



SOCIETY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
Bringing the World's Best to Houston

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Trey McIntyre Project to Make Houston Debut

Houston Ballet's Former Choreographic Associate Returns with His Own Company, Presented by Society for the Performing Arts

HOUSTON (Oct. 23, 2009) – Society for the Performing Arts (SPA), bringing the world's best to Houston, presents the Houston debut of **Trey McIntyre Project**, on Friday, Nov. 13, at 8 p.m. in Wortham Center's Cullen Theater.

The former Houston Ballet Choreographic Associate Trey McIntyre returns to Houston with his own company performing a program that includes *Like a Samba*, set to a septet of songs by Brazilian jazz star Astrud Gilberto; (*serious*) a trio set to the music by the experimental American composer Henry Cowell; *Shape*, a piece using balloons in whimsical ways, with music by Goldfrapp and The Polyphonic Spree; and *The Sun Road*, a commission for the Wolf Trap Foundation's "Face of America" about Glacier National Park, featuring native Blackfoot pow-wow music and songs by Paul Simon, Young Grey Horse and Nina Simone.

Trey McIntyre Project launched as a full-time company in 2008 and has performed in cities throughout the United States and abroad. The company is based in Boise, Idaho—a deliberate choice of location—to allow for more creative space and quality of life. McIntyre's founding mission for the company was to use the inherent beauty of ballet vocabulary to create dances that authentically and clearly convey the emotion and grace of life's journey, while meaningfully engaging audiences in the experience of art.

The Boston Globe hails, "Trey McIntyre has emerged over the past decade as one of the hottest choreographers in the dance world."

McIntyre is one of today's most sought-after young choreographers who uses emotion and grace to advance contemporary dance that engages audiences in the experience of art and life. Born in Wichita, Kansas, McIntyre studied at North Carolina School of the Arts and later with Houston Ballet Academy. In 1989, McIntyre was named Choreographic Apprentice to Houston Ballet; a position created specially for him by Artistic Director Ben Stevenson, and in 1995 elevated to Choreographic Associate. Since then, McIntyre has choreographed for companies such as Stuttgart

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TREY MCINTYRE/ADD 2

Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, New York City Ballet and Ballet de Santiago (Chile), in addition to his own company. He has served as Resident Choreographer for Oregon Ballet Theatre, Ballet Memphis and The Washington Ballet.

He is the recipient of grants and awards, including two choreographic fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as a Choo-San Goh Award for Choreography; he was named one of *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch" in 2001, one of *People Magazine's* "25 Hottest Bachelors" 2003 and one of *Out Magazine's* 2008 "Tastemakers."

Prior to the performance, patrons are welcome to attend Arts Talk!, a pre-performance Q&A with members of the Company at 7 p.m. inside the Cullen Theater. At 7:30 p.m. in the Wortham Center's Grand Foyer, patrons may enjoy the Performance Prelude by Rice Dance Theater.

Part of SPA's IW Marks Dance Series, this performance is generously sponsored by The Louisa Stude Sarofim 1995 Trust, The New England Foundation for the Arts, Continental Airlines, H-E-B, BMC Software and The Brown Hand Center.

Tickets range from \$20-\$50 and can be purchased online at www.spahouston.org, by phone at 713-227-4SPA or at the courtyard level ticket office at Jones Hall located at 615 Louisiana St. Hours of operation: 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Monday – Friday, and 10 a.m.–4 p.m. on Saturday. For groups of 15 or more, call 713-632-8113.

Beyond the Stage

An IW Marks Dance Master Class, taught by a member of Trey McIntyre Project, will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 13, at the Jewish Community Center, 5601 S. Braeswood. Classes are open to the public for a maximum of 35 dancers who are intermediate to advanced-level in skill. The cost to participate is \$3.50 for advance reservations and \$5 at the door. The cost is \$3.50 in advance and \$5 at the door. For more information or to register, call 713-729-3200 ext. 3223.

About Society for the Performing Arts

Founded in 1966, Society for the Performing Arts (SPA) is the largest independent non-profit presenting organization in the Southwest. Since its inception, SPA has sponsored more than 800 performances of the world's finest music, dance and theater events, in adherence to the belief that the arts are fundamental to the overall enrichment and quality of life within the community. In addition to presenting artists, SPA seeks to provide a variety of learning experiences for adults and children through master classes, lectures and special student performances, as well as build relationships between the performing arts and other interests within the greater Houston area and throughout the state of Texas.

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