

Ballet Sun Valley Fact Sheet

2011: The predecessor company to Ballet Sun Valley, a nonprofit founded to bring international ballet to Sun Valley, Idaho is established by resident Robert Smelick.

2012: Smelick partners with the Sun Valley Resort to present [San Francisco Ballet](#) (Artistic Director Helgi Tomasson), July 8, to a sold-out audience.

2016: Smelick incorporates Ballet Sun Valley, Inc.

2017 & 2018: Ballet Sun Valley presents an International Dancer Festival featuring artists from New York City Ballet, Paris Opera Ballet, Royal Danish Ballet, the Mariinsky Ballet and San Francisco Ballet. The Festival was curated by Isabella Boylston, American Ballet Theatre principal dancer.

2019: San Francisco Ballet returns to the Sun Valley Pavilion, July 5 and 7, with 38 dancers from 13 countries and two performances including highly acclaimed ballets from the Company's 2018 Unbound Festival of New Works.

Ballet Sun Valley also introduces an Education Program taught by professional faculty from the distinguished San Francisco Ballet School. In addition, Ballet Sun Valley organizes in partnership with the Boston Ballet School an Adaptive Dance Program for children of all abilities. All of these programs are offered free of charge.

2020: Due to Covid-19, Ballet Sun Valley presents a digital streaming performance on August 23rd featuring [Pacific Northwest Ballet](#) (Artistic Director Peter Boal).

2021: Ballet Sun Valley presents two summer festivals for the first time - a July Independent Dancer Festival, July 12 and 13, featuring artists from New York City Ballet, Houston Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Washington Ballet, and San Francisco Ballet, curated by Matthew Bledsoe, Executive Vice President of IMG Artists. And an August Festival, August 22 and 23, featuring contemporary dance company [Ballet X](#).

2022: Ballet Sun Valley presents [Boston Ballet](#) (Artistic Director Mikko Nissinen), June 24 and 25, with 30 dancers and two amazing programs. Performance highlights include two world premieres from Boston Ballet's ChoreographHER, a female-led program celebrating innovative women across creative fields such as: choreography, music, design, and visual arts.

ChoreographHER pieces performed at Ballet Sun Valley included *Point of Departure* by New York City Ballet Principal Dancer and choreographer Tiler Peck and Pulitzer Prize winning composer Caroline Shaw and *Chaptered in Fragments* by Boston Ballet Principal Dancer and choreographer Lia Cirio.

2023: Ballet Sun Valley presents [Dutch National Ballet](#) (Director Ted Brandsen), July 1 and 2, with approximately 32 dancers from 12 countries. The engagement represents DNB's first US tour in 40 years, with Sun Valley as the first tour stop, and additional performances at Jacob's Pillow and the Music Center at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Los Angeles.