

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ballet Arizona Presents Contemporary Moves

Series of Three Show-Stopping Ballets in One Evening Kick-Starts New Season

PHOENIX – Ballet Arizona is excited to open its 37th season with *Contemporary Moves* from September 22 through 25, 2022 at Orpheum Theatre. *Contemporary Moves* is a dance lover's dream as this vibrant program features an evening of diverse short ballets, similar to a collection of short stories, from some of the most masterful choreographers of our time, including Christopher Wheeldon, Alejandro Cerrudo, and Ballet Arizona's own, Nayon Iovino. Audiences will enjoy compositions from Antonio Vivaldi, Phillip Glass and Arvo Pärt, and Dean Martin and Joe Scalissi.

The three show-stopping ballets include:

Within the Golden Hour

Within the Golden Hour is one of Christopher Wheeldon's most acclaimed works. A ballet in seven movements, this piece showcases the virtuosity of the dancers with entrancing patterns and a thrilling finale.

Second to Last

After its Arizona premiere in 2013, Alejandro Cerrudo's *Second to Last* returns to the stage. With poignant music and intricate choreography, this piece is a feast for the eyes and ears.

Pacopepepluto

Performed to three of Dean Martin's most famous hits, Alejandro Cerrudo's *Pacopepepluto* adds humor and lightness to an evening of dance through the wit and charm of its three soloists. Visually stunning and charming, *Pacopepepluto* will leave you smiling through it all.

A New Work by Nayon Iovino

Celebrated Ballet Arizona choreographer and company dancer, Nayon Iovino, will present a brand-new piece to finish off an evening of exquisite dancing. Iovino was named 'Best Up-and-Coming Artist Under 40' by AZCentral and 'Best Choreographer' by Phoenix New Times.

"I have never been this excited for a contemporary program," Ib Andersen said. "The diversity and breadth of these choreographers, all showcased by the incredible talent and artistry of our dancers is going to lend fireworks to the start of our season."

Ballet Arizona's Opening Night Series Sponsors are F. Francis and Dionne Najafi of Pivotal Foundation. *Contemporary Moves* is also sponsored in part by Nancy Swanson.

Single tickets are on sale now and can be purchased by calling the Ballet Arizona box office at 602-381-1096. For more information, visit <https://balletaz.org/performance/contemporary-moves-2022/>.

Ballet Arizona

Ballet Arizona is dedicated to preserving and celebrating classical dance while creating new and innovative works. Under the artistic direction of internationally acclaimed choreographer Ib Andersen – a former Principal Dancer with The New York City Ballet and The Royal Danish Ballet – Ballet Arizona follows his lead to the future of dance in Arizona. The School of Ballet Arizona promotes access to the art form of ballet through dance education, with a focus on excellence in the form, directing each student to a life-long love of dance. Following this vision, Ballet Arizona connects to more than 35,000 children and families every year through its free and low-cost outreach programs. For more information, visit balletaz.org.

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