



22 | 23 season

DANCEst.

MORE NEW DANCE



EMERSON **SPRING TO DANCE**® **FESTIVAL** **15**
Presented by WHITAKER FOUNDATION

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND MAY 26 & 27
TOUHILL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



Emerson is proud to support Dance St. Louis' mission of enriching the arts in our community.

World Headquarters
8000 W. Florissant Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63136
Emerson.com



ST. LOUIS AQUARIUM
AT UNION STATION



OTTERLY GREAT... DANCE MOVES!



UNION STATION
ST. LOUIS

See Where It Takes You!

Discover The St. Louis Aquarium, The St. Louis Wheel, St. Louis Union Station Soda Fountain, Carousel, Ropes Course, and Mini Golf.

stlouisunionstation.com

THANK YOU. WE ARE GRATEFUL.

FESTIVAL TITLE
SPONSOR



FESTIVAL PRESENTING
SPONSOR

WHITAKER FOUNDATION

FESTIVAL LOBBY
PERFORMANCES SPONSOR



FESTIVAL SUPPORTING SPONSORS



2022/2023 SEASON NATIONAL FUNDERS



EDUCATION OUTREACH TITLE SPONSOR



FOLLOW US ON



*The taking of flash photos and the use of recording devices are strictly prohibited.
Program and artists are subject to change.*

FRIDAY, MAY 26

TERRACE LOBBY
6 PM

**STL Rhythm Collaborative's
Pre-Professional Program**

COCA's Ballet Eclectica

**Grand Center Arts Academy's
Hip Hop Troupe**

ANHEUSER-BUSCH
PERFORMANCE HALL • 7:30 PM

Joffrey Concert Group
(NEW YORK, NY)

ROCK MOVES
Contemporary Dance
(LITTLE ROCK, AR)

**Megan Fairchild &
Robbie Fairchild**
(NEW YORK, NY)

Eisenhower Dance Detroit
(DETROIT, MI)

-INTERMISSION-

Irene Rodríguez Flamenco Dance
(TAMPA, FL)

Buglisi Dance Theatre
(NEW YORK, NY)

Owen/Cox Dance Group
(KANSAS CITY, MO)

SATURDAY, MAY 27

TERRACE LOBBY
6 PM

**Jennifer Owen & The Big Muddy
Dance Company Apprentice
Company**

*Improvisational showcase led
by Jennifer Owen, artistic director
of Owen/Cox Dance Group*

ANHEUSER-BUSCH
PERFORMANCE HALL • 7:30 PM

Dance NOW! Miami
(MIAMI, FL)

LaneCoArts
(NEW YORK, NY)

The Rosin Box Project
(SAN DIEGO, CA)

The Big Muddy Dance Company
(ST. LOUIS, MO)

-INTERMISSION-

Sewam American Indian Dance
(BAY AREA, CA)

**Amanda Assucena & Alberto
Velazquez - The Joffrey Ballet**
(CHICAGO, IL)

Collage Dance Collective
(MEMPHIS, TN)

**FRIDAY
MAY 26
2023**

**TERRACE
LOBBY • 6 PM**

**STL Rhythm
Collaborative's
Pre-Professional
Program**

**COCA's Ballet
Eclectica**

**Grand Center Arts
Academy's
Hip Hop Troupe**

**ANHEUSER-BUSCH
PERFORMANCE HALL • 7:30 PM**

Joffrey Concert Group
(NEW YORK, NY)

**ROCK MOVES
Contemporary Dance**
(LITTLE ROCK, AR)

**Megan Fairchild &
Robbie Fairchild**
(NEW YORK, NY)

Eisenhower Dance Detroit
(DETROIT, MI)

-INTERMISSION-

Irene Rodríguez Flamenco Dance
(TAMPA, FL)

Buglisi Dance Theatre
(NEW YORK, NY)

Owen/Cox Dance Group
(KANSAS CITY, MO)

- FRIDAY, MAY 26 -

Joffrey Concert Group (NYC)

Bradley Shelver, Artistic Director

BABEL

Choreography by Bradley Shelver

Music by Boban Markovic, Edith Piaf, Antonio Carlos Jobim

Lighting by Bradley Shelver and Kate Ashton

Costumes by Mondo Morales

Rehearsal Assistants: Laura Mendes and Laura Goossens
(2018)

LE FOULLE DUET: LAURA MENDES DANIELLE CAMPI

LA MANHA DUET: LAURA GOOSENS JEAN DA SILVA

BREEANNA PALMER FAAKHIR BESTMAN

JOLIANA CAANAN FAITH SHOVER

MARI MURATA AMAURY CASTRO

“Babel” is inspired by the parable of the Tower of Babel, where the world was plunged into confusion when God changed a common tongue to that of many languages. Confusion set in, and their desire to reach the heavens was thwarted. The work plays on the idea of love language and the often quirky ways in which we communicate.

Located in the heart of New York City, the Joffrey Ballet Center serves as a platform for some of the nation’s best young dancers to launch their professional careers. The Center is home to the **Joffrey Ballet Concert Group**, founded by Robert Joffrey in 1981, as a pre-professional performing ensemble for young artists selected from the Joffrey Ballet School’s year-round Trainee Program.

In the years since its inception, selected Trainees studied and performed some of the most celebrated classical and contemporary repertoire. This included the works of Gerald Arpino (*Birthday Variations, Light Rain*), Robert Battle (*Battlefield*), George Balanchine (*Serenade*), August Bournonville (*La Ventana*), Dwight Rhoden (*New Work*), Africa Guzman (*The Stolen Path*), Bradley Shelver (*The 12th Room, Babel, Random People With Beautiful Parts*) Omar Ramon DeJesus (*Tip Toe Thru’ the Tulips with Me*) Eric Trope (*Gazebo Dances*) and Lindsay Grymes (*Falter Upwards*).

The Concert Group has toured domestically and internationally, providing dancers the experience necessary to confidently transition from student to professional.

- FRIDAY, MAY 26 -

ROCK MOVES Contemporary Dance

Robin Neveu Brown, Artistic Director

Love Letter to My Sister

Choreography by Robin Neveu Brown

Music by Dylan Glatthorn

Lighting by Peter Leibold

Costumes by Kat Hancock

2019 (premiere) 2023 (re-imagining)

LILLIAN BERRY ROBIN NEVEU BROWN LELIA ROSENKRANS

“Love Letter to My Sister” explores both the inner journey of womanhood while celebrating the collective power and joy in sisterhood. It is at once a declaration of love for our literal sisters as well as an acknowledgment of the inherent and deeply felt connection among all women. Throughout the choreographic process, the dancers reflected on important relationships with women in their lives and found meaningful words to translate into embodied gratitude while also pouring their own experiences into the choreography.

In this work, the three dancers are separate humans with their own stories to tell, but they also weave into one another and merge into one powerful presence in the space. They remember and honor their roots, protest the boundaries placed upon them, celebrate the strength in softness, and call forth the divine feminine in each other. “Love Letter to My Sister” is a rallying cry, an action of mobilizing the women around us, a prophesy of a time when the stories and voices of men will not rule the world, a feminist prayer, and an unabashed taking up of space.

ROCK MOVES is the only professional contemporary dance company in Central Arkansas, born in the wake of numerous university dance program closures across the state. Artistic Director Robin Neveu Brown is a proud Little Rock transplant, and launched ROCK MOVES in 2022 with her former university dance students to build an entire dance community in Central Arkansas from the ground up. We believe #ArkansasDeservesDance!

Our work celebrates the natural and cultural beauty of Central Arkansas through the lens of the moving human body with live performance, dance film, community collaborations, and educational programming. Our mission is to share the vital and vibrant art form of contemporary dance with all and we do so by bringing dance out of its traditionally insular and elitist settings and into public spaces and unexpected places. Catch us performing on the steps of the local library, leading

creative movement and dance-making workshops in the cafeterias of public elementary schools, or filming a dance for camera project in an historic Catholic boarding school turned organic farm!

www.rockmovesdance.com

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook!

@rockmovesdance

#ArkansasDeservesDance

- FRIDAY, MAY 26 -

Megan Fairchild & Robbie Fairchild

Principal and Former Principal of New York City Ballet

DIVERTISSEMENT PAS DE DEUX

(from a Midsummer's Night's Dream)

Choreography by George Balanchine

Music by Felix Mendelssohn

(1962)

MEGAN FAIRCHILD

ROBBIE FAIRCHILD

Excerpted from Balanchine's full-length of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," this is an elegant, classical pas de deux that serves as a dancing break from the storytelling of the rest of the ballet.

Megan Fairchild is a principal dancer with New York City Ballet. Ms. Fairchild was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, and began her dance training at the age of four, studying with Judy Levitre and Kaelynne Oliphant at Dance Concepts in Sandy, Utah, and at the Ballet West Conservatory in Salt Lake City with Sharee Lane, Deborah Dobson, and Maureen Laird. While at the Ballet West Conservatory, Ms. Fairchild was also a Ballet West trainee. Ms. Fairchild entered the School of American Ballet (SAB), the official school of New York City Ballet, in the fall of 2000. In November 2001, Ms. Fairchild became an apprentice with New York City Ballet, and in October 2002 she joined the Company as a member of the corps de ballet. Ms. Fairchild was promoted to the rank of soloist in February 2004, and in January 2005, she was promoted to principal dancer.

Robert Fairchild began dancing at the age of four in Salt Lake City. He began his training at the School of American Ballet at the age of 15 and shortly after rose through the ranks of the prestigious New York City Ballet. He became an apprentice with NYCB in June 2005. The following June, he joined the Company as a member of the corps de ballet. He was promoted to soloist in May 2007 and was promoted to Principal Dancer in October 2009.

Robert Fairchild made his Broadway debut last year with his breakout role as "Jerry Mulligan" in the Tony Award-winning musical "An American in Paris." He was nominated for the Tony Award for Best Performance By An Actor in a Leading Role in a Musical, and won the 2015 Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards for Outstanding Actor in a Musical, the 2015 Astaire Award for Best Male Dancer, and the 2015 Theatre World Award. He was also nominated for the 2015 Drama League Award for Distinguished Performance. He appears regularly in NYCB's seasons at Lincoln Center. His roles range from Prince Desirè in "The Sleeping Beauty" to

works by world renowned choreographer William Forsythe. He has also participated in “Broadway at the White House,” where he danced for the First Lady Michelle Obama. TV roles include “Julie’s Greenroom” on Netflix, Romeo in NYCB’s “Romeo and Juliet” and Carousel Boy in NY Philharmonic’s “Carousel,” both for PBS; “Live From Lincoln Center”, “Dancing With The Stars”, “The Late Show with Stephen Colbert”, “Live with Kelly and Michael”, “CBS Sunday Morning” and “60 Minutes.” Film roles include NY Export: Opus Jazz.

- FRIDAY, MAY 26 -

Eisenhower Dance Detroit

Stephanie Pizzo, Artistic Director

SURGE

Choreography by Stephanie Pizzo

An original composition by Aaron Siegel

Lighting by Claire Chrzan

Costumes by Cristen Richards

(2018)

EMY BEZBATCHENKO

TARA CHARVAT

KYLE HALFORD

LILLIE HAMILTON

ALEX HLAVATY

BROOKE MAINLAND

IMANI WILLIAMS

“Surge” was created in collaboration with Detroit-based artists, techno artist and composer, Aaron Siegel of FIT Sound and costume designer, Cristen Richards. This work is reflective of the resurgence of Detroit City.

Moving into its 32nd season as a professional contemporary dance repertory company, **Eisenhower Dance Detroit** gives life to the work of nationally and internationally known choreographers along with that of its founding artistic director, Laurie Eisenhower, and current artistic director, Stephanie Pizzo. This year, Ms. Pizzo leads EDD into its 6th season under her artistic guidance following Ms. Eisenhower’s retirement in 2017. The company continues its artistic mission through collaborations with artists across genres including film directors, composers, visual designers, and musicians. Recent collaborators have included film creative Zachariah Hagy and electro-pop violin band, Nuclassica. EDD also engages in collaborations with arts organizations including the Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings, the Rackham Symphony Choir, the Immigrant Suns, Michigan Opera Theatre, the Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, The Toledo Opera, and the Detroit Institute of Arts to name a few. Since its inception, Eisenhower Dance Detroit has grown from a small pick-up company into an eleven dancer roster employing seven professional company dancers and four apprentices. These artists have joined the EDD family from regions across the country. As the company’s mission states, Eisenhower Dance Detroit strives “to be a professional repertory company that, through outstanding performances and educational services, strives to deepen the understanding and appreciation of contemporary dance regionally, nationally, and internationally and to reflect on and explore issues of social significance.” Ms. Pizzo continues to expand the company’s innovative style and artistic vision while still honoring the legacy of Eisenhower Dance Detroit’s founder.

Considered one of the finest contemporary dance companies in the Midwest, EDD has been hailed for its artistry from sources including *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Hour Magazine*, and *Detroit Free Press*. Eisenhower Dance Detroit presents an annual Detroit Metro performance series and tours nationally and internationally. In 2015, 2017, and 2018, EDD was featured at the Ladek Zdroj International Dance Festival in Poland and Tel Aviv, Israel. In 2019, the company performed to a standing ovation at the iconic dance mecca, Jacob's Pillow, in Beckett, Massachusetts. The company has performed works by choreographers Norbert De La Cruz III, Maleek Washington, James Grieg and Rauf Yasif, Micaela Taylor, Nicolo Fonte, Edgar Zendejas, Lar Lubovitch, Ron de Jesus, Darrell Grand Moultrie, and Joshua Peugh, to name a few. This season, EDD welcomes Hope Boykin, Marc Brew, and Tamisha Guy for choreographic residencies with the company.

EDD has also produced several evening-length touring productions including "ARC", a dramatic and highly visual look at labeling and stereotyping; "The Rite of Spring" set to Igor Stravinsky's iconic score; and "The Light Show" which pairs four choreographers with four lighting designers for a visually stunning evening of dance. During the pandemic, EDD pivoted to offering virtual dance experiences highlighted by a major dance for film collaboration with the Detroit Institute of Art and Zazu Productions. "The Five Tangos," an original production first conceived for the stage, was scheduled to premiere at the DIA in November 2020. The collaborators reimagined the project for film and utilized four iconic metro Detroit locations for the setting of each tango.

eisenhowerdance.org

- FRIDAY, MAY 26 -

Irene Rodríguez Flamenco Dance

Irene Rodríguez, Artistic Director

AMARANTO

Choreography by Irene Rodríguez

Music by Laura de los Ángeles

Lighting by Pedro Benitez

Costumes by Hilda Alfonso

Mantón by Mantones Foronda

(2021)

IRENE RODRÍGUEZ

In Flamenco art, the shawl (Mantón de Manila) is an essential complement to the dance, an extension of the movement of the expert dancer, who handles the shawl as one more piece of her own body, giving it movement, beauty and virtuosity to the beat of the music.

“Ms. Rodríguez is an intense, exacting dancer” —*The New York Times*

Born in Cuba, and recently settled in the United States, **Irene Rodríguez** is a leading international figure of Spanish dance and Choreography. In 2018, the King of Spain granted her the Orden “Isabel la Católica”, Spain’s highest civilian honor. As a Principal Dancer, Choreographer and Dance instructor, Irene has worked both as a dancer and Style and Choreography consultant to the Spanish repertory and as a choreographer of the Ballet Nacional de Cuba.

She earned a theater arts degree and a master’s degree in theoretical studies of dance, has given conferences internationally as well as master classes to the Juilliard School, the Straz Center for the Performing Arts, the San José Ballet, FIU, and USF; between any others. She has danced to great acclaim in the most prestigious theaters and festivals around the world, and in the US she has performed at the Joyce Theater, the Lincoln Center, the Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival (with commissioned works), the Kennedy Center for the performing arts; among others.

In 2012 she founded her own dance company: Compañía Irene Rodríguez and she directed Havana’s most prestigious Spanish dance academy, which she also founded. For many years, she was the Artistic Director of the International Festival “La Huella de España”, a very significant event in Cuba, directed by Alicia Alonso. In 2019 she decided to continue her career in the United States, settling permanently in Tampa, Florida in 2021.

Among her most important awards are First Prize in the VIII Iberoamerican Choreography Competition from the SGAE, the UNEAC Choreography Award, the Excellence Choreography Award (International Ballet Schools Competition); the Iberoamerican Medal Honoris Causa Foundation (México University); the Audience and UNEAC Award at the Choreography contest “Vladimir Malakhov”, YAGP Outstanding Choreographer, she has also been included several times in The Book of Honor of the Gran Teatro de la Habana; among others.

She was recently honored with the University of South Florida MEDAL OF HONOR from University President Rhea F. Law.

www.irenerodriguezcompania.com

- FRIDAY, MAY 26 -

Buglisi Dance Theatre

Jacquelyn Buglisi, Artistic Director

SOSPIRI

Choreography by Jacquelyn Buglisi

Music by Edward Elgar

Original Lighting by Clifton Taylor

Original Costumes by A. Christina Giannini
(1989)

LINDSAY PHILLIPS

ZACHARY JEPPESEN

In 1848, Camila O’Gorman (the Juliet of the pampas) and her lover, the Jesuit priest, Ladislav Gutierrez, were hunted down and executed by a firing squad for their illicit love. This timeless story has become legend among the peasants of Argentina. “Sospiri” was first performed in 1989 by the Martha Graham Dance Company at New York City Center, NYC.

The award-winning **Buglisi Dance Theatre** is acclaimed for poignant, theatrical dances on the human condition, promoting awareness of the critical issues and emotions of our time, from social justice to climate change. Based in New York City, the company was founded in 1993 by Artistic Director Jacquelyn Buglisi, Terese Capucilli, Christine Dakin and Donlin Foreman, former principal dancers of the Martha Graham Dance Company. BDT holds NYC seasons at The Joyce Theater, Lincoln Center, Chelsea Factory, New York Live Arts, Ailey Citigroup Theater, and the LMCC/River to River Festival; tours nationwide appearing at Jacob’s Pillow, Kennedy Center, Vail Int’l Dance Festival, and Dance St. Louis’ Spring to Dance Festival; and abroad to Australia, Czech Republic, Mexico, Israel, and Italy. BDT builds the legacy of American culture through its interactive educational programs and residencies in public schools and universities. In partnership with Lincoln Center, BDT presents the annual Table of Silence Project 9/11, a performance ritual for peace with over 150 dancers, musicians and chorus reaching over four million viewers via live stream in 235 countries/territories. Ms. Buglisi is the recipient of the 2022 Juilliard President’s Medal, presented by President Damian Woetzel for her leadership as a “model of citizen artistry.”

www.buglisdance.org

- FRIDAY, MAY 26 -

Owen/Cox Dance Group

Jennifer Owen, Artistic Director

KEEP THE MOON ON TIME

Choreography by Bryan Arias

Music by Bob Marley and Nils Frahm

Lighting by Burke Brown

Costumes by Jennifer Tierney

(2022)

TAYLOR COLLIER
SHAINA MCGREGOR
CHRISTOPHER PAGE-SANDERS

EMARA NEYMOUR JACKSON
SAM MCREYNOLDS
LAURA WALLNER

CHRISTIAN WARNER

Owen/Cox Dance Group premiered “Keep the Moon on Time” on September 16, 2022 at Yardley Hall. The work was commissioned by the Midwest Trust Center for its New Dance Partners Series.

Owen/Cox Dance Group is an ensemble of dancers, musicians and artists dedicated to creating and performing collaborative new works. Formed in 2007 by choreographer Jennifer Owen and composer Brad Cox, the ensemble is deeply committed to performing with live music, and has created over 50 new works, including 9 full-length productions.

www.owencoxdance.org

**SATURDAY
MAY 27
2023**

**TERRACE
LOBBY • 6 PM**

**Jennifer Owen & The
Big Muddy Dance
Company Apprentice
Company**

Improvisational
showcase led
by Jennifer Owen,
artistic director
of Owen/Cox
Dance Group

**ANHEUSER-BUSCH
PERFORMANCE HALL • 7:30 PM**

Dance NOW! Miami
(MIAMI, FL)

LaneCoArts
(NEW YORK, NY)

The Rosin Box Project
(SAN DIEGO, CA)

The Big Muddy Dance Company
(ST. LOUIS, MO)

-INTERMISSION-

Sewam American Indian Dance
(BAY AREA, CA)

**Amanda Assucena & Alberto Velazquez
The Joffrey Ballet**
(CHICAGO, IL)

Collage Dance Collective
(MEMPHIS, TN)

- SATURDAY, MAY 27 -

Dance NOW! Miami

Diego Salterini & Hannah Baumgarten, Artistic Directors

ANUSIM, WHAT IS HIDDEN IS NEVER LOST

Choreography by Hannah Baumgarten, Fernando Duarte, Diego Salterini

Music Composition, Recording and Editing by Federico Bonacossa

Musicians and Vocalists:

Edgar San Feliz Botta, Countertenor

Susana Behar, Sephardic Singer

Marti Moreland, Harpist

Reza Filsofi, Percussionist

Federico Bonacossa, Guitarist

Special thanks to Malka Israel Biton for her assistance

with the interpretation of the Hebrew texts

Lighting by Bruce F. Brown

Costumes by Haydee & Maria Morales

Rehearsal Director: Allyn Ginns Ayers

(2022)

AMANDA NICOLE DAVIS

AUSTIN DUCLOS

JULIA FORTIN

ALLYN GINNS AYERS

DAVID HARRIS

DAVID JEWETT

RENEE ROBERTS

RAFAEL RUIZ DEL VIZO

ANTHONY VELAZQUEZ

RAE WILCOXSON

“Anusim” is dedicated to Sheila Baumgarten from her sisters, daughters, husband and generosity of friends.

“Anusim” is inspired by a rarely told story in Jewish history – the 1497 decree of the Portuguese King Manuel I forcing Jews to practice their religion in secret instead of facing the most fierce persecution, conversion, expulsion or worse. The Jews were given a 20-year reprieve, during which they could maintain their Judaism in secret but publicly had to practice Catholicism. They were called “New Christians.” Eventually many assimilated, but some Jewish practices remained as “Family Traditions.” These themes of loss, cultural annihilation and forced conversion resonate with many different populations in the past and even today. Anusim, what is hidden is never lost was created as part of an International Cultural Partnership with Dança Em Diálogo, our partner company in Portugal.

“Anusim” builds on a pivotal dance performed by Dance NOW! at *Spring to Dance* 2015, entitled “Odisea,” choreographed by Carolyn Dorfman in 2005 and restaged on Dance NOW!. The work chronicles the physical, emotional and spiritual journey of twenty-three Jews leaving similar persecution in Recife, Brazil in 1654 and their journey and ultimate landing on American soil in New Amsterdam (New York City).

This project was funded by Miami Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs with the support of the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Miami Beach Sister Cities International and the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce.

The music of Anusim includes text from ancient Hebrew and Latin translated below:

First Movement:

CREDO (fragments)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty.

Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ.

And (I believe in) one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

He was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried.

Second movement:

LAMENT

If the cedars have caught fire, what hope is there for the moss on the wall?

If Leviathan has been hauled in by a fishhook, what hope is there for the minnows? If the mighty river has been struck by drought, what hope is there for the waterholes?

Third Movement:

RAIN SONG

The days of summer are gone. The rainy season is here. Its showers will gather, then pour themselves, more and more, upon the earth. Grain, wine, and oil will flourish quickly. The clouds will send down rain, and urge the earth to bring forth grass. Seeds and buds will grow in beauty. Voices of thunder will herald: 'Those who show in tears shall reap with songs of joy!'

Dance NOW! Miami was founded in 2000 by Artistic Directors Hannah Baumgarten and Diego Salterini. Voted “Best Dance Company” by the Miami New Times in 2022, and a resident company at Miami’s Little Haiti Cultural Complex and the Miami Beach Bandshell, the company presents several major projects annually, featuring original work from the Artistic Directors, created individually and collaboratively. In addition, the company’s Masterpiece in Motion series honors the rich legacy of dance through the reconstruction of historic works of ballet and modern dance from the 20th and 21st Century from Doris Humphrey to Isadora Duncan to Gerald Arpino/Joffrey Ballet. Dance NOW! also presents branded, immersive, site-specific performances that take place in museums, galleries and architectural sites called the Ekphrasis Project. Dance NOW! has collaborated with over 200 artists and organizations nationally and internationally including New York’s Limón Dance Company, Dança em Diálogos from Portugal, Mexico City Ballet and Opus Ballet out of Florence, Italy. DNM leads the South Florida dance community with initiatives such as the Daniel Lewis Dance Sampler, which celebrates Florida’s established companies, and New Voices, presenting and mentoring contemporary choreographers from the national arena. The company has been presented in sixteen states and on three continents, from Brazil to Mexico, Honduras to Italy and Portugal.

During the COVID-19 crisis, Dance NOW! led the dance community with the release of the Covid(eos), a series of dance video shorts, relevant to the moment and providing new content for its audiences while continuing its artistic mission, and the company continues to create dance films alongside its in-person dance events. With a strong commitment to education, Dance NOW! has reached over 38,000 children in South Florida alone through its in-school residencies, the World Dance Summer Intensive, the Dance NOW! Youth Ensemble, and performances throughout the community and from its home at the Little Haiti Cultural Complex.

www.dancenowmiami.org

- SATURDAY, MAY 27 -

LaneCoArts

Lane Gifford, Artistic Director

OFF WHITE

Choreography by Lane Gifford

Music by Daniel Figgis, Matthew Ferry, and Zoe Keating

Lighting by Julie Ballard

(2019)

EMILY ASLIN

JONATHAN COLAFRANCESCO

MIZUHO KAPPA

Body language is defined as “the process of communicating nonverbally through conscious or unconscious gestures and movements.” “Off White” grew from research into the meaning of body language and its expressive potential both visual and emotional. It presents a conversation between three people caught in a pivotal situation. The work evolves from an individual looking outward and responding to the dynamic actions of a duet in transition.

LaneCoArts is a New York-based contemporary company that examines the intersection of dance, theater, and the visual arts. After attending Purchase College (MFA/MA Dance), artistic director, Lane Gifford founded LaneCoArts in 2006, to explore movement in relation to diverse creative art forms towards physically-charged dance dramas that reflect critical social issues of the day. This multidisciplinary view grew from experiences living and working in Paris as a dancer and later developed in New York City as a choreographer, intersecting with both visual art and filmmaking. Embracing relevant subjects such as social division, climate change, and technological disruption, LaneCoArts has been invited to perform and teach at schools and universities throughout the United States. The company mission: ignite the imagination and use the arts as a collective voice.

www.lanecoarts.org

- SATURDAY, MAY 27 -

The Rosin Box Project

Carly Topazio, Artistic Director

PERSONAL PERSPECTIVES

Choreography by Jeremy Zapanta

Music by Camille Saint-Saëns

Lighting by Jason Chody, Jeremy Zapanta

Costumes by Jeremy Zapanta, Carly Topazio

(2021)

CHELSEA KUHN

RONY LENIS

CARLY TOPAZIO

JEREMY ZAPANTA

“Personal Perspectives” was created by Resident Artist Jeremy Zapanta, and premiered as a part of TRBP’s 2021 August Series performances. The piece itself is a look into personal relationships and how one navigates through seemingly simple misunderstandings to come to a resolution. Through this energetically charged contemporary quartet, the interplay of minimal set pieces, such as the shifting of the table, introduces new scenarios that the characters (dancers) find themselves in, informing an ever changing exploration of interpersonal dynamics.

The Rosin Box Project; reimagining the way our artists and audiences connect with and experience dance.

Our mission is to elevate and enrich the arts in the San Diego community and beyond through uniquely curated performance experiences that consider the human condition. TRBP is a boutique contemporary ballet company that encourages artistic growth and exploration by fostering a platform and nurturing environment where artists can amplify their voices. Made up of a small collective of versatile classical and contemporary professional dancers, TRBP delivers visceral performance experiences in an approachable and accessible way.

A rosin box is unique to dancers. We have them in our rehearsal studios and backstage at the theater, used most often on pointe shoes to create more friction to prevent slipping. To Step Inside a rosin box is to step into our home and our world. TRBP continues to raise the bar and push the limits of how dance is experienced for audiences and artists alike, inviting audiences to ‘Step Inside’ inspiring community and conversation in a creatively charged world they call home.

Founder and Artistic Director, Carly Topazio, created TRBP in May of 2018 to

present an innovative, authentic, and artist-driven view of contemporary ballet in a way that allowed for a deeper human connection. The small team is passionately devoted to their craft which has blossomed the company into San Diego's premier Contemporary Ballet Company.

www.therosinboxproject.com

- SATURDAY, MAY 27 -

The Big Muddy Dance Company

Kirven Douthit-Boyd, Artistic Director

CLOUD 9

Choreography by Norbert De La Cruz III

Rehearsal Director: Leonides D. Arpon

Music by Apparat, Big Hands, Eric Christian, Max Cooper, Kathryn De Boer

Lighting by Zak Metalsky

Costumes by Shevaré Perry

(2022)

GEOFF ALEXANDER

MAGGIE BATTERMAN

WILL BRIGHTON

CJ BURROUGHS

SERGIO CAMACHO

BRANDON FINK

DE'ONDRE GOODLEY

DAJUAN JOHNSON

JORRELL LAWYER-JEFFERSON

MIRANDA PAYNE

MEGAN RANCOUR

MOLLY RAPP

RANDI REINERT

CARLY VANDERHEYDEN

JESSIE YERO

“Cloud 9” is about overcoming adversity and difficulty; rescuing oneself through the strong bonds and connections we have with one another whilst prolonging momentary experiences of joy.

Norbert De La Cruz III was born in the Philippines and raised in Los Angeles, California. He received a BFA in dance from the Juilliard School and an MFA in dance from Hollins University. He is a NY and LA-based freelance artist. He was a soloist with Ballet Torino, Azure Barton, the Metropolitan Opera, Complexions, and was casted as dancer for Warner Bro’s “In The Heights” movie. He has been commissioned by Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, Tulsa Ballet, Barak Ballet, Hubbard Street, BalletX, Peridance, Grand Rapids Ballet, the Juilliard School, and Olympic Ballet Theater. Norbert was a finalist of Hubbard Street’s National Choreographic Competition, a Princess Grace Foundation-USA award recipient, Alvin Ailey New Directions Choreography Lab, Joffrey Academy of Dance’s Winning Works, the National Choreographic Initiative, and a recipient of the the New York City Ballet’s NY Choreographic Institute. He was a former teaching dance faculty at the Juilliard School. His honorable mentions include the Asian Arts Alliance Jadin Wong Award, McCallum Theatre Choreography Festival Award, and was featured in *Dance Magazine’s* Top 25 to Watch. www.NorbertDeLaCruziii.com, IG: @Norbert.DeLaCruz.iii

The Big Muddy Dance Company is a repertory dance company that showcases high caliber artistic experiences. By engaging both emerging and world-renowned choreographers, collaborating across the St. Louis community through senior outreach, and training future performers through our educational programs, we constantly strive to invigorate life through dance.www.buglisdance.org

www.thebigmuddydanceco.org

- SATURDAY, MAY 27 -

Sewam American Indian Dance

Eddie Madril, Artistic Director

CIRCLE IN THE SKY

Choreography by Sara Moncada

Assistant Choreography by Eddie Madril

Music by Aurora Mamea

Song written by Fawn Wood

Costumes by Sara Moncada, Aurora Mamea, Eddie Madril
(2013)

SARA MONCADA

AURORA MAMEA

EDDIE MADRIL

The dancer in embodies the spirit of what creates all living beings and transitions briefly into the eagle who is considered the messenger or conduit between earth and sky. The singer brings forth appropriate songs for both the dancer and the dance, as one is performance and the other may be considered the sacred. The messenger, or narrator, on stage delivers knowledge and wisdom for all through old American Indian sign language. They also describe the oratory of the song and dance from a Native lens.

Sewam Dance brings the music, arts and culture of Native American dance to audiences around the world. Specializing in the dances of indigenous people of the Plains, Sewam Dance has performed across the country and internationally, inspiring audiences and sharing the power and beauty of Native American people. Sharing the depth of knowledge and understanding of culture, through vast experiences and histories, is integral to our futures as human beings.

www.sewamdance.com

- SATURAY, MAY 27 -

THE JOFFREY BALLET

Ashley Wheeler MBE, Artistic Director

GISELLE 2ND ACT PAS DE DEUX

Choreography by Jean Coralli and Jules Perrot

Music by Adolphe Adam

(1841)

AMANDA ASSUCENA

ALBERTO VELAZQUEZ

The ghost-filled ballet tells the tragic, romantic story of a beautiful young peasant girl named Giselle and a disguised nobleman named Albrecht, who fall in love, but when his true identity is revealed, Giselle dies of heartbreak. After her death, she is summoned from her grave into the vengeful, deadly sisterhood of the Wilis, the ghosts of unmarried women who died after being betrayed by their lovers and take revenge in the night by dancing men to death by exhaustion. They target Albrecht when he comes to mourn at Giselle's grave, but her great love frees him from their grasp.

Amanda Assucena started ballet at the age of eight in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. At age 14, she moved to the United States and completed her ballet studies at The Harid Conservatory in Florida. Assucena joined The Joffrey Ballet in 2013, and since then has performed works by world renowned choreographers like Liam Scarlett, Christopher Wheeldon, Yuri Possokhov, John Neumeier, George Balanchine, Frederick Ashton, Alexander Ekman, Justin Peck, Wayne McGregor, Cathy Marston, and Jiří Kylián. Her repertoire includes lead roles such as Juliet, Cinderella, Odette/Odile, Giselle, Sylvia, Sugarplum Fairy, Anna Karenina, and Jane Eyre. Since joining the Joffrey, Assucena has performed on stages all over the world such as England, France, and Russia.

Alberto Velazquez, originally from Havana, Cuba, started ballet at age nine at The National Ballet School of Cuba. He then continued his studies in Mexico with his mother, Adria Velazquez. At the age of 17, he moved to New York City and joined American Ballet Theatre's school, eventually joining the second company. In 2011, Velazquez joined The Joffrey Ballet, and has performed many works by choreographers such as John Neumeier, Christopher Wheeldon, Jiří Kylián, Frederick Ashton, Wayne McGregor, Liam Scarlett, Yuri Possokhov, George Balanchine, and William Forsythe. In his time with The Joffrey, he has performed roles such as the Prince in *Cinderella*, Siegfried in *Swan Lake*, Albrecht in *Giselle*, Cavalier in *The Nutcracker*, Aminta in *Sylvia*, Romeo, and Count Vronsky in *Anna Karenina*. Velazquez has performed in stages all over the world, including Russia, Italy, and France.

The Joffrey Ballet is an internationally renowned, Chicago-based ballet company and dance education organization, presenting a unique repertoire that encompasses masterpieces of the past and cutting-edge works of today.

joffrey.org.

- SATURDAY, MAY 27 -

Collage Dance Collective

Kevin Thomas, Artistic Director

ENEMY BEHIND THE GATES

Choreography by Christopher L. Huggins

Music by Steve Reich

Lighting by William H. Grant III

Costume Design by Christopher L. Huggins

Original Costume Execution by Natasha Guruleva
(2001)

THIERRY BLANNCHARD*	LUISA CARDOSO	SANTIAGO CASTAÑEDA
RICKEY FLAGG II	SEBASTIAN GARCIA	MAYA HAWKINS,
LAUREN HUYNH	RAYAN LECURIEUX-DURIVAL*	
NIA LYONS	SUMMER MCNEILL	
LEONARD PEREZ	LAUREN PHILSON	
CAIO RODRIGO DOS SANTOS	NYA HAM**	

*GUEST ARTISTS

**APPRENTICE

First created in 2001, this piece premiered in Philadelphia just one weekend before 9/11. Inspired by the enemies that live amongst us, it quickly became more timely and resonant than ever intended or expected. The piece is originally inspired by the choreographer's travels to foreign lands where he witnessed strong military presence in airports long before the United States adopted similar practices, post 9/11.

Recently named a "Southern Cultural Treasure" by South Arts and the Ford Foundation, **Collage Dance** is one of the largest Black-led performing arts organizations in the South and one of a few professional ballet companies in the world with a roster of BIPOC dancers.

Working to inspire the growth and diversity of ballet, Collage Dance Collective showcases a repertoire of relevant choreography and world-class dancers representative of the communities we serve. The professional company has presented thirteen full-length seasons in Memphis, plus national and international touring presenting a diverse range of classical and contemporary choreography from George Balanchine, Nacho Duato, Ulysses Dove, Joshua Manculich, Amy Hall Garner, Kevin Jega Jeff and more.



ENSURING A FULL CREATIVE LIFE FOR EVERY ST. LOUISAN

The Regional Arts Commission of St. Louis is an active **ADVOCATE** for the arts. As the largest public funder of the arts, we act as an economic **CATALYST** in the City and County. RAC is a reliable **PARTNER** and collaborator with local, state and nationwide organizations.

Supporting the Arts in St. Louis Since 1985



RACSTL.ORG | INFO@RACSTL.ORG



UNIVERSITY OF
HEALTH SCIENCES
& PHARMACY

in St. Louis

Transition from imagining a better
world to making it a reality.

**PURSUE
EXTRAORDINARY**

Learn more at uhsp.edu

Keeping in Step with

Dance St. Louis

Dance Education Residency Programs



Bayer Fund

The body says what words cannot.

Martha Graham



The Three Graces, oil on canvas ▪ David Spear, Columbia ▪ alleywayarts.com
created for Sophia's Restaurant, Columbia
courtesy of the artist

Dance St. Louis is one of nearly 400 programs supported by the Missouri Arts Council, the state agency dedicated to the arts for all Missourians

www.missouriartscouncil.org



The Fabulous Fox

2023-2024 BROADWAY SEASON

7 OR 8 SHOW SEASON TICKET PACKAGES ON SALE JUNE 21



October 10-22, 2023



November 14-26, 2023



Dec 26, 2023 - Jan 7, 2024



Jan 23 - Feb 4, 2024



Feb 27 - Mar 10, 2024



April 30 - May 12, 2024



May 28 - June 9, 2024



Nov 29 - Dec 10, 2023

SPECIALS FOR SWAP ONE AND PRIORITY PURCHASE



December 12-17, 2023



February 13-18, 2024



April 9-14, 2024

COME FROM AWAY • Nov 3-5, 2023

RUDOLPH The Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical • Dec 23, 2023

JAGGED LITTLE PILL • Jan 18-21, 2024

Season Ticket Packages on Sale June 21
FabulousFox.com/Subscribe • 314-535-1700

DANCEst.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

Richard M. Dee

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michael Uthoff

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

STAFF

Julie Ridge

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Sarah Thompson

MARKETING, PR, ADVERTISING AND MEDIA

Michele Ryan

GRANT WRITER

Paige Van Nest

EDUCATION & SPRING TO DANCE
FESTIVAL ASSISTANT

Berrien Tedford

FINANCE AND OFFICE MANAGER

Julie Ballard

SPRING TO DANCE FESTIVAL
PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
& LIGHTING SUPERVISOR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Jesika Barnes

Senior Manager, Department
of Professional Practice
KPMG

Marie Bone

President
Key Resources, Inc.

Kimberly McBride

Principal
Edward Jones

John Michael Clear

Senior Counsel
Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner

Marcia Mellitz
Consulting services for
entrepreneurships, innovation, and
technology development

TREASURER

Katrina Pon

Risk Management Business Director
McCarthy Holdings, Inc.

Jon Deuchler

Executive Director,
Transaction Models
Reinsurance Group of America

Leigh Pratter

Community Volunteer

SECRETARY

Melinda Ligon

Community Volunteer

Amy Eidelman

Eidelman Virant Capital

Joseph Robertson

Partner
Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner

Priscilla Kurz

Community Volunteer

Mark Rynasiewicz

Senior Vice President, Private
Client Group
Wells Fargo Advisors

CHAIRMAN EMERITUS

Ken Kranzberg

Chairman
TricorBraun

Brian Lowry

Deputy General Counsel
Monsanto Company/Bayer (retired)

Donald Suggs

Publisher and Executive Editor
The St. Louis American

Stephanie Lynch, PCM

Brand Marketer, Growth Driver,
Omnichannel Strategist

Rush Robinson, Ph.D.

President and Founder
St. Louis College of Health Careers

DANCEst.

PAST BOARD PRESIDENTS

Jennifer Davis

John Foley

Paul Kalsbeek

Richard Kluesner

Ken Kranzberg

Mark Lindgren

William Lortz

Kent Reynolds

Tom Voss

Richard Winter

ADVISORY BOARD

Susan Block

Ramsey Botterman

Bert Condie*

Steve Cousins

David Diener

Barbara Eagleton

Jean Gase

Judy Harris

Gary Hoemann

Mary Ann Hogan

Joanne Kohn

Susan Luedke, MD

Karen Myers

Jerrie Plegge

Ruthe Ponturo

Eriko Clevenger Pope

Lynn Ricci

Peggy Ritter

Dorothea Rosner

Mary Romy

Marsha Rusnack

Peter Sargent*

Connie Schnuck

Judi Shepard

Thad and Betty* Simons

Mary Strauss

Philip Taxman

Blanche M. Touhill

James Virtel

Michele Walter

Mary Worseck

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Bourne Bean*

Anne Blatherwick

Jean Maritz Hobler*

Joy Melman

S. Lee McMillan*

Joan Wendt*

FOUNDER

Annelise Mertz*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMERITA

Sally Brayley Bliss

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

DANCEst.

RICHARD M. DEE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The 2022 – 2023 season marks Rich Dee's twelfth with Dance St. Louis, and the sixth season as the executive leader.

On the verge of closing in 2017 due to financial struggles, and under his guidance, Dance St. Louis has achieved 5 straight seasons (2018 – 2022) in the “black” and remains one of only 4 nonprofit dance-only presenters in the United States. In addition, Mr. Dee has led Dance St. Louis through the Covid-19 pandemic overcoming significant challenges as the result of cancelled shows.



During his tenure at Dance St. Louis, Mr. Dee has raised millions in philanthropic support to present the talents of more than 4,000 artists and 300 professional dance companies from across the globe to our city. In addition, he led the efforts to secure more than \$1 million to commission 25 world premieres exclusively for St. Louis-based dance companies in partnership with world-renowned choreographers, to grow artistically, increase exposure for their company, and elevate our city's dance landscape.

He is credited with the creation of *An Evening of Ballet Stars* showcasing principal dancers from some of America's most iconic and prestigious ballet companies; he reimaged the *SPRING TO DANCE* Festival under The Big Top circus tent at a time when indoor theaters were shuttered due to the pandemic; and through his leadership, St. Louis remains home to one of the most celebrated dance festivals in the Midwest region, *SPRING TO DANCE*.

Mr. Dee's nonprofit experience spans 27 years with missions focused on the arts, animal welfare, humanitarian efforts and healthcare. He

RICHARD M. DEE
(CONTINUED)

has raised more than \$100 million in his career and has held executive positions with major non-profits that include the Humane Society of Missouri, one of the largest and oldest animal welfare organizations in the country, during a successful \$11 million capital campaign; the American Red Cross, most notably during 9/11; and Cancer Support Community/Gilda's Club, the largest professionally led non-profit network of cancer support worldwide.

He currently serves as special advisor to Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater in Chicago, previously serving as Vice Chair of the Board and Executive Board Member for five seasons. Mr. Dee also serves as Board Vice President of the Dielmann-Kaiser House Foundation in St. Louis, focused on preserving the historic collection of furniture, fixtures and objects as well as original artwork by artist, sculptor, and master gardener Robert Dielmann. The Dielmann-Kaiser House is a historic 1883 three-story Victorian-style home located in the Dutchtown neighborhood of south St. Louis city.

Since 1995, Mr. Dee has been an active member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), serving as an Executive Board Member for nearly ten years. In 2000, Mr. Dee was one of only eight nonprofit leaders to serve on the Executive Host Committee for AFP International Conference on Fundraising held in St. Louis, the largest conference on fundraising in the world, setting a record that year with over 4,000 attendees. He has had the honor to work with Bob Costas, the late Beverly Sills, and other prominent figures in sports, media, and the arts and entertainment industry.

Prior to his nonprofit career, he was with FleishmanHillard, and mentored by civic icons Ruth K. Jacobson and Al Kerth. While at FleishmanHillard, he worked with clients such as Anheuser-Busch, AT&T, Hyatt, McDonalds, St. Louis Rams, St. Louis Science Center, and Walmart.

Mr. Dee is a graduate of Missouri State University with a bachelor's degree in electronic media and journalism. He was raised in the St. Louis Hills neighborhood and graduated from St. Gabriel the Archangel and St. Mary's High School.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

DANCEst.

MICHAEL UTHOFF ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Michael Uthoff was born in Chile to the founders of the Chilean National Ballet, Ernst Uthoff and Lola Botka, who were both members of the original Ballet Jooss. Uthoff arrived in NYC to study dance at The School of American Ballet, The Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance and The Juilliard School of Music.



Soon after his arrival, he became a soloist with the José Limón Dance Company. Uthoff was also an original member of the American Dance Company, which opened the State Theatre at Lincoln Center, in which he danced leading roles in works by Jose Limon, Donald McKayle and Anna Sokolow. He then joined the Joffrey Ballet as a principal dancer and later joined the First Chamber Dance Company of NY touring the USA, Latin America and Eastern Europe.

He was among the first faculty members at SUNY Purchase and founded and developed the Hartford Ballet, taking it to national prominence where it served as a framework for companies around the country to follow. His tenure culminated with tours of China and Latin America. Uthoff continued his career as the artistic director of Ballet Arizona and the Ballet Estable del Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires, Argentina. In 2006, he accepted the post of artistic and executive director of Dance St. Louis and continued the presentation of quality dance performances while developing programs that enhanced the local dance community and thrilled audiences. *Spring to Dance* and *New Dance Horizons* were introduced to its season while an intensive dance education program was developed with inner city schools. He held the post until 2017 and later returned to Dance St. Louis as the artistic director in 2020.

He has taught at the university level and in dance schools throughout the country. He guest lectured at UMMSL's dance department and became a member of the faculty at Webster University in 2010.