

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AVANT CHAMBER BALLET ANNOUNCES 2018-19 SEASON

DALLAS, TX (June 26, 2018)

Avant Chamber Ballet's artistic director Katie Cooper and music director David Cooper announce the company's 2018-2019 season, featuring three subscription productions at Moody Performance Hall in the Dallas Arts District and the launch of the new Family Saturdays series. The season includes world premieres by Katie Cooper and Women's Choreography Project, as well as works by Paul Mejia, Christopher Wheeldon and George Balanchine.

"Our seventh season is our biggest yet with five new works, collaborations, and touring," says Katie Cooper. "We are also excited about starting the Family Saturdays program, which will expose new audiences to the joy of live music and dance."

The subscription season opens with David Lang's *the little match girl passion*, a collaboration with the Dallas-based Verdigris Ensemble. Together on stage, the dancers of Avant Chamber Ballet and the singers of Verdigris Ensemble will bring to life Lang's Pulitzer Prize-winning setting of the famous Hans Christian Andersen story. This will be the first time a contemporary choral work will be staged with ballet in Dallas.

In February, Avant Chamber Ballet returns to Moody Performance Hall with **Romance and Ragtime**. The performances will encompass four ballets with live music: a company premiere of Christopher Wheeldon's *Morphoses*, a world premiere by the soon-to-be-announced winner of the 2018 Women's Choreography Project commission, and world premieres of Katie Cooper's *The Seasons* with music by Vivaldi and *Ragtime* with music by Scott Joplin.

Closing the season will be **Fascinating Rhythms** - an exciting evening of dance and live music by George Gershwin, Astor Piazzolla, and local composer Quinn Mason. Returning to the repertoire will be George Balanchine's *Who Cares?* - an audience favorite that perfectly pairs Gershwin's toe-tapping melodies with Balanchine's genius choreography. Paul Mejia's *Cafe Victoria*, a company premiere, features Piazzolla's alluring *Contrabajissimo*. The program closes with a collaboration between choreographer Katie Cooper and Dallas-based composer Quinn Mason. The performance will mark the world premiere of both Cooper's choreography and of Mason's *String Quartet No. 2*.

Family Saturdays is a subscription series for young audiences to experience live music and dance in an engaging and family-friendly environment. Each Family Saturdays performance will be one hour long and will feature the professional dancers of Avant Chamber Ballet accompanied by live music. The series will be held at 2:30 pm on December 8, February 23, and May 4 at Moody Performance Hall, and will offer area families a perfect introduction to the performing arts.

THE 2018-2019 SEASON OVERVIEW

EVENING SUBSCRIPTION SERIES:

Moody Performance Hall, Dallas, TX

THE LITTLE MATCH GIRL PASSION

December 7-8, 2018, 7:30pm

ROMANCE AND RAGTIME

February 22-23rd, 2019, 7:30pm

FASCINATING RHYTHMS: GERSHWIN, PIAZZOLLA AND MASON

May 3-4th, 2019, 7:30pm

FAMILY SATURDAYS SUBSCRIPTION SERIES:

Moody Performance Hall, Dallas, TX

December 8th, 2018, 2:30pm

February 23rd, 2019, 2:30pm

May 4th, 2019, 2:30pm

TOURING:

NUTCRACKER: SHORT AND SUITE

November 15, 2018, 7:30pm

White's Chapel, Southlake, TX

Presented by Apex Arts League

THE NUTCRACKER

with Mejia Ballet presented by Arts San Antonio

December 20-22, 2018

Lila Cockrell Theatre, San Antonio, TX

Programming and casting for all productions are subject to change without notice.

Tickets on sale this fall through TICKETDFW.COM

About Avant Chamber Ballet:

Avant Chamber Ballet's mission is to bring exceptional live dance and chamber music together for audiences in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Our ensemble of classically trained dancers presents a diverse repertoire of classical and contemporary works from local choreographers, as well as internationally acclaimed artists. Since our inaugural season in 2012, ACB has presented over twenty world premiere ballets. The organization is in its seventh season, and is led by artistic director Katie Cooper and music director David Cooper.

Additional information is available on Avant Chamber Ballet's website at www.avantchamberballet.org