



# WELCOME





Warren Miller once told me, "just because you move to a ski town doesn't mean you move away from the arts." In fact, he said, "I believe you will be able to create better work here than you could living in a half-bedroom apartment in Manhattan."

I look at any given week, or really any day here at WMPAC, and see that Warren was right. Whether it's with students on stage in the morning planning their next classroom theater assignment, or locals filling the space with innovative productions, or prepping for our next big spectacle, the work we are doing here at WMPAC is absolutely bursting with creativity.

If our last 10 years has taught us anything, it's that we will continue to grow alongside the community of Big Sky and southwest Montana. Big Sky will have grown in population again by then, so my great hope is that we have more locals on stage throughout more seasons of the year, and that we have an opportunity to build out more programming that continues to inspire and bring people together.

I remain inspired by Warren's words and his legacy. Let's be bold, and let's continue on our adventure together. Thank you for seeing a show in Big Sky. We're so glad you're here.



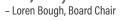
-John Zirkle, Executive Director

Ten years is a lifetime. Ten years is also only the beginning. This year, the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center celebrates its first decade. A lot of our debut season back in 2012 and 2013 was about trying out new things, asking what a performing arts center should be in a mountain town, and honoring Warren Miller's legacy.

We still ask that question, especially after the ongoing challenges of the last couple years, but we have grown through the difficulties and come out the other side with a sharper understanding of how to best serve and inspire the people in our community. If anything, though, the humbling experience of these last couple years has made us hungrier than ever for adventurous thinkers and an authentic commitment to creative presentation.

Big Sky has become a bigger place than when we opened our doors ten years ago. Our mission is to bolster our community through the arts, and by the end of our first ten years, we will have put on over 300 shows, which include 1,500 professional touring artists and teachers and 5,000 local performers on our stage, serving a total audience of more than 70,000 patrons. And all of that happened in a town that only recently exceeded 3,000 full-time residents. Bravo to WMPAC for this remarkable achievement!

So, onto the next decade. I, for one, can't wait to see what else it holds.





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# JAMES SEWELL BALLET + THE AHN TRIO

#### YURYUNG

#### JSB + Ahn Trio

Choreography by James Sewell Music by Pat Metheny (written for Ahn Trio) Dancers: Company

#### **SKYLIFE**

#### JSB + Ahn Trio

Choreography by Arimee Gambill Music by David Balakrishnan/Kenji Bunch Dancers: Jarod Boltjes, Rachel Seeholzer, & Connor Simone

#### **TIME LAPSE**

#### JSB + Ahn Trio

Choreography by Michael Walters Music by Michael Nyman/Lucia Ahn Dancer: Chloe Duryea

#### **NINA NANE**

#### JSB + Ahn Trio

Choreography by Myron Johnson Music by Nguyen Le (written for Ahn Trio) Dancers: Jarod Boltjes & Rachel Seeholzer

#### **GROOVEBOXES**

#### Ahn Trio

Music by Kenji Bunch (written for Ahn Trio)

#### **NEO**

#### **JSB**

Choreography by James Sewell Music by Bach Dancers: Jarod Boltjes, Chloe Duryea, Arimee Gambill, Rachel Seeholzer, & Connor Simone

#### ΙF

#### **Ahn Trio**

Music by Michael Nyman/Lucia Ahn

#### **LITTLE WING**

#### JSB + Ahn Trio

Choreography by Eve Schulte Music by Jimi Hendrix/D.D. Jackson Dancers: Jarod Boltjes, Arimee Gambill, & Connor Simone

#### >> INTERMISSION <<

#### **BIRDIE**

#### **JSB**

Choreography by James Sewell Music by Yma Sumac Dancer: Jarod Boltjes

#### **MAGIC HOUR**

#### Ahn Trio

Music by Kenji Bunch

#### **GREY**

#### **JSB**

Choreography by James Sewell Music by DakhaBrakha Dancers: Company

#### **NUVOLE BIANCHE**

#### Ahn Trio

Music by Ludovico Einaudi/Lucia Ahn

#### **LINA'S WALTZ**

#### ISB + Ahn Trio

Choreography by Jordan Lefton Music by Hyung-ki Joo Dancers: Arimee Gambill & Connor Simone; Jarod Boltjes & Hettie Stern

# RIDERS ON THE STORM

#### JSB + Ahn Trio

Choreography by Rachel Seeholzer Music by the Doors /Michal Rataj Dancers: Arimee Gambill with Jarod Boltjes, Chloe Duryea, Connor Simone, & Hettie Stern

#### **RINGS**

#### JSB + Ahn Trio

Choreography by James Sewell Music by David Bowie/Pat Metheny Dancer: James Sewell

# HEART ASKS PLEASURE FIRST

#### JSB + Ahn Trio

Choreography by James Sewell Music by Michael Nyman Dancers: Jarod Boltjes, Chloe Duryea, Arimee Gambill, Rachel Seeholzer, & Connor Simone







### THE AHN TRIO

The Ahn Trio—The Ahn Trio—composed of sisters Lucia (piano), Maria (cello) and Angella (violin)-has enthralled audiences with their freewheeling approach to chamber music, their original programming, musical trailblazing and their unabashed zeal in playing works written for them by living composers. All trained at the Juilliard School of music, the Korean-born sisters have been celebrated as consummate musicians, innovative collaborators, classical music ambassadors and teachers. The LA Times has called them "exacting and exciting musicians," and New York Newsday has proclaimed them "Classical Revolutionaries".

In their two decades of touring, the Trio has performed all over the world and in all 50 states. Of their experiences the Ahns say "getting invited to perform at places like the Obama White House, TED Women where we were amongst esteemed female leaders, or being invited to perform at the iTunes Festival in London where Michael Nyman sat in for Lucia for one of Trio's favorite pieces written by Nyman, *Heart Asks Pleasure First*, all these extraordinary experiences are very humbling and remind us of how lucky we are to be able to share our art all over the world." From Vienna's Musikverein, Buenos Aires' Teatro Colon, Seoul Arts Center, New York's Lincoln Center, Leipzig's Gewandhaus, Beijing's Concert Hall, to Istanbul's Aya Irini in Topkapi Palace, the three sisters share their innovative spirit and everevolving vision of music.

Ahn Trio's continued passion and interest in film music resulted in collaborating with award winning film directors in two new music video films, Ludovico Einaudi's Nuvole Bianche (White Clouds) featuring actress Yamila Rahi Diaz and Candybox by Dutch composer Chiel Meijering which were also released as digital singles in 2019. The Trio also starrs in "Three Sisters" playing Yuryung (written for Ahns by their idol, jazz guitar legend Pat Metheny) - Music and Art film produced by the stunning Tippet Rise Art Center in Montana situated on 10,000 acres of wondrous nature. [Watch all three music videos on YouTube] Ahns are hoping to have their music featured in more films/TV shows in the near future.



The Trio released Blue, one of their most personal albums in 2017. The Ahns describe their album - "Blue is a musical diary for us. Purple Rain brings memories of hanging out with Prince at Paisley Park, working with Pat Metheny on Yuryung, a trio he wrote for us, performing Skylife at the Obama White House, Maria falling in love with Brazil and bossa nova resulting in Ahn Trio's "braziliAHN" project, of exploring new colors with the great Parisian jazz musician Nguyên Lê. Other favorite tracks are gorgeous pieces written by Hyung-ki Joo of Igudesman & Joo, and Jimi Hendrix's Little Wing arranged especially for us by jazz pianist composer D.D. Jackson. Little Wing lyrics fit very well into our vision. She's walking through the clouds, with a circus mind that's running wild ... fly on little wing... Another inspiration for the album comes from our mother who was the original rebel that instilled this free spirit in us." Ahns have recorded nine albums. The first, a recording of Ravel and Villa- Lobos trios brought rave reviews, with Audio Magazine praising "this is one of Rayel's best and never better played". The next EMI recording of trios by Dyorak, Suk, and Shostakovich won Germany's prestigious ECHO Award. An MTV appearance on Bryan Adams' "Unplugged" inspired the album "Ahn- Plugged" (EMI), "Groovebox" (EMI), followed by Lullaby For My Favorite Insomniac (released by Sony) which remained No. 8 on the Billboard Charts for 26 weeks. The Trio has also released Smetana (Warner) with the Czech Grammy-winning rock group Tata Bojs, and Maria released a solo EP of her idol David Bowie's cello covers titled, Je T'aime Bowie. Among numerous Trio works written for them, Ahn Trio has two Triple Concerti written for them, Hardware Concerto by Kenji Bunch and March of the Gypsy Fiddler by Mark O'Connor for which Ahns did a live recording at the world premiere concert with the ProMusica Chamber Orchestra. [All albums are available worldwide]

Ahn Trio's unique approach to classical music led them early on to the pages of TIME magazine's "Asian Wiz Kids" story, VOGUE magazines in several countries, global GAP ad, GQ, People Magazines' 50 most beautiful people issue, art magazine VISIONAIRE, Glamour magazine, among others. The sisters love to fuse their work with a wide range of artists and musical genres, collaborating with a BBoying dance group, lighting designers, DJ's and rock bands. Performing with DJ Spooky, Juno aka superdrive, the David Parsons Dance Company, the Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, the James Sewell Ballet Company and touring the Czech Republic with the Tata Bojs to soldout shows, to performing on stage with art installations. Other collaborations are to follow, Ahns are planning to release a new work for Piano Trio, electric guitar and computer, "Gamyeon Ill" written especially for them by computer music guru Dr. Tae Hong Park at NYU this Fall and three new albums are in the works tobe released. The Ahn Trio is a Steinway Artsts group and Angella and Maria play on instruments made for them by Sam Zygmuntowicz.

Check out Ahn Trio's 2019 digital releases - Nuvole Bianche & Candybox: Italian composer Ludovico Einaudi's timeless and evocative "Nuvole Bianche" is reimagined as a piano trio by three-sisters group, Ahn Trio.

Vibrant, dancy, and popping with bright colors, "Candybox", a Piano Trio version especially created for the three-sisters group Ahn Trio by composer Chiel Meijering. Ahn Trio - Candybox (Official Music Video)

#### Ahn Trio TED Talk

Ahn Trio collaboration concert with B-Boying Dance Group "Visual Shock" at the Seoul Arts Center

Ahn Trio Ahn Trio with DJ Spooky

Ahn Trio Pop-Up Concert at the Jazz Dock Club in Prague

Ahn Trio article: Ahn-Definable: The Eclectic Artistry of the Ahn Trio

Ahn Trio interview on "innovation" for WIRED Italy magazine

Ahn Trio on KBS (Korean TV Show) "Classical Diary" Clip

Ahn Trio Fun Videos:

Ahn Trio Glamour Magazine photoshoot

Ahn Trio Nuvole Bianche Music Video Movie

Ahn Trio Movie "Three Sisters" by Tippet Rise Art Center

Ahn Trio mini documentary

#### www.ahntrio.com

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### **JAMES SEWELL BALLET**

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: James Sewell
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Eve Schulte
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR: Tom McNamee
SUPPORT ADMINISTRATOR: Deirdre Murnane

#### MEDICAL CARE:

Provided by Mayo Clinic Sports Medicine with special thanks to Dr. Jeffrey Payne, M.D. PHYSICAL THERAPY:

Provided by MN Dance Medicine Foundation – Megin Sabo John, PT, DPT, OCS PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Sarah Warbuck

VIDEOGRAPHER:

Hector Cortes / Snack Media

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JSB thanks all of our funders! See the full list and learn more about the company at our website.

James Sewell Ballet 528 Hennepin Avenue, Suite 215 Minneapolis, MN 55403 www.jsballet.org | Keep up with us on Facebook & Instagram!



James Sewell, Dancer & Artistic Director (33rd Season)

A Minneapolis native, Mr. Sewell moved to New York and studied at the School of American Ballet with David Howard, and began performing with ABT II. He was a lead dancer with Feld Ballets/NY for six years and has

performed as a guest artist with the New York City Ballet, Zvi Gottheiner and Dancers, and Denishawn. He has choreographed more than 100 ballets for companies in the United States and around the world, and collaborated with countless other artists across disciplines.

Projects include the New York City Ballet's Choreographic Institute, the New York State Council on the Arts grant to create "Independence In Dependence" for Feld Ballets/NY; "Aida" (1998) for the Minnesota Opera and 11 other opera companies; James Sewell Ballet's "Amahl and the Night Visitors" (1995); "Musical Toys" (1996) and "Nutcracker: The Untold Story" (1997) for the Minnesota Orchestra; "She Loves Me" (2005) and "1776" (2007) for the Guthrie Theater; and "Titicut Follies" (2017) with acclaimed documentarian Frederick Wiseman. James also has received commissions, including "Schoenberg Serenade" (2006) and "Passions" (1998), a work with composer Augusta Read Thomas, for the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra; "Metamorphosis" (2004) for the Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus; "Awedville" (2004) for the Wharton Center for Performing Arts and "Turf" (2006) for the Minnesota Orchestra, Mr. Sewell received a Bush Foundation Artist Fellowship (2002), a Choo-San Goh Award for Choreography from the Choo-San Goh & H. Robert Magee Foundation (2006), and a McKnight Artist Fellowship for Choreography (2007). He is a past trustee of Dance/USA and a past director of the American Composer's Forum.



# Chloe Duryea, Dancer & Rehearsal Director (6th Season)

Chloe received her early dance training near her hometown of Haslett, Michigan. Upon attending the American Ballet Theatre (ABT) Summer Intensive in Detroit, she was selected by ABT as a National Training Scholar in 2007 and 2008 and subsequently attended the ABT Summer Intensive for two years as a full-scholarship student. Chloe graduated from Indiana University's Jacob School of Music with Highest

Distinction, earning a Bachelor of Science in Ballet with an Outside Field of Kinesiology. While dancing with Indiana University Ballet Theatre, she was featured in Twyla Tharp's Sweet Fields, Dwight Rhoden's Dear Frederic, and as Princess Aurora in Act II and Act III of The Sleeping Beauty. After graduating from IU, Chloe was given the opportunity to perform George Balanchine's *Nutcracker Pas de Deux* and Robert Rodham's *Snow Scene* with the Indianapolis School of Ballet. Chloe then moved to Chicago, where she spent two years as a company dancer with Elements Contemporary Ballet, and performed as a quest artist in the Ruth Page Civic Ballet Nutcracker.

# Arimee Gambill, Dancer & Featured Choreographer (5th Season)

Arimee was born and raised in Grand Rapids, MN, and received her dance training at Reif Dance, with summertime training at Royal Winnipeg Ballet School, Alonzo King LINES Ballet, San Francisco Conservatory of Dance, and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. She appeared in a number of JSB/Reif Dance collaborations since age 11.





#### Jarod Boltjes, Dancer & Company Liaison (4th Season)

Jarod is a Minnesota native from Adrian, MN. He started his dance training at Saint Mary's University where he also obtained his BA Degree in Dance Performance and Studio Art. His formal dance training began at the age of 18 in college where he had the opportunity to train and perform internationally with Rose Bruford College in the U.K. and The Gaiety School of Acting in Ireland. Upon arrival to the Twin Cities. Jarod has

worked with several local companies; Contempo Physical Dance, Twin Cities' Ballet, Collide Theatrical, and St. Paul Ballet to name a few. If he is not in the dance studio, you can find him leading class as a certified barre and yoga instructor or under the big top tent coaching and choreographing for Circus Juventas.

#### Connor Simone, Dancer (2nd Season)

Connor Simone is a Twin Cities dancer, performing artist, and IT specialist. He received training at Stage Left Dance Center, Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists, the TU Dance School, and the University of Minnesota. Connor has previously danced with TU Dance and Threads Dance Project. Additionally, he has performed works by artists such as Marcus Willis, Kjara Wurst, Gregory Dolbashian, Berit Ahlgren, Gregory Vuyani Maqoma, Will Couture, Carl Flink, Sidra Bell, and Maurya



Kerr among others. Alongside performing, Connor has worked for several arts organizations across the Twin Cities in IT and web development and is also teaching ballet and modern classes for Eleve' Performing Arts Center. He received his BA in Dance with a minor in Computer Science from the University in the Fall of 2021.





# Rachel Seeholzer, Dancer, Featured Choreographer & Marketing Associate (2nd Season)

Rachel Seeholzer was born and raised in Los Angeles, California where she first began her classical dance training at age nine. She set her focus in ballet after high school and traveled to further her training in cities such as Chicago, Seattle, San Francisco, Charlotte and Richmond. Rachel began dancing professionally in 2014 and has had the pleasure of working with the Charlottesville Ballet, The Suzanne Farrell Ballet, RVA Dance Collective, Oakland Ballet, Virginia Repertory Theatre, Stavna Ballet, and Bal-

let Co.Laboratory. She has worked with acclaimed choreographers and teachers such as Daniel Duell, Sheila Rozann, Alonzo King, Patricia McBride, Suzanne Farrell, Kim Jones, Graham Lustig, Starr Foster, Colby Damon, and Maggie Small. Rachel began choreographing in 2011 when she set a contemporary ballet on the trainees and apprentices of the Charlotte Ballet; again in 2013 when she choreographed and staged the production of *The Nutcracker* on the Degas Dance Studio in Encino, California; and then again in 2017 when she set a neoclassical ballet on the trainees of the Charlottesville Ballet. Rachel has been teaching for over a decade in California, Virginia and Minnesota, working with students (ages 3-adult) at more than a dozen dance studios, schools, and academies.



### Michael Walters, featured Choreographer (2nd Season)

Michael is originally from Detroit, Michigan. He attended The Juilliard School in New York City before dancing professionally with Nederlands Dans Theatre, Frankfurt Ballet, and Lyon Opera Ballet. During that time he has had the plea-

sure of working with an array of influential choreographers and perform on stages around the world. He then decided to take a sharp turn to redirect his artistic pursuits in the direction of theatrical arts. He attended and graduated from the prestigious Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, England. Since then Michael has had the pleasure of performing on stages in the West End of London as an actor. He is delighted to be a guest artist with James Sewell Ballet and make his return to the stage as a dancer in over ten years!



#### Hettie Stern, Dancer (3rd Season)

Hettie grew up dancing with the Hopkins Youth Ballet in Minnesota. She graduated magna cum laude from Carleton College with a BA in Cognitive Science. While at Carleton, Hettie performed with the college's modern dance company, Semaphore and modeled for Jennifer Bader's Ballet in Motion: A Moving Visual Guide to Performing Ballet Technique. After college, Hettie trained for a year with the Limón Dance Company and interned with the José Limón Dance Foundation in New York City. Other training highlights include summer intensives at Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, and Ballet Austin. Hettie recently earned an MEd in Learning Technologies from the University of Minnesota.



300+ shows

5,000+
LOCAL
PERFORMERS
ON STAGE

1,500+
TOURING
ARTISTS

70,000+
PATRON
EXPERIENCES





### WELCOME TO THE SECOND DECADE OF WMPAC

### WMPAC STAFF

John Zirkle - Executive Director, Artistic Director Cara Wilder - Director of Operations & Marketing Rikka Wommack - Communications Manager Ava King - Communications Associate Lexie Hendricks - Bookkeeper Jeremiah Slovarp - Technical Director

### **ADVISORY BOARD**

Loren Bough, Chair Doug Feurring David Gasser Rich Addicks Klaudia Kosiak Kristin Kern Tallie Lancey John Zirkle, Ex-Officio



### **UPCOMING SHOWS**

### MARCH 16



# **TAIKOPROJECT**

POWERFUL DRUMMING
PRESENTED BY: THE GLORE FAMILY FUND

TAIKOPROJECT was founded in 2000 in Los Angeles by a group of young, emerging taiko drummers led by Bryan Yamami and Masato Baba. The group continues to define a modern American style of the traditional Japanese art, blending traditional forms with an innovative and fresh aesthetic for an exhilarating evening of music.

## MARCH 25



# JITRO CZECH GIRLS CHOIR

HEAVENLY VOICES
PRESENTED BY: SPANISH PEAKS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Jitro (pronounced YEE-tro), meaning "Daybreak" in Czech, is more than just a concert choir from Hradec Kralove, a town in the Czech Republic. It is an organization of 400 children in seven preparatory ensembles, of which only the best 25 or 30 qualify to tour. For 45 years they have been admired all over the world for their tonal brilliance, superb intonation, distinctive rich blend of sound and energetic vitality. Today, Jitro is considered one of the best children's choirs anywhere in the world.





# JAMES SEWELL BALLET & THE AHN TRIO

**MARCH 11TH** 

PRESENTED BY: SANDRA & RICHARD (JAKE) JACOBSON





**DEC 28-PAST SHOW SIERRA** HULL



JAN 7-PAST SHOW CHAD **DANIELS** Standup Comedy



JAN 21-PAST SHOW BROOKLYN RIDER & MAGOS HERRERA Classical Jazz Fusion



FEB 7-PAST SHOW INTERNATIONAL **GUITAR NIGHT** 



FEB 11-PAST SHOW NPR'S PLANET MONEY LIVE! The Economy Explained



FEB 25-PAST SHOW **MEMPHIS** JOOKIN': **THE SHOW Exhilarating Street Dance** 



MAR 5-PAST SHOW **THREE MUSKETEERS** Swashbuckling Theater



**MAR 11 JAMES SEWELL** BALLET & THE **AHN TRIO** Dynamic & Innovative



**MAR 16 TAIKOPROJECT Powerful Drumming** 



MAR 25 JITRO CZECH **GIRLS CHOIR Heavenly Voices** 





















