

SEVEN SONATAS

Alexei Ratmansky

Seven Sonatas, which premiered in 2009 with American Ballet Theatre, is set to seven keyboard sonatas by Domenico Scarlatti, performed live on stage by a pianist. The ballet features three couples in a series of intimate duets and ensemble dances that explore the emotional spectrum of human relationships — tenderness, playfulness, longing, and tension. Rather than telling a linear narrative, Ratmansky uses the mercurial energy of Scarlatti's music to illuminate fleeting emotional moments, blending classical ballet vocabulary with spontaneity and wit.

DIVIDE & CONQUER

Leiland Charles

Divide & Conquer explores instances, whether brief or extended, of compartmentalization within one's body and mind. Within these instances, we paint a picture for ourselves of what we feel may need to be hidden, or revealed, to those who surround us at any given time.

IGNITE

Juanjo Arqués

Ignite takes the work of the British painter J.M.W. Turner *The Burning of the Houses of Lords and Commons* as the main source of inspiration. Turner based the painting on the actual event of a fire engulfing the Houses of Parliament in London on October 16, 1834. Londoners gathered along the River Thames to gaze in awe at the horrifying spectacle. William Turner used this disaster as a starting point to express man's helplessness when confronted with the destructive powers of nature.

Following Turner's use of color to convey the magnificent light and heat of the burning building, *Ignite* takes the audience on a dynamic color journey. The eye and mind of the spectators are triggered emotionally in connection to the symbols, the themes and the colors which are translated from the painting to the stage.

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