

Program Notes – Made In America

Premiere: March 10, 2000, Mayo Civic Center, Rochester, Minnesota

Choreography by James Sewell

Lighting by Kevin A. Jones

Costumes by Mary Hansmeyer

Music by Francis Scott Key, arr. by Jim Clancy; Willie Nelson; Miles Davis; Raymond Scott; Eric Weissberg; Richard Rodgers/Lorenz Hart; Brian Wilson/Mike Love; Claude Jetter; Leo Kottke; Leroy Carr; Roy Hall.

Original Cast:

John DeSerio

Penelope Freeh

Jesse Hammel

Benjamin Johnson

Erina Noda

Sally Rouse

James Sewell

Hitomi Yamada

We have no idea how American music will evolve in the 21st century, but we can look back at musical moments from the last 100 years. This suite of dances pays homage to many notable American music forms, instrumentations, and performers. James Sewell listened to hundreds of recordings, including movie and show tunes, television themes, and commercial jingles that have infused our popular culture. The abundant selection left him wanting to do more someday. *"Made In America"* received preview performances in Grand Forks, North Dakota, and Little Falls, Minnesota.

— Gary Peterson, 2000