



For Immediate Release

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“It’s a class act, a classic act,
and an extraordinarily engaging act:
it’s the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet.”

-- Clive Barnes, *The New York Post*

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET
DEDICATES UPCOMING SEASON AT THE JOYCE THEATER
TO
CLIVE BARNES
(1927 – 2008)

The Aspen Santa Fe Ballet (under the direction of **Jean-Philippe Malaty** and **Tom Mossbrucker**) is proud to dedicate its upcoming week-long engagement at The Joyce Theater (February 17 – 22) to the late **Clive Barnes**, a supporter and true friend of the company. The Joyce Theater is located at 175 Eighth Avenue.

The program at The Joyce will include three New York City premieres: William Forsythe disciple **Helen Pickett’s** *Petal*; *Chameleon*, by **Itzik Galili**; *1st Flash* by **Jorma Elo**. *Slingerland*, by **William Forsythe**, will also be presented.

Speaking of the late **Clive Barnes**, Artistic Director Tom Mossbrucker said, “Throughout my career as a dancer with the Joffrey Ballet, Clive Barnes was always there observing, documenting and giving thoughtful insight through his incisive and heartfelt criticism. When we started Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, Clive was there for us again with great enthusiasm, nurturing advice and most of all praise. Thank you Clive for sharing your love of dance with all of us.”

Born in London on May 13, 1927, Clive Barnes became a lover of dance, theater and music when his mother, a secretary to a theatrical agent, first took him to the theater when he was 10 years old. Despite his passion for the arts, Barnes decided to take a more practical career path... at least at first. He was educated at Emanuel School, Wimbledon, then at King’s College, London, where he studied medicine with the desire to become a psychiatrist, and used those skills when he was called into the Royal Air Force in 1946 to prepare psychological tests. However, realizing his dislike for the sight of blood and the many years of schooling ahead of him, Barnes decided to give up all medical aspirations, and in 1948 left the Royal Air Force to study English Language and Literature at Saint Catherine’s College, Oxford. Upon graduation in 1951, Barnes returned to his original and became a dance and drama critic.

In the beginning, Barnes was only writing for theater, but his interests widened due to the fact that some of the theaters he covered began presenting dance. He first wrote about ballet in 1949 for the Oxford University magazine *Isis*. In 1950 he co-edited a revival of the OU Ballet Club’s wartime magazine, *Arabesque*, and that same year became a contributor to the newly-founded magazine *Dance and Dancers*. Barnes remained associated with this in various editorial capacities until its last issue in 1998, and from 1960-65 was executive editor of its sister magazines *Plays and Players* and *Music and Musicians*.

In 1961, Barnes received his first full-time job as dance critic for *The Times of London* where he exposed his readers to international dance artists like Martha Graham and George Balanchine. He was with *The Times* through 1965, during which time he was appointed chief theater critic where he championed plays by Harold Pinter, David Mamet and Tom Stoppard. In 1963, he began contributing arts stories to *The New York Times* which led to that paper inviting him to move to NYC and become its chief dance critic in 1965. Two years later, they offered him the position of chief theater critic as well. For 11 years, Barnes broadcast a daily radio commentary on the arts for WQXR in NYC.

In 1977, Barnes was invited by Rupert Murdoch to write at *The New York Post*, again as both dance and theater critic. He maintained a strong, influential and highly respected voice in the arts up until his final review (a Twyla Tharp premiere at American Ballet Theatre which ran October 31, 2008). During this period, he was also a monthly columnist, reviewer and senior consulting editor at *Dance Magazine*.

Books by Clive Barnes include *Frederick Ashton and his Ballets* (1961), *Dance Scene USA* (1967), *Inside American Ballet Theatre* (1977) and *Nureyev* (1982). Barnes also edited *Best American Plays* series Six, Seven and Eight.

Clive Barnes died on November 18, 2009. He was 81.

ABOUT THE ASPEN SANTE FE BALLET

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's founder, Bebe Schweppe, was visionary when she made the decision in 1996 to create a company that residents in the Aspen Valley could call their own. Initially based solely in Aspen, Colorado, a second home for the company was created in 2000 in another of the Southwest heartlands, Santa Fe, New Mexico. In both cities ASFB has helped strengthen the cultural fabric of the region, in synch with the world-class artistic activities in each of these beautiful communities. The company was founded on the idea of acquiring repertoire and inviting top choreographers in the field to create works for the company. With its sophisticated repertoire and broad appeal, combined with a successful blend of entertaining and engrossing contemporary dance, ASFB is one of the real success stories in American dance today.

Audiences locally, nationally and internationally have embraced this vibrant company on stellar stages from The Joyce Theatre in New York to the famed Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, from The Kennedy Center in Washington DC to New York City Center's *Fall for Dance Festival* and in foreign venues including Canada, France and Italy. Over the years, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet has grown to become a multi-faceted entity, both as an internationally recognized dance company, and as one of the largest dance presenters in the country. As the company travels to cities far and wide, at home in Aspen and Santa Fe, it presents top level dance companies throughout the year. ASFB's umbrella extends equally to its capacity as a center for learning, with a thriving dance school, and a much-celebrated Mexican folkloric dance outreach program for area children. ASFB appeals, with its adventurous repertoire and beautiful western landscapes, as a gathering place for the finest dancers and choreographers in the world. Never forgetting its deep roots in the creative and historic wealth of these majestic and awe-inspiring communities, the organization remains deeply committed to expanding and enriching the world of dance. With its fusion of classical good sense and western ingenuity, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet blends the best of both worlds to create a dance company that is truly unique. For more information on the company, please go to www.AspenSantaFeBallet.com.

Performances at The Joyce Theater are Tuesday at 7:00pm (Gala performance), Wednesday at 7:30pm, Thursday through Saturday at 8:00pm, and Sunday at 2:00pm & 7:30pm. Tickets are priced from \$19-\$49 (Joyce members \$19-\$37) and are available by calling JoyceCharge at 212-242-0800 or at www.Joyce.org. The Joyce Theater is located at 175 Eighth Avenue at 19th Street.