

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

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ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET ANNOUNCES ITS 2015-16 WINTER PERFORMANCE SERIES IN ASPEN, CO

Celebrating 20 Years of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet in 2016

Starting in January 2016, **Aspen Santa Fe Ballet** will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a season packed with world premieres and prestigious engagements around the country. To kick things off, the company will officially open its milestone season with two performances at home in Aspen (February 13 & March 26). The program for these performances will feature the premieres of two newly commissioned works by the Spanish choreographer Cayetano Soto and Fernando Melo of Brazil. Soto returns to ASFB to create his third work for the company, this one commissioned specifically for the anniversary celebration. Melo, an ASFB newcomer, brings a unique approach to the creative process, resulting in a piece that will bring a new aesthetic to ASFB's repertoire. Also on the program is Alejandro Cerrudo's *Silent Ghost*, first performed in Aspen during the summer 2015 season.

But before the anniversary celebrations get fully underway, it wouldn't be a winter season without the holiday classic, *The Nutcracker*. Featuring hundreds of young dancers from The School of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet locations throughout the Roaring Fork Valley, ASFB's take on this holiday classic creates lifelong memories for ballet students and audiences alike. With four performances over the weekend of December 12-13, there are multiple opportunities to enjoy a holiday favorite.

Tickets for all winter series performances go on sale to the public on Thursday, October 22, 2015. 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 \$25-\$74.

All performances take place at the Aspen District Theater (335 High School Road).

Ticket prices and programs subject to change.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Nutcracker

December 12, 2015 at 2pm & 7:30pm

December 13, 2015 at 1pm & 5pm

Generously underwritten by Les Dames d'Aspen

Embrace the holiday spirit and enjoy the magic of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's *The Nutcracker*. Children of all ages will marvel at this whimsical interpretation of a seasonal classic. With ballet, flamenco, a Chinese sword dance, and even an aerialist, allow the cast of 60 dancers, actors, and circus artists 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

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet

February 13, 2016

7:30pm

Generously underwritten by Carolyn Powers

Join Aspen Santa Fe Ballet as it officially kicks off its 20th anniversary season with a program that celebrates the company's commitment to pushing the boundaries of contemporary dance. ASFB unveils two new company commissions: *Re:play* by Brazilian choreographer Fernando Melo and the other by Cayetano Soto, his third work for ASFB. Recent commission and last summer's audience favorite, *Silent Ghost* by Alejandro Cerrudo, completes the program. Spanning a range of moods and styles, this innovative, diverse program is sure to have something for everyone!

"An abundance of riches from Aspen Santa Fe Ballet."
- *Boston Globe*

Encore! Aspen Santa Fe Ballet

March 26, 2016

7:30pm

Generously underwritten by Bebe and David Schweppe

In case you missed it, or if you just can't get enough! Aspen Santa Fe Ballet brings back the trio of choreographic works performed in February to kick off the company's 20th anniversary season. The program features three ASFB-commissioned works: *Re:play* by Brazilian choreographer Fernando Melo, a new piece by Cayetano Soto of Spain, and the return of last summer's audience favorite, *Silent Ghost* by Alejandro Cerrudo. Don't miss this special encore performance and winter season finale!

"Aspen Santa Fe Ballet delivers with pulse-quickening power."
- *Ottawa Citizen*

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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.