



210 N Santa Fe Avenue | Pueblo, CO 81003
www.sdc-arts.org | (719) 295-7200

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Contact: Alyssa Parga,
Director of Marketing & Development
719-295-7211 | alyssa@sd-arts.org

Master Class from Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo

Ballet Master of the World's Foremost All-Male Comic Ballet Company to Teach at Arts Center

(Pueblo, Colo.-January 3, 2019) The Sangre de Cristo School of Dance will host a special master class with the Ballet Master of Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo on Wednesday, January 16 from 6 - 7:30 pm. The class will be taught by Raffaele Morra of Fossano, Italy. Morra has training from Estudio de Danzas (Mirta & Marcelo Aulicio), Accademia Regionale di Danza del Teatro Nuovo di Torino and joined Trockadero in May 2001. The class is open to all intermediate level dancers age 12 and up. Cost is \$20 or free for Sangre de Cristo School of Dance students. Reserve your spot by calling (719) 295-7221 as space is limited. This class is made possible with help from WESTAF. The full public performance by Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo is Thursday, January 17 at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$30 and available by calling (719) 295-7200 or online at sdc-arts.org.

About Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo was founded in 1974 by a group of ballet enthusiasts for the purpose of presenting a playful, entertaining view of traditional, classical ballet in parody form and en travesti. The Trocks, as they are affectionately known, quickly garnered a major critical essay in *The New Yorker*, which combined with reviews in *The New York Times* and *The Village Voice* established the Company as an artistic and popular success. By mid-1975, the Trocks' loving knowledge of dance, comic approach, and commitment to the notion that men can, indeed, dance en pointe without falling flat on their faces, was already garnering attention beyond the Company's New York home.

Since those beginnings, the Trocks have established themselves as a major dance phenomenon throughout the world. They have participated in dance festivals worldwide and there have been television appearances as varied as a Shirley MacLaine special, *The Dick Cavett Show*, *What's My Line?*, *Real People*, *On-Stage America*, with Kermit and Miss Piggy on their show *Muppet Babies*, and a BBC Omnibus special on the world of ballet hosted by Jennifer Saunders.

Trocks have garnered Best Classical Repertoire from the prestigious Critic's Circle National Dance Awards (2007) (UK); the Theatrical Managers Award (2006) (UK); and the 2007 Positano Award (Italy) for excellence in dance. In December 2008, the Trocks performed for members of the British royal family at the 80th anniversary Royal Variety Performance, to aid of the Entertainment Artistes' Benevolent Fund, in London. The Trocks' numerous tours have been both popular and critical successes - their frenzied annual schedule has included appearances in over 35 countries and over 600 cities worldwide since its founding including seasons at the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow and the Chatelet Theater in Paris.

About Sangre de Cristo School of Dance

The School of Dance offers a wide variety of classes to many age groups and ability levels including, but not limited to ballet, pointe training, adult ballet, early education (ages 3-7), character, jazz, modern, contemporary, yoga, conditioning, and special pre-professional level classes for those interested in pursuing a career in dance. The students in our advanced classes have the opportunity to participate in master classes from professional dance companies that are part of the Center Stage Performing Arts Series. Past master classes hosted by Sangre de Cristo School of Dance include the Grand Russian Ballet, Flamenco Vivo, and MOMIX dance companies.

About the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center:

The cultural hub of Southern Colorado, the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center gives visitors the tools to think and act creatively through a three building complex including seven galleries offering the best in historic and contemporary art by artists of local, regional and national renown. The Arts Center offers the Buell Children's Museum, recognized as the second-best for art by *Child* magazine, a 500-seat theater featuring a variety of performing arts programs, both local and national, and two gift shops. Over 100 fine arts, dance, and leisure classes are available quarterly providing unique offerings to everyone from children to adults of all skill levels. Admission to the Arts Center is \$8 for adults, \$6 for children, seniors 65+, and military. For more information, please call 719-295-7200; stop by the Arts Center located at 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., just off of I-25, exit 98B, or visit online at www.sdc-arts.org.

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