

NEW YORK CITY CENTER

DORRANCE DANCE
THE NUTCRACKER SUITE



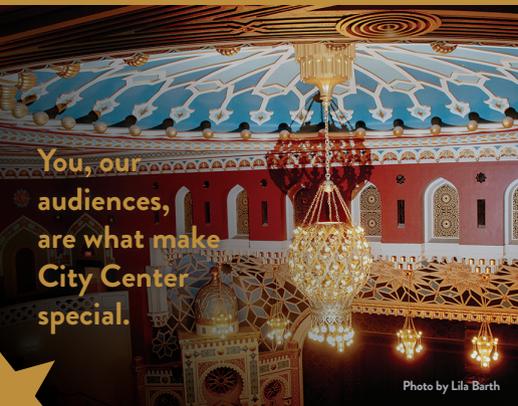
NOV 22 - 24, 2024

@NYCITYCENTER

In 1943, Mayor Fiorello La Guardia saved the Shiner's neo-Moorish Mecca temple from the wrecking ball, and Manhattan's first performing arts center was born.

The mission was to make New York City Center "the people's theater"—a place where the best dance, theater, and music could be enjoyed by all New Yorkers at an affordable price. A place where legends like **George Balanchine**, **Leonard Bernstein**, **Paul Robeson**, and **Barbara Cook** all made their mark.

A loyal, eclectic, and diverse audience helps us deliver on this same mission over 80 years later.



You, our audiences, are what make City Center special.

Photo by Lila Barth

You're invited to explore everything in our season, from new work by **Twyla Tharp** to a musical that hasn't been seen in New York City for over 75 years.

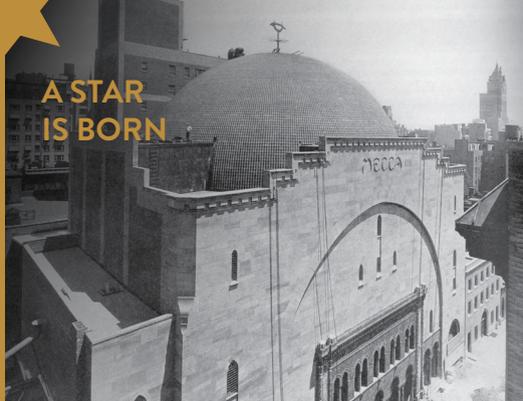
We can't wait for you to get to know our artists, staff, and each other!



Herman Cornejo and Alessandra Ferris in *Witness*, part of Fall for Dance 2016; photo by Stephanie Berger

FALL FOR DANCE
A FESTIVAL FOR EVERYONE

A STAR IS BORN



Mary-Mitchell Campbell
Encores! Music Director

Stanford

Stanford Makishi
VP & Artistic Director,
Dance

Jenny Gersten
VP & Producer,
Musical Theater

Lear

Lear deBessonet
Encores! Artistic Director

WELCOME
NEW
CITY C

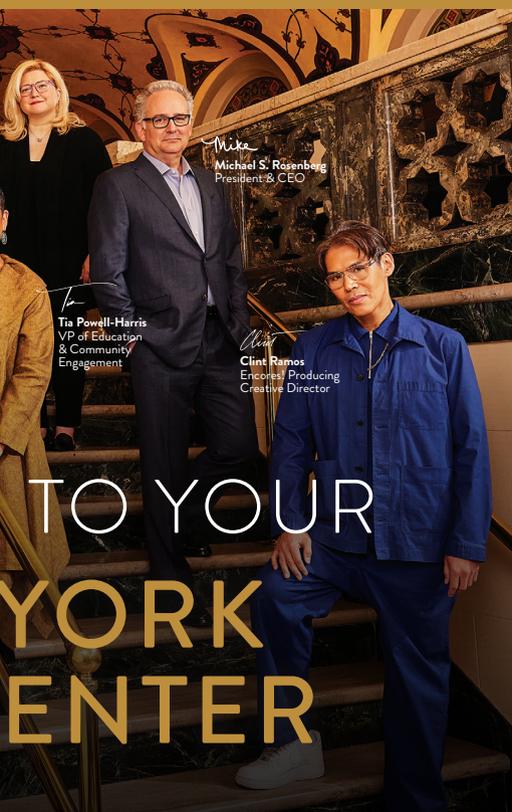
Photo by Matthew Murphy

In 2004, the first **Fall for Dance Festival**, celebrating dance in all its forms, invited thousands of dance fans and newcomers alike to experience well-known artists and premiere works—with every seat in the house at the same discounted price. Today, the Festival welcomes 22,000 audience members each year to this staple of the New York fall dance season.

Some of the greatest moments in dance history have happened on our stage. Many of America's beloved dance companies including **Dance Theatre of Harlem**, **The Joffrey Ballet**, **Martha Graham Dance Company**, **Twyla Tharp Dance**, **Paul Taylor Dance Company**, and **Merce Cunningham Dance Company** have at some point in time called City Center their home. In 1948, George Balanchine established **New York City Ballet** at City Center. In 1968, **Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT)** made its US premiere on our stage, and audiences continue to be dazzled by NDT at City Center to this day. In 1971, **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** gave its first City Center performance, and they have been our Principal Dance Company for over 50 years.

LEGENDARY ARTISTS

Judith Jamison in *Alvin Ailey's Cry*; photo by R. Falgout



Tia Powell-Harris
VP of Education & Community Engagement

Mike
Michael S. Rosenberg
President & CEO

Clint
Clint Ramos
Encores! Producing Creative Director

TO YOUR YORK CENTER

In 1994, the **Encores!** series was established, celebrating American musical theater with three annual revivals, bringing these scores back to life in full by the incredible Encores! Orchestra. Our 1996 revival of **Chicago** transferred to Broadway, and today it remains the longest-running revival in history. In 2000, **Encores!** received a Tony for Excellence in theater, and in 2022, our production of **Into the Woods**, directed by **Lear deBessonet**, transferred to Broadway and was nominated for a Tony for Best Revival of a Musical. This legacy continues today—literally—as our 2024 Encores! revival of **Once Upon a Mattress**, also helmed by deBessonet, currently runs on Broadway.



Encores! *Jelly's Last Jam*; photo by Joan Marcus

ENCORES! A TONY- HONORED TRADITION



Photo by Pedro Estevez

INSPIRING CREATIVITY IN FUTURE GENERATIONS

Thousands of New York students, teachers, families, and emerging professionals experience the performing arts—many for the first time in their lives—at little to no cost through **City Center's Education and Community Engagement** programs. Initiatives such as the Lynne and Richard Pasculano Student Matinees, Community Nights, Apprenticeships, ASL-interpreted performances, and more help to bring new audiences to City Center and spark inspiration in young artists.

A SWINGIN' SYNOPSIS

by Hannah Heller

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the pad
Hips were a'swaying, the tree was all clad.
The grownups and kids all Lindied and Hopped
Those Ellington parties could never be topped.

Mr. and Mrs. and their little boy Fritz
Show off to the guests as they put on the Ritz.
But poor little Clara, she never belonged
Her wiggle was wacky, her shimmy all wrong.
Fritz was ALWAYS the favorite, of him they were proud,
While Clara just flim flammed, alone in the crowd.

A cup of nog, a log on the fire
Welcome Esteemed guest, Drosselmeyer.
Uncle Drossy is Clara's most favorite of all
His love gives her courage to fly and not fall
Then her Boogie gets lower, her slides, they get smooth.
Her Charleston bounces, she sits in the groove.

And, Uncle Drossy, something of a wizard himself
He brings MAGIC, though LATELY he's not in great health.
Perhaps it's his mind, perhaps it's his spell
But these days, his tricks, they don't always go well.

All the same, Uncle Drossy gives amazing presents.
Ethereal, fantastical, at times evanescent.
And this year for Clara, he won't let her down
He'd considered a turtle, he'd considered a clown...
He'd thought long and hard as he wandered the mall
And finally decided on a nutcracker doll!

Now my friends, THIS years' story is one for the books
A magic unleashed, a spell is unhooked



Could it BE the wrong dolls, or an out of time wing?
That opens the darkness from which enters the king?
The king of the rats, brings them all to their knees.
A mob boss from hell whose only weakness is cheese.
AVENGING the death of his piñata queen
Ransacking the joint just to hear people scream.

But Clara is brave and thinks on her feets
With Nutcracker's help, I'll spare gory deets.
Needless to say, that rodent king dies
And Clara escapes under snow laden skies.



The rest of our dazzle will simply unfold.
A little bit sassy, a LOTTA bit bold
Some nice and some naughty cause why the heck not
But I better zip it, can't spoil the plot.

We welcome you in, to this groove to this flow
I'm late to the party, Get ready! Lets go!
Feel FREE to shout, clap, stomp yo feet, even SING! —
Cause it DON'T mean a thing, if it ain't got that swing



UPCOMING EVENTS



FLAMENCO FESTIVAL MAR 6 – 9, 2025

For over 20 years, the Flamenco Festival has brought Spain's greatest flamenco talents to City Center. An extravaganza of music, dance, and unforgettable performances, this year's festival features **Alfonso Losa & Patricia Guerrero, Compañía Manuel Liñán**, and **Eva Yerbabuena**.

Compañía Manuel Liñán: photo by marcosGpunto.



**ALVIN AILEY
AMERICAN DANCE
THEATER
DEC 4, 2024 – JAN 5,
2025**

City Center's Principal Dance Company returns for a five-week holiday season celebrating a lineage and legacy that continues to open doors and break new ground. Ailey's extraordinary dancers bring to life world premieres and new productions, including works by **Matthew Rushing**, **Ronald K. Brown**, **Jamar Roberts**, **Hope Boykin**, **Lar Lubovitch**, and **Elisa Monte**.



**TWYLA THARP
DANCE
MAR 12 – 16, 2025**

In this dazzling celebration of her company's Diamond Jubilee, **Twyla Tharp** presents two career-spanning New York premieres—*Diabelli* and a piece set to music by **Philip Glass** performed live by **Third Coast Percussion**—that offer audiences a breathtaking vista of her range as an artist.



**SARA MEARNS |
ARTISTS AT THE
CENTER
APR 3 – 5, 2025**

Sara Mearns, "one of the most celebrated ballerinas in the world" (*The New York Times*), makes her curatorial debut as part of the ongoing **Artists at the Center** series. In this program, she dances in two World Premieres.



**DANCE THEATRE OF
HARLEM
APR 10 – 13, 2025**

Artistic Director **Robert Garland** ushers in a new season of Dance Theatre of Harlem with an exciting mix of new works and fan favorites, as they once again present a powerful vision for ballet in the 21st century.



**BALLET HISPÁNICO
MAY 29 – JUN 1, 2025**

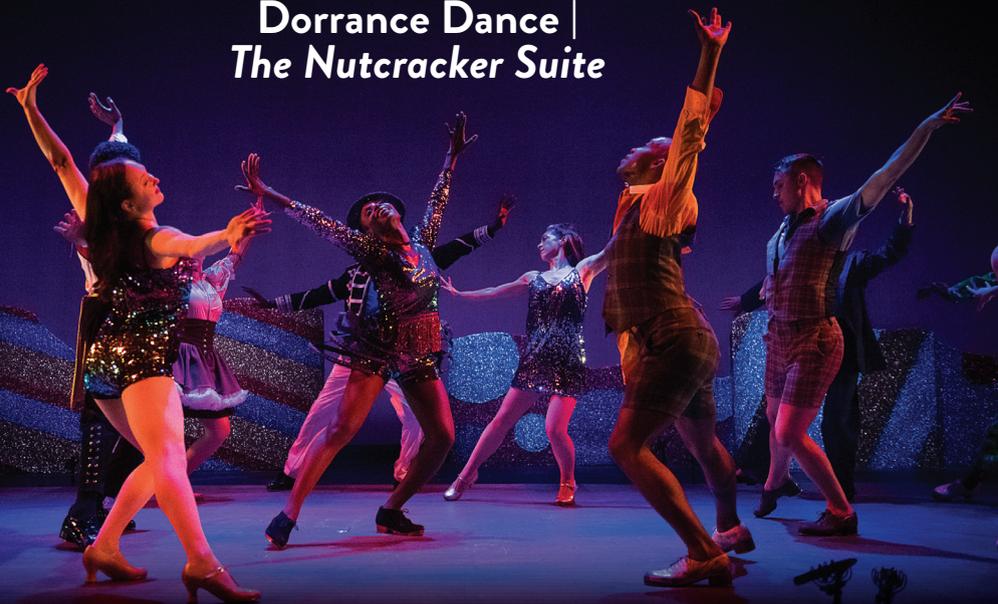
Ballet Hispánico celebrates the 150th anniversary of the beloved classic ballet *Carmen* with **Gustavo Ramirez Sanso's CARMEN.maquia**, an electrifying take on **Bizet's** passionately tragic masterpiece. Plus, the wildly popular **En Familia/Family Matinee** returns.

PHOTO CREDITS (LEFT TO RIGHT):
Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater; photo by Dario Calmese. Twyla Tharp Dance; photo by Mark Seliger. Sara Mearns; photo by Sarah Silver / Trunk Archive. Dance Theatre of Harlem; photo by Nir Arieli. Ballet Hispánico; photo by Marius Fiskum.

Making Space for Rhythm & Play:

A Conversation with the creators of

Dorrance Dance | The Nutcracker Suite



Michael J. Love, an interdisciplinary tap dance artist and scholar, spoke with **Michelle Dorrance, Hannah Heller, and Josette Wiggan** – creators of the show.

MICHELLE DORRANCE: We want every step of the story to mean something. And this is a show for adults and kids alike. I think, of course, the best children’s stories are. The three of us are coming together to make this thing that ideally will ask young people to come into the space, to feel welcome, and to feel creative.

JOSETTE WIGGAN: Jazz dance is America’s folk dance. Tap dance, Lindy Hop, Charleston, Black Bottom, solo jazz....These are all under the umbrella of Vernacular Jazz dance. To be

able to take this classic ballet that is a holiday tradition in this country, compare it with a dance form that’s one hundred percent American, and present it back to everyone to show, “Hey, this is who we are. This is part of our heritage and it should be celebrated,” has been such an amazing journey. We created a world, and we’re inviting everyone in.

HANNAH HELLER: Sometimes, there’s these sort of invisible boundaries that dancers have. But no one seemed to have boundaries. And everyone was just really embodied. We encouraged the cast to really play because the choreography and the movement syntax has so much in it. So, we added on a little character sauce and fantasy.



READ THE FULL INTERVIEW AT
[NYCityCenter.org/DorranceNutcrackerInterview](https://nycitycenter.org/DorranceNutcrackerInterview)





November 22 – 24, 2024

NEW YORK CITY CENTER PRESENTS



**DORRANCE DANCE
THE NUTCRACKER SUITE**

The Nutcracker Suite Co-Creators

MICHELLE DORRANCE HANNAH HELLER JOSETTE WIGGAN

Featuring

ELIZABETH BURKE SYDNEY BURTIS WARREN CRAFT MICHELLE DORRANCE
ZAKHELE “BBOY SWAZI” GRABOWSKI JABU GRAYBEAL ASHA GRIFFITH STERLING
HARRIS HANNAH HELLER LUKE HICKEY MICHAEL JELICK
RENA KINOSHITA ADDI LOVING AARON MARCELLUS CARSON MURPHY
MADDIE MURPHY CLAUDIA RAHARDJANOTO GREGORY RICHARDSON
LEONARDO SANDOVAL GISELE SILVA MATTHEW “MEGAWATT” WEST
JOSETTE WIGGAN

With Special Guests

TILER PECK, DORMESHIA, BRINAE ALI & More!

We acknowledge that the land on which New York City Center and its theaters stand was forcibly taken from the Munsee Lenape tribe. We respectfully honor and acknowledge all Indigenous communities—past, present, and future—for their essential and ongoing connection to this land.



THE PROGRAM

An Ella'quent Holiday Swing

Music Direction & Arrangements by **AARON MARCELLUS** and
GREGORY RICHARDSON

after **ELLA FITZGERALD** and **FRANK DEVOL**

Vocal Arrangements by **AARON MARCELLUS**

Lighting Design by **KATHY KAUFMANN**

Costume Styling by *An Ella'quent Holiday Swing* performers

Sound Design by **CHRISTOPHER MARC**

Premiere

December 3, 2021

AARON MARCELLUS, *Lead Vocals*

WARREN CRAFT, *Drums*

MICHAEL JELICK, *Piano*

GREGORY RICHARDSON, *Bass*

Backing Vocals

MICHELLE DORRANCE **ADDI LOVING** **CLAUDIA RAHARDJANOTO**

Featured Soloists

MICHELLE DORRANCE,

Members of the Company, and

Special Guests

TILER PECK (11/22) **DORMESHIA** (11/23) **BRINAE ALI** (11/24)

Music Credits: "Brighten The Corner Where You Are" written by Charles Hutchinson Gabriel and Ina Duley Ogdon; "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas" written by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane, Sony ATV Music Publishing; "Good Morning Blues" by Count Basie, Eddie Durham, and James Rushing; "Sleigh Ride" written by Leroy Anderson and Mitchell Parish, Woodbury Music Company and Sony ATV Music Publishing, copyright owners; "Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer" written by Johnny Marks, St. Nicholas Music, Inc.; "Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!" by Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne; "Jingle Bells" written by Frank Devol and James Pierpont



The Nutcracker Suite

or, a rhythmaturgical evocation of the super-leviathonic enchantments of Duke and Billy's supreme adaptation of Tchaikovsky's masterpiece that tells a tale of a misunderstood girl who kills a king and meets a queen and don't forget oooo-gong-chi-gong-sh'-gon'make-it-daddy, and that it ain't so bad after all

Co-Created by **MICHELLE DORRANCE, HANNAH HELLER, and JOSETTE WIGGAN**

Choreography by **MICHELLE DORRANCE and JOSETTE WIGGAN**

with solo improvisation by the dancers

Additional Choreography by **EPHRAT "BOUNCE" ASHERIE, ZAKHELE "BBOY SWAZI" GRABOWSKI, HANNAH HELLER, MATTHEW "MEGAWATT" WEST, and JOSEPH WIGGAN**

Choreographic Advisor: **RISA STEINBERG**

Original Music by **PETER ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY,**

arranged by **DUKE ELLINGTON and BILLY STRAYHORN**

Lighting Design by **KATHY KAUFMANN**

Costume Design by **ANDREW JORDAN**

Sound Design by **CHRISTOPHER MARC**

Scenic Design by **PEIYI WONG**

Premiere

December 17, 2019

Music Credit: Original Music by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, arranged by Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn, by arrangement with G Schirmer, INC. publisher and copyright owner.
Courtesy of Sony Music Entertainment, all rights reserved.

The Nutcracker Suite . . . was commissioned and created, in part, with the support of The Joyce Theater Foundation's Artist Residency Center, made possible by lead funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust, and Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. *The Nutcracker Suite* . . . was co-commissioned by Global Arts Live, with support from Eric Klotch and Catherine Owens, Global Arts Live is a not for profit presenting organization located in Cambridge, MA; John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts; The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College, Director Seth Soloway; and University of Connecticut, Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts.

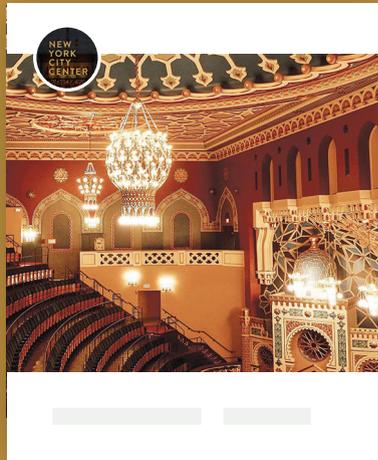


THE CAST

Clara.....	GISELE SILVA
Her Mother.....	JOSETTE WIGGAN
Her Father.....	JABU GRAYBEAL
Her Brother, Fritz.....	LUKE HICKEY
Her Godfather, Drosselmeyer (Drossy).....	WARREN CRAFT
Party Guests.....	ZAKHELE "BBOY SWAZI" GRABOWSKI, ASHA GRIFFITH, AARON MARCELLUS, CARSON MURPHY, MADDIE MURPHY, CLAUDIA RAHARDJANOTO, MATTHEW "MEGAWATT" WEST
"Mechanical" Dolls.....	MADDIE MURPHY, MATTHEW "MEGAWATT" WEST
The Nutcracker.....	ELIZABETH BURKE
Rat King.....	HANNAH HELLER
Rat Deputy.....	LEONARDO SANDOVAL
The Rats.....	SYDNEY BURTIS, STERLING HARRIS, RENA KINOSHITA, ADDI LOVING, AARON MARCELLUS, MADDIE MURPHY, GREGORY RICHARDSON
The Snow Passage.....	JABU GRAYBEAL, ASHA GRIFFITH, STERLING HARRIS, LUKE HICKEY, RENA KINOSHITA, ADDI LOVING, CLAUDIA RAHARDJANOTO, LEONARDO SANDOVAL
Sugar Rum Cherry.....	JOSETTE WIGGAN
Her Cavalier.....	JABU GRAYBEAL
Sugar Rum Blossoms.....	ADDI LOVING, CARSON MURPHY, MADDIE MURPHY
Mother/бабушкаGingembre.....	CLAUDIA RAHARDJANOTO
Stepperi of the Volga.....	COMPANY
Danseurs of the Floreadores.....	COMPANY
Alchemist.....	MATTHEW "MEGAWATT" WEST
Swing.....	SYDNEY BURTIS
Understudy.....	MICHELLE DORRANCE



SHARE IT ALL



JOIN THE CONVERSATION



@NYCITYCENTER



ABOUT DORRANCE DANCE

Dorrance Dance is an award-winning tap dance company based in New York City. Founded in 2011 by Artistic Director Michelle Dorrance, the company is made up of truly unique dancers and musicians who are rooted in improvisation with an investment in choreographic exploration, musical composition, live performance, and education. The company is passionately committed to engaging new audiences on a musical and emotional level, and sharing the complex history and powerful legacy of this Black American art form throughout the country and the world.

Dorrance Dance has received numerous accolades, rave reviews, and has propelled tap dance through doors that were once closed to the art form. The company has been presented by Danspace Project, The Joyce Theater, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, New York City Center, Sadler's Wells London, the Kennedy Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Works and Process at the Guggenheim, Spoleto Festival USA, Vail International Dance Festival, The Bolshoi's DancInversion International Festival, Hong Kong Arts Festival, Lincoln Center Out Of Doors, Singapore International Festival Of Arts, Seattle Theater Group, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, National Arts Centre Ottawa, American Dance Festival, Colours Festival Stuttgart, Maison de la Danse Lyons, Fira Tàrrrega, Danse Danse Montréal, Staatstheater Darmstadt, Chicago's Auditorium Theatre, Carolina Performing Arts, Cal Performances at Berkeley, Boston's Crash Arts, Fire Island Dance Festival, Kuopio Dance Festival Finland, The Tilles Center, Stockholm Tap Festival, and many others.

www.DorranceDance.com

Instagram: [@dorrancedance](https://www.instagram.com/dorrancedance)

Facebook: [facebook.com/dorrancedance/](https://www.facebook.com/dorrancedance/)



As seen in tonight's performance, Dorrance Dance is deeply committed to creating new works and employment opportunities for tap dancers. Please join our mailing list for updates and consider donating to support the art and artists!



Dorrance Dance is generously supported by The Evelyn Sharp Foundation, Harkness Foundation for Dance, Howard Gilman Foundation, The Hyde and Watson Foundation, MacMillan Family Foundation, Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, New Music USA, The O'Donnell-Green Music and Dance Foundation, One World Fund, and The Shubert Foundation.

Rehearsal and development for this performance was supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. These performances are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature. This program is also supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the city council. Dorrance Dance is a recipient of a U.S. Small Business Administration Shuttered Venue Operators Grant, made possible by the leadership of Senate Majority Leader Charles D. Schumer.





MICHELLE DORRANCE (*Artistic Director/Choreographer/Dancer*) 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. Dorrance 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 Bachelor of Arts from New York University and an honorary Doctorate of Arts from the University of North Carolina. She is a Capezio athlete and was recently named an Associate Artist at Sadler's Wells.

JOSETTE WIGGAN (*Co-Creator/Dancer*) has a love for performing that was fostered by Paul and Arlene Kennedy in Los Angeles. A graduate of UCLA, Wiggan's career highlights include the 2001 Spotlight Award in non-classical dance; the First National Broadway Tour of *42nd Street*; movies *Idlewild* and *Princess and the Frog*; and studying with Germaine Acogny at L'ecole les Sables in Touba Dialaw, Senegal. Alongside her brother, Joseph, she was a part of the original casts of Cirque du Soleil's *Banana Shpeel* and Michael Jackson: *The Immortal World Tour* from 2009-2013. She was also seen in *Tireless*, a curated show by Michelle Dorrance debuted at Jacob's Pillow in 2017. In addition, Wiggan is a

part of Dorrance's all women quartet, *Until the Real Comes Along* and *All Good Things Must Come to an End*. In the summer of 2021, Wiggan created her first evening length work, *Praise: The Inevitable Fruit of Gratitude*, in collaboration with grammy nominated, jazz trumpeter Keyon Harrold at Jacob's Pillow. Most recently, Wiggan has developed *On Solid Ground: A Celebration of Black Joy and Freedom In Our America*, featuring improvisation by the dancers and musicians of Josette Wiggan Presents... Wiggan is a sought-after educator, choreographer, and performer, and has dedicated her life to the perpetuation of African American Vernacular Jazz Dance. She is also on faculty at USC's Glorya Kaufman School of Dance, teaching Vernacular Jazz and Tap Dance.

HANNAH HELLER (*Co-Creator/Dancer*) is a filmmaker, actor, writer, and dancer. She was a founding member of Savion Glover's *Ti Dii* and has appeared with Dorrance Dance, Jane Comfort and Co., and Grand Lady Dance House. Select New York theater credits include *Elements of Oz* (Skirball), *The World is Round* (BAM), *The Reception* (HERE Arts Center), and *Evelyn* (Bushwick Starr). Hannah's award winning short film *Ursula* continues to play at festivals across the world.

AARON MARCELLUS (*Musical Direction/Lead Vocals, An Ella'quent Holiday Swing*) Hailing from Atlanta, Marcellus is a versatile artist with a career spanning 25 years. He has captivated global audiences as a singer, songwriter, composer, musician, dancer, and actor. Marcellus gained recognition through *American Idol* and performed on a world tour sponsored by the US Armed Forces, entertaining thousands in multiple countries. He has also appeared in Chapstick commercials, Universal Pictures' *Dear Evan Hansen*, and NBC's *Next Caller*. As a member of *Stomp Off-Broadway* and a supporting lead in National Black Theater's *Dreaming Zenzile*, he continues to showcase his exceptional talents. Find him on Instagram at @theaaronmarcellus.



ANDREW JORDAN (*Costume Design*) is an artist and costume designer exploring the possible relationships between sculpture, installation, puppetry, and the moving form of the human body. He has designed for both stage and screen, including projects spanning opera, contemporary dance, experimental performance, film, and parade. He has worked primarily in NYC and LA, currently residing in Detroit. He received his BFA in Fine Arts, with a minor in Media Studies, from the Columbus College of Art and Design and his MFA in sculpture from the Cranbrook Academy of Art.

KATHY KAUFMANN (*Lighting Design*) is a two-time Bessie recipient and New York City native. She is a resident designer at the Danspace Project at St. Marks Church and has toured extensively throughout the world. She has been lighting Dorrance Dance since 2012 and designs regularly for many companies including Music From The Sole, Joanna Kotze, Ephrat Asherie Dance, The Bang Group, Elko & Koma, Rebecca Stenn, Mariana Valencia, and Mina Nishamura.

CHRISTOPHER MARC (*Sound Design*) is a NYC-based sound designer and production manager from Minneapolis, MN. He has designed and engineered sound for Michelle Dorrance, Music From the Sole, Variety Life Productions, Lincoln Center Restart Stages, Luke Hickey and Michael Jellick, as well as regional and Off-Broadway productions with the Kennedy Center, Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival, IJB Productions, Aquila Theatre, and Mills Entertainment. Marc also designs/builds custom floors for percussive dance and is owner/operator of @CMarcAudio.

PEIYI WONG (*Scenic Design*) is a Bessie Award-winning scenographer and interdisciplinary artist based in Brooklyn, NY. She designs sets, installations, and costumes for live performance. Recent credits – sets: *The Whitney Album* (Soho Rep), *Weightless* (WPTheater), *A Delicate Balance* (Transport Group | NAATCO), *The Vicksburg Project* (Mabou Mines), *SPEECH* (Lightning Rod Special), *Song About Trains* (Working Theater | RadEv), *Memoirs of a... Unicorn* (NYLA, 2018

Bessie Outstanding Design), *HOUSECONCERT* (Object Collection), *Charleses* (The Tank, Hewes nomination); set and costume: *A Hunger Artist* (Sinking Ship), *The Trial of the Catonsville Nine* (Transport Group), *MukhAgni* (The Public UTR). Upcoming: *Public Obscenities* (Woolly Mammoth | TFANA), *A Good Day To Me Not to You* (Waterwell). In 2023 she was the recipient of the Edith Lutyens & Bel Geddes Design Enhancement Fund and NYSCA Support for Artists Grants. Faculty at Playwrights Horizons, NYU Tisch. MFA, CalArts.

STANFORD MAKISHI (*Vice President & Artistic Director, Dance*) was appointed to his current position of Artistic Director, Dance, at New York City Center in 2021 after serving as vice president for programming since 2015. He began at the organization in 2011 as associate producer of its Fall for Dance Festival. Makishi danced with Trisha Brown from 1992 to 2006, was assistant director of her production of *Winterreise*, and has taught and restaged her work internationally. He also served as artistic advisor for the Ringling International Arts Festival in Sarasota, executive director of the Baryshnikov Arts Center, director of programs at the Asian Cultural Council, and director of creative services at Carnegie Hall.

MICHAEL S. ROSENBERG (President & CEO, New York City Center) has a long and distinguished career of leading performing arts institutions to nurture artists, expand audiences, and engage communities. Beginning with Drama Dept. (the Greenwich Village artist collective he co-founded in the 90s) and carrying through to the present, he has helped develop works by playwrights, songwriters, choreographers, directors, authors, designers, visual artists, and students. As Managing Director of La Jolla Playhouse, Rosenberg worked with Artistic Director Christopher Ashley and the staff to oversee the development and production of a host of acclaimed productions, many of which transferred to Broadway, Off-Broadway, and the West End—including the international smash hit *Come from Away*. More recently, as Managing Director of McCarter Theatre



Center, Rosenberg was part of the evolution of the historic theater, expanding programming to include family-friendly performances and multidisciplinary events. His work in building diversity, equity, and inclusion encompasses artists, audiences, and administrators alike.

NEW YORK CITY CENTER has played a defining role in the cultural life of the city since 1943. The distinctive Neo-Moorish building was founded by Mayor Fiorello La Guardia as Manhattan's first performing arts center with the mission of making the best in theater, dance, and music accessible to all audiences. This commitment continues today through celebrated dance and musical theater series like the Fall for Dance Festival and the Tony-honored Encores! series; the annual season by Principal Dance Company Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater; and the artist-curated Artists at the Center series. City Center welcomes audiences to experience internationally acclaimed artists on the same stage where legends made their mark. Dedicated to a culture built on the values of curiosity, collaboration, accessibility, and inclusivity, City Center's dynamic programming, art exhibitions, and studio events are complemented by education and community engagement programs that bring the performing arts to thousands of New York City students, teachers, and families every year.



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New York City Center is pleased to recognize the members of the Fiorello La Guardia Society, a group of individuals who have included City Center in their long-range financial and estate plans. For more information, please email Joseph Valone, Director of Leadership and Planned Gifts, at JValone@NYCityCenter.org or call 212.763.1296.

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City Center Circle is a vibrant group of young professionals (40 and under) who are passionate about the performing arts and enjoy socializing and networking with like-minded peers. For more information, please email Circle@NYCityCenter.org or call 212.763.1206.

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