

A full-page photograph of a ballerina in a flowing, peach-colored, pleated dress performing a pointe move. She is standing on one leg, with her other leg extended to the side and her arms raised in a graceful pose. The background is a dark, textured grey. The lighting highlights the texture of the dress and the form of the dancer.

POINTE *and* SHOOT

Tyler Stableford (tylerstableford.com) is known for his Western and adventure photography, but, this time, he turned his lens on the dancers of the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet. View a gallery of the dancers on his website, or see them in person Feb. 16 at the Aspen District Theatre.

By Christine Benedetti

"The fine-art shoot was an exercise in perfecting lighting, form and composition. It was a co-creation with the dancers, summoning a sense of elevated grace and levity in every image," says Stableford. Pictured here: Sadie Brown

PHOTO BY TYLER STABLEFORD

ART & CULTURE

dance

"In contrast to a live dance performance, a still image can capture the athletes at the pinnacle of their expression. This moment is held in time for us to witness and return to over and over," says Stableford. Pictured here: Seia Rassenti and Joseph Watson



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ART & CULTURE

dance



"One of the most attractive elements of the project was the powerful combination of athleticism and grace. The Aspen Santa Fe Ballet dancers are truly world-class athletes, as well as performance artists. I wanted to capture the essence of their athleticism, as well as their incredible skill, in a single image," says Stableford. Pictured here: Anthony Tiedeman

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