



Colorado State University

School of the Arts

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Press Release

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FALL DANCE CONCERT AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY FEATURES GUEST CHOREOGRAPHERS

Fort Collins, CO – The Division of Dance and Theatre in the School of the Arts at Colorado State University presents a spectacular evening of dance entertainment with its Fall Dance Concert on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at 8:00 p.m. and on Dec. 1 at 2:00 p.m. in the Theatre of the Lory Student Center at Laurel and Meldrum Streets. Tickets are \$15 for the public, \$13 for seniors, and \$8 for Colorado State students and may be purchased through the Campus Box Office in person at the Lory Student Center, by phone at (970) 491-4TIX, or online at www.csutix.com.

The Fall Dance Concert is a repertory concert featuring different choreographic ideas and visions. From seasoned, experienced choreographers to new creative talent, this dance concert is a high quality dance experience that showcases Colorado State University student performers, choreographers, technicians, and designers who are training for a career in the dance field.

The concert features the choreography of Katie Elliot and Kim Neal Nofsinger, guest artists who brought their considerable choreographic and teaching talents to Colorado State in October. Nofsinger enjoyed his second year as an artist in residence at CSU and lauded the students saying, “The dedication of Colorado State students and the sophistication with which they work is admirable.”

Kim Neal Nofsinger is the Artistic Director of Shelter Repertory Dance Theatre in Tennessee, which he founded in 2001. His choreography has been produced throughout the United States and abroad in Spain, France, Belgium, Germany, and Austria. In 2003, his evening’s length work, “A Pure White Room,” was selected as the Critics’ Choice for Best Dance Production from a field of over 120 works at the Minnesota Fringe Festival and in 1999, his duet “Permission” was selected by the American Dance Guild as one of the outstanding works produced in the United States that year.

Nofsinger is Director of Dance at Middle Tennessee State University. Prior teaching appointments include Ohio University, University of Minnesota-Duluth, State University of New York-Geneseo, Illinois State University, Winona State University, and Connecticut College. Nofsinger is the artistic director of the MTSU Dance Theatre. He is also a dance instructor at the prestigious Interlochen

Arts Camp at Interlochen Center for the Arts, MI. Nofsinger has an MFA in Performance and Choreography from Arizona State University.

Katie Elliott is the co-artistic director of 3rd Law Dance/Theater in Boulder, Colorado. Well known for her use of athletic, gesture-based movement embodied in new, distinctive vocabularies, Elliott's choreography has been presented nationally and internationally in Hong Kong, Taipei, Washington DC, Arizona, and Utah.

In Colorado, Elliott has been a guest artist for Boulder Ballet, Ballet Nouveau, Colorado Repertory and the University of Colorado in Boulder. With her co-director, Jim LaVita, 3rd Law produces evening length work that uses props, theatrical staging, text, video imagery, sound scores (including unique combinations of "found sounds") and a wide range of musical styles.

Prior to the incorporation of 3rd Law, Elliott received her BFA in dance from the University of Utah and trained and performed with a variety of companies in Chicago, London and New York. Currently Ms. Elliott is a faculty member of the Boulder Ballet School and offers classes through 3rd Law Dance/Theater.

In addition to giving audiences an opportunity to see outstanding choreography in performances, the participation of guest artist provides an amazing opportunity for students to train with renowned dancers. "Our dance students have really benefitted from their time working with the guest artists and have been highly motivated by the experience. The choreography challenges the students in many ways, both technically and performance wise," says Jane Slusarski-Harris, director of the Division of Theatre and Dance at CSU.

For the Fall Dance Concert, Nofsinger has staged a dance entitled "Adumbration" and explores images from a holocaust and expresses his thoughts of the event as not one singular point in history but to the historical repetition of mass destruction throughout the ages. "My mind is fascinated by the human spirit and its will to continue and to persevere even in the darkest of times," he says , which he symbolizes through a primary motif of a slow motion run in contrast a chaotic struggle of bodies flinging themselves through space.

Beyond its innovative choreography and talented performers, one of the unique aspects of this concert is the wonderful diversity provided by the large number of male dancers involved in the performance and choreography. In addition to the choreography by Nofsinger, one of the dances choreographed by Katie Elliot includes a solo by the very talented performer and CSU Assistant Professor of Dance Chung-Fu Chang. Seven male students will perform, including Grady Soapes who has choreographed a trio and Mike Ferrara who will perform a solo he choreographed.

For more information on this and other arts events or to sign up for a free event e-newsletter, visit www.CSUSchooloftheArts.com.

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The School of the Arts at Colorado State University provides an enriched venue in which the study and practice of Art, Dance, Music and Theatre are nurtured and sustained by building the skills and knowledge needed by future generations of arts professionals to become contributors to the essential vitality of our culture and society. For more information, visit www.CSUSchooloftheArts.com.