

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

For immediate release: October 6, 2015

Media Contact: Jessica Moore, 970-925-7175, jessica@aspensantafeballet.com

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

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 open its milestone season in Santa Fe with a performance on April 1, 2016, with two premieres 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, ASFB's take on this holiday classic creates lifelong memories for ballet students and audiences alike. With four performances over the weekend of December 19-20, there are multiple opportunities to enjoy a holiday favorite.

Also, don't miss a one-night-only performance by the acclaimed **Juan Siddi Flamenco Santa Fe** on March 18, 2016. The company's crowd-pleasing performances immerse aficionados, as well as those newly fascinated by flamenco, in a centuries-old world of song and dance.

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 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 \$25-\$72.

All performances take place at The Lensic Performing Arts Center (211 W. San Francisco St.).

Ticket prices and programs subject to change.

###

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Nutcracker

December 19, 2015 at 2pm & 7:30pm

December 20, 2015 at 1pm & 5pm

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

Juan Siddi Flamenco Santa Fe

March 18, 2016

7:30pm

Generously underwritten by La Boca and Taberna restaurants

The impassioned Juan Siddi Flamenco Santa Fe brings a rich visual pageant to the stage, bearing strong traces of the company's Southwestern home in New Mexico, with a direct cultural lineage to the flamenco enclaves of Europe. Lead dancer and Artistic Director Juan Siddi infuses his choreography with the flavor of his artistic roots in Barcelona and Granada, polishing the traditional with contemporary flair. This fiery ensemble of fourteen dancers and musicians—many hailing from Spain—delivers a bold theatrical experience for aficionados and flamenco newcomers alike.

“For all the pain inherent in the tradition of flamenco, there is also comfort on display here, sweat and joy.”

– *Culture Vulture*

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet

April 1, 2016

7:30pm

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*

###

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.

Juan Siddi Flamenco Santa Fe

Juan Siddi Flamenco Santa Fe galvanizes global flamenco talent in electrifying and authentic showcases conceived in the company's home base of Santa Fe. Founded in 2008, the company's crowd-pleasing performances immerse aficionados, as well as those newly fascinated by flamenco, in a centuries-old world of song and dance.

Lead dancer and artistic director Juan Siddi's rigorous choreography captures flamenco's rich cultural heritage and infuses it with contemporary flair. Virtuoso musicians and vocalists, many hailing from Spain, heighten the dramatic power. The company has left memorable impressions touring the U.S., Europe and Middle East.

In 2014, Juan Siddi Flamenco Santa Fe joined forces with Aspen Santa Fe Ballet for a shared management structure and enhanced artistic synergies.

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