For Immediate Release

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Wonderbound, Colorado Symphony, and Denver's Best and Brightest Bands Join Forces on Boettcher Concert Hall's Stage

Over a year in the making, this amped-up evening is a mega collaboration that will delight audiences of all ages.

DENVER (January 24, 2017) - On Friday, May 12, 2017, at 7:30pm, Downtown Denver's Boettcher Concert Hall will explode with the immense sounds of the magnificent Colorado Symphony and local bands of the highest acclaim, Ian Cooke Band, Chimney Choir, and Jesse Manley and His Band, and will feature original symphonic arrangements composed by Tom Hagerman of DeVotchKa. The Wonderbound dancers will bring their athletic prowess to the stage, performing excerpts from innovative collaborations with these exceptional artists.

"Dancing at Boettcher Concert Hall with the Colorado Symphony is always a fantastic and inspiring experience for Wonderbound," said Wonderbound Artistic Director Garrett Ammon. "The opportunity to bring three of Denver's finest independent bands into the fold only heightens our excitement. The convergence of classical, rock, pop, and folk music with dance in a single evening is a true expression of Denver's rich cultural landscape."

"Wonderbound last joined us in Boettcher Concert Hall in March 2016, and it was received wonderfully," said Colorado Symphony's Chief Artistic Officer Anthony Pierce. "It's a creation that's as inspiring to produce as it is to watch. Tom Hagerman does beautiful work orchestrating for contemporary music, and connecting this array of artists through music and dance in a program like MAYhem is powerful proof of Denver's abundant and ambitious performing arts scene."

This mega collaboration marks the third appearance for Wonderbound on the Boettcher Concert Hall stage, and the organization is thrilled to be performing once again with one of the top symphonies in the nation. Wonderbound has made a commitment to featuring live music and original compositions for all of its season productions, and MAYhem is an extension of this mantra on a massive scale.

MAYhem will take place Friday, May 12, 2017, at 7:30pm at Boettcher Concert Hall. Tickets go on sale Friday, January 27, 2017, at 8am and are available at coloradosymphony.org, by phone at 303.623.7876, and in person at the Boettcher Concert Hall Box Office, Denver Performing Arts Complex, 1000 14th

Street. The Box Office is open Monday-Friday, 10am-6pm; Saturday, noon-6pm; and two hours prior to each performance.

As always, the public is encouraged to experience the Wonderbound performers, not only at the official shows throughout the season, but in their rehearsal space in the heart of Denver. Visitors are asked to call to confirm rehearsal schedules.

For **exclusive photo and interview opportunities** contact Rachel Trignano at 303.308.2477 or rtrignano@coloradosymphony.org or Amber Blais at 303.292.4700 or ablais@wonderbound.com

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Press for Wonderbound

"Fine-arts lovers may balk at the blurring of lines between pure choreography and musical theater, but Wonderbound has found success with it... As Colorado's second-largest professional ballet company, its collaborations with writers, poets, magicians and indie musicians such as Ian Cooke and Jesse Manley have successfully turned hip, young audiences on to the pleasures of dance."

-The Denver Post

"Colorado's Contemporary Dance powerhouse Wonderbound (formerly known as Ballet Nouveau Colorado) has established itself as a major force with a variety of successful collaborations."

-Huffington Post

"...they extend beyond dancers; they are flat out artists. They are incredible when performing a pas de deux in pairs, or as a company in perfect precision. They come in all shapes and sizes and there are no rankings amongst the dancers. They are disgustingly perfect and somehow both ethereal and absolutely raw."

-303 Magazine

"The energy and magical sense of community within Wonderbound is different. It is like the community owns the troupe as much as it owns itself. Disrupt your normal reality and take part in creative place-making. Take part in dance – make your community move!"

-Presenting Denver

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Upcoming Wonderbound Productions:

Teaser Episode #13: DIVISIONS Performance Information

One night only

Dates/Times Mar 28 at 6:30pm

Location Wonderbound Studio at Junction Box

1075 Park Avenue West Denver, CO 80205

Cost \$30

Tickets By phone at 303.292.4700 or online at http://wonderbound.com

DIVISIONS

with the Flobots

Performance Information

Seven (7) performances

Dates/Times Apr 14 & 15 at 7:30pm & Apr 16 at 2:00pm

Location Performing Arts Complex at Pinnacle Charter School

1001 W. 84th Ave. Denver, CO 80260 **Cost** \$22-\$50

Tickets By phone at 303.292.4700 or online at http://wonderbound.com

Dates/Times Apr 22 at 7:30pm & Apr 23 at 2:00pm

Location Parker Arts, Culture & Events Center

20000 Pikes Peak Ave. Parker, CO 80138

Tickets By phone at 303.805.6800 or online at http://parkerarts.org/

Dates/Times Apr 29 at 7:30pm & Apr 30 at 2:00pm

Location The Newman Center for the Performing Arts

2344 E. Iliff Avenue Denver, CO 80208

Tickets By phone at 303.871.6200 or online at http://www.newmancenterpresents.com/

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About Wonderbound

Wonderbound is an American dance company that lives at the convergence of tradition and innovation, vulnerability and courage, and intimacy and openness. Under the leadership of husband-and-wife team Garrett Ammon and Dawn Fay, Wonderbound is committed to the development and sharing of collaborative artistic experiences. These undertakings have come to define Wonderbound, producing creations that erase boundaries between mediums and engage artists and audiences in candid explorations of the human experience.

For more information about Wonderbound, visit wonderbound.com

About Garrett Ammon

Garrett Ammon is an acclaimed choreographer who began his tenure as artistic director of Wonderbound (formerly Ballet Nouveau Colorado) in 2007. Ammon has been honored as a Bonfils-Stanton Foundation Livingston Fellow (2011); named one of Denver Westword's "Ten People to Watch in 2013" and is the recipient of the 2013 Mayor's Award for Excellence in the Arts.

A prolific dancemaker, serial collaborator and self-professed tech geek; Ammon has created <u>over 50 dance works</u> over the past fourteen years. He has conspired with artists across an array of disciplines and developed a trademark aesthetic that seamlessly blends tradition with adventurous new ideas.

Ammon's deep creative relationship with poet Michael J. Henry has produced *When the Power Goes Out* (2009) and the multimedia, evening length production *Intersection* (2009). In 2014, Ammon and Henry worked with musician Ian Cooke to create the all new full length piece Gone West. In 2013, after the successful creation of *Vagabond Hill* (2011), Ammon and Denver Singer/Songwriter Jesse Manly again joined forces this time, with Illusionist Professor Phelyx, to create the full-length piece *A Gothic Folktale*. Other recent works include, *Odessa with* Ofer Ben-Amots and Colorado College; the Klezmer-fusion piece, *Memories and Well Grounded Hopes* with Hal Aqua and The Lost Tribe; and an international collaborative work with Israel's Liat Dror Nir Ben Gal Dance Company along with the Mizel Arts & Culture Center.

Ammon lives in Denver, Colorado with his wife and muse Dawn Fay. They have worked alongside each other continuously since they first met in 1999.

More information on Garrett can be found on his website at *garrettammon.com*

About the Colorado Symphony

One of the leading orchestras in the United States, the Colorado Symphony performs more than 150 concerts annually at Boettcher Concert Hall in downtown Denver and across Colorado. Led by Music Director Designate Brett Mitchell, the Colorado Symphony is home to eighty full-time musicians, representing more than a dozen nations, and regularly welcomes the most celebrated artists from the world of symphonic music and beyond. Every season, the Colorado Symphony serves more than 250,000 people from all walks of life, performing a range of musical styles, from traditional to contemporary. Recognized as an incubator of innovation, creativity, and excellence, the Colorado Symphony continually expands its reach through education, outreach, and programming. The Colorado Symphony partners with the state's leading musical artists, cultural organizations, corporations, foundations, sports teams, and individuals to expose diverse audiences to the transformative power of music. To learn more, visit coloradosymphony.org.

The 2016/17 Colorado Symphony Season is presented by Arrow Electronics. Support also provided by: The Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), 9News, Rocky Mountain Honda Dealers Association, and United Airlines.