

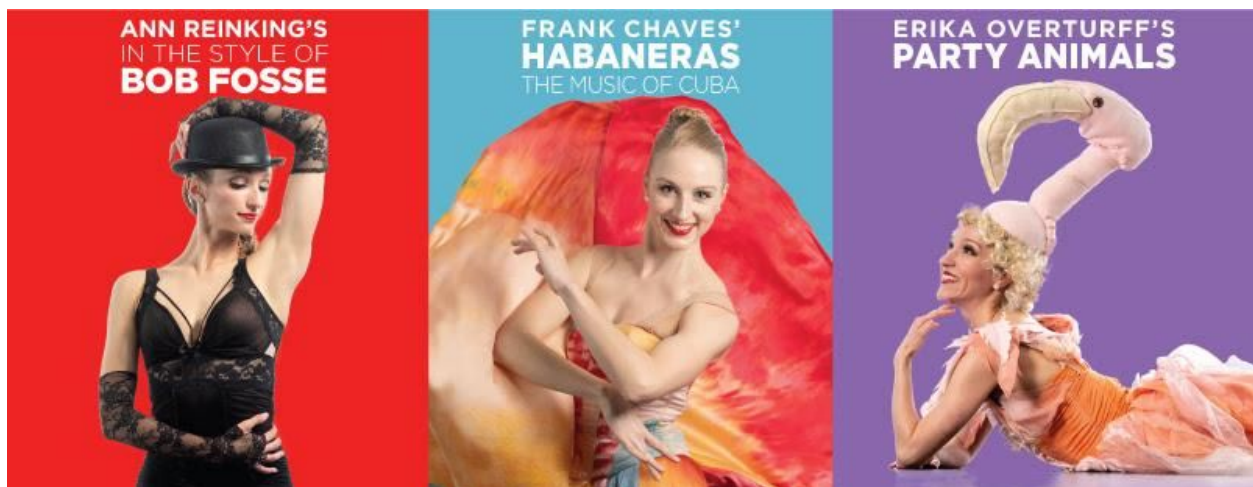
# AMERICAN MIDWEST **Ballet**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 24, 2019**

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*American Midwest Ballet's annual mixed repertory production, Momentum, mixes fast-paced short ballets in a variety of styles.*

## **MOMENTUM: RETURNING FAVORITES AND EXCITING NEW WORK**

OMAHA — Sept. 24, 2019 -- American Midwest Ballet (AMB) leaps into its tenth anniversary season with a celebration of old and new -- several “back-by-popular demand” favorites, along with an exciting new work.

### ***Habaneras, the Music of Cuba***

The company’s award-winning annual mixed repertory production **Momentum** kicks off the ballet season with the Omaha premiere of the sultry, colorful *Habaneras, the Music of Cuba* -- an ode to the 1950s-era Big Band sounds of Cuba, the native home of choreographer Frank Chaves.

“*Habaneras* is a vibrant piece that is a tribute to my native Cuba and celebrates the music that has been a part of my life since I was a child,” said Chaves. “This piece speaks to my love of the arts and to the many joys and fulfillment that music can bring to the soul.”

Also back are two of AMB’s most-requested favorites: *In the Style of Bob Fosse*, and *Party Animals*.

### ***In The Style of Bob Fosse***

A tribute to the legendary choreographer, “In the Style of Bob Fosse” is a work personally created for AMB by Broadway superstar Ann Reinking, Fosse’s muse and protégée.

“I had always wanted a Fosse-inspired work in our repertory, but in order to do it justice, it had to be created by someone who truly understood and embodied the technique and spirit of Fosse’s style,” said artistic director, Erika Overturff.

“Who better than Ms. Reinking to bring Fosse to life again through AMB’s own dancers? We are over the moon to collaborate with a celebrated artist of her caliber,” said Overturff. “It is a dream come true for our dancers.”

### ***Party Animals***

Rounding out a dynamic evening of dance is *Party Animals*, which made its world premiere in 2014.

“Since this entire season is a celebration of our tenth anniversary, a party was definitely in order,” says Overturff of her original work.

*Party Animals* showcases AMB’s professional dancers as playful lions, birds, cheetahs and other animals in clever costumes designed by Deborah Overturff.

Overturff’s funny, flirty, fantasy work also features glamorous flamingos, a mob of meerkats, darling baby elephants, and exuberant zebras, as well as a *pas de deux* between a shy hippo and a dapper but sneaky crocodile.

## **PERFORMANCES AND TICKETS:**

**Momentum** performances are at 7:30 pm Friday, October 11, at Joslyn Art Museum, and 2 pm Sunday, October 13, at Iowa Western Arts Center. Ticket prices start at \$22. For ticket links and more information, visit [amballet.org](http://amballet.org) .

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American Midwest Ballet [AMB] brings the beauty, athleticism, and energy of professional ballet to audiences in the other Midwest and beyond. Performing at home and on tour, our mission is to provide enrichment through programs of the highest quality: professional dance performances, educational programs, and community outreach.

AMB's tenth anniversary season is presented with the generous support of premiere benefactors the Iowa West Foundation, the Fred and Eve Simon Charitable Foundation, the Holland Foundation, and Douglas County; season sponsors Omaha Steaks and the Peter Kiewit Foundation; and major support from Cindy and Scott Heider, the Nebraska Arts Council, the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, and the Sherwood Foundation.