



DANCE

ASBURY PARK DANCE FESTIVAL
We Move You

2023 ASBURY PARK DANCE FESTIVAL

AN EVENING OF DANCE IN SUPPORT OF ARTS ED NJ

We believe in the power of dance to move
and inspire a community.

APDF CO-FOUNDERS

VJ CARBONE

MICHELLE FLEET

LAURA HALZACK

MICHAEL TRUSNOVEC

PROGRAM

THE MAN I LOVE

World Premiere in Ayodele Casel's Artists At The Center at New York City Center 2022

Choreography: **Michelle Dorrance & Dario Natarelli**

Cello: **Derek Louie**

Performed by **Dario Natarelli**

Music: George Gershwin; Gershwin Song Suite IV: "The Man I Love"

(Version for Solo Violin, Jazz Trio and String Orchestra); Daniel Hope; Marcus Roberts Trio;
Zürcher Kammerorchester

The Man I Love was a commission by New York City Center for Ayodele Casel - Artists at the Center, curated by Ayodele Casel. Support for new dance works at New York City Center is provided by the Arlene Shuler Artistic Innovation Fund and the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation.

STRANGE HUMORS

Choreography: **Robert Battle**

Performed by **Michael Francis McBride & Samuel Lee Roberts**

Music: John Mackey

Costumes: John Taylor, inspired by original Missoni designs

THIS BITTER EARTH

Choreography: **Christopher Wheeldon**

Performed by **NJ Ballet** dancers

Denise Parungao & Joshuan Vázquez

Music: Max Richter and Clyde Otis;

"This Bitter Earth" performed by Dinah

Washington (from the motion picture
soundtrack for *Shutter Island*)

Staged by **Jason Fowler**

Original Costume Design: Reid Bartelme

Costumes by Pro Tutu Studio

Original Lighting by ML Geiger

This is the not bitter earth. This is the perfect earth. You're making something perfect." Christopher Wheeldon

EVOLUTION

Choreographed and Performed by **Sun Kim**

Music: The Jimmy Castor Bunch; Zapp; James Brown; Feverkin

MAYBE

Choreography: **Doug Varone**

Performed by **Courtney Barth & Ryan Yamauchi**

Music: George Goldner and Richard Barrett, performed by Janis Joplin

Costumes: Liz Prince

WHATEVER LOLA WANTS from DAMN YANKEES

Original Choreography: **Bob Fosse**

Re-conceived & Directed by Lainie Sakakura

Performed by **Georgina Pazcoguin, "The Rogue Ballerina"**

Music & Lyrics: Richard Adler & Jerry Ross

Musicians: Clemens Grassmann- Drums, Daniel Hass - Guitar, Jernej Bervar

Guitar, Carlo De Biaggio- Bass, Mastered at "Howiewood" by Ryan Howe

Costumes: Elanur Erdogan

This performance is presented in association with the Verdon Fosse Legacy

PROGRAM

Excerpt from *THE LAST GLASS*

Originally premiered BalletX July 2010

Choreography: **Matthew Neenan**

Performed by **Andrea Yorita & Zachary Kapeluck**

Music: Beirut (A Sunday Smile)

Excerpt from *CANTICLE FOR INNOCENT COMEDIANS*

Inspired by the work from 1952 by Martha Graham; New production conceived by Janet Eilber

SUN

Choreography: **Sonya Tayeh**

Performed by **Lorenzo Pagano**

Lighting: Yi-Chung

Costumes: Karen Young

Music: Jason Moran

*"This is a dance of joy, in praise of the world
as it turns." Martha Graham*

Canticle for Innocent Comedians premiered on March 19,
2022 in The Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for the
Performing Arts at California State University, Northridge.

NO ORDINARY LOVE (Excerpt from *Duets for Jim*)

Premiered at Chelsea Factory, NYC in 2022

Choreography: **Andrea Miller** in collaboration with GALLIM

Performed by **Marc Anthony Gutierrez & India Hobbs**

Music: Sade

Costume Design: Andrea Miller

CHAOS THEORY - Abridged

Choreographed and Performed by **Casey Howes & Jacob Warren**

LEGGYBONES PHYSICAL THEATER

Music: Nocturne No. 2 in E-Flat Major Op. 9 No. 2- Frederic Chopin

Daniel Barenboim; Pyramid Song - Johnny Greenwood, Thom

Yorke, Voces8; Additional Audio - Jacob Michael Warren

*Chaos Theory - Abridged is adapted from
LEGGYBONES' first evening length work,
Chaos Theory & Other Miracles. The show
was commissioned by Chuck Harper and
Kristin Best-Kinscherff for the X-Fest
Theater Festival at Southern Illinois
University at Edwardsville in 2022.*

*Chaos Theory explores how
unpredictable randomness rules
every piece of our generally
over-planned lives. What will it
take to forego fear, and accept
absurdity? After all, when
irritation creates pearls, and fire
causes new growth, life itself
is supported by disruption.*

TERTULIA FLAMENCA

(A Flamenco Conversation)

Choreographed and Performed by **Sonia Olla**

Vocalist: **Ismael Fernández**

TECHNICAL STAFF

DONALEE KATZ

COLIN BROWN

JACQUELINE REID

GEORGE SMALLWOOD

TYLER BRUNSON



PHOTOGRAPHER

JOHN HERR

ABOUT US



Great friends VJ Carbone, Michelle Fleet, Laura Halzack and Michael Trusnovec founded the Asbury Park Dance Festival in 2019. Fleet, Halzack and Trusnovec are all distinguished alumni of the internationally acclaimed Paul Taylor Dance Company sharing a combined 58 years of professional dance experience. Carbone has worked as a film publicist with some of the most respected companies in Hollywood for over two decades. Together they all share a passion for dance and a mutual appreciation for all art forms. It is their shared belief that the arts have the power to build community, break down barriers, spread joy, and enrich people's lives. The festival's mission is to present dance and raise funds for arts education advocacy through a partnership with the non for profit Arts Ed NJ. Together APDF and Arts Ed NJ want to ensure that the next generation of budding artists and arts-lovers have access to what they need to pursue their dreams of living a life in the arts or a life that is enriched and made full by the arts.

COURTNEY BARTH (Dancer) originally from Las Vegas, Nevada began her dance training at Las Vegas Academy of Performing Arts. Courtney then moved to New York where she earned her BFA in dance at SUNY Purchase. She is currently based in Brooklyn and has had the pleasure of working for Kensaku Shinohara, Shannon Gillen, and Loni Landon. Courtney currently dances for Doug Varone and Dancers and 2nd Best Dance Company. In 2016 they apprenticed for Doug Varone and Dancers before joining the company in 2017. With the company she acts as costume manager, co-workshop coordinator and is currently running the DOVA Company class series.

ROBERT BATTLE (Choreographer) became Artistic Director of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in July 2011 after being personally selected by Judith Jamison, making him only the third person to head the Company since it was founded in 1958. Mr. Battle has a longstanding association with the Ailey organization. A frequent choreographer and artist-in-residence at Ailey since 1999, he has set many of his works on Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Ailey II, and at The Ailey School. The Company's current repertory includes his ballets Ella, For Four, In/Side, Love Stories finale, Mass, and Unfold. In addition to expanding the Ailey repertory with works by artists as diverse as Ronald K. Brown, Rennie Harris, Jessica Lang, and Wayne McGregor, Mr. Battle has also instituted the New Directions Choreography Lab to help develop the next generation of choreographers. Mr. Battle's journey to the top of the modern dance world began in the Liberty City neighborhood of Miami, Florida. He showed artistic talent early and studied dance at a high school arts magnet program before moving on to Miami's New World School of the Arts, under the direction of Daniel Lewis and Gerri Houlihan, and finally to the dance program at The Juilliard School, under the direction of Benjamin Harkarvy, where he met his mentor, Carolyn Adams. He danced with The Parsons Dance Company from 1994 to 2001, and also set his choreography on that company starting in 1998. Mr. Battle then founded his own Battleworks Dance Company, which made its debut in 2002 in Düsseldorf, Germany, as the U.S. representative to the World Dance Alliance's Global Assembly. Battleworks subsequently performed extensively at venues, including The Joyce Theater, Dance Theater Workshop, American Dance Festival, and Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. Mr. Battle was honored as one of the "Masters of African-American Choreography" by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in 2005, and he received the prestigious Statue Award from the Princess Grace Foundation-USA in 2007. He is a recipient of the 2021 Dance Magazine Award and has honorary doctorates from The University of the Arts, Marymount Manhattan College, and Fordham University. Mr. Battle was named a 2015 visiting fellow for The Art of Change, an initiative by the Ford Foundation. He is a sought-after keynote speaker and has addressed a number of high-profile organizations, including the United Nations Leaders Programme and the UNICEF Senior Leadership Development Programme.

MICHELLE DORRANCE (Choreographer) is a New York City-based artist. Mentored by Gene Medler (North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble), she was fortunate to study under many of the last master hoofers. Career highlights include: STOMP, Derick Grant's Imagine Tap!, Jason Samuels Smith's Charlie's Angels/Chasing the Bird, Ayodele Casel's Diary of a Tap Dancer, Mable Lee's Dancing Ladies, and playing the bass for Darwin Deez. Company work includes: Savion Glover's Ti Dii, Manhattan Tap, Barbara Duffy and Co., JazzTap Ensemble, and Rumba Tap. Solo work ranges from The Late Show with Stephen Colbert to commissions for the Martha Graham Dance Company, Vail Dance Festival, American Ballet Theatre, and New York City Center. Michelle made her Broadway choreographic debut with James Lapine's Flying Over Sunset at Lincoln Center Theater in 2021. A 2018 Doris Duke Artist, 2017 Ford Foundation Art of Change Fellow, and 2015 MacArthur Fellow, Dorrance is humbled to have been acknowledged and supported by United States Artists, The Joyce Theater, the Alpert Awards, Jacob's Pillow, Princess Grace Foundation-USA, The Field, American Tap Dance Foundation, and the Bessie Awards. Dorrance holds a B.A. from New York University and is a Capezio Athlete.

NICOLE FOSSE (Founder & Artistic Director - **VERDON FOSSE LEGACY**) In order for the lives and art of Gwen Verdon and Bob Fosse® to continue contributing to the human experience, Nicole is dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and protection of her parents' intellectual and artistic properties. She strives to ensure the nuanced, vivacious contradictions of their personalities and works remain accessible for future generations. Nicole founded The Verdon Fosse® Legacy in 2013. She served as co-executive producer and provided on and off-set consulting for the FX limited series, Fosse/Verdon, for which she received an Emmy nomination. Balancing her time between her sons, Sean, Noah, & Leif, and collaborating with entertainment industry creatives, Nicole happily teaches and practices Bikram yoga and healthy living in Vermont.

MARC ANTHONY GUTIERREZ (Dancer) is originally from the San Francisco Bay Area, where he began his dance training with DACPAC under the direction of Cheryl Copeland and Dominique Lomuljo. He received his BFA from SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Dance as a scholarship recipient in 2022. Over the years, he has had the privilege of performing works by Sidra Bell, Andrea Miller, Kyle Abraham, Doug Varone, and Cindy Salgado. During his senior year of college he began working for GALLIM and is grateful to be joining them for this Joyce Season.

INDIA HOBBS (Dancer) is a professional dancer based in Brooklyn, New York. Hobbs trained at The Chicago Multi-Cultural Dance Center and continued her training at The Chicago Academy for the Arts '17. She performed in works created by Brian Brooks, Jonathan E. Alsberry, Stephanie Martinez, and Preston Miller. Hobbs attended The Boston Conservatory '21, where she worked with Catherine Coury, Loni Landon, Mark Morris, Martha Nichols, and Avery Gerhardt. India attended workshops held by Kyle Abraham's A.I.M'19, Alonzo King's Lines Ballet'15, and Arthur Mitchell's Dance Theatre of Harlem'15. Hobbs has collaborated with Haus of PVMNT, as well as choreographer Olga Rabetskaya. India first performed with GALLIM in Andrea Miller's Blush in 2022. Since then, she has performed in several projects with the company in addition to her work as a teaching artist for the GALLIM School of Movement.

CASEY HOWES & JACOB WARREN (Choreographers/Dancers) are a Brooklyn-based physical theater duo. They met while dancing for the world-renowned Pilobolus Dance Theater, where they performed, taught, and choreographed all over the world for the better part of a decade. They left Pilobolus in early 2020 and founded LEGGYBONES PHYSICAL THEATER, a new vessel for them to develop their unique brand of acrobatic partnering, and visual storytelling. Shortly after, they debuted their first film WE WERE APART, a collaboration with duoJalal, and over the next year, released multiple award winning dance films and music videos. Casey and Jake have choreographed and collaborated on a wide array of productions ranging from site-specific immersive experiences to Hollywood films and everything in between. When they're not working, rock-climbing, or juggling, Casey's probably crafting miniature creatures out of felt, and Jake is most likely pretending to be a ninja. IG: @regally_serene & @leggybones

ZACHARY KAPELUCK (Dancer) hails from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he received his early training at Southwest Ballet and Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre. He trained at The Juilliard School and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's Summer Intensives, and graduated with a BFA in Dance from Point Park University in 2013. He subsequently joined BalletX in Philadelphia that summer and spent 9 years there, partaking in over 60 world premiere creations by choreographers including Matthew Neenan, Cayetano Soto, Gustavo Ramirez Sansano, Nicolo Fonte, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, and many more. Zachary left BalletX in 2022 to pursue a new chapter in choreography and teaching."

SUN KIM (Choreographer/Dancers) is a distinguished dancer, choreographer, artistic director, and dance educator. Hailing from South Korea, she specializes in Popping – a style of street dance in which she finds strength and freedom to speak her truth. Most recently, she has been honored with the 2022 Emerging Artist Award at Harlem Stage Gala and was nominated at the 2022 Bessie Awards for Outstanding Breakout Choreographer. Sun has won Step Ya Game Up world final Popping battle and was top 8 at UK B-boy Championship 2012 as representative of USA. She has danced for Madonna, Elton John, Phish, Cirque Du Soleil, Nike, McDonald's, Golden Goose, and Gap, and has presented her works at Burning Man at Sotheby's, Harlem Stage, Breakin' Convention, Jacob's Pillow, and Mark Morris. She has also taught at Princeton University, Broadway Dance Center, Peridance Center, and Kookmin University in South Korea. This breadth of experience has allowed her to develop a unique perspective and approach to directing and teaching that has established her own dance company, Sun Kim Dance Theatre (SKDT). SKDT has performed at Layerhythm/Works & Process Guggenheim with New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, New Victory Theater, MOPTOP Anniversary, San Francisco International Hip Hop Dance Festival, Ladies of Hip Hop Festival, Dance Parade NYC and Choreographer's Carnival.

DEREK LOUIE (Cello) is in his second year of graduate studies at the Juilliard School, where he is under the tutelage of Clara Kim. Derek has given numerous performances including appearances at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, NPR's From The Top and The Rising Stars Concert Series at the Great Mountains Festival in South Korea. He has been a prize winner in several international competitions including the 2022 Hudson Valley String Competition, grand prize in the HKNIA International Music Competition 2021, first prize in the Camerata Artists International Competition 2021, gold medal in the 2020 Bellagrande International Music Competition, 1st prize in the 2019 Berliner Philharmonic Competition, 1st prize in the 2017 Enkor International String Competition, grand prize in the 2017 Yamaha Young Performing Artists Competition and 1st prize in the 2017 Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra Young Artist Competition. Derek has soloed with several orchestras including The Bergen Philharmonic, Ensemble 212 and the American Symphonia orchestras. He has attended festivals around the world including the Verbier Festival Academy, the Sibelius Academy Ravinia Steans Music Institute, Chigiana, and the Perlman Chamber Music Workshop. For the past several years, Derek has been a Gluck Community Service Fellowship recipient. Gluck Fellows present biweekly interactive classical music, jazz and dance performances in hospitals, nursing homes, hospices and alternative care facilities. Derek is deeply committed to community engagement programs for both the young and old, and he has participated in engagement programs in the United States, Brazil and Europe. He is also committed to making positive change in his environment and has for the past three years been a member of the Juilliard Student Congress, where his focus has been to work with administration to modify the curriculum to best meet the needs of artists in the 21st century. Derek is a proud recipient of a Kovner Fellowship at the Juilliard School.

MICHAEL FRANCES McBRIDE (Dancer), originally from Johnson City, NY is a freelance performing artist based out of New York City. Mr. McBride graduated magna cum laude from the Ailey/Fordham Bachelor of Fine Arts Program in 2010 after joining the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in 2009 under the direction of Judith Jamison. In his tenure performing with the Ailey Company (2009-2019) Michael performed over 65 ballets by choreographers such as Alvin Ailey, Ronald K. Brown, Garth Fagan, George Faison, Geoffrey Holder, Bill T. Jones, Jiří Kylián, Wayne McGregor, Ohad Naharin, David Parsons, Paul Taylor, and Twyla Tharp. Mr. McBride has performed in Santa Fe Opera's production of A Midsummer Night's Dream, Chicago Lyric Opera's production of Florencia en el Amazonas, and most recently Portland Opera's production of Bizet's Carmen. Mr. McBride also has a passion for Musical Theater and was seen last year as an Angel in Bucks County Playhouse's Production of Kinky Boots, a soloist dancer in Chicago Lyric Opera's Fiddler on the Roof, Baby John in Teatro Lirico di Cagliari's production of West Side Story, and Gee-Tar in Chicago Lyric Opera's most recent production of West Side Story. When not performing Mr. McBride is an impassioned educator and budding choreographer having experience teaching absolute beginners to seasoned professionals in a range of techniques and styles. Please explore more about Mr. McBride at www.michaelfrancismcbride.com and follow him @mickey.mc on Instagram.

ANDREA MILLER (Choreographer) is a choreographer, creative director, and founder of the internationally renowned multidisciplinary organization GALLIM. A creator and collaborator for dance, film, fashion, and the visual arts, Miller is known for her exploration of the essential elements of human behavior and the alchemy of human expression through the medium of movement and performance. Miller is a Guggenheim, Sadler's Wells, New York City Center, and Princess Grace Fellow, and was featured in Forbes as an entrepreneur and leader in the dance world. She is the first choreographer to be named Artist in Residence at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, creating two large scale works for The Temple of Dendur and the full 5th floor of The Met Breuer. Her visual art collaborations include a sound, sculpture, and performance installation for Lincoln Center featuring 25 community members processing the pandemic through breath, music, theater and dance, as well as works for The Glass House, Art Basel, Frieze Festival, Grace Farms, Grand Central Station and a film screened by The Guggenheim Museum. Miller's dance works are presented by leading institutions and festivals around the world including Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, City Center, The Joyce, Jacob's Pillow, BAM, Royal Albert Hall, Sadler's Wells, London Royal Opera House, Théâtre National de Chaillot, Teatre Grec of Barcelona, Theaterhaus Stuttgart, Canal Madrid, Teatro Nacional de Panamá, DanceHouse Vancouver, Spoleto Festival, and others. Recent dance commissions include New York City Ballet, Martha Graham Dance Company, Bern Ballet, Noord Nederland Dans, Pennsylvania Ballet, A.I.M, Rambert2, Ailey II, and The Juilliard School and currently English National Ballet. She has created dance for film with celebrated directors including Ariel Schulman and Henry Joost, Xavier Dolan, Ezra Hurwitz, Bat-Sheva Guez and long time collaborator Ben Stamper. Miller is an Adjunct Professor at Marymount Manhattan College and guest faculty at The Juilliard School, where she is an alumna. Her repertory, creative methodology and dance training have been taught across the country including Marymount Manhattan, The Juilliard School, NYU, UC Kaufman, Harvard, Barnard and others. Her collaborations in fashion and brands include Hermès, VOGUE, Bergdorf and Goodman, SportsMax, KSwiss, Lacoste, Target, Calvin Klein, Crate & Barrel, SLS Hotels Miami and Las Vegas, and Beautiful Destinations. Miller serves on the board of Chelsea Factory and The Doris Humphrey Foundation.



ARTISTS



ARTISTS

DARIO NATARELLI (Choreographer + Performer) Born in Colorado and raised in New York City, Dario Natarelli is a performer, choreographer, and dance educator specializing in tap dance. He's had the privilege to work with some incredible artists such as Michelle Dorrance, Justin Peck, Bradley Cooper, Debbie Allen, Jared Grimes, Joshua Bergasse, Ayodele Casel, Kenny Leon, Robert L. Reed, Damian Woetzel, and more. Off-Broadway credits: Oliver! (Noah Claypole/Ensemble), Ayodele Casel's Artists At The Center (New York City Center choreographer and performer), Tap Dance Kid (Featured Ensemble), Tappin' Thru Life. Other credits include: Vail Dance Festival (Choreographer/performer/soloist), Kennedy Center (choreographer/soloist), YoungArts Finalist and U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts, Netflix, Amazon, Newsies (Original Broadway Choreography), Radio City Christmas Spectacular (Nat'l Tour), Funny Girl (Broadway Pre Production), Cabaret (Emcee), Saturday Night Live, Fall For Dance Festival, Nantucket Dance Festival, National commercials, and more. He is currently a swing on a new dance-driven musical, Illinois, directed and choreographed by Justin Peck, with music by Sufjan Stevens. He graduated from LaGuardia Arts High School and Penn State University (BFA MT). Go in rhythm. IG: @dario_natarelli

MATTHEW NEENAN (Choreographer), described as "one of America's best dance poets" by The New York Times, began his dance training at the Boston Ballet School and with noted teachers Nan C. Keating and Jacqueline Cronsberg. He later attended the LaGuardia High School of Performing Arts and the School of American Ballet in New York. From 1994-2007, Matthew danced with the Pennsylvania Ballet where he danced numerous principal roles in the classical, contemporary and Balanchine repertoire. From 2007 – 2020, Matthew was the Choreographer in Residence at the Pennsylvania Ballet where he created 20 original ballets. Matthew's choreography has been premiered and performed by The New York City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, The Washington Ballet, Ballet West, Ballet Met, Colorado Ballet, Ballet Memphis, Milwaukee Ballet, Oregon Ballet Theatre, Tulsa Ballet, OKC Ballet, Kansas City Ballet, Nashville Ballet, Parsons Dance, BODYTRAFFIC, Juilliard Dance, and USC Kaufman School of Dance, among many others. He has received numerous awards and grants for his choreography from the National Endowment of the Arts, Dance Advance funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Choo San Goh Foundation, the Independence Foundation and four fellowships from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. In 2006, Matthew received the New York City Ballet's Choreographic Institute's Fellowship Initiative Award. In October 2009, Matthew was the grand-prize winner of Sacramento Ballet's Capital Choreography Competition and was also the first recipient of the Jerome Robbins NEW Program Fellowship for his work At the border for Pennsylvania Ballet. In 2005, Matthew co-founded BalletX with fellow dancer Christine Cox. BalletX has toured and performed Neenan's choreography in New York City at The Joyce Theater, NY City Center, The Skirball Center, Symphony Space and Central Park Summerstage, The Kennedy Center, Vail International Dance Festival (where he has created 5 world premieres), Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Segerstrom Center, Laguna Dance Festival, Spring to Dance Festival in St. Louis, as well as several venues internationally. His ballet "The Last Glass" was listed in The New York Times Top 10 in 2013.

SONIA OLLA & ISMAEL FERNÁNDEZ (Choreographer/Dancer | Vocalist) Sonia Olla was born and raised in Barcelona when she earned a degree in Spanish Dance and Flamenco at the esteemed "Instituto de Teatro y Danza" in Barcelona. Ismael Fernández was born in Seville, of Gypsy descent, grew up performing in flamenco festivals throughout the world with his internationally renowned family, "La Familia Fernández". His career began in Spain's premier flamenco tablaos such as El Cordobes in Barcelona, La Carboneria in Seville and other famous flamenco cuevas of Granada. They have toured as company members and soloists with flamenco greats such as Antonio Canales, Eva la Yerbabuena, Rafaela Carrasco, Merche Esmeralda, María Pagés, La Farruca, among others. The couple currently reside in New York City, where they combine teaching with performance. Sonia & Ismael collaborated with the pop artist icon Madonna for her "Rebel Heart Tour" and Ricky Martin providing Flamenco choreography and vocals for Lola Lola in his show "All In!" They are the recipients of the CUNY Dance Initiative (CDI) Residency in both 2018 and 2019 and debuted their original piece "Ella" at CDI's 5th Anniversary Fest, and are Artist Move NY and NYSCA Fellow grant recipients. The duo have performed their own shows on tour in Europe, the Caribbean and Asia along with New York City appearances in venues ranging from Carnegie Hall to Joe's Pub. Festival Appearances include New York City, Chicago, Albuquerque, Edmonton CA, and Havana, Cuba.

2022-2023 highlights include the Atlanta Opera's Carmen, Jazz at Lincoln Center with Wynton Marsalis, the Kennedy Center and performances at the NY's March Music festival and the Creede Music Festival. Sonia and Ismael are teaching artists at Berklee School of Music, and their exploration of traditional Flamenco rhythm and music is the one of its kind in the USA. The couple operate their own Dance and Music Studio in New York City and have recently started their charitable organization Flamenco Education & Culture Inc. They are currently working on a full length Flamenco-inspired musical and expect the release of a new album in Fall of 2023. www.soniaismaelflamenco.com

LORENZO PAGANO (Dancer) is an internationally award-winning contemporary dancer. He joined the Martha Graham Dance Company in 2012 and embodied the most iconic male roles of the repertory. He also originated starring roles for new works by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Nacho Duato, Andonis Foniadakis, Pontus Lidberg, Hofesh Schechter among others. Mr Pagano has been a Guest Artist for the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, La Compañía Nacional de Danza de Costa Rica and he is part of the recent cast of "Unveiling" choreographed by Sonya Tayeh and music by Moses Sumney. He has danced with Paris Opéra former Artistic Director Aurélie Dupont in Graham's Lament and Miami City Ballet Principal Dancer Myrna Kamara in Graham's Moon Duet. Mr Pagano was honored with the Italian International Dance Award as "Male Rising Star" in 2016 and the Premio Nazionale La Sfera d'Oro in 2022.

DENISE PARUNGAO (Dancer) danced with Ballet Philippines for 11 years where her repertoire included lead roles in The Nutcracker, Romeo and Juliet, Swan Lake, Cinderella to name a few. She has won awards from CCP National Ballet Competition, Aliw Awards Best Classical Dancer, and Philstage Gawad Buhay Best Female Dancer for Swan Lake. She trained at the Australian Conservatoire of Ballet and Brezhnev Larlar. Ms. Parungao holds a bachelor's degree in Dance at De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde and received her certification as a Ballet Conservatoire teacher. She joined New Jersey Ballet in the spring of 2022.

GEORGINA PAZCOGUIN (Dancer) "The Rogue Ballerina," danced with the New York City Ballet 2002-2023 and became the first Asian American female Soloist in NYCB's history after being promoted in 2013. She is cofounder of the globally recognized diversity initiative Final Bow for Yellowface, which raises awareness and promotes inclusivity through sincere representation of all ethnicities in the performing arts. She has been honored as one of Kennedy center's NEXT 50 artists. A steadily rising star, she is an ambassador of her art on many platforms, crossing over to Broadway, TV, and film. She was most recently featured in the world premiere of "Sweet Gwen Suite" in collaboration with the Fosse Verdon Legacy/ NYCC 2021 return of Fall for Dance, honoring Gwen Verdon. In addition to her many appearances at NYCB, including a celebrated portrayal of Anita in Jerome Robbins's West Side Story Suite, her credits include the hit show Fosse/Verdon 2019, the award-winning film N.Y. Export: Opus Jazz, Ivy in the Broadway revival of On the Town, and Victoria in the Broadway revival of Cats. Georgina is the author of Swan Dive The Making of a Rogue Ballerina and a co producer on the revolutionary Broadway show Here Lies Love. She lives in New York City, and a half hour with her will shake your stereotype of uptight ballerinas to bits.

SAMUEL LEE ROBERTS (Dancer) began his dance training under the direction of Kathleen Johnston in Quakertown, PA. Samuel attended the Juilliard School. He performed in the first international show of Radio City's Christmas Spectacular in Mexico City and danced with the New York cast from 2000-2004. Mr. Roberts performed during the award ceremony at the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics, worked with Corbin Dances and Keigwin + Company. Mr. Roberts had the distinct honor of being a founding member of Battleworks Dance Company under the direction of Mr. Robert Battle. In May 2006, Mr. Roberts was named Dance Magazine's "On The Rise" dancer. He later went on to publish an article "Why I Dance" for Dance Magazine as well. He performed several roles in Julie Taymor's film *Across the Universe* and the original opera *Grendel*. Mr. Roberts had the great pleasure to appear in the incomparable *Sex in the City*. Mr. Roberts just finished 10yrs as a Principal Dancer with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater under the direction of both Ms. Judith Jamison and Mr. Robert Battle. Since leaving Ailey, Mr. Roberts has appeared on *Last Week Tonight* with Jon Oliver and the CW's newest series *Katy Keene*. During the 2020 holiday season, he had the great pleasure of playing the role of Mr. Flopson in the movie musical "Estella Scrooge" Directed by Tony award winning John Caird. As recently as 2022, Mr. Roberts served as an Executive Producer and the Lead Actor in the award winning short "Forgotten Song". Follow Mr. Roberts on instagram @samuellee.me

SONYA TAYEH (Choreographer) is a New York City-based Tony Award-winning choreographer and director. Since paving her professional career, her work has been characterized as a blend of powerful versatility and theatrical range. Selected credits include: *Moulin Rouge!* (Broadway, Worldwide, Dir. Alex Timbers), *The Sign In Sidney Brustein's Window* (Broadway Dir. Anne Kauffman), *Sing Street* (Huntington Theatre/ Dir. Rebecca Taichman), *Martha Graham Dance Company* (Joyce Theatre/ World Tour), *American Ballet Theatre/What Becomes of Love* Film, *Unveiling* with Moses Sumney and dancers (Fall For Dance/City Center), *Rent Live!* (Fox Network/Directed by Michael Greif and Alex Rudzinski), *The Lucky Ones* (Ars Nova/Dir. Anne Kauffman), *Face the Torrent* for Malpaso Dance Co. (commissioned by The Music Center/LA), *You'll Still Call Me By Name* (commissioned by New York Live Arts and Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival), *Hundred Days* (New York Theatre Workshop/Dir. Anne Kauffman), *The Skin of Our Teeth* (Theatre for a New Audience/Dir. Arin Arbus), *Andrew Lippas' The Wild Party* (City Center Encores!/Dir. Leigh Silverman), *Kung Fu* (Signature Theatre/Dir. Leigh Silverman). Tayeh has directed and choreographed for world renowned music artists, including Miley Cyrus (directed and choreographed *The Gypsy Heart Tour*), Florence and the Machine (choreographed performances for *The Brit Awards*, *The Voice* and *American Idol*), *Kylie Minogue* (Aphrodite Tour). She has gleaned many accolades for her versatile work, including a Tony Award, Two Emmy nominations, Two Drama Desk Awards, an Obie Award and two Lucille Lortel Awards for "Outstanding Choreography." For more info visit sonyatayeh.com

DOUG VARONE is the Artistic Director of Doug Varone and Dancers. Since 1986, the Company has toured major venues both nationally and internationally. On tour, the company has performed in more than 125 cities in 45 states across the U.S. and in Europe, Asia, Canada, and South America. Stages include The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Joyce Theater, San Francisco Performances, London's Queen Elizabeth Hall, Toronto's Harbourfront, Moscow's Stanislavsky Theater, Buenos Aires' Teatro San Martin, the Venice Biennale, Marble Hall in Tokyo, and the Bates, Jacob's Pillow and American Dance Festivals. Commissions include Paul Taylor's American Modern Dance Company, The Limón Company, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Martha Graham Dance Company, Batsheva Dance Company among others. In opera, he is in demand as both director and choreographer and his numerous theater credits include Broadway, Off-Broadway and regional theaters across the country. Honors include a Guggenheim Fellowship, an OBIE Award, two individual Bessie Awards, a Doris Duke Artist Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Dance Guild. dovadance.org. His latest work, *To My Arms/Restore* will premiere at NYU's Skirball Center for the Arts in March 2024, accompanied by MasterVoices Chorale and the New York Baroque Chamber Ensemble.

JOSHUAN VÁZQUEZ (Dancer) is from Mayagüez, Puerto Rico. He trained in classical, modern, jazz, and urban dance with Western Ballet Theater, Ballet Escenario, and Escuela Mayagüezana de Ballet y Artes Escénicas (EMBAE) in Puerto Rico. Mr. Vazquez danced as a guest artist and company dancer with Ballet Etudes of Florida, Mauro Ballet Company and Ballet Arts Dance Company to name a few. He completed his degree in Classical Dance Pedagogy (Cuban Technique) at the Alicia Alonso Dance Institute, Rey Juan Carlos II University (URJC) in Madrid. In 2018, he joined Ballet de Came de Madrid, where he has been featured in principal and soloist roles. In 2020, he was a top award winner for his performances in a classical variation, contemporary solo and pas de deux at Dance Open America's International Competition. Mr. Vasquez joined New Jersey Ballet in the spring of 2022.

CHRISTOPHER WHEELDON, OBE (Director & Choreographer) trained at The Royal Ballet School and joined The Royal Ballet in 1991. In 1993, he joined New York City Ballet and was promoted to Soloist in 1998. He was named NYCB's first Resident Choreographer in July 2001. Since then, Mr. Wheeldon has created and staged productions for many of the world's major ballet companies, San Francisco Ballet, The Bolshoi Ballet, The Mariinsky Ballet, The Paris Opera Ballet and Hamburg Ballet among others. In 2007, Mr. Wheeldon founded Morphoses/The Wheeldon Company and was appointed an Associate Artist for Sadler's Wells Theatre in London. Mr. Wheeldon now serves as Artistic Associate of The Royal Ballet. Mr. Wheeldon has created many works for the company, including the full-length *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *The Winter's Tale*, both of which were co-productions with The National Ballet of Canada. Like *Water for Chocolate* is his latest full-length ballet for The Royal Ballet which had its premiere in June 2022. In 2012, his ballet *Cinderella* premiered at Het Nationale Ballet and is making its way to audiences worldwide. For the Metropolitan Opera, he choreographed *Dance of the Hours* for Ponchielli's *La Gioconda* (2006) and Richard Eyre's production of *Carmen* (2012) as well as ballet sequences for the feature film *Center Stage* (2000) and the musical *Sweet Smell of Success* on Broadway (2002). Mr. Wheeldon created a special excerpt for the Closing Ceremony of the London 2012 Olympics, and in April 2016, he was the Artistic Director for the Fashion Forward exhibition in Paris at La Musee Arts et Decoratif. In 2014, Mr. Wheeldon directed and choreographed the Broadway musical version of *An American in Paris*, which had productions in Paris, New York, and London and has toured extensively through America, China, Japan and Australia. The Joffrey Ballet presented the world premiere in 2016 of *The Nutcracker* reimagined by Mr. Wheeldon and in 2017 he directed and choreographed *Lerner & Loewe's Brigadoon* starring Kelli O'Hara and Patrick Wilson at New York City Center. 2019 saw the premiere of *Corybantic Games* at The Royal Ballet and a re-staged version of *Cinderella* for the English National Ballet at Royal Albert Hall. Most recently, *MJ The Musical* opened on Broadway winning four Tony Awards, including Best Choreography. Among Mr. Wheeldon's other awards are a Tony Award for Best Choreography for *An American in Paris*, an Outer Critics Award for Best Choreography and Direction for *An American in Paris*, the Martin E. Segal Award from Lincoln Center, the American Choreography Award, the Dance Magazine Award, South Bank Show Award, multiple London Critics' Circle Awards, and the Léonide Massine Prize for new choreography. Mr. Wheeldon's productions of *Cinderella* and *The Winter's Tale* received the Benois de la Danse, and he is an Olivier Award winner for his ballets *Aeternum* for The Royal Ballet and *Polyphonia* for Morphoses. In 2016, Mr. Wheeldon was named an O.B.E. and was made an Honorary Fellow of American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Christopher is a dual citizen of the United States and the United Kingdom and resides in New York City with his husband, Ross Rayburn, and their dogs, Hattie and Theo.





ARTISTS

RYAN YAMAUCHI (Dancer) was born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii and began his dance training at the Mid-Pacific Institute School of the Arts. He later moved to New York and received his BFA in Dance from SUNY Purchase. Ryan has had the pleasure of dancing with 2nd Best Dance Company, Loni Landon Dance Projects, NVA & Guests, and Sidra Bell Dance New York (Apprentice). He has also performed as a guest dancer with Gibney Dance Company, Santa Fe Opera, and Santa Barbara Dance Theater. As a choreographer, Ryan has been commissioned to create work for students at the Mid-Pacific Institute School of the Arts, SUNY Purchase, and The Juilliard School. Ryan began working with Doug Varone and Dancers in 2015.

ANDREA YORITA (Dancer) is from Irvine California, where she received her classical ballet training at Academy of Dance, under the direction of Merle Sepel, Rebecca Tsvikin, and Mignon Furman. In 2012, she graduated as a Gillespie Scholar with a BFA in Dance Performance from the University of California, Irvine, where she studied under Jodie Gates, Molly Lynch, and Donald McKayle. Originally trained under the R.A.D. syllabus, Andrea has completed all Vocational R.A.D. exams with Distinction, as well as received the Solo Seal Award. In 2008, Andrea competed as a finalist in the Genée International Ballet Competition in Toronto, Canada. She has participated in the National Choreographers Initiative, as an apprentice, and the Traverse City Dance Project. Andrea was a 2016 Dance Finalist for the Clive Barnes Award. She joined BalletX in 2012 and spent 11 seasons with the company, touring nationally and internationally while working with a multitude of choreographers. She left the company in August of 2023 and is looking forward to furthering her artistry in new and exciting ways.

WHO WE SUPPORT



DANCE IS EDUCATION!

ARTS ED NJ
Many Partners. One Voice.

DANCE ED NOW
#AskForMoreInNJSchools
ARTSEDNOW.ORG

DID YOU KNOW? Your ticket to the Festival helps support:

Be a Champion for Dance In Your School!

ARTS ED NJ is a unified voice of diverse partners advocating for the educational benefits and uplifting impact of the arts on students in our state!

Learn more and join us at:
ArtsEdNJ.org

ArtsEdNJ.org

THE APDF/JANICE TUOHY-AGUILERA AWARD



Janice Tuohy-Aguilera was a mother, mentor, educator and friend whose love of dance inspired countless young artists to reach and exceed their potential. APDF co-founder Michael Trusnovec was one of the many dancers touched by her passion and dedication.

Janice sadly passed away in 2016.

This special award supports Monmouth County dancers' studies and celebrates Janice's passion and commitment to dance education.

With generous support from Dawn Tarpinian, a dear friend of Janice and local Asbury Park resident, and the Bevier-Evans Foundation, We are proud to provide one-week of tuition funding for 2 dancers to attend the Axelrod Performing Arts Academy Summer Intensive.

This year we celebrate the accomplishments of

SOFIA CAMMARANO



This award allows me to continue to sharpen my skills and improve my technique. I am beyond excited and very thankful for this award as I want to maximize my potential as a dancer.

ERYN SEMLER



This is an important accomplishment for me. It represents all of my hard work and the countless hours I spend practicing. This award inspires me to continue my study in dance.

WITH THANKS

2023 FESTIVAL SPONSORS

HOWARD GILMAN FOUNDATION
BOB ELLIS
GARY & SOPHIE WEINER
ERIC NAISON PHILLIPS & LAURA HALZACK
DUKE DANG & CHARLES ROSEN
KIM POWERS & JESS GOLDSTEIN
JOHN & MARGEE FALK
CARLOS HATCH & BRIAN OHEA
FRANCIS DEVLIN & CHRIS NICOLUSSI
PARLOR GALLERY
ROGUE CREATIVE
WHITE CHAPEL PROJECTS
DEIDRE HOWLEY & IRA EISENSTADT
BEVIER-EVANS FOUNDATION
STUART & ANGELA GRODANZ
ELIZABETH SUFFEL
DOROTHY BOUSSEAU



FOUNDING SPONSORS

VALERIE MONTECALVO
DUKE DANG & CHARLES ROSEN
GARY & SOPHIE WEINER
THE ASBURY HOTEL
PARLOR GALLERY
ROGUE CREATIVE
LANGOSTA LOUNGE
MADISON MARQUETTE
KIM POWERS & JESS GOLDSTEIN
ERIC NAISON PHILLIPS & LAURA HALZACK
1ST CONSTITUTION BANK
BRICKWALL TAVERN
FRANCIS DEVLIN & CHRISTOPHER NICOLUSSI
MICHAEL SOILEAU & THOMAS UDE, JR.
ANDY LEBEAU & JAMES SAMSON
LISA YACOMELLI & JOHN F. CONVERY III
STEWART TALENT
M STUDIO
KRELLTECH



AND SPECIAL THANKS TO

EVERYONE AT ARTS ED NJ, FRACTURED ATLAS AND MONMOUTH ARTS
ROBERT BATTLE, ANDREA MILLER, MATTHEW NEENAN, CHRISTOPHER WHEELDON, SONYA TAYEH
DOUG VARONE, MARTHE GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY, DAVID PARKER, VERDON FOSSE LEGACY
JENN HAMPTON & PARLOR GALLERY, MARILYN SCHOLSSBACH, JOHN HERR
ROGUE CREATIVE, SWEET DANI B, CAFE VOLAN, JEAN WEST
GERARD YOSCA, BOB ELLIS, JULIE HERTZOG & GABRIELLE ESPERDY, SCOTT PETRILLO & SAL CHIARELLI
TODD EVANS, SCOTT MOYER & ERIC ENDERLIN, BRITT MENDOZA & DON FARINEAU
KIM POWERS & JESS GOLDSTEIN, CHRIS NICOLUSSI & FRANCIS DEVLIN
KEVIN MIGNONE AND TECHNICAL ARTS GROUP
GABRIEL CHAJNIK, ELISE FELDMAN & OLIVIA MIRANDA AT AXELROD CONTEMPORARY BALLET THEATER
DANCE NJ, KELLY BOURKE & OCVTS PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY, SAMARA TAYLOR & RYAH PALOMA
JIM NORTON AND THE STAFF AND CREW OF HOUSE OF INDEPENDENTS

AND ESPECIALLY ALL OF THE COMPANIES & DANCERS VOLUNTEERS AND OUR PRODUCTION TEAM
WHO GIVE THEIR TIME, TALENT AND EXPERTISE TO BRING OUR VISION TO LIFE.