND SUMMER WORKSHOP PREVIEW Two shows will share exhibition space: the ceramic vessels of Tom Sather and the preview showing master ceramic artists from across the country who will be conducting summer workshops. Opening reception, 5 p.m. at Santa Fe Clay, 545 Camino de la Familia. Free. 984-1122.

RIPPLES UNDER SURFACES Watercolors and ceramics by Nicola Heindl. 5-7 p.m. at El Zaguán, 545 Canyon Road, Suite 2. The exhibition continues through April 29. Free. 983-2567.

MUSIC AT THE MUSEUM Andy Zadrozny performs jazz. 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Lobby at the New Mexico Museum of Art, 107 W. Palace Ave. Free. 476-5072.

ASSUMED IDENTITIES: PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANNE NOGGLE Opening celebration of an exhibition of work by Anne Noggle, including recent additions to the museum’s holding of nearly 100 of her prints. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the New Mexico Museum of Art, 107 W. Palace Ave. Free. 476-5072.

IAIA SENIOR THESIS EXHIBITION: TRANSFORMING LANDSCAPES A group exhibition for this closing exhibition by IAIA students, staff,

faculty and alumni. 5-7 p.m. at the Balzer Contemporary Edge Gallery on the IAIA campus, 83 Avon Nu Po Road. Free. 428-5813.

APRIL NIGHT SKY SHOW Discover and identify objects visible in our night sky this month. 7-7:45 p.m. at the Los Alamos Nature Center, 2600 Canyon Road in Los Alamos. \$4-\$6. Ages 4 and up. 662-0460 or losalamosnature.org.

SILVER OCHRE — WHO ARE US 2016 Through a series of “moving stills,” accompanied by a live original soundtrack and field recordings, this presentation illustrates early 21st-century America captured by two perpetually traveling artists. 7 p.m. at Fresh Santa Fe, 2855 Cooks Rd., Studio A. \$7 at the door.

BOOKS/LECTURES

PIRATE NESTS AND THE RISE OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE, 1570-1740 Mark G. Hanna describes the crucial role that pirates played by contributing to the commercial and economic development of port towns, as well as challenging prevailing interpretations of piracy. 6 p.m. at Collected Works Bookstore, 202 Galisteo St. Free, but donations welcome. 988-4226.

ARTIST GALLERY TALK

ALCOVES 16/17 Artists Scott Anderson, Gloria Graham, Scott Greene, Herbert Lotz and Bonnie Lynch will discuss their work currently on view. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the New Mexico Museum of Art, 107 W. Palace Ave. Free. 476-5072.

“DO NOT STOP THE CONVOY” St. John’s graduate and author Salvatore Scibona will read from his work in progress. A question-and-answer period will follow. 7:30 p.m. in The Great Hall, Peterson Student Center at St. John’s College, 1160 Camino Cruz Blanca. Free.

984-6000.

A FRAGILE LEGACY: EARTHEN ARCHITECTURE IN NEW MEXICO Jake Barrow, acting executive director at Cornerstones Community Partnerships, will compare and contrast the challenges of preserving earthen architecture using several case studies. 6-7 p.m. at the New Mexico History Museum, 113 Lincoln Ave. Free. 476-5200.

SATURDAY

ONSTAGE

TRIO EN MEDIO Featuring Bruce Dunlap (guitars), Brahim Fribgane (percussion) and John Rangel (piano, keyboards). 7:30 p.m. at GiG Santa Fe, 1808 H Second St. \$20 at the door. gigsantafe.com.

“CIRCLE MIRROR TRANSFORMATION” A group of unlikely strangers attends a six-week drama class and collide briefly to find themselves transformed. 7:30 p.m. at Adobe Rose Theatre, 1213 B Parkway Drive. \$15-\$20. 988-1234 or ticketssantafe.org.

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WASSA WASSA Traditional music from Guinea with Soriba Fofana and Mohamed Lamine Camara, acrobatics with Ousmane Loko Sylla and N’faly Drame, WASSA Drum and Dance company and more. This is a fundraiser for the WASSA WASSA African Dance & Drum Festival. 7 p.m. at the Railyard Performance Center, 1611 Paseo de Peralta. \$15 at the door/free for kids. soribafofana.com.

GETTING OUT

THE MET: LIVE IN HD: “MADAMA BUTTERFLY” Kristine Opolais brings her heartbreaking interpretation of the title role in “Madama Butterfly” to Live in HD screens in Anthony Minghella’s 2006 production. 11 a.m. with an encore at 6 p.m. at the Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 W. San Francisco St. \$22-\$28. 988-1234 or ticketssantafe.org.

PLANTS FOR THE SANTA FE AREA Climate change will affect your garden’s ability to thrive. Tracy Neal will discuss how our soil and changing climate affect plant choices. 9 a.m.-noon in the Udall Building Upstairs Conference Room, 725 Camino Lejo. \$25/\$10 for mem-

SEE CALENDAR // PAGE 11



Mairi Chanel, left, portrays a woman who co-founded a girls’ school, while Gillian Garcia plays the student whose lies lead to the end of that school.

POWER //

‘THE CHILDREN’S HOUR’ EXPLORES HOW LIES CAN SOMETIMES RUIN LIVES

FROM PAGE 6

IF YOU GO

WHAT: “The Children’s Hour”

WHEN: April 7-24, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays

WHERE: Santa Fe Playhouse, 142 E. De Vargas St.

HOW MUCH: \$20-25; April 9 gala, \$30; April 7 preview, \$15

FOR TICKETS: 988-4262, www.santafeplayhouse.org

shock value of same-gender love may have worn down in this day and age, but director Larry Glaister said he still finds the play shocking.

“This play is about the power of the lie and the assumptions people make,” he said. “To me, the shock value is in the power of a little girl and that she wields it so deliberately.”

The challenge in the play might come in making the girl at all sympathetic or understandable, and maybe she shouldn’t be.

“It’s real hard for the audience to go away liking the kid,” Glaister said.

Maybe Gillian will be the only one who does, even though she describes the character she plays as “self-absorbed” and “a pathological liar.” A 14-year-old at the New Mexico School for the Arts, Gillian said, “I’ve learned always to love the character you’re playing — even if you’re playing a murderer.”

Her character convinces two other students to support her lies, using physical intimidation and blackmail to accomplish that task. It’s the kind of bullying that is still alive and all-too-well in today’s world — especially with the advent of social media, the players noted.

But Mary’s lies are discovered in the end, even though it is too late to save the people who suffered because of her.

Even her grandmother, who convinced everyone to pull their children from the school by spreading the rumor, suffers in the end, afflicted by a guilty conscience for the damage she caused by believing and acting on a lie, Provan said.

Amelia Tilford’s weakness lies in her inability to see her granddaughter as someone who could hurt people. “That’s why she’s sure to believe her (Mary) when she

tells this story,” Provan said.

Glaister said he was interested in directing this play because “I like working with young people.” Those young people get some very powerful parts in this play, he said, adding, “It’s a good exercise for actors. It’s not ambiguous in who people are or what they are doing. The objectives of the roles are pretty clear.”

He directed his first play in high school, Glaister said, and has written a number of plays, including for the Playhouse’s Benchwarmer series over the years, some of which he also directed. But this is his first full-length play to direct in his adult years.

It’s said Hellman based this play on an incident in 1810 in Edinburgh, Scotland. In that case, the two women went to court and won their case and its appeal, but the damage still was done.

So is it out of date? “A lot of this play is about somebody trying to tell you how you should live, how you should be,” Durham said. “These are two career women as opposed to being in a marriage You’re told who you can love.”

And while discrimination against homosexuals is less blatant these days, it still exists, Chanel said.

“I think (the play) will always be relevant,” Durham concluded.