

# AVANT CHAMBER BALLET

## AVANT CHAMBER BALLET ANNOUNCES 2017-2018 SEASON

**Highlights include works by George Balanchine and Christopher Wheeldon, premieres by Katie Cooper and Kimi Nikaidoh, and the continuation of Women's Choreography Project.**

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 15th, 2017

Dallas, TX - Avant Chamber Ballet's artistic director Katie Cooper and music director David Cooper announced the company's 2017-2018 season today featuring three subscription productions at the newly renamed Moody Performance Hall (previously Dallas City Performance Hall), a tour to Louisiana and a return to Southlake with Apex Arts League all with live music. The season includes the premieres of works by Katie Cooper and Kimi Nikaidoh plus the fourth year of Women's Choreography Project.

"We are excited to present our second full subscription season at the Dallas Arts District," says Katie Cooper. "The Moody Performance Hall is the best hall possible for us with a large stage and wonderful acoustics for live music."

The season opens with the return of the popular **Nutcracker: Short and Suite** in Southlake, TX at White's Chapel presented by Apex Arts League. The production will build on the success of previous years with updated choreography and costumes.

The subscription season opens with the return of **A Ballet Christmas Carol** which premiered last season. Audiences will see the classic Charles Dickens story but with the dance twist of a female Scrooge and the whole story taking place in the dance world: classes, rehearsals and on stage.

In January, the company will tour to Alexandria, Louisiana to perform with Rapides Symphony Orchestra with the world premiere of Katie Cooper's Appalachian Spring. It will feature Copland's original 13 member orchestra arrangement and neo-classical dancing framing the story of Appalachia that Copland described when first creating this music. Closing the program is the grandeur and classicism of Sleeping Beauty Act 3 - Aurora's Wedding. This will be staged after the original Russian choreography and music from Tchaikovsky's score. The wedding features some of the most famous dancing in all of classical ballet.

Avant Chamber Ballet will return to Moody Performance Hall with **Beauty and Bach** in February. The performances will be a triple bill of three ballets with live music: George Balanchine's Concerto Barocco, with the Dallas premiere of Katie Cooper's Appalachian Spring, and Aurora's Wedding. Concerto Barocco will be staged by

famed dancer-turned coach Nilas Martins. He is best known as a principal dancer of New York City Ballet but is also now one of only a few people entrusted with staging this iconic ballet. It is regarded as one of George Balanchine's best and most musical ballets performed to Bach's Double Violin Concerto.

Closing the season will be **Moving Music** - an exciting evening of new works and great masterpieces. Returning to the repertoire will be George Balanchine's Valse Fantaisie, Paul Mejia's Serenade in A and Christopher Wheeldon's The American pas de deux all with live music. Finishing the evening will be Women's Choreography Project. For the fourth year, Avant Chamber Ballet will commission two new works from female choreographers. One will be a winner of an international application process to be announced in the fall and the second is a new work from Bruce Wood Dance Project's artistic director Kimi Nikaidoh.

---

## THE 2017-2018 SEASON OVERVIEW

### SUBSCRIPTION SEASON:

#### **A BALLET CHRISTMAS CAROL**

December 14-15th, 2017

Moody Performance Hall, Dallas, TX

#### **BEAUTY AND BACH**

February 17-18th, 2018

Moody Performance Hall, Dallas, TX

#### **MOVING MUSIC**

April 21-22ND, 2018

Moody Performance Hall, Dallas, TX

### OTHER PERFORMANCES:

#### **NUTCRACKER: SHORT AND SUITE**

November 16, 2017

Whites Chapel, Southlake, TX

Presented by Apex Arts League

#### **AVANT CHAMBER BALLET with RAPIDES SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

January 28th, 2018

Alexandria, LA

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

### About Avant Chamber Ballet:

Avant Chamber Ballet is a 501(c)3 non-profit based out of Dallas, Texas. ACB'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 a twenty world premiere ballets. Under Artistic Director Katie Cooper and Music Director David Cooper, the organization is in its sixth season.

[www.avantchamberballet.org](http://www.avantchamberballet.org)

### PRESS CONTACT

Rachel Meador | [info@avantchamberballet.org](mailto:info@avantchamberballet.org)

Additional information is available on Avant Chamber Ballet's website at [www.avantchamberballet.org](http://www.avantchamberballet.org)

-####-