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**Bozeman, MT, October 18, 2004** – First Ascent Press, LLC announces the upcoming publication of *Winter Dance, Select Ice Climbs in Southern Montana and Northern Wyoming*, by company founder and long-time ice climber and writer Joe Josephson.

With 320 pages detailing more vertical feet of ice and mixed terrain than any guide in America, *Winter Dance* covers 300 routes from the Bozeman area, the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness, to the South Fork valley near Cody, WY. *Winter Dance* was recently selected as a finalist out of 137 entries at the prestigious 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Banff International Mountain Book Festival in Alberta, Canada November 3-5, 2004.

Dedicated to the late Alex Lowe, and named after his favorite ice route in Hyalite Canyon, *Winter Dance* will be available October 30<sup>th</sup> at local bookstores and outdoor shops. It will retail for \$29.95 US.

Presented in full-color throughout (6" x 9") with over 380 photos, many of first ascents previously unpublished, this guide traces the development of sport from some of the earliest, ground breaking explorations by Montana climbers like Pat Callis and Chad Chadwick through some of the most challenging modern climbs by Lowe and others.

"*Winter Dance* is the culmination of all my years writing and thinking about ice and mixed climbing," says Josephson. "Not only did I want to create a guide that is motivating and gives the needed information to find the routes, but also one that inspires the many, new enthusiasts about the early explorers and history of the sport."

Founded in 2004 by Big Timber native and outdoor industry veteran Joe Josephson, First Ascent Press is a dedicated publisher of distinctive non-fiction narratives and interpretive guidebooks. For fifteen years, Josephson has been a prolific writer and photographer of the alpine and ice climbing scene around the continent. Widely known for his guide books and magazine articles about the Canadian Rockies, *Winter Dance* is Josephson's fifth book and first under the First Ascent imprint.

Josephson will be signing books and answering questions at the Montana State University Bookstore on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

That night, kick off the upcoming ice climbing season and join First Ascent Press at 7:00 pm in the Weaver Room, Emerson Cultural Center for "Crystal Visions - 35 years of North American ice climbing history." Featuring many of the historic photographs and local stories found in *Winter Dance*, this slide show and lecture also contains images, stories and perspective from Josephson's ice climbing travels from Colorado to New England and from Alaska to Newfoundland.

Visit [www.firstascentpress.com](http://www.firstascentpress.com) for more information.

**TITLE:** *Winter Dance. Select Ice Climbs in Southern Montana & Northern Wyoming.*

**AUTHOR:** Joe Josephson. Foreword by Mark Twight.

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**RETAIL PRICE:** \$29.95