

SMUIN

CONTEMPORARY BALLET

CELIA FUSHILLE / ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

SMUIN KICKS OFF 26TH SEASON WITH “DANCE SERIES 1”

The Man in Black by James Kudelka

Take Five by Rex Wheeler

Carmina Burana by Michael Smuin

Shows in Walnut Creek and San Francisco
September 20 – October 6, 2019

WHAT: **Smuin Contemporary Ballet** launches its 26th season with *Dance Series 1*, a fall program featuring three extraordinary works by established and rising choreographers. The music of country icon Johnny Cash comes alive in *The Man in Black*, an acclaimed work for three men and a woman, danced in cowboy boots. This company premiere choreographed by **James Kudelka**, the former artistic director of the National Ballet of Canada, is an ode to American working-class grit featuring complex choreography influenced by popular country-western dance styles including line, square, swing, and step dancing. Arresting and inventive, Kudelka’s piece was called “deeply touching and poignant” by Canada’s *National Post*. It is set to six songs covered by Cash, including Trent Reznor’s “Hurt” and Gordon Lightfoot’s “If You Could Read My Mind.” Also on the bill: the mainstage premiere of former Smuin artist **Rex Wheeler**’s *Take Five*, a delightfully witty work set to the jazzy beat of Dave Brubeck—just in time for the celebrated musician’s centennial. **Michael Smuin**’s “dazzling” and “unforgettable” (*San Francisco Chronicle*) *Carmina Burana*, set to the sensual Carl Orff score, rounds out this spectacular program of classical ballet and contemporary dance.

This program repeats in February/March 2019 in Mountain View.

SHOWS:

WALNUT CREEK:

September 20-21, 2019

7:30pm Friday, Sept. 20

2:00pm Saturday, Sept. 21

Leshner Center for the Arts

1601 Civic Drive (at Locust), Walnut Creek

925-943-7469 or www.smuinballet.org

Subscriptions: \$147-200

Single tickets \$25-\$93 (available August 6)

SAN FRANCISCO:
September 27-October 6, 2019
7:30pm Friday, Sept. 27
2pm & 7:30pm Saturday, Sept. 28
2pm Sunday, Sept. 29
7:30pm Thursday, Oct. 3
2pm & 7:30pm Saturday, October 5
2pm Sunday, Oct. 6

Cowell Theater
2 Marina Blvd, San Francisco
415-912-1899 or www.smuinballet.org

Subscriptions: \$84-200
Single tickets \$25-\$97 (available August 6)

Discounts are available for students and groups of 10 or more.

-30-

PRESS: Contact Steph Keay, Carla Befera & Co.
650-327-1200 | steph@cb-pr.com

PHOTOS: For high-res photos, please visit: <http://cbpr.co/press/danceseries1>