

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contact**

Leslie Rivers

(414) 902-2102

[lrivers@milwaukeeballet.org](mailto:lrivers@milwaukeeballet.org)



**MILWAUKEE BALLET MIXES CONTEMPORARY CHOREOGRAPHERS WITH  
LOCAL ARTISTS IN *MXE MILWAUKEE MIXED* AT THE PABST**

**- *Five new works to feature local choreography, music, and poetry, Feb 8-11-***

**MILWAUKEE – January 26, 2018** – Milwaukee Ballet presents *MXE Milwaukee Mixed* February 8-11, 2018 at the Pabst Theater. This made-in-Milwaukee production pairs the Company’s choreographers with local artists in a program of five world premieres.

“The Pabst program has long been associated with the creation of new work, and the pursuit of pushing the boundaries of our audience and dancers. We continue this tradition with *MXE Milwaukee Mixed*,” said Artistic Director Michael Pink. “*MXE* was conceived to showcase the choreographic talent in the Company, and the power of collaboration with fellow creative artists in our community.”

*MXE Milwaukee Mixed* is the first program in which Milwaukee Ballet will stage work solely created by its own artists, as well as using local musicians and poets.

Milwaukee Ballet’s resident choreographers, Timothy O’Donnell and Petr Zahradníček, will each add a new work to their repertoire in *MXE Milwaukee Mixed*, while Company dancers Garrett Glassman, Isaac Sharratt, and Nicole Teague-Howell will make their choreographic debuts.

Pink noted, “Garrett, Isaac, and Nicole are all graduates of our Milwaukee Ballet II program, and their success is a testament to the comprehensive training and opportunities our dancers receive both in the program, and the Company.”

Each choreographer selected a local artist to provide the soundtrack for their new ballet. Glassman chose string quartet Tontine Ensemble, Sharratt opted for the Americana sounds of The Vitrolum Republic, Teague-Howell chose electronica artist LUXI, and Zahradníček selected jazz ensemble the Bonifas Electric Band featuring Brian Lynch. O’Donnell is partnering with renowned spoken word poet Dasha Kelly.

This mixed repertory program will explore topics as diverse as society’s addiction to screens, to how time and experience affect our perspective and goals, to the role memory plays in our lives.

88Nine Radio Milwaukee proudly supported *MXE Milwaukee Mixed*. 88Nine Radio Milwaukee Program Director Jordan Lee said, “I have enjoyed collaborating on a production that puts Milwaukee artists in the forefront.”

Milwaukee Ballet will host a talkback on The Pabst stage after each performance.

Choreographer and musician biographies available at [milwaukeeballet.org](http://milwaukeeballet.org).

## **Tickets and Sponsors**

*MXE Milwaukee Mixed* runs February 8-11, 2018 at the Pabst Theater, 144 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee. To order tickets, call (414) 902-2103 or visit [milwaukeeballet.org](http://milwaukeeballet.org). The 2017-18 season is presented by Donna and Donald Baumgartner, with operational support from the United Performing Arts Fund.

## **Community Event**

### **414 Live**

**February 1, 5:30pm**

**88Nine Radio Milwaukee, 220 E Pittsburgh Ave**

88Nine Radio Milwaukee welcomes The Vitrolum Republic to the stage for their weekly 414 Live concert. This local, Americana band provides the soundtrack to Isaac Sharratt's new work in *MXE Milwaukee Mixed*.

Free and open to the public. General admission seating.

Beer, wine, coffee, and gourmet sodas are available for purchase from Stone Creek Coffee.

## **About Milwaukee Ballet**

Founded in 1970, Milwaukee Ballet celebrates its 48th season as a staple of Wisconsin's arts and culture scene. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Michael Pink, Milwaukee Ballet has become world-renowned for presenting bold new interpretations of story ballets and cutting-edge contemporary works. Milwaukee Ballet is the home to an international company of dancers and is one of only a few companies in the nation to maintain its own orchestra. Milwaukee Ballet School & Academy is the only professional dance school in the Midwest accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD). Milwaukee Ballet's award-winning Community Engagement Department serves more than 30,000 people in Southeastern Wisconsin through original, interactive programs.

###

*Note to Editors: Interviews with Milwaukee Ballet Artistic Director Michael Pink or the choreographers, and high-resolution images are available upon request.*