

# SMUIN

CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN BALLET

CELIA FUSHILLE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

## SMUIN ANNOUNCES 2017/18 SEASON

FEATURING WORLD PREMIERE BY VAL CANIPAROLI, REGIONAL PREMIERE BY ANNABELLE LOPEZ OCHOA, PLUS WORKS BY HELEN PICKETT, GARRETT AMMON, AND MORE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (5 May, 2017) – Smuin announces a bold, dynamic lineup for its 2017/18 season featuring a world premiere by internationally acclaimed choreographer Val Caniparoli, the West Coast premiere of Annabelle Lopez Ochoa’s critically lauded *Requiem for a Rose*, and the return of powerful works by Helen Pickett, Garrett Ammon, Amy Seiwert, and Michael Smuin.

Smuin’s 24th season, unveiled by Artistic Director Celia Fushille, launches in the fall with *Dance Series 01*, a mixed repertory program introducing the West Coast premiere of Annabelle Lopez Ochoa’s vibrant *Requiem for a Rose*; the return of Wonderbound Artistic Director Garrett Ammon’s daring *Serenade for Strings*; and Michael Smuin’s Sinatra tribute *Fly Me to the Moon*. In spring 2018, Smuin presents *Dance Series 02*, featuring a world premiere by internationally acclaimed choreographer Val Caniparoli; the return of Choreographer-in-Residence Amy Seiwert’s visually stunning *Falling Up*; and Helen Pickett’s lush *Oasis*, featuring an original score by *House of Cards* composer Jeff Beal. *The Christmas Ballet*, a wildly popular holiday tradition, will return with a 2017 edition offering new and unexpected additions.

For subscriptions and further information the public may call (415) 912-1899 or visit [www.smuinballet.org](http://www.smuinballet.org). Single tickets go on sale early August.

### Dance Series 01

*Requiem for a Rose* by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa

*Serenade for Strings* by Garrett Ammon

*Fly Me to the Moon* by Michael Smuin

Smuin kicks off its 24th season with the regional premiere of Annabelle Lopez Ochoa’s transcendent piece *Requiem for a Rose*, set to what many consider to be Schubert’s most romantic string adagio, from the Quintet in C. Ochoa is a versatile choreographer who both choreographs contemporary dance works and adapts her style for classical ballet companies. Ochoa also creates for theatre, opera, and fashion events such as for the celebrated Dutch fashion designers Viktor & Rolf’s project in the Van Gogh Museum. Also on the program is the return of Garrett Ammon’s bold *Serenade for Strings*. The work uses movement to reflect the intensity and precision evident in Tchaikovsky’s

composition. Upon making its West Coast premiere with Smuin in October 2014, the *San Francisco Chronicle* said “the whole cast danced it vibrantly and flawlessly.” Ammon has created nearly 70 dance works throughout 17 years and developed a trademark aesthetic that seamlessly blends tradition with adventurous new ideas. He is a serial collaborator who has worked with poets, visual and digital artists, musicians, actors, a perfumer, and an illusionist. He was most recently seen in the Bay Area when commissioned by Smuin to create his work *Madness, Rack, and Honey* set to Mozart’s “Sinfonia Concertante for Violin, Viola and Orchestra” in September 2016. Rounding out the bill is Michael Smuin’s joyful *Fly Me to the Moon*. This blend of ballet and popular dance is the embodiment of the smooth and stylish melodies of Ol’ Blue Eyes that have inspired generations, including Sinatra’s renditions of “I’ve Got You Under My Skin,” “That’s Life,” and “The Lady is a Tramp.” Performed against the twinkling backdrop of a glowing night sky, the ballet highlights warm and witty favorites and culminates in a full chorus, high-kicking “New York, New York.” Infused with Michael Smuin’s signature Broadway pizzazz, this “A-Number One, top of the heap” ballet inspires audiences to shake their little town blues and cheer.

#### Dates and Locations

**September 22-23, 2017 Leshar Center for the Arts**, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek

**September 29-October 7, 2017 Palace of Fine Arts**, 3301 Lyon Street, San Francisco

**February 22-25, 2018 Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts**, 500 Castro Street, Mountain View

**March 23-24, 2018 Sunset Center**, San Carlos Street between 8th and 10th Streets, Carmel-by-the-Sea

### **The Christmas Ballet**

Choreography by Michael Smuin  
and guest choreographers

Winter weather may bring chilling winds, but Smuin consistently turns up the heat when it kicks off the holidays with *The Christmas Ballet*. From classical to cool and contemporary, Smuin offers two acts filled with a stunning and original array of ballet, tap, and jazz. A joyous celebration of dance and a true holiday classic, the *San Francisco Chronicle* said “there’s no better way to express the joy of the season.” This year’s program will again feature Smuin favorites as well as new pieces.

#### Dates and Locations

**November 17-18, 2017 Leshar Center for the Arts**, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek

**December 1-2, 2017 Sunset Center**, San Carlos Street between 8th and 10th Streets, Carmel-by-the-Sea

**December 6-10, 2017 Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts**, 500 Castro Street, Mountain View

**December 14-24, 2017 Yerba Buena Center for the Arts**, 700 Howard Street, San Francisco

## **Dance Series 02**

World Premiere by Val Caniparoli

*Oasis* by Helen Pickett

*Falling Up* by Amy Seiwert

Master dance maker **Val Caniparoli** returns to Smuin to create a world premiere to conclude the 24th season. Caniparoli was last seen with the troupe when commissioned by Smuin to create his lauded *Tutto Eccetto Il Lavandino (everything but the kitchen sink)*, a piece set to the music of Vivaldi. Of the ballet, which was introduced as a world premiere in spring of 2014 in honor of Smuin's 20th Anniversary season, the *San Francisco Chronicle* noted "those dancers aced the balletic rigors." Caniparoli has created a body of work that is rooted in classicism, but influenced by all forms of movement: modern dance, ethnic dance, social dancing, and even ice skating. He has contributed to the repertoires of more than 45 dance companies, including Pacific Northwest Ballet, Boston Ballet, Northern Ballet Theatre, Pennsylvania Ballet, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Ballet West (Resident Choreographer 1993-97), Washington Ballet, Israel Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Singapore Dance Theatre, Atlanta Ballet, State Theatre Ballet of South Africa, and Tulsa Ballet. Helen Pickett's ***Oasis***, set to an original score by "House of Cards" composer Jeff Beal, returns in spring 2018. With this piece, Pickett offers challenge and inspiration to dancers and audiences alike. A nearly 30-minute work in four parts, ***Oasis*** explores the concept of water in its many incarnations and implications, celebrating its abundance and its essential role in life. The *San Francisco Chronicle* called the ballet, which made its world premiere with Smuin in spring 2016, "stirring and gorgeously dispatched" while *The Mercury News* hailed it as "ingeniously crafted." Also on the program is Choreographer-in-Residence Amy Seiwert's ***Falling Up***. *Critical Dance* noted the dancers "turn(ed) the steps into moving works of art" when the piece debuted in 2007. Employing eight Smuin dancers, the piece is set to the music of Brahms.

### Dates and locations

**April 20-29, 2018 Yerba Buena Center for the Arts**, 700 Howard Street, San Francisco

**May 11-12, 2018 Leshner Center for the Arts**, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek

**May 24-27, 2018 Mountain View Center for the Arts**, 500 Castro Street, Mountain View

**June 1-2, 2018 Sunset Center**, San Carlos Street between 8th and 10th Streets, Carmel-by-the-Sea

### ABOUT SMUIN

For more than 20 years, Smuin has pushed the boundaries of contemporary ballet within a distinctly American style, engaging and delighting audiences with uncommon physicality and expression. Founded in San Francisco in 1994 by Tony and Emmy award-winning choreographer Michael Smuin, the company is committed to creating work that merges the diverse vocabularies of classical ballet and contemporary dance. As Artistic Director since 2007, Celia Fushille has maintained Michael Smuin's legacy while enriching the company's impressive repertoire by collaborating with inventive choreographers from around the world, commissioning world premieres, and bringing new contemporary choreographic voices to the Smuin stage.

Daily Newspaper and Online Media sponsor for Smuin is the San Francisco Chronicle/SFGate.com.

All programs are subject to change.

**FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:**

**WHAT:** San Francisco’s Smuin announces its 24th season celebrating artistic innovation. The 2017/18 lineup unveiled by Artistic Director Celia Fushille includes a world premiere by **Val Caniparoli**; the West Coast premiere of Annabelle Lopez Ochoa’s critically praised **Requiem for a Rose**; the return of Choreographer-in-Residence **Amy Seiwert’s** acclaimed ballet **Falling Up**; Michael Smuin’s rollicking **Fly Me to the Moon**; and Helen Pickett’s lush **Oasis**, featuring an original score by “House of Cards” composer Jeff Beal. The holiday season will mark the 23rd return of the company’s beloved program **The Christmas Ballet**, with new surprises by Smuin dancers and others. **Smuin’s 2017/18 season**, including **Dance Series 01**, **Dance Series 02**, and **The Christmas Ballet**, will be presented in San Francisco, Mountain View, Walnut Creek, and Carmel between September 2017 and May 2018.

**TICKETS:** For subscriptions (\$147-\$194), the public can call (415) 912-1899 or visit Smuin's website at **www.smuinballet.org**.

Single tickets (\$25-\$89 for San Francisco; \$25-\$84 for Mountain View, Walnut Creek, and Carmel) will be available through the respective theaters beginning August 1, 2017. Discounts are available for students and groups of 10 or more.

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**PRESS CONTACT:** Christina Yoshihara, Carla Befera & Co. (650) 327-1200 | [christina@cb-pr.com](mailto:christina@cb-pr.com)

**PHOTOS:** For high res photos, please visit: <http://www.cb-pr.com/press/smuin17-18.html>

**SEASON SCHEDULE FOLLOWS:**

<b>Venue Info</b>	<b>Tickets Info</b>  *Additional ticket fees may apply	<b><u>Dance Series 01</u></b> <i>Requiem for a Rose (Annabelle Lopez Ochoa)</i> <i>Serenade for Strings (Garrett Ammon)</i> <i>Fly Me to the Moon (Michael Smuin)</i>	<b><u>The Christmas Ballet</u></b>	<b><u>Dance Series 02</u></b> <i>World Premiere (Val Caniparoli)</i> <i>Oasis (Helen Pickett)</i> <i>Falling Up (Amy Seiwert)</i>
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<p><b>San Francisco:</b> Palace of Fine Arts 3301 Lyon Street (at Bay Street)</p>	<p>Subscriptions: \$147-\$194* Single tickets: \$25-\$79*</p> <p>(415) 912-1899 or smuinballet.org</p>	<p><b>September 29-October 7, 2017</b> 8pm Fri Sept 29 2pm &amp; 8pm Sat Sept 30 2pm Sun Oct 1 8pm Thurs Oct 5 8pm Fri Oct 6 8pm Sat Oct 7</p>		
<p><b>San Francisco:</b> Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater 700 Howard Street (at 3<sup>rd</sup> Street)</p>	<p>Subscriptions: \$147-\$194* Single tickets: \$25-\$89*</p> <p>(415) 912-1899 or smuinballet.org</p>		<p><b>December 14- 24, 2017</b> 8pm Thurs Dec 14 8pm Fri Dec 15 2pm &amp; 8pm Sat Dec 16 2pm &amp; 7pm Sun Dec 17 8pm Wed Dec 20 8pm Thurs Dec 21 2pm &amp; 8pm Fri Dec 22 2pm &amp; 8pm Sat Dec 23 2pm Sun Dec 24</p>	<p><b>April 20-29, 2018</b> 8pm Fri Apr 20 2pm &amp; 8pm Sat Apr 21 2pm Sun Apr 22 8pm Thurs Apr 26 8pm Fri Apr 27 2pm &amp; 8pm Sat Apr 28 2pm Sun Apr 29</p>
<p><b>Walnut Creek:</b> Leshner Center for the Arts 1601 Civic Drive (at Locust Street)</p>	<p>Subscriptions: \$147-\$194* Single tickets: \$25-\$82*</p> <p>(925) 943-7469 or smuinballet.org</p>	<p><b>September 22-23, 2017</b> 8pm Fri Sept 22 2pm Sat Sept 23</p>	<p><b>November 17-18, 2017</b> 8pm Fri Nov 17 2pm Sat Nov 18</p>	<p><b>May 11-12, 2018</b> 8pm Fri May 11 2pm Sat May 12</p>
<p><b>Mountain View:</b> Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts 500 Castro Street (at Mercy Street)</p>	<p>Subscriptions: \$147-\$194* Single tickets: \$25-\$84*</p> <p>(650) 903-6000 or smuinballet.org</p>	<p><b>February 22-25, 2018</b> 8pm Thurs Feb 22 8pm Fri Feb 23 2pm &amp; 8pm Sat Feb 24 2pm Sun Feb 25</p>	<p><b>Dec 6-10, 2017</b> 8pm Wed Dec 6 8pm Thurs Dec 7 8pm Fri Dec 8 2pm &amp; 8pm Sat Dec 9 2pm Sun Dec 10</p>	<p><b>May 24-27, 2018</b> 8pm Thurs May 24 8pm Fri May 25 2pm &amp; 8pm Sat May 26 2pm Sun May 27</p>
<p><b>Carmel:</b> Sunset Center San Carlos Street between 8<sup>th</sup> &amp; 10<sup>th</sup> Streets</p>	<p>Subscriptions: \$147-\$194* Single tickets: \$58-\$79*</p> <p>(831) 620-2048 or smuinballet.org</p>	<p><b>March 23-24, 2018</b> 8pm Fri Mar 23 2pm Sat Mar 24</p>	<p><b>December 1-2, 2017</b> 8pm Fri Dec 1 2pm Sat Dec 2</p>	<p><b>June 1-2, 2018</b> 8pm Fri June 1 2pm Sat June 2</p>