

**COLORADO CONSERVATORY OF DANCE PRESENTS REGIONAL PREMIERE OF POWERFUL FILM
“DANSEUR”**

(BROOMFIELD, CO, January 17) In an effort to broaden community outreach initiatives in fulfillment of its new mission statement—**At Colorado Conservatory of Dance, we unleash individual potential and invigorate community through dance**—the Conservatory (CCD) is proud to present the regional premiere of Scott Gormley’s inspirational, provocative film “Danseur” in a **free public screening** and panel discussion on Friday, March 1 at 7:00PM at the Broomfield Auditorium, 3 Community Park Dr., Broomfield, CO 80020.

The film explores the experiences of male ballet dancers as they attempt to balance the internal challenges involved in pursuing professional careers in an exceedingly rigorous environment with external struggles associated with ostracization, stereotyping, bullying, and “masculine identity.” Featuring interviews with a number of the country’s most accomplished dancers, “Danseur” offers an unflinching glimpse into the difficulties encountered by boys—often from a very young age—who aspire to a life in dance. CCD believes that the screening and subsequent panel discussion can have a profound impact on young male dancers in the audience and those who support greater participation in ballet among boys and men, along with connecting them to a valuable network of professionals who can provide guidance, support, and inspiration.

From the “Danseur” website (www.danseurmovie.com):

Enter any dance studio in the United States and the classes will be brimming with little bunheads dreaming of crossing the stage at Lincoln Center. But you will be hard pressed to find a single boy among them. DANSEUR we will explore why in a country that strives for gender equality, where young women are encouraged to cross the gender barrier and participate in male-dominated fields, especially by their parents, does this disparity exist? Why is it more socially acceptable for parents (fathers in particular) to encourage their sons to participate in all other physical pursuits (ie: sports, fitness) but not the ballet? A recent survey revealed that nearly 95% of male ballet dancers stated that they faced physical or verbal attacks because of dance.

“Danseur” features a number of professional dancers who are either Colorado-based or who have worked with CCD in the past, including John Lam (principal dancer, Boston Ballet and recent guest artist in CCD’s “Nutcracker”), Ariel Brightman (Colorado Ballet), and Philip Gabriel Perez (Boulder Ballet). Several of these individuals will join director Gormley at an open panel discussion, moderated by CCD Artistic Director Julia Wilkinson Manley, immediately following the screening. Audience questions and comments will be welcomed as part of the conversation.

According to CCD Executive Director Richard Cowden, “10 years from now we may have the privilege to watch a principal male dancer at the Joffrey or American Ballet Theatre who, were it not for having been inspired by ‘Danseur’ as a young person, may well have quit dancing entirely because of the bullying and stereotyping that sometimes comes along with it. What a shame it would be if the world were to be denied his gifts...we believe this film can change lives.”

For more information about the screening, including interview opportunities with the director and panel members, contact CCD Communications Coordinator Rachel Long at (303) 466-5685 ex. 1004 or at rlong@ccdance.org.