

weekend

Northern Lights

Compagnie Marie Chouinard brings '24 Preludes' and 'Rite of Spring' to Aspen



THEATER Match with 'Sex with Strangers' B7 • **WHAT'S HAPPENING** B2

The Artist,
The Censor,
and The Nude

A Tale of Morality
and Appropriation



Be part of the art!

Thursday, August 10, 7 – 9 PM
CRITICAL DIALOGUE
The Artist, The Censor and The
Nude with Pamela Joseph, Glenn
Harcourt, Eleanor Heartney &
Francis Naumann

Register at andersonranch.org



Saturday, August 5, 11 AM – 3 PM
**ANNUAL ART AUCTION &
COMMUNITY PICNIC**
Anderson Ranch's community
event and fundraiser is a summer
highlight! Join art lovers for a
picnic lunch (\$15), live music and
fun, with 200+ works of art offered
in live and silent auctions.
Live auction begins at NOON!

AndersonRanch
arts center

Visit andersonranch.org
or call 970/923-3181



Elijah Brown and Julio Cesar Hong in "24 Preludes by Chopin."

MARIE CHOUINARD/COURTESY PHOTO

Chopin, Stravinsky and Marie Chouinard

French-Canadian ballet company brings a provocative program to Aspen



MARIE CHOUINARD/COURTESY PHOTO

Mathilde Monnard and Dominique Porte in "Rite of Spring."

The bold and brilliant Montreal-based choreographer Marie Chouinard is bringing two of her ballet company's signature pieces to Aspen. In "24 Preludes by Chopin" and "Rite of Spring," Chouinard harnesses the power of iconic music by Chopin and Stravinsky and her company's skillful dancers to take an audience on what she calls "a voyage into the human soul."

Presented by Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, the one-night guest performance runs this evening at the Aspen District Theatre.

After a distinguished career as a solo performer and choreographer, Chouinard — who The New York Times once dubbed "Montreal's extroverted bad-girl choreographer" — formed her company in 1990. Her work with Compagnie Marie Chouinard utilizes elements of contemporary and classical ballet along with dance traditions from around the world, honoring the wonders of the human body in potent ballets of primal and carnal inspiration.

The 10-dancer company travels the world speaking the international language of dance. Recent tour stops have included Europe, India and the U.S. Audiences are essentially the same everywhere, Chouinard believes.

"We are basically all human beings and all relate to works of art — it's like listening to Bach or something, the human brain reacts very similarly," she said earlier this summer from Venice, where Chouinard directs the dance program from the Venice Biennale. "I don't see so many differences. It's the human soul in a work of art."

While both of the works in Saturday's program are responses to classical music, these one-act pieces — bisected by an intermission — don't necessarily complement one another. Chouinard wants each to stand on its own.

"It's like if you go in a museum and see two different paintings by one artist in the

same room," she explained. "It's like that." "24 Preludes," performed with a live pianist, premiered in 1999 in Vienna. Chouinard recalled that she had been listening to Chopin without work in mind, simply for pleasure.

"One day there was a shock," she recalled. "I was like, 'Oh my god, I have to choreograph on this piece!' It was a sudden, strong, emergency urge. I needed to do this."

She describes it as the choreographic equivalent of a short-story collection. Each of these 24 distinct and miniature ballets — some less than a minute long — creates its own world from a solo or duet or group performance.

"They are all very short stories, short essays — each one a different picture of the human soul, a different way of approaching the soul, another piece of the soul," Chouinard explained. "And yet each one is complete. There is a totality in each of the little pieces."

Her groundbreaking "Rite of Spring," created in 1993, is a 50-minute visual spectacle. Unlike other ballets set to the Stravinsky masterpiece, Chouinard's "Rite" — performed by topless, body-painted dancers — doesn't have a story or characters. Instead, it is her distilled visual expression of the creation and meaning of life itself and the body's synchronicity with sound. Chouinard once described her process in choreographing it by saying "it is as if I were dealing with the very moment after the instant life first appeared."

Grappling with the history of "Rite of Spring" — which is said to have incited a riot at the premiere of Vaslav Nijinsky's scandalous (for its time) ballet in Paris in 1913 — is of no interest to Chouinard. Shrugging off its cultural baggage, the choreographer said she made her "Rite"

Andrew Travers
The Aspen Times

BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A[®]
True Value[®]
 While supplies last. Sale ends 8/13/17

BARGAINS OF THE MONTH[®]



LOUISVILLE
SAVE 30% OR MORE
24.99

2 ft. Aluminum Type 1A Stepladder
 Features sturdy construction with a 300-lb. duty rating.
 P 636 137 1 While supplies last.



HOT DEAL!
19.99

47 lb. Dry Dog Food
 100% complete and balanced nutrition.
 H 161 096 1 While supplies last.

SAVE 20% OR MORE
14.99

6 ft., 3-Outlet Surge Strip with USB
 Features right-angle plug, 2 USB ports and 3 grounded outlets.
 300 joules. E 225 240 B8 While supplies last.



SAVE 40% OR MORE
YOUR CHOICE
2.99

Qt. Motor Oil
 Choose 10W-30, SAE 30, 10W-40 or 5W-30.
 H 126 680; 153 437; 228 841; 458 174 F12 While supplies last.



7.99 SALE PRICE
-2.00 MAIL-IN REBATE*

2 pk., 14 oz. Wasp & Hornet Killer
 L 141 858 B6 While supplies last.
*Limit 1 per household. Customer is responsible for taxes and fees.

HOT DEAL!
YOUR CHOICE
6.99

8 pk. AA or AAA Alkaline Batteries
 E 137 898, 899 While supplies last.



HOT DEAL!
YOUR CHOICE
7.99

4 pk. C, D or 2 pk. 9V Alkaline Batteries
 E 193 042; 192 096; 196 615 While supplies last.



August 17 BOM Ad

Free shipping to our store on your TrueValue.com orders

MINER'S BUILDING HARDWARE



319 East Main Street, Across from Carl's
925-5550 • www.minersbuilding.com
 Free Customer Parking Behind The Store!

HOURS
 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
 Mon-Sat



NICOLAS RUEL/COURTESY PHOTO

Carol Prieur and James Viveiros in Marie Chouinard's "Rite of Spring."

BALLET

From page B5

as if she was the first to hear and dance to Stravinsky's orchestral work.

"All I want to do is connect to Stravinsky, to the music that he created — not with the history of the music, just the vibrational, rhythmical quality of the music and the way that it gets into your ears," she said. "I am not thinking about how many choreographers have done it before, the history of it — I really don't care."

Stravinsky's score — with all of its dissonance and wild, shifting rhythms — remains a wellspring of inspiration for Chouinard.

If You Go ...

What: Compagnie Marie Chouinard, presented by Aspen Santa Fe Ballet

Where: Aspen District Theatre

When: Today, 4 and 8 p.m.

How much: \$36 to \$94

Tickets: Wheeler Opera House box office; www.aspenshowtix.com

"It's a challenge but it is such a gift to a choreographer," she said. "All of these rhythms that are overlaying one another and changing and you can feel it in your body. It's wonderful. Thank you, Stravinsky."

atravers@aspentimes.com

**45 LITTLE ELK CREEK LOT
 OLD SNOWMASS | \$350,000**



A 1-acre lot in the Little Elk Creek subdivision. This parcel provides a true mountain living experience with the convenience of being only 30 minutes from Aspen and 20 minutes from Snowmass. **MLS# 149333**

**MID-CENTURY MODERN RETREAT
 WEST ASPEN | \$4,495,000**



Mid-Century Modern half duplex designed by renowned California architects Weber & Nicholson in the mid-70s is located on a private West Aspen lot. The residence has excellent southern exposure allowing for all day sun. There are peaceful outdoor spaces including a very zen moss garden and seasonal stream. **MLS# 149938**



BASSWOGANTEAM

at Douglas Elliman Real Estate

RAIFIE BASS Broker Associate
 O: 970.925.8810 C: 970.948.7424
raifie.bass@elliman.com

WENDY WOGAN Broker Associate
 O: 970.925.8810 C: 970.948.8948
wendy.wogan@elliman.com



elliman.com/colorado

FREE • Friday, August 4, 2017

THE ASPEN TIMES

SINCE 1881

.COM



'A voyage
into the
**HUMAN
SOUL'**

*More on Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's
one-night performance on page B5*