

Program Notes — Anagram

World Premiere: July 24, 2004, Irvine Barclay Theatre, Irvine CA

James Sewell Ballet Premiere: September 30, 2004, State Theatre, Minneapolis MN

Music by Franz Schubert, "Sonata for Arpeggione and Piano in A minor"

Choreography by James Sewell

Lighting by Kevin A. Jones

Costumes by Mary Hansmeyer

"Anagram" was created under the auspices of the National Choreographers Initiative

Original Cast:

Penelope Freeh

Brittany Fridenstine

Benjamin Johnson

Matthew Keefe

Justin Leaf

Sally Rousse

Peggy Seipp-Roy

James Sewell

Although "*Anagram*" is danced to the music of Franz Schubert (b. 1797, Vienna; d. 1828, Vienna), the choreography has been designed in modules that permit the movement to be re-set to different music. The modules can be sequenced in any order and connected by Improvisational structures to produce distinct dances with their own feelings and meanings. James Sewell developed this approach as a way to take short-term advantage of invitations from music ensembles seeking to add dance to their presentations.

— Gary Peterson, 2004