

# ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

**For immediate release:** April 11, 2019

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## ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET ANNOUNCES ITS 2019 SUMMER PERFORMANCE SERIES IN SANTA FE, NM

### *Company Premiere of First-Ever Evening-Length Ballet*

Audience members who have grown accustomed to **Aspen Santa Fe Ballet**'s typical program format of three ballets by three choreographers are in for a surprise this summer when ASFB premieres its first evening-length ballet: long-time collaborator **Nicolo Fonte's** *Beautiful Decay*. Originally created in 2013 for BalletX in Philadelphia, this haunting work in two parts juxtaposes daring athleticism and technical prowess against the reality of aging. Joining the dancers of ASFB are a septuagenarian couple performed by guest artists Hilary Cartwright and Gregg Bielemeier.

About *Beautiful Decay*, Fonte said he "kept thinking back to the feelings I experienced when looking at Mark Golebiowski's series of 3D photographs of very much dead but still very vibrant flowers." He continued, "the beauty evident in the decay was to me both noble and touching." With an original set design by the Tony Award-winning Mimi Lien, and set to both the timeless music of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Max Richter's reinterpretation of the same, ASFB will perform *Beautiful Decay* twice this summer: July 13 and August 31.

**Tickets for all summer series performances go on sale to the public on Tuesday, May 21.** Tickets will be available online at [www.aspensantafeballet.com](http://www.aspensantafeballet.com); by phone through Tickets Santa Fe at 505-988-1234; or in person at The Lensic Performing Arts Center box office located at 211 W. San Francisco St. Ticket prices range from \$36-\$94.

All performances take place at The Lensic, Santa Fe's Performing Arts Center (211 W. San Francisco St.).

*Ticket prices and programs subject to change.*

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## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Aspen Santa Fe Ballet: *Beautiful Decay***

Saturday, July 13 | 8pm

Saturday, August 31 | 8pm

Audiences are in for a surprise this summer when ASFB premieres its first-ever evening-length ballet: long-time collaborator **Nicolo Fonte's *Beautiful Decay***. Featuring an original set design by Tony Award-winner Mimi Lien, and the timeless music of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Max Richter's reinterpretation of the same, this haunting work juxtaposes daring athleticism against the reality of aging. Joining ASFB are guest artists Hilary Cartwright and Gregg Bielemeier—two septuagenarians with distinguished dance careers.

*"...an evening of explosive, athletic dance that leaves the audience speechless after just the first act..."* – The Dance Journal

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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](http://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>***