

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

FALL 2017 NEWS

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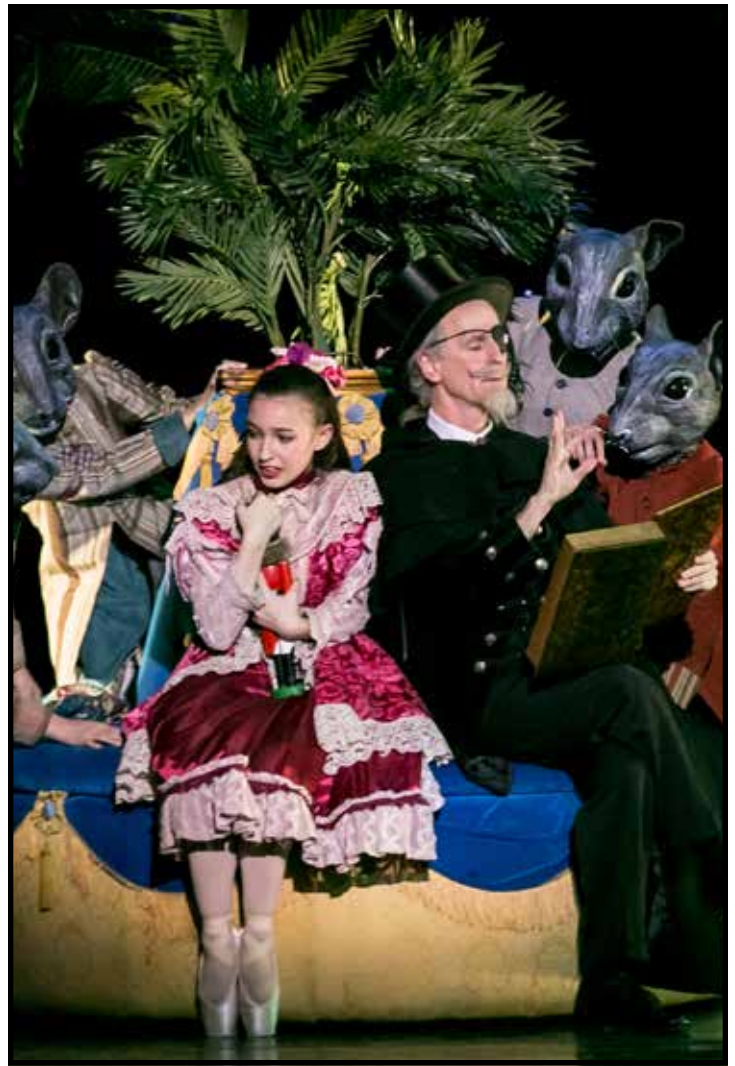


PHOTO: SHAREN BRADFORD

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

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Dear Friends,

We are still riding high from an exhilarating summer season, remarkable on so many levels: sold out performances, exciting new commissions, two incredible galas, and an outpouring of love from our community as Folklórico students from Aspen and Santa Fe came together to dance through the streets at Aspen's annual Fourth of July parade!

There is much to look forward to in the coming season as we unveil an unprecedented collaboration between Aspen Santa Fe Ballet and world-renowned pianist Joyce Yang. This co-production between ASFB and the Aspen Music Festival and School will not only be a highlight of our 2017-18 season, but is already garnering national attention from dance and music aficionados around the country, even before its first performance!

Ballet fans in Santa Fe will get a real treat this winter when we present the hilarious and iconic *Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo*, while Aspen audiences will enjoy a special one-night-only program of fan-favorites from ASFB's eclectic repertoire. The strength and agility of the next generation of young dance artists will be on high display as the acclaimed Ailey II makes stops in both Aspen and Santa Fe, showcasing their trademark power and athleticism.

This fall our dancers will tour to New Orleans, Chattanooga, Germantown, Carmel, and Vernon and Victoria in Canada. We return home just in time to bring the curtain up once again on Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's beloved production of *The Nutcracker*.

Our schools are back in high gear with many of our students returning from summer studies at prestigious dance intensives around the country. We applaud these young students for their hard work and dedication to the art form. We also take great pride in our stellar faculty who prepare them for such rigorous programs, instilling a love for dance and an understanding that, with discipline and commitment, they can achieve their goals.

With so much dance happening this winter, it is more important than ever that you purchase your tickets early, as we anticipate high demand for these one-night-only performances. We continue to give our donors priority in purchasing tickets with access to ticket sales before the general public. Many shows sold out last summer, so we hope you take advantage of this valuable perk and secure your favorite seats before they're gone!

As always, we thank you for your support, your patronage, and your enthusiasm. We hope to see all of you at the theater this winter!

Tom Mossbrucker
Artistic Director

Jean-Philippe Malaty
Executive Director

Garnering
applause from
Aspen's most
discerning readers

Aspen SOJOURNER

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Oh The Places You'll Go...

ASFB Folklórico's 2017 Graduates

ASFB's Folklórico program strives to enrich the lives of children through free, after-school instruction in Mexican folkloric dance. Under the direction of Francisco "Paco" Nevarez, the program promotes artistic excellence, positive youth development, and the crossing of cultural boundaries by students and their families. It represents ASFB's firm commitment to engage and inspire new generations of creative thinkers and artists.

In addition to receiving dance instruction and performance opportunities, the participants of ASFB's Folklórico have access to an educational advisor, Karla Stukey, who monitors the students' academic progress and helps prepare them for college. This spring, ASFB's Folklórico program graduated four seniors who are going on to pursue their college degrees. Aspen Santa Fe Ballet wishes them all the best in their future endeavors!

Margarita Alvarez

Number of years in Folklórico: 11
 Attending: Colorado Boulder University
 Majoring in: International Business

Rodrigo Perez

Number of years in Folklórico: 8
 Attending: University of Northern Colorado
 Majoring in: Theater and Dance

Cristal Revilla

Number of years in Folklórico: 12
 Attending: Fort Lewis College, Durango.
 Majoring in: Exercise Science and Athletic Training

Tavia Teitler

Number of years in Folklórico: 12
 Attending: Stanford University
 Majoring in: Anthropology and Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity

Pictured above:

Tavia Teitler, Margarita Alvarez, Cristal Revilla, and
 Rodrigo Perez

Summer Happenings

Donor Open Rehearsal for Elo / Yang Project

Donors at the National Council level and above were invited to witness choreography in action this August, as they got a sneak peek at ASFB's latest ballet: a collaboration between world-renowned pianist Joyce Yang and acclaimed Finnish choreographer, Jorma Elo. Guests were totally enthralled watching such a gifted pianist as Yang play live in the studio as ASFB's dancers tackled Elo's thrilling choreography. The new ballet will ▼ premiere this winter in Santa Fe (March 24) and in Aspen (March 31) before touring to California.



Daniel Ulbricht Masterclass

Advanced-level students from The School of ASFB got quite the treat this August, as they had the opportunity to participate in a ballet masterclass with Stars of American Ballet Director and New York City Ballet principal dancer, Daniel Ulbricht, and also attend the following evening's sold-out performance. ▲



Open Rehearsal for Ascendigo

Based in the Roaring Fork Valley, Ascendigo ► Autism Services is a non-profit organization that offers physical, experimental, and collaborative activities to persons on the autism spectrum. This summer, ASFB invited a group from Ascendigo to attend a sensory friendly dress rehearsal of Fernando Melo's new ballet *Dream Play*. Our guests enjoyed the performance in an informal and welcoming setting, many seeing dance for the first time. Meeting the dancers after the performance was the highlight of this memorable experience. We are looking forward to continuing to collaborate with Ascendigo in the future.



ASFB Folklorico on Parade

Aspen's Old-Fashioned 4th of July Parade got an infusion of lively music and dance this summer, as students from both Aspen and Santa Fe's Folklorico program performed for the crowds that had gathered for this popular summer event. The students' spirited presentation earned the designations of "Overall Crowd Favorite" and "Best Music" in this year's parade.



2017-18 WINTER SEASON

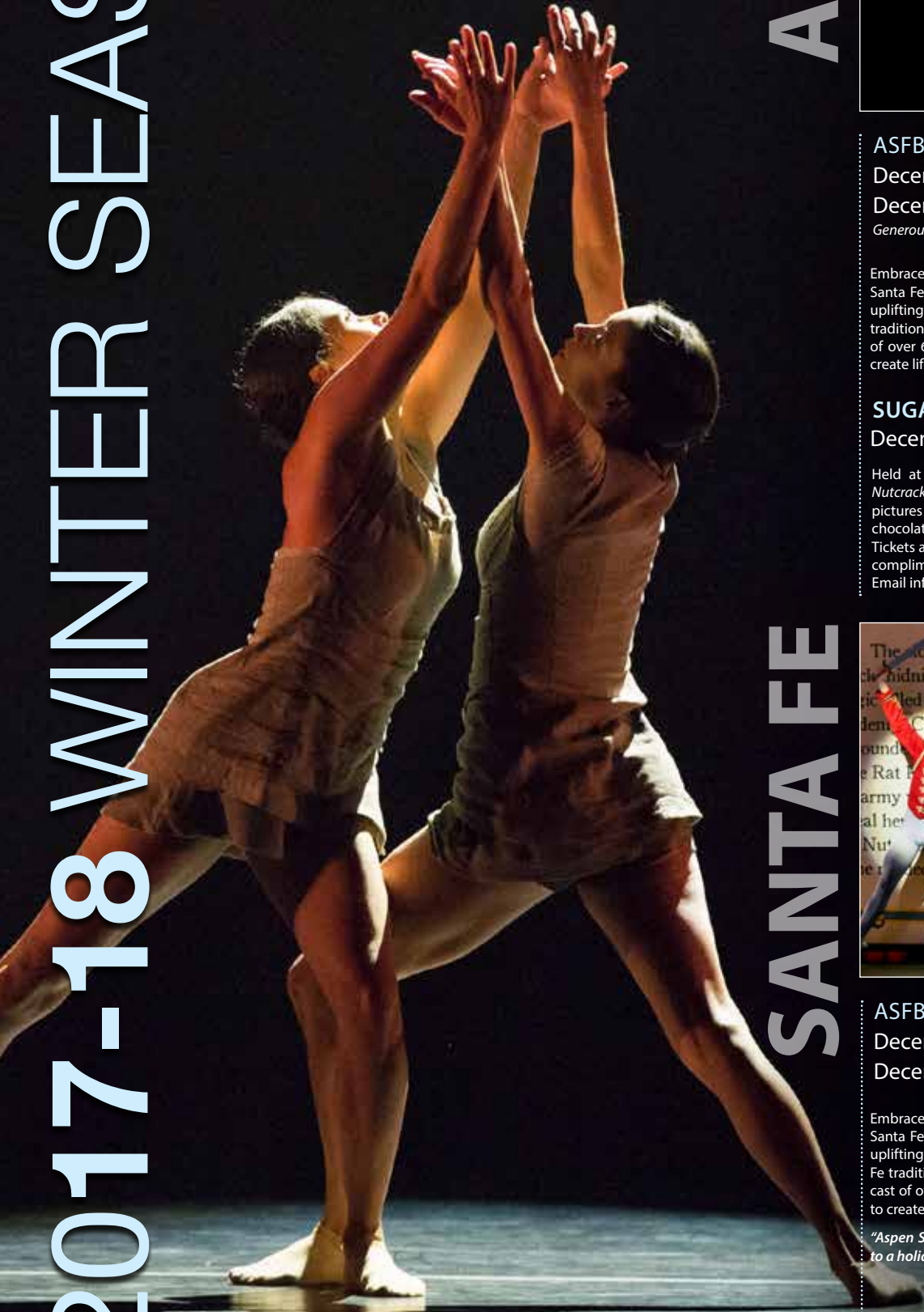


PHOTO: ROSALIE O'CONNOR

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ASPEN



PHOTO: SHAREN BRADFORD

ASFB'S *THE NUTCRACKER*

December 9 | 2:00pm & 7:30pm

December 10 | 1:00pm & 5:00pm

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.

SUGAR PLUM TEA PARTY

December 10 | 3:00pm

Held at the historic Hotel Jerome, bring the magic of *The Nutcracker* to life at this lavish afternoon event! Meet and take pictures with your favorite characters while enjoying decadent chocolates, sweets, warm drinks, and surprise entertainment. Tickets are \$30 for the general public. ASFB donors receive two complimentary Tea Party tickets with advance reservations. Email info@aspensantafeballet.com to reserve.

SANTA FE



PHOTO: SHAREN BRADFORD

ASFB'S *THE NUTCRACKER*

December 16 | 2:00pm & 7:30pm

December 17 | 1:00pm & 5:00pm

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 Santa Fe 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



PHOTO: JORDAN CURET

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

January 20 | 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. The program includes Alejandro Cerrudo's enigmatic *Silent Ghost* with its haunting closing duet, Cayetano Soto's brash and extroverted *Huma Rojo* set to the popular music of Xavier Cugat, and the perspective-bending *Dream Play* by Fernando Melo. 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



PHOTO: EDUARDO PATINO

AILEY II

February 16 | 7:30pm

Generously underwritten by Melinda and Norman Payson

The talented dancers of Ailey II are renowned for captivating audiences and translating their strength and agility into powerful performances. Under the artistic direction of Troy Powell, this critically-acclaimed company presents vibrant performances and innovative community programs across the country and internationally. The Ailey spirit shines as these artists perform an exhilarating and diverse repertory that includes Alvin Ailey's timeless classics and thrilling new works by today's outstanding emerging choreographers.

"The future is theirs."

– The New York Times



PHOTO: MICHELE CARDAMONE

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET: AN EVENING WITH PIANIST JOYCE YANG

March 24 | 7:30pm

Generously underwritten by Judith Steinberg and Paul Hoenmans

Presented in collaboration with the Aspen Music Festival & School

Experience a milestone in Aspen Santa Fe Ballet history: an entire evening performed to live piano brought to life by the world-renowned Joyce Yang, a Van Cliburn International Piano Competition silver medalist and Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient. At the center of this program is a world premiere by noted Finnish choreographer Jorma Elo, who collaborated with Yang on a new ballet set to Robert Schumann's *Carnaval*. Also on the program are Jiří Kylián's seminal *Return to a Strange Land* with the music of Leoš Janáček, and Nicolo Fonte's *Where We Left Off* with music by Philip Glass.

"[Yang's] attention to detail and clarity is as impressive as her agility, balance, and velocity."

– Washington Post



PHOTO: SASCHA VAUGHN

LES BALLETS TROCKADEROS DE MONTE CARLO

January 23 | 7:30pm

Generously underwritten by Bill Thornton

Dancing the fine line between high art and high camp, the internationally beloved Les Ballets Trockaderos de Monte Carlo have delighted audiences around the world for four decades. Risking comfort for brilliant pointe work, this 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 hilarious evenings for dance aficionados and complete novices alike.

"The funniest night you will ever have at the ballet."

– Sunday Times



PHOTO: KYLE FROMAN

AILEY II

February 13 | 7:30pm

The talented dancers of Ailey II are renowned for captivating audiences and translating their strength and agility into powerful performances. Under the artistic direction of Troy Powell, this critically-acclaimed company presents vibrant performances and innovative community programs across the country and internationally. The Ailey spirit shines as these artists perform an exhilarating and diverse repertory that includes Alvin Ailey's timeless classics and thrilling new works by today's outstanding emerging choreographers.

"The future is theirs."

– The New York Times



PHOTO: MICHELE CARDAMONE

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET: AN EVENING WITH PIANIST JOYCE YANG

March 31 | 7:30pm

Experience a milestone in Aspen Santa Fe Ballet history: an entire evening performed to live piano brought to life by the world-renowned Joyce Yang, a Van Cliburn International Piano Competition silver medalist and Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient. At the center of this program is a world premiere by noted Finnish choreographer Jorma Elo, who collaborated with Yang on a new ballet set to Robert Schumann's *Carnaval*. Also on the program are Jiří Kylián's seminal *Return to a Strange Land* with the music of Leoš Janáček, and Nicolo Fonte's *Where We Left Off* with music by Philip Glass.

"[Yang's] attention to detail and clarity is as impressive as her agility, balance, and velocity."

– Washington Post

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

ON TOUR

GERMANTOWN, TN

Germantown Performing Arts Center
October 28

CHATTANOOGA, TN

UTC Fine Arts Center
October 30

CARMEL, IN

The Tarkington at the Center for the Performing Arts
November 3

NEW ORLEANS, LA

Freda Lupin Memorial Hall, NOCCA
November 10-11

VERNON, BC, CANADA

Vernon and District Performing Arts Centre
November 14

VICTORIA, BC, CANADA

Royal Theatre
November 17-18

TULSA, OK

Tulsa Performing Arts Center
January 26-27

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

ENT Center for the Arts
March 28

ORANGE COUNTY, CA

Irvine Barclay Theater
April 5

NORTHRIDGE, CA

Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts
April 7



PHOTO: ROSALE O'CONNOR

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

www.aspensantafeballet.com



PHOTO: EDUARDO PATINO

Ailey II: The Future of Dance

by Jessica Moore

“There’s nothing like an evening
spent with Ailey II.”

—*The New York Times*

SANTA FE

Ailey II

February 13 | 7:30pm

The Lensic, Santa Fe's
Performing Arts Center

ASPEN

Ailey II

February 16 | 7:30pm

Aspen District Theatre

The 2017-18 Winter Season gives ASFB audiences the opportunity to witness this company of 12 talented young dancers in action, as Ailey II embarks upon a massive 32-city tour. ASFB is thrilled to be hosting this amazing ensemble in Santa Fe (Feb. 13) and in Aspen (Feb. 16) for one-night-only performances that are sure to sell out.

Ailey II has developed over the last forty years into a pioneering vehicle for some of the country’s best young dance talent and rising choreographers. In addition to performing the works of such masters as Donald Byrd, Ulysses Dove, Lar Lubovitch, and, of course, Alvin Ailey himself—including his masterwork, *Revelations*—their repertory also includes works by emerging voices such as Kyle Abraham, Jennifer Archibald, and Manuel Vignoulle.

Originally called the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble, Ailey founded the junior company in 1974 to serve as a bridge between The Ailey School and life in the professional dance world, appointing veteran Ailey dancer Sylvia Waters to take the helm as Artistic Director. While secondary companies can often be discounted as a necessary stop on the way to joining the main company, Waters established Ailey II as one of America’s most popular dance companies in its own right. After a 38-year career, Waters retired in 2012, transferring leadership to her longtime associate, Troy Powell.

Still today, Powell and his nimble ensemble strive to embody Ailey’s mission of establishing an extended cultural community through dance performances, training, and neighborhood programs both in the United States and abroad. Their work has not gone unnoticed, as accolades from the press follow them wherever they go. As the *New York Amsterdam News* proclaimed, “...the dancers of Ailey II simply never disappoint. What can’t the dancers of Ailey II do? The answer: They can do no wrong.”

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 Resort. This year's event honored Judith Zee Steinberg and Paul Hoenmans for their generous support of ASFB over the years and Judith's longstanding service as a trustee. Aspen "stars" Amanda Boxtel, Nicholas Lincoln, Kimberly Schlosser, and Karim Souki 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 acclaimed Charleston dancer, Ksenia Parkhatskaya.

Special thanks to our media partner, *Aspen Sojourner*, and our host, the St. Regis Aspen Resort. Thank you also to Fine Estates from Spain, Jorge Ordonez Selections for their generous donation of wine and Woody Creek Distillery for their donation of spirits. Special thanks to our auction donors: AMAN, Auberge Resorts, Butterfield & Robinson, Chablé, Tony DiLucia, John Galante, Sharon and John Hoffman, Maison Ullens, Mawa's Kitchen, Moulin Rouge Paris, Prince de Galles Hotel Paris, The Strand, Van Cleef & Arpels, and Kevon Zehner & Ron Ritchhart.



2017 Dancing with the Aspen Stars champions, Nick Lincoln and ASFB dancer Sadie Brown



National Council member Toby Lewis (center) with Mark Zitelli (left) and Jonathan Lewis (right)



Rachel Gildor and National Council member Soledad Hurst



John Rowland with Trustees Ruth Carver and Sarah Broughton



Dancing Star Amanda Boxtel performing with ASFB dancer Joseph Watson



Paul Zimmerman, trustee Rachel Zimmerman and Clive Lonstein



Dancing Star Kimberly Schlosser performing with ASFB dancer Pete Leo Walker



National Council member Susan Crown, trustee Mona Look-Mazza, and Angie Stewart



Trustee Angela Cunniffe with Charles Cunniffe



ASFB 2017 Dancing Star Karim Souki and his wife, Erika Souki



National Council member Mary Ann Frenzel (center) with ASFB directors Jean-Philippe Malaty (left) and Tom Mossbrucker (right)



Trustee Charles Forte, dancer Jenelle Figgins, and MaryEllen Collins

Raise the Barre, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's largest annual fundraising event in Santa Fe, welcomed 150 patrons to the Four Seasons Resort Rancho Encantado Santa Fe with a speakeasy theme this past July. The gala evening featured cocktails on the patio, dinner, an enticing live auction, and a special performance by acclaimed Charleston dancer, Ksenia Parkhatskaya.

A heartfelt thank you to all those who attended and so generously contributed to the auction and the paddle raise portion of the evening. 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: Arnaud's, Auberge Resorts, Butterfield & Robinson, The Casbarian family, David Morris International, Eden Rock, Fiasco Fine Wine, Le Guanahani, Ritz Reserve, Sazón, Sharon and John Hoffmann, Silversea Cruises, Tradewind Aviation, and our host, the Four Seasons Resort.



National Council member Ron Ritchhart, Julian Howland, National Council member Kevon Zehner, Jason Laws



National Council members Robin and Carl Hardin



Trustee and gala chair Leah Paalman with National Council member Tom Paalman



Madeleine Gehrig Lister (center) with dancers Joseph Watson and Seia Rassenti Watson



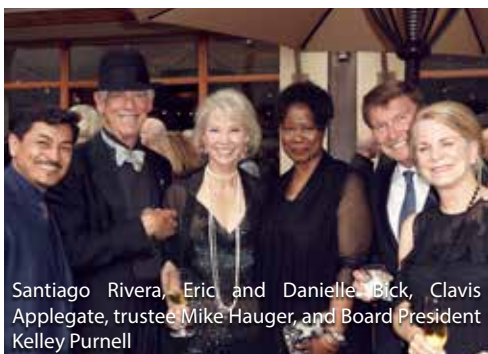
Pat Patman, Mary Beth Patman, Ryn Staley, Jim Staley, National Council members Patricia and Charley Brewer, and trustee Laurie Farber-Condon



Adam Hoffberg and Chris Cain



Ricardo Sanchez, Kurt and Aviva Faust, Susan and Shawn McCoy, and trustee Keith Gorges



Santiago Rivera, Eric and Danielle Bick, Clavis Applegate, trustee Mike Hauger, and Board President Kelley Purnell



James Kaplan, trustee Toni Kaplan, and dancer Evan Supple



National Council members Bruce and Mary Anne Larsen with dancer Pete Leo Walker (center)

A portrait of Austin Joseph Reynolds, a young man with short brown hair, smiling warmly. He is wearing a dark-colored t-shirt. The background is a solid dark color.

Spotlight: Austin Joseph Reynolds

by Jessica Moore

A native of Detroit, Michigan, Austin Joseph Reynolds is in his first year with Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, having joined the company immediately upon graduating from The Juilliard School in June 2017. If you were in the audience for one of ASFB's summer performances, it's likely you saw Austin perform in the world premiere of Fernando Melo's *Dream Play*. Tackling a diverse repertoire is nothing new for Austin. During his time studying at Juilliard, as well as at Interlochen Arts Academy and Springboard Danse Montreal, Austin performed works by Jiří Kylián, Alexander Ekman, and Ohad Naharin, as well as new creations by Jennifer McQuiston Lott, Stephan Laks, Matthew Neenan, and Zvi Gotheiner.

As ASFB gears up for another busy season, let's learn a bit more about our newest company member...

What is your earliest memory of dance?

I grew up as an actor, so, to some extent, dance was always around me. However, my first time experiencing dance as I know it now was seeing Eisenhower Dance Ensemble in Michigan when I was around 12 years old. They performed a piece called *Tom Songs*, a tribute to the choreographer Laurie Eisenhower's late husband. It was a collection of his favorite artists—Bob Dylan, Van Morrison, and Bonnie Raitt—set to contemporary movement. I found it deeply moving and like nothing I had ever seen before.

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

Well, I had been training to become a professional actor, but after a series of events in my life, I switched to start studying ballet. It was not until my senior year of high school that I realized it might be possible to become a professional dancer.

What first drew you to ASFB?

ASFB has been in my life for longer than I realized when I was auditioning this past spring. The company actually came to my high school, Interlochen Arts Academy, to perform. I remember Katherine [Bolaños] performing a Forsythe work called *Slingerland* on pointe. She made me fall in love with Forsythe's work and this company!

How has your first professional dance company experience met or differed from what you expected?

In the best way possible way, it is much of what I expected from my years of training. Although, what has been unexpected is how quickly I developed relationships with my fellow company members. They have been incredibly welcoming to me.

Had you ever spent time in Colorado before moving out here for ASFB?

My first time in Colorado was last summer on a road trip from Salt Lake City following a friend's wedding. My friends and I stayed just outside of Denver for a few days. Even then, I was captured by the state's beauty.

What's your ideal next vacation?

My ideal vacation would be shared with someone and entail being someplace for long enough to really feel the culture—the tastes, the smells, the traditions. Specifically, I'd love to go back to France and make it to Italy someday.

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

I would love to become a psychologist.

What song or artist are you currently listening to on repeat?

A\$AP Rocky's second album.

Where do you see yourself 20 years from now?

Someday I want to become a choreographer, so, I guess, wherever that may lead me.

What are you enjoying most about living in Aspen?

The landscapes are my favorite part about living in Aspen. Right outside of my apartment there is a place to sit and read overlooking the mountains that's particularly beautiful.

What are you most looking forward to this winter season?

The opportunity to perform so often is very thrilling to me. I am looking forward to how I can develop my roles over a period of time, and, more specifically, I am excited to finally make it to New Orleans.

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

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ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

THE NUTCRACKER

— ASPEN —

DECEMBER 9
2:00PM & 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 10
1:00PM & 5:00PM

— SANTA FE —

DECEMBER 16
2:00PM & 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 17
1:00PM & 5:00PM