

For Immediate Release

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**AMY SEIWERT'S IMAGERY PRESENTS SKETCH 7: WANDERING
THE FIRST EVENING LENGTH WORK
BY ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AMY SEIWERT**

*The world premiere of Wandering
From the Joyce Theater Foundation Creative Residency*

July 21-23, Cowell Theater at Fort Mason Center



Amy Seiwert's Imagery Dancers James Gilmore & Sarah Griffin

Photo Credit: David DeSilva

SAN FRANCISCO, April 5, 2017 – **Amy Seiwert's Imagery**, a contemporary ballet company, presents the **seventh annual SKETCH series, July 21-23, Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center**. In this year's SKETCH performance, Artistic Director Amy Seiwert creates her first evening length contemporary ballet. The new work, *Wandering*, is supported by one of two Creative Residencies offered through the Joyce Theater Foundation, New York's premier presenter of dance. This marks the **first National Residency offered by the Joyce to a company outside of NYC**.

After *Wandering* premieres in San Francisco, Imagery travels to New York, **July 27-29**, where the work closes the **Joyce's 2017 Ballet Festival**. Following the Joyce engagement, Amy Seiwert's Imagery also performs at **Jacob's Pillow, August 2, Becket, Massachusetts**.

Wandering is set to *Winterreise* (Winter Journey) a piano and voice cycle by Franz Schubert set to 24 poems by Wilhelm Müller. The ballet is choreographed specifically for Amy Seiwert's Imagery dancers with choreographic consultation by San Francisco legend Val Caniparoli (San Francisco Ballet). *Wandering* is a narrative-based work, unlike Seiwert's past works which often lean towards the abstract.

"*Winterreise* is a dramatic monologue that reflects the story of a wanderer who feels lost from himself and lost from the world," says Amy Seiwert, artistic director of Amy Seiwert's Imagery and founder of the SKETCH series. "This ballet explores the theme of going on a journey, both internally and physically. How do we relate to the world, the world to us, how does the world around us change us, and how do we in return alter the world and our community?"

SKETCH 7| Wandering also includes strong visual components by the design team of Brian Jones (visual design) and Susan Roemer (costumes), who create a surreal environment that engages the viewer in unexpected ways. For this piece, Seiwert looks at the stage in a painterly way to support the narrative potential in the work, and subverts typical ballet scenic imagery.

Amy Seiwert's Imagery dancers performing in this year's SKETCH series include: Ben Needham-Wood, James Gilmer, Gabriel Gaffney Smith, Anthony Cannarella-Andersen, Shania Rasmussen, Alysia Chang, Jackie Nash, and Tina LaForgia.

SKETCH 7 | Wandering is the outgrowth of a residency provided by The Joyce Theater Foundation, New York City, with major support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Additional support by San Francisco Grants for the Arts, the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation, Lighting Artists in Dance Award (a program of Dancers' Group), Fort Mason Center for the Arts, and Zaccho Dance Studio.

CALENDAR LISTING

Amy Seiwert's Imagery presents the seventh year of its SKETCH series, featuring the world premiere of Wandering by Artistic Director Amy Seiwert

- WHO:** Amy Seiwert's Imagery, the San Francisco-based contemporary ballet company
- WHAT:** **SKETCH 7 | WANDERING**, the first evening length contemporary ballet by Artistic Director Amy Seiwert
- WHEN:** Friday, July 21 and Saturday, July 22, 8 pm
Sunday, July 23, 7 pm
- WHERE:** Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center, Marina Blvd and Buchanan Street, San Francisco
- TICKETS:** \$25-\$50
Visit: <https://fortmason.org>

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 AXIS Dance and 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 and experimentation, vibrant and courageous ideas are expressed. 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. SKETCH has offered world premieres created by acclaimed choreographers Julia Adam, Marc Brew, Val Caniparoli, Adam Hougland, Matthew Neenan, Gina Patterson, Susan Roemer, KT Nelson, Nicole Haskins 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 occurring 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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