

For Immediate Release

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**AMY SEIWERT'S IMAGERY PRESENTS SKETCH 6 | USE YOUR WORDS
THREE GENERATIONS OF BALLET MAKERS
FEATURING WORLD PREMIERES BY AMY SEIWERT
VAL CANIPAROLI AND NICOLE HASKINS**

July 8-10, Cowell Theater at Fort Mason Center

"Intriguingly plotted and thrillingly danced" - Allan Ulrich, San Francisco Chronicle



Amy Seiwert's Imagery dancer James Gilmer; Photo credit: David DeSilva

SAN FRANCISCO, April 5, 2016 – **Amy Seiwert's Imagery**, a contemporary ballet company presents the **sixth annual SKETCH series** bringing together three generations of ballet makers: **Amy Seiwert** (Amy Seiwert's Imagery, Smuin Ballet), **San Francisco legend Val Caniparoli** (San Francisco Ballet) and emerging choreographer **Nicole Haskins** (Smuin Ballet), **July 8-10, Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center**. The one weekend performance entitled **SKETCH 6 | Use Your Words** will feature three premieres by Seiwert, Caniparoli and Haskins, as well as the reprisal of Adam Hougland's *Cigarettes* (2011).

"The SKETCH series is a creative lab, an opportunity for myself and other choreographers to create new work and push boundaries," says Amy Seiwert, artistic

director of Amy Seiwert's Imagery and founder of the SKETCH series. "This year's SKETCH is special in that I have the opportunity to work with Val Caniparoli, one of the most sought after choreographers in the US and abroad, and Nicole Haskins, a young choreographer who has a strong and creative voice."

Each year the SKETCH series is centered around a theme, and in 2016 the choreographers will look to text for inspiration, with Seiwert, Caniparoli and Haskins each individually defining that task through poems, songs with words and literature. According to dance writer Claudia Bauer, *Dance Tabs*: "The SKETCH process entails creative collaboration between invited choreographers and Seiwert's Imagery company of dancers, culminating in a weekend of world premieres. It's always a highly anticipated dance event – Seiwert chooses superior choreographers, her production is polished and while the company roster changes a bit each year, the dancers are consistently sublime."

Amy Seiwert's Imagery dancers performing in this year's SKETCH series include: Sarah Griffin, Rachel Furst, James Gilmer, Annali Rose, Scott Marlow, Peter Franc, Andre Silva, and Beth Ann Maslinoff.

SKETCH 6 | Use Your Words is made possible in part through support by the Zellerbach Family Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Zaccho Studio's Residency Program, and an in-kind grant from Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture.

CALENDAR LISTING

Amy Seiwert's Imagery presents the sixth year of its SKETCH series with three generations of ballet makers

WHO: Amy Seiwert's Imagery, the San Francisco-based contemporary ballet company

WHAT: **SKETCH 6 | Use Your Words** presenting three generations of ballet makers: Amy Seiwert, San Francisco legend Val Caniparoli and emerging choreographer Nicole Haskins showcasing three world premieres.

WHEN: July 8-10

WHERE: Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center, Marina Blvd and Buchanan Street, San Francisco

TICKETS: \$25-\$40

For more information about Amy Seiwert's Imagery and the SKETCH series visit <http://asimagery.org/>

[About Amy Seiwert and Amy Seiwert's Imagery](#)

Amy Seiwert enjoyed a nineteen-year performing career dancing with the Smuin, LA Chamber and Sacramento Ballets.

As a dancer with Smuin Ballet she became involved with the “Protégé Program” where her choreography was mentored by the late Michael Smuin, and became Choreographer in Residence there upon her retirement from dancing in 2008. Named one of “25 to Watch” by Dance Magazine, her first full evening of choreography was named one of the “Top 10” dance events of 2007 by the SF Chronicle.

Twice she has worked with dancers from New York City Ballet, participating in the NY Choreography Institute at the invitation of Peter Martins. Collaborations include works with visual designers Marc Morozumi and Matthew Antaky, composers Daniel Bernard Roumain and Mason Bates, media designer Frieder Weiss and spoken-word artist Marc Bamuthi Joseph.

She is honored to have been an Artist in Residence at ODC Theater from 2013-15 and to have works in the repertory of Ballet Austin, BalletMet, Smuin, Washington, Atlanta, Oakland, Sacramento, Colorado, Louisville, Cincinnati, Carolina, Oklahoma City, Dayton, Milwaukee and American Repertory Ballets as well as Robert Moses KIN.

Amy Seiwert’s Imagery, a contemporary ballet company in San Francisco, believes that ballet is an expressive and vital voice relevant to our times. Imagery’s artists share the belief that through collaboration & experimentation, vibrant and courageous ideas are expressed and habitual reactions are discouraged. Imagery’s mission is to expand the definition of ballet by exploding preconceptions of what ballet is and can be.

About The SKETCH Series

The SKETCH series began the summer of 2011 with SKETCH: New Works. Performed at Z Space, SKETCH brought together four choreographers and eight dancers in an incredibly intense but amazingly fertile environment. The past three seasons SKETCH has offered world premieres created by acclaimed choreographers Julia Adam, Marc Brew, Val Caniparoli, Adam Hougland, Matthew Neenan, Gina Patterson, Susan Roemer and Seiwert.

The purpose of the SKETCH series is to provide a safe environment for risk-taking in contemporary ballet choreography. The performances take place in intimate theaters, and works-in-progress showings with moderated Q&As occur throughout the process. The dancers chosen for this series are incredibly open and generous collaborators, highly invested in the creative process. It is Imagery’s hope that by fostering environments that allow choreographers to take chances, we can do our part to further innovation in our art form.

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