



# ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

## FALL 2016 NEWS

- 04 ASFB Folklórico
- 06 Sponsor Profile
- 07 Special Event
- 08 2016-17 Winter Season
- 10 Special Events
- 12 ASFB On Tour
- 13 Special Event
- 14 Dancer Spotlight



PHOTO: SHAREN BRADFORD

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Dear Friends,

Our 20th anniversary is off to a great start thanks to your wonderful enthusiasm and support!

What a spectacular summer we have had, filled with dance and celebration. We are grateful to all of you for helping us reach this anniversary milestone.

In case you missed any of it, this newsletter looks back over all the exciting activities of the summer. After making our seventh appearance at the legendary Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, we turned our focus to our home communities of Aspen and Santa Fe, premiering two brand new ballets: *Little mortal jump* by Alejandro Cerrudo, and *Sleepless* by Jiří Kylián. We also welcomed two new dancers to the company this summer: Anna Gerberich and Evan Supple.

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet Folklórico brought children from both Santa Fe and Aspen together for an exciting debut performance at the Benedict Music Tent in Aspen. This was an incredible moment not only for the children, but also for our organization, and we were happy to highlight this important program. Those of you who were there can attest to the fact that the children were the highlight of the afternoon!

Perhaps the most touching moment of the summer was watching Samantha Klanac Campanile take her final bow with Aspen Santa Fe Ballet. Flanked by colleagues, friends, her husband, and looking out to a cheering audience, Samantha was the epitome of grace and humility.

Our summer season extended into September with a fall tour that included debut performances in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Chihuahua, Mexico. The tour concluded in Dallas with two shows at the spectacular new Dallas City Performance Hall.

We now move on to our winter season. By now you will have received an email announcing our upcoming performances. As a valued donor, you also received a code via email for early access to an exclusive two-week pre-sale, giving you the ability to buy your tickets before the general public. The best seats always sell quickly, so be sure to purchase your tickets today!

As our 20th anniversary year continues, we again thank you for your unwavering support and for helping us create lifelong memories!

Tom Mossbrucker  
Artistic Director

Jean-Philippe Malaty  
Executive Director



PHOTOS: JORDAN CURET

# Different Cultures Clap Hands

ASFB Dance Program Succeeds Through Director's Dedication

by Christine Benedetti  
*Aspen Daily News* Staff Writer

Originally published May 20, 2016  
Reprinted with permission from *Aspen Daily News*

Young boys are wielding machetes and stomping their feet. Occasionally a shout rises up from the group.

It's noisy and dizzying. Above it all someone yells "otra vez!"

And from the top they go, practicing the same set of steps and coordinated hand movements for the dance again, waiting to hear what choreographer and instructor Francisco "Paco" Nevarez-Burgueño tells them to do next.

There's no goofing off for this group of boys, ranging in age from 6 to 16. While girls sit against the wall inside Carbondale's Third Street Center, braiding each others' hair waiting for their turns, the boys rehearse the traditional Mexican dance until Nevarez-Burgueño is satisfied.

"Be proud, chest out," he says, demonstrating at the front of the room how to circle a sombrero in a windmill in front of his body.

The boys stand a little straighter and do it again.

## A Director of Distinction

Folklórico is an 18-year-old program put on by Aspen Santa Fe Ballet. More than 240 students in the Aspen and Santa Fe communities participate in it, and Nevarez-Burgueño has been at the helm for 14 years.

"Every year has more and more new faces in the program," Nevarez-Burgueño says. "It has been growing every year."

Nevarez-Burgueño travels the valley from Basalt to Rifle, teaching kids of all abilities five days a week. One student in the advanced group commutes from Rifle to Carbondale on Monday nights to participate. The program was developed by ASFB directors Jean-Philippe Malaty and Tom Mossbrucker to engage the entire student community in arts, Nevarez-Burgueño says. While many of the dancers are Latino, Anglos have also joined, making it a literal holding of hands across cultures.





Dancing is a tradition in many Mexican families, including Nevarez-Burgueño's own; he was born in Chihuahua and spent much of his youth in performing groups before becoming a professional dancer in New York City. He was recruited by ASFB from there to head the Folklórico program in the valley. Introducing different styles of movement to students of all backgrounds is one of his favorite parts of the job. He demands a lot from them, and in turn there's a shared respect. But that's not to say it's all serious.

"My favorite part is to interact with the kids," he says. "I like to teach them how to dance, to move and help them discover how they can move their bodies. And then looking at their smiles after they've seen how they can accomplish it."

His role and that relationship, which has arguably single-handedly made the program an award-winning and nationally-touring success, was recognized by the state of Colorado earlier this month when Nevarez-Burgueño was given the Governor's Creative Leadership Award. He accepted it in Carbondale during the Colorado Creative Industries Summit on May 6.

Though the recognition is deserved, Nevarez-Burgueño says he has no plans to change course.

"I'm going keep directing here in Colorado and continuing to enrich the lives of students here in the valley every day," he adds.

### **Bailando Bilingual**

Nvarez-Burgueño's classes are a melting pot, which is a reflection of the valley's makeup, where downvalley schools are more diverse than Aspen's.

"I started because I saw my cousins dancing and wanted to be a part of it," says Andy Loya, a sophomore at Roaring Fork High School. "I don't see it as just a sport. When we come together it's a family."

Folklórico and Nevarez-Burgueño have seen him grow up. He's been in the program since he was 6, and says his goal is to influence young kids to look up to the older group and "say I want to be just like that" — similar to his own experience a decade ago.

Tavia Teitler, a junior at Roaring Fork High School, remembers the first time she saw the Folklórico program in action.

"I was just enamored," she says. "I asked my grandmother to make me a skirt right away."

Teitler joined as a first-grader, and dancing in Folklórico has been a part of her life ever since. Her grandmother is still helping on the costume side of the program, which is quite extensive. The ornate skirts and dresses are a stunning spirograph of color, and the dancers are their vehicle.

"Some of the skirts have 25 yards of fabric," says Nevarez-Burgueño, who hand-sews many of the pieces himself, along with help from his mother and sister. "In the recital this Sunday, there are easily 40 dances. Every dance has a different costume, and there are 20-25 kids in each dance. You do the math."

It turns out to be between 800 and 900 costumes, which is an enormous undertaking given the additional orchestration Nevarez-Burgueño and the dancers are required to do.

"Sometimes I am getting to be overwhelmed," he says.

But the lessons the students learn, both physically and mentally, are worth it. His dedication, and theirs, is what makes it a success

It's time to take a bow, for the season, and then do it an otra vez.



collection AUTUMN-WINTER 2016-2017

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Maison Ullens, Presenting Sponsor of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's 2016 *Dancing with the Aspen Stars* Gala, unveiled its new fall line at a pre-gala reception generously hosted by Angela and Charles Cunniffe at their spectacular Red Mountain home.

## MAISON ULLENS

Now in its second year, the outstanding partnership between ASFB and Maison Ullens continues to flourish. Maison Ullens Artistic Director Kim Laursen worked with choreographer Cayetano Soto to design the bold red costumes featured in *Huma Rojo*, ASFB's latest commissioned work that launched our 20th anniversary season. Maison Ullens also generously donated 10% of all July and August sales at their Aspen boutique to Aspen Santa Fe Ballet.

Special thanks to the host committee, Angela Cunniffe, Maja DuBrul, Barbara Gold, Sherry Wachs, Rachel Zimmerman, and to all those who shopped at Maison Ullens during July and August, helping to support this beneficial partnership.



ASFB Artistic Director Tom Mossbrucker with Maison Ullens Artistic Director Kim Laursen and ASFB Executive Director Jean-Philippe Malaty



Alan and Judy Altman



Maison Ullens Artistic Director Kim Laursen (center), with Carolina Cerlat and Tracye Tackbary of Maison Ullens



Charles Cunniffe, Alexa Wells, Angela Cunniffe, and Kari Wells



National Council member Maja DuBrul, Executive Director Jean-Philippe Malaty, and Trustee Barbara Gold



Executive Director Jean-Philippe Malaty with Les Dames d'Aspen President Christine Aubale Gerschel



Kim Laursen of Maison Ullens and Trustee Rachel Zimmerman (far right) with models from Maison Ullens



ASFB dancers Jenelle Figgins, Emily Proctor, and Seia Rassenti



Karen Setterfield, Galen Bright, and Angi Wang



Angela Cunniffe, ASFB dancer Seia Rassenti, Maison Ullens Artistic Director Kim Laursen, Tracye Tackbary, and Carolina Cerlat

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NANCY MAYER, ASPEN SOJOURNER



# 2016-17 WINTER SEASON



## ASPEN



PHOTO: SHAREN BRADFORD

### ASFB'S *THE NUTCRACKER*

December 10 | 2:00pm & 7:30pm

December 11 | 1:00pm & 5:00pm

*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 ribbon 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

## SANTA FE



PHOTO: SHAREN BRADFORD

### ASFB'S *THE NUTCRACKER*

December 17 | 2:00pm & 7:30pm

December 18 | 1:00pm & 5:00pm

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 ribbon 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





PHOTO: ROSALIE O'CONNOR

## ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

February 18 | 7:30pm

April 1 | 7:30pm

*Generously underwritten by Bebe and David Schweppe*

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet brings the heat this winter, as the company unveils the world premiere of a ballet by ASFB newcomer Cherice Barton. This Los Angeles-based artist's much-lauded choreography for Broadway and Las Vegas gained her worldwide attention, but her versatility in movement styles and background as a classical ballet dancer make her an excellent fit for the dynamic dancers of ASFB. Also on the program are Alejandro Cerrudo's magical *Little mortal jump* and master choreographer Jiří Kylián's haunting *Sleepless*.

*"Aspen Santa Fe Ballet is ready for its Hollywood close-up."*

– Los Angeles Times



PHOTO: IAN DOUGLAS

## SHADOWLAND by PILOBOLUS

March 2 | 7:30pm

*Generously underwritten by Melinda and Norman Payson*

Created by famed dance company Pilobolus, *Shadowland* is a first-of-its-kind performance combining legendary modern dance with high-energy, fast-paced multimedia, merging front-of-screen choreography with projected images and moving screens of different sizes and shapes. *Shadowland* has the fluid logic of a dream powered by the grace of an acrobatic dance, evincing surprise and joyous delight in a way that is uniquely Pilobolus.

*"...an amazing spectacle of inventiveness which is unclassifiable and inspiring."*

– Le Parisien



PHOTO: IAN DOUGLAS

## SHADOWLAND by PILOBOLUS

February 28 | 7:30pm

Created by famed dance company Pilobolus, *Shadowland* is a first-of-its-kind performance combining legendary modern dance with high-energy, fast-paced multimedia, merging front-of-screen choreography with projected images and moving screens of different sizes and shapes. *Shadowland* has the fluid logic of a dream powered by the grace of an acrobatic dance, evincing surprise and joyous delight in a way that is uniquely Pilobolus.

*"...an amazing spectacle of inventiveness which is unclassifiable and inspiring."*

– Le Parisien



PHOTO: ROSALIE O'CONNOR

## ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

April 8 | 7:30pm

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet brings the heat this winter, as the company unveils the world premiere of a ballet by ASFB newcomer Cherice Barton. This Los Angeles-based artist's much-lauded choreography for Broadway and Las Vegas gained her worldwide attention, but her versatility in movement styles and background as a classical ballet dancer make her an excellent fit for the dynamic dancers of ASFB. Also on the program are Alejandro Cerrudo's magical *Little mortal jump* and master choreographer Jiří Kylián's haunting *Sleepless*.

*"Aspen Santa Fe Ballet is ready for its Hollywood close-up."*

– Los Angeles Times

### ► Performance Information

All shows take place at the Aspen District Theatre  
335 High School Road, Aspen, CO

### ► Purchase Tickets

#### ► Online

[www.aspensantafeballet.com](http://www.aspensantafeballet.com)

#### ► By Phone

Aspen Show Tickets  
970-920-5770 or toll free 866-449-0464

#### ► In Person

Visit Aspen Show Tickets at the Wheeler Opera House  
320 E. Hyman Street, Aspen, CO

### ► Performance Information

All shows take place at the The Lensic, Santa Fe's Performing Arts Center  
211 West San Francisco St., Santa Fe, NM

### ► Purchase Tickets

#### ► Online

[www.aspensantafeballet.com](http://www.aspensantafeballet.com)

#### ► By Phone

Tickets Santa Fe at The Lensic  
505-988-1234

#### ► In Person

Tickets Santa Fe at The Lensic  
211 West San Francisco St., Santa Fe, NM

*Raise the Barre*, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's largest annual fundraising event in Santa Fe, welcomed 150 patrons to Four Seasons Resort Rancho Encantado Santa Fe. The evening featured cocktails on the patio, dinner, an enticing live auction and a special performance by Bally's showgirls, direct from Las Vegas!

Thank you to all those who attended and so generously contributed. You made the event a success, helping support our performance and dance education programs in Santa Fe throughout the year. Special thanks to our event sponsors and auction donors: A-ROSA Cruises, Butterfield & Robinson, Fiasco Fine Wine, Langham Place New York, Auberge Resorts, Carneros Inn, Cavallo Point, and the Four Seasons Resort.



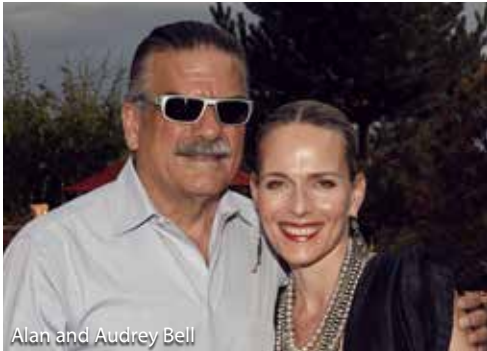
Bally's Las Vegas showgirls



Julian Howland and National Council member Kevon Zehner



ASFB dancer Sera Rassenti with Joan Lombardi and Lee Nash



Alan and Audrey Bell



National Council member Jackie Tilton



Rich DePippo, Joe Bryan, and National Council members Frank Pieri and Gary Mihalik



Maureen Brooks with Trustee Toni Kaplan



Kathy Schepps and Trustee Charles Forte



Dancer Katherine Bolaños with Trustee Leigh Moiola



Ronnie Levine, Jane Alexander, Tom Paalman, Trustee Leah Paalman, and Alex Betts



Darian Zahedi, Jennifer Kaufman, Susan Cedar, and Gary Lowenthal



Trustee Leah Paalman and Tom Paalman



Veteran dancer Samantha Klanac Campanile gave her final performance in Aspen this summer, taking her final bows to a standing ovation and a flood of flowers and well-wishes. In celebration of her career, National Council member Sherry Wachs threw a wonderful after-party, generously hosted by L'Hostaria. Samantha gave heartfelt thanks to everybody who provided support over her fifteen-year career with Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, and L'Hostaria owner Tiziano Gortan presented Samantha with a beautiful photograph of her that had been hanging in the restaurant. It was a fitting celebration for a much-loved dancer.



Samantha Klanac Campanile takes her final bow in Aspen



Samantha Klanac Campanile with ASFB founder Bebe Schweppe



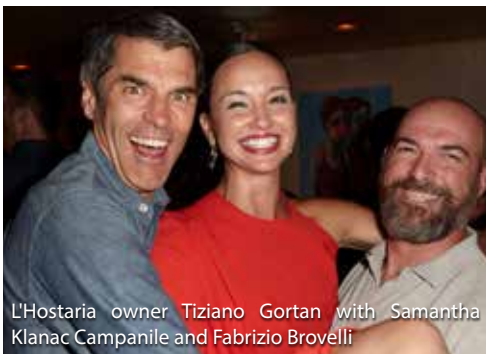
Katie Dehler with Sarah Kennedy Flug and Sam Chittenden



Artistic Director Tom Mossbrucker with National Council member Sherry Wachs



National Council members John Rowland and Scott Davidson



L'Hostaria owner Tiziano Gortan with Samantha Klanac Campanile and Fabrizio Brovelli



National Council members Sistie Fischer and Betty Davis Gates, and Trustees Melinda Payson and Barbara Gold



National Council members George and Teena Shaw with Judi and Alan Altman



Samantha Klanac Campanile with Executive Director Jean-Philippe Malaty



Michael and Anna-Marie Klanac

# ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

## ON TOUR

**MIAMI, FL**

South Miami-Dade Cultural Center  
January 28

**BEAVER CREEK, CO**

Vilar Performing Arts Center  
February 22

**DENVER, CO**

Newman Center for the Performing Arts  
February 25 - 26

**NORTHRIDGE, CA**

Valley Performing Arts Center  
March 3

**PALM DESERT, CA**

McCallum Theatre  
March 7

**IRVINE, CA**

Irvine Barclay Theatre  
March 9

**SCOTTSDALE, AZ**

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts  
April 13 & 15

**HOUSTON, TX**

Cullen Theater, Wortham Center  
April 21

**NEW YORK CITY, NY**

The Joyce Theater  
April 26 - 30

**PHILADELPHIA, PA**

Prince Theater  
May 3 - 7

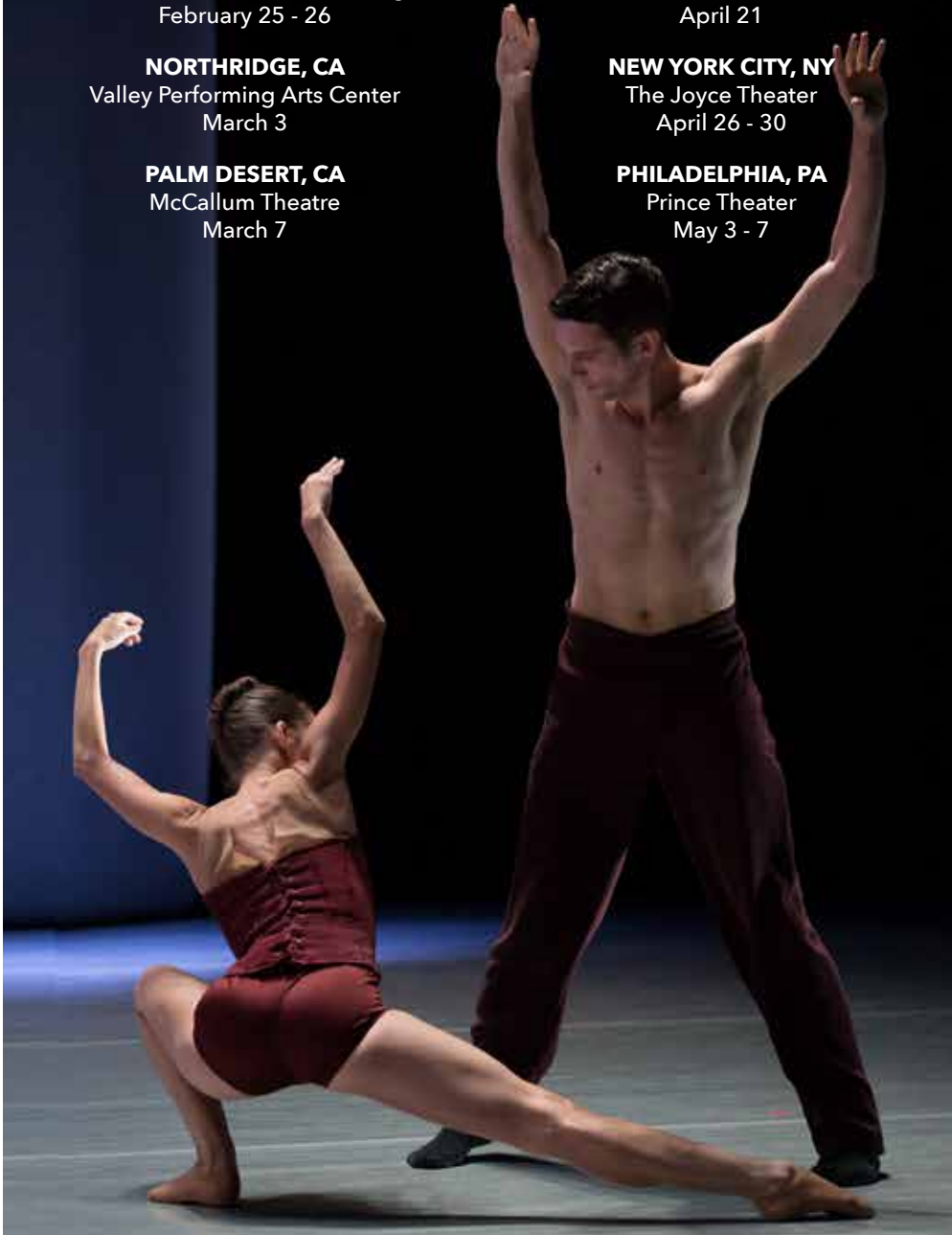
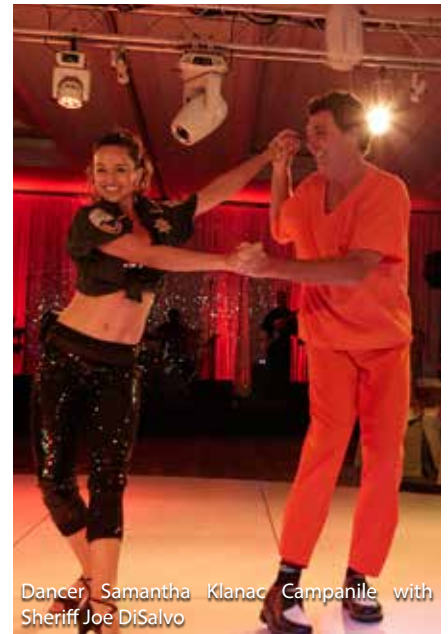


PHOTO: ROSALIE O'CONNOR

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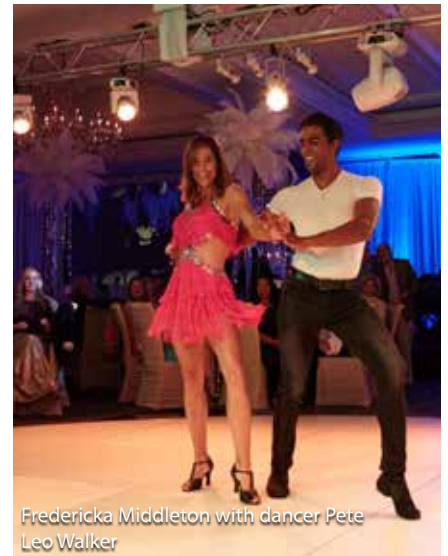
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Dancer Samantha Klanac Campanile with Sheriff Joe DiSalvo



Las Vegas showgirls entertain the guests



Fredericka Middleton with dancer Pete Leo Walker



Aspen Sojourner's Cindy Hirschfeld, Nancy Mayer, and Jo Brumet





Van Cleef & Arpels



MAISON ULLENS

PRESENTING SPONSOR

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's annual Aspen gala, *Dancing with the Aspen Stars*, generously sponsored by Maison Ullens, took place this July at the St. Regis Aspen. This year's event honored Melinda and Norman Payson for their generous support of ASFB over the years. Aspen "Stars" Sheriff Joe DiSalvo, Fredericka Middleton, and Beverle Ostrofsky wowed the audience with stellar performances in a fierce ballroom competition, helping to break records in support of our many programs. Guests were entertained by a troupe of Las Vegas showgirls and, as a special treat, Theatre Aspen Artistic Director Paige Price and ASFB Artistic Director Tom Mossbrucker joined forces for a tap duet.

Special thanks to our media partner, *Aspen Sojourner*, our host, the St. Regis Aspen, and our auction donors: *Aspen Sojourner*, Butterfield & Robinson, The Pierre, Woody Creek Distillers, Wines from Spain, Jorge Odoñez, and Van Cleef & Arpels.



Theatre Aspen Executive Artistic Director Paige Price and ASFB Artistic Director Tom Mossbrucker



Sallie Golden, Colleen Delia with National Council members Yoly and Mark Davis



Joe McGuire, Trustee Sarah Broughton, Patty Findlay, and Matt Brown with showgirls from Bally's Las Vegas



Kris Church, Trustee Rachel Zimmerman, National Council member Carrie Wells, and Trustee Mona Look-Mazza



National Council members John and Sharon Hoffman with showgirls from Bally's Las Vegas



National Council member Sherry Wachs and Artistic Director Tom Mossbrucker



Tamara Tormohlen and Mark Breslin with showgirls from Bally's Las Vegas



National Council members Amy Phelan and Nancy Rogers with Tracey and Arden Cheatham



Beverle Ostrofsky and dancer Craig Black



Megan Bentzin, Maxwell Rispoli, Noëlle Rohde, Pete Rispoli, Ray Peritz, and Donna Di Ianni



# Spotlight: Evan Supple

by Jessica Moore

PHOTO: ROSALIE O'CONNOR

If you were in the audience for one of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's summer performances, it's likely you noticed newcomer Evan Supple's unmistakably long limbs in Nicolò Fonte's *The Heart(s)pace*, or in the Santa Fe cast of Jiri Kylian's *Sleepless*. A fresh-faced graduate of Marymount Manhattan College, this Toronto native completed his early dance training at Elite Danceworx before embarking on a college career that included dancing in works by Dwight Rhoden, Paul Taylor, Azure Barton, and Desmond Richardson. His studies were further strengthened through summer intensives with Complexions, Canada's National Ballet School, and Springboard Danse Montreal.

As the company prepares for its upcoming winter seasons in Aspen and Santa Fe, let's take a moment to learn more about one of our newest dancers!

## **What is your earliest memory of dance?**

My mom owned a dance studio for 25 years, so I grew up in the studio. When I was three, I made up my own solo to Gloria Estefan's "Mambo Aye Aye Aye" and asked my mom to put it in the year-end recital. She agreed, but didn't put it in the program because she thought I would chicken out. Sure enough, I went on stage in front of 600 people and danced (mostly skips and hip circles) and sang my heart out. It was my first standing ovation.

## **When did you decide you wanted to pursue dance, specifically ballet, as a career?**

I have wanted to dance professionally since that first stage debut at age three. I thought I wanted to be a contemporary dancer until my junior year of college at Marymount Manhattan. After working with Complexions in school, I fell in love with a more technical way of investigating movement and changed my focus to make a ballet career happen for myself.

## **What first drew you to ASFB?**

The humility of each and every dancer that radiates so visibly when they perform. When I visited Aspen in January for my audition, I immediately knew this group could become my second family.

## **What expectations did you have of life in a professional company and how has your time with ASFB so far fulfilled those ideas?**

I did professional work throughout high school and college, so I had an idea of what I was getting into. It's refreshing to no longer have to be worrying about academics and grades for the first time after 17 years of school, so I can really focus my time on my dancing and developing my artistry. I am so fortunate to be with a company as esteemed as ASFB and to be treated as well as we are here immediately out of school.

## **Had you ever spent time in Colorado before moving out here for the company?**

Never. I'm Canadian and thus never studied US geography, so I barely even knew where it was on a map in relation to other states.

## **What's your ideal next vacation?**

My best friend and I are hoping to travel to Thailand this coming May.

## **What profession do you think you would pursue if not dancing?**

I would love to be a criminal prosecutor.

## **What artist do you currently listen to on repeat?**

Only one? Celine Dion. Britney [Spears] takes a very, very close second.

## **Where do you see yourself 20 years from now?**

I hope to be an attorney. I don't see myself dancing forever; I very much enjoy using my inner academic and I believe I can contribute to the world in the way I wish to most through law.



# ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

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2:00PM & 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 11  
1:00PM & 5:00PM

— SANTA FE —

DECEMBER 17  
2:00PM & 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 18  
1:00PM & 5:00PM