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### **NW Dance Project Presents: “Summer Premieres”**

15th Anniversary Season Closes with Trio of New Works by  
Choreographers James Canfield, Felix Landerer, and Sarah Slipper

Portland, OR (May 27, 2019) -- NW Dance Project announces “Summer Premieres” a trio of new works to close the company’s 15th Anniversary season. Created by choreographers James Canfield, Felix Landerer, and Sarah Slipper in honor of the NW Dance Project anniversary milestone, the performances will debut over three nights in June 2019.

The warmer weather and energizing daylight of summer’s arrival gives bloom to a dynamic and innovative series of dance works from three world-renowned choreographers, including a new work by NW Dance Project’s own Founding Artistic Director, Sarah Slipper. Varying in theme and inspiration, Canfield, Landerer and Slipper’s stylistically diverse works reference societal issues, plays, and poems with movement that ranges between energetic dance, intense physicality and quiet contemplation.

“Summer Premieres” celebrates 15 seasons and highlights some of NW Dance Project’s most extraordinary talents: June 13-15, 2019 at 7:30 pm at Lincoln Performance Hall, PSU, located at 1620 Park Avenue in Portland, OR.

#### **JAMES CANFIELD**

#### ***WORLD PREMIERE - “SKETCHES OF CONNOTATION” (BASED ON “A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE”)***

The founding Artistic Director of Oregon Ballet Theatre and more recently former Artistic Director of Nevada Ballet Theatre returns to Portland and NW Dance Project,

for which he has created eight previous works. For his latest, James takes on Tennessee Williams' classic *A Streetcar Named Desire*, which is as relevant today as it ever has been, setting the story to a collection of pop songs from the 1940s to today.

**FELIX LANDERER**

**WORLD PREMIERE - "ALL'S BEEN SAID"**

This award-winning German choreographer is another NW Dance Project discovery! Felix's two previous works for NW Dance Project have been noted for their intense physicality and dramatic vision. For his latest work, a gripping 15-minute trio, Felix takes a look at our collective paralysis with respect to combating climate change...kind of like the lifelong smoker who is told they have lung cancer and are only then motivated to change the situation they had been warned was coming for years.

**SARAH SLIPPER**

**WORLD PREMIERE - "SAVE ME THE PLUMS"**

No one knows NW Dance Project's talented and fearless dancers quite like the company's founding Artistic Director, Sarah Slipper, whose dramatic works have been wowing audiences for the past 15 years. For her latest creation, an intimate male/female duet for Princess Grace Award winners Andrea Parson and Franco Nieto, Sarah has found inspiration in Pablo Neruda's poem, "Tonight I Can Write the Saddest Lines."

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NW Dance Project "Summer Premieres"

June 13-15, 2019 | 7:30 PM

Lincoln Performance Hall, 1620 SW Park Ave, Portland, OR 97201

Tickets: \$34-\$58 Advance (no service fees) only at [www.nwdanceproject.org](http://www.nwdanceproject.org)

Press tickets are available for all performances. Please contact Elisa Smilovitz at [elisa@aopublic.com](mailto:elisa@aopublic.com) for more information.

**About NW Dance Project**

NW Dance Project was founded in Portland in 2004 by acclaimed dancer, mentor, and choreographer Sarah Slipper. NW Dance Project is dedicated to the creation and performance of innovative, new contemporary dance works from established and emerging dance makers created in an open and artistically stimulating environment. NW Dance Project has fostered the creation of nearly 300 original contemporary dance works to date, premiering them all in Portland before touring regionally, nationally, and internationally. Its dedication to providing dancers and

dance makers the resources and creative room needed to realize new, inspired dance works led Dance International Magazine to proclaim that we are “changing the way dance is created” and that NW Dance Project has become “a laboratory, factory and repository for risk-taking new works from the next generation of choreographers from Europe and North America.” Four of NW Dance Project’s classically-trained and uniquely talented dancers have won Princess Grace Awards while with the company (given to only six dancers annually) and the company’s dancers were referred to as “some of the best dancers you will ever see” by the *Calgary Herald*. *The New Yorker* called NW Dance Project “a company of slick, skilled dancers” before its debut Jacob’s Pillow performances, the most renowned dance festival in the country. *The Oregonian* declared NW Dance Project “an essential part of the city’s arts scene,” and *Oregon Public Broadcasting* complimented them as “the ‘it’ company...one of the most dynamic dance troupes in the country.”

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