

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

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ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET ANNOUNCES ITS 2018-19 WINTER PERFORMANCE SERIES IN ASPEN, CO

*Special Ski Season Performance by Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo •
President's Day Weekend Performance by Aspen Santa Fe Ballet*

In the midst of a busy touring season that sees Aspen Santa Fe Ballet travel from New York to Israel with multiple stops in between, ASFB's 2018-19 winter season is one for the dance enthusiast and novice alike starting with the holiday tradition of ASFB's *The Nutcracker*, to a one-night-only performance by the hilarious Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, and an evening of ASFB fan favorites.

ASFB's *The Nutcracker* is a staple of the holiday season in Aspen. Featuring hundreds of young dancers from The School of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's four Roaring Fork valley locations alongside professional dancers (including authentic Russian and Chinese folk dancers and an aerialist), this winter classic creates lifelong memories for ballet students and audiences alike. With four performances over the weekend of **December 8-9**, there are multiple opportunities to bring the family together for this magical theatrical experience.

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet will perform a night of audience favorites (**Feb. 16**) to light up the heart of the ski season. After touring these works to enthusiastic crowds, ASFB brings back such popular ballets as Jorma Elo's athletic *1st Flash*, Cherice Barton's search for happiness, *Eudaemonia*, and Alexander Ekman's striking, jazz-inspired *Tuplet*.

ASFB Presents brings an exclusive, one-night-only engagement of the uproariously funny **Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo (Jan. 19)**. Founded in 1974, "The Trocks," as they're affectionately known, have spent the past forty years touring the world to resounding acclaim. This all-male ensemble wittily presents playful parodies of classical ballet and modern repertoire in drag.

Tickets for all winter series performances go on sale to the public on Thursday, November 8. Tickets will be available online at www.aspensantafeballet.com; by phone through Aspen ShowTix at 970-920-5770; or in person at the Wheeler Opera House box office (320 E. Hyman Ave.). Ticket prices range from \$36-\$94.

All performances take place at the Aspen District Theater (235 High School Road).

Ticket prices and programs subject to change.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's *The Nutcracker*

Saturday, December 8 at 2pm & 7:30pm

Sunday, December 9 at 1pm & 5pm

Generously underwritten by Kelley and Mark Purnell

Embrace the holiday spirit and revel in the magic of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's *The Nutcracker*! This iconic production—both uplifting and filled with humor—has become a seasonal Aspen tradition. With its whimsical twist on the classic story and a cast of over 60 performers, don't miss this perfect opportunity to create lifelong memories for you and your loved ones.

"Aspen Santa Fe Ballet has brought joy and creative abandon to a holiday classic."
– Santa Fe New Mexican

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo

Saturday, January 19

7:30pm

Generously underwritten Melinda and Norman Payson

Dancing the fine line between high art and high camp, the internationally beloved Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo has delighted audiences around the world for four decades. Risking comfort for brilliant pointe work, this hilarious all-male troupe wittily parodies dance classics, from *Swan Lake* to Martha Graham. Combining an encyclopedic knowledge of ballet with their uniquely wicked comedic sensibility, the Trocks offer buoyant and uproariously funny evenings for dance aficionados and complete novices alike.

"The funniest night you will ever have at the ballet." – *Sunday Times*

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet

Saturday, February 16

7:30pm

Generously underwritten by Bebe and David Schweppe

Just in time for the height of ski season, enjoy this special one-night-only performance of fan favorites from ASFB's repertoire. This varied program features the jazz-inspired *Tuplet*, Swedish phenom Alexander Ekman's multi-media exploration of rhythm; Cherice Barton's *Eudaemonia*, a touching choreographic search for happiness; and acclaimed dance maker Jorma Elo's electric *1st Flash*. These audience-tested ballets have been performed the world over to rousing acclaim and now ASFB is bringing them back home to light up the winter!

"Aspen Santa Fe Ballet is ready for its Hollywood close-up." – *Los Angeles Times*

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Aspen Santa Fe Ballet

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's bold vision – top global choreographers, distinctive groundbreaking works, and virtuoso dancers – has fostered a jewel of a dance company in the American West and beyond. ASFB's unique pioneering spirit arises from a paired set of home cities: Aspen, nestled high in the Rocky Mountains, and Santa Fe, gracing the majestic Southwestern plateau.

Since its founding in 1996 by Bebe Schweppe, the company has served as a prestigious incubator and a showcase for choreographic invention to popular and critical acclaim. The performing troupe forms the core of a multifaceted arts organization with activities in both Aspen and Santa Fe. Repeat engagements at the Joyce Theater, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Kennedy Center, Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, the American Dance Festival and the Harris Theater for Music and Dance have built a national reputation. The company has also toured internationally to Brazil, Canada, France, Greece, Guatemala, Israel and Italy.

A respected arts presenter, ASFB curates high-quality dance programming for home audiences. Dance education is a priority, with well-established ballet schools training children and adults in both markets. An outreach program steeped in Mexico's rich folkloric culture fortifies community connections. Premier funders such as the National Endowment of the Arts, the Joyce Foundation, the Wolf Trap Foundation, Dance St. Louis and The Princess Grace Foundation have supported ASFB's growth. In 2010 the Joyce Theater Foundation conferred upon Artistic Director Tom Mossbrucker and Executive Director Jean-Philippe Malaty the Joyce Theater Award in honor of their pioneering and innovative model for American dance.

For dancer and full director bios, media, and more, visit www.aspensantafeballet.com.

High-resolution images available upon request.

Video clips and web-resolution images available for download on our media page here: <http://www.aspensantafeballet.com/asfb/media.html>