



*I fall*

*I flow*

*I melt*



# *I fall, I flow, I melt*

A new dance by Benjamin Millepied  
In collaboration with L.A. Dance Project

This work began as an exploration into the depth and complexity of Johann Sebastian Bach's music. It was interesting to me to study music with such underlying complexity yet undeniably emotional and timeless.

The choreography set to *St Matthew Passion* and the Partita No. 2 is quite formal. The creative process led me to think about Bach's music as a pure expression of life and freedom, and what that meant for me and my dancers in our approach. Dance as a practice is and should be liberating. I decided to explore a second part where the dance would have no underlying architecture, no structure, no repetitive motifs, no counterpoint. The movement would be generated by my dancers through my direction. I was not looking for unifying style, rather the most pure form of expression I could draw from the dancers. The Mystery Sonatas by David Lang give us simple moods and colors to dance to - music we are not tied to, music we are not trying to represent or illustrate. The freedom isn't the same, it's one where the dancers are not looking to match the nuances of a score or execute movements to music with engaging interest. They get a chance to simply be, with straightforward honesty, embrace and explore the space around them, and each other. The last movement set to the Passacaglia for Organ had different needs, because it needed structure, it was made combining approaches from part 1 and part 2.

## **Performed by**

Doug Baum, Anthony Lee Bryant, Aaron Carr, David Adrian Freeland Jr., Mario Gonzalez, Madison Hicks, Daisy Jacobson, Nathan B. Makolandra, Rachelle Rafeiledes, Gianna Reisen, Janie Taylor, Patricia Zhou

Etienne Gara, Violin



### **Music**

Johann Sebastian Bach:

*St. Matthew Passion,*

BWV 244 No. 1, Chorus I II Kommt, Ihr Töchter, Helft Mir Klagen

Partita for Violin No. 2 in D Minor: *Allemande, Courante, Gigue, Chaconne*

David Lang:

*Joy, Glory, Sorrow* (from *Mystery Sonatas*)

*Our Common Fate* (from *The National Anthems*)

Johann Sebastian Bach:

Passacaglia in C minor for Organ - Tom Koopman

### **Costume Design**

Alessandro Sartori for Ermenegildo Zegna Couture

### **Lighting Design**

Benjamin Millepied

*Premiere January 12, 2019 | L.A. Dance Project Studios: 2245*

## 2018-2019 Company

Doug Baum, Anthony Bryant, Aaron Carr,  
David Adrian Freeland Jr.\*, Mario Gonzalez, Madison Hicks,  
Daisy Jacobson, Nathan Makolandra, Rachelle Rafeiledes,  
Gianna Reisen, Janie Taylor, Patricia Zhou

Artistic Director, Benjamin Millepied  
Executive Director, Rebecca Misselwitz  
Director of Business and Legal Affairs, Christopher Macdougall

Head Rehearsal Director, Sebastien Marcovici  
Rehearsal Directors, Rachelle Rafeiledes & Janie Taylor

Stage Manager, Malia Arguella  
House Manager, Alisa Wyman  
Assistant House Manager, Remy Solomon

Director of Development, Cassandra Morrison  
Grant Writer, Tiffany Batifort

Project Manager, Loïc Noisette  
Operations Manager, Chris Tynan  
Communications Manager, Brian Carbine  
Company Coordinator, Ama Gyamerah

Art Advisor, Matthieu Humery  
Founding Producer, Charles Fabius

Tour Representation  
North American Booking: [rebecca@ladanceproject.org](mailto:rebecca@ladanceproject.org)  
Europe and Asia Pacific Booking: DLB Spectacles  
[didier@dlbdance.com](mailto:didier@dlbdance.com)

*\*2018 Princess Grace Award Winner in Dance*



L.A. Dance Project is a platform for the development, creation, support and presentation of world-class dance in Los Angeles. Comprised of an internationally acclaimed dance company, a performance space in LA's Arts District, and a program of media initiatives, LADP seeks to foster dance-centered artistic collaborations across all disciplines, cultures and communities in Los Angeles and around the globe.

Since its founding, the L.A. Dance Project company has performed and conducted master classes at prestigious venues and festivals in nearly 100 cities around the world, including the Sadler's Wells Theatre, Théâtre du Châtelet, the Holland Festival, Edinburgh International Festival, La Maison de la Danse, the Saitama Arts Center, and the Shanghai, Beijing, and Dubai Opera Houses. In the US, the company has performed at venues including Jacob's Pillow, The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Joyce, New York City Center, The Shubert Theatre at the Boch Center, and the Vail Dance Festival. In its home city of Los Angeles the company has performed at The Music Center's Walt Disney Concert Hall, MOCA, Union Station, The Theatre at Ace Hotel, and The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts.

**Benjamin Millepied** is a choreographer, filmmaker, and former professional dancer.

Born in Bordeaux, France, Mr. Millepied began his ballet training at the age of eight under the instruction of his mother, Catherine Flori, while simultaneously learning track and field from his decathlete father, Denys Millepied. He attended the Conservatoire National de Lyon under Marie France Dieulevin and Michel Rahn between the ages of thirteen and sixteen before travelling to New York City in 1992 to attend the summer intensive program at School of American Ballet (SAB), the official school of NYCB. He became a full-time student at SAB the following year after receiving the prestigious “Bourse Lavoisier” scholarship from the French government. During his time at SAB Mr. Millepied studied with Stanley Williams and Adam Luders, among other prominent instructors. In 1994, he originated a principal role in Jerome Robbins’ 2 & 3 part Inventions set to music by Johann Sebastian Bach for the SAB Spring Workshop. He was awarded the Prix de Lausanne that same year. In 1995, he received SAB’s Mae. L. Wien award for outstanding promise and was invited to join NYCB.

During his sixteen-year tenure with NYCB, ten of which he enjoyed as a principal dancer, Mr. Millepied performed a vast repertoire of works by George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins whose deep and lasting influences he acknowledges in his own choreography. At NYCB, he originated many roles in ballets by Jerome Robbins, Alexei Ratmanský, Christopher Wheeldon, Mauro Bigonzetti, Angelin Preljocaj, and Peter Martins, among others.

Concurrent with his rise to the rank of principal dancer at NYCB, Mr. Millepied began choreographing and in 2002 founded Danses Concertantes: a pick-up troupe comprised of a varying roster of professional dancers with whom he successfully toured regularly for the next eight years, presenting new works as well as established ballet repertory in esteemed venues around the world. The Baryshnikov Arts Center invited him to serve as Choreographer-in-Residence from 2006 to 2007 during which time he created the solo Years Later for Mikhail Baryshnikov. In 2007, he was the recipient of the prestigious United States Artists Wynn Fellowship in Dance. Mr. Millepied’s choreography has entered the repertoires of major dance companies worldwide, including New York City Ballet, Paris Opera Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Berlin Staatsoper, Mariinsky ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, Ballet de Genève, Lyon Opera Ballet, among others. In 2010, Millepied’s choreography was featured in Darren Aronofsky’s award-winning film Black Swan, in which he also starred. That same year, he was made a Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French Ministry of Culture. Mr. Millepied has commissioned several original scores from composer Nico Muhly for his work and often choreographs to scores by living composers David Lang, Philip Glass, John Adams, and Steve Reich. He has also collaborated with visual artists Daniel Buren, Mark Bradford, Christopher Wool, Barbara Kruger, Paul Cox, Liam Gilliack, and United Visual Artists, as well as designers Rodarte, Alessandro Sartori, and Iris Van Herpen.

Inspired to pursue collaborative and multidisciplinary dance-centered works in a city whose cultural scene had recently begun an important revitalization, Mr. Millepied moved to Los Angeles in 2012 to found his company L.A. Dance Project (LADP). LADP’s mission is to support the development and presentation of world-class dance in Los Angeles, and to foster dance-centered artistic collaborations that contribute to new, expanded platforms through which dance may be experienced by 21st century audiences. The company gave its inaugural performance at the Los Angeles Music Center’s Walt Disney Concert Hall on September 22, 2012. Since then, LADP has given hundreds of performances at prestigious festivals and theater venues worldwide, as well as site-specific performances in eminent, non-traditional venues such as Union Station (Los Angeles, CA), The Museum of Contemporary Arts, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA), The Schindler House (West Hollywood, CA), The Glass House (New Canaan, CT), The Palace of Versailles (Versailles, France), and The Chinati Foundation Contemporary Art Museum (Marfa, TX). Alongside its live performances, the company has also produced original film projects, each featuring choreography by Mr. Millepied, including a special collaboration with Oscar-nominated director Alejandro Iñárritu. In 2017, Mr. Millepied established LADP’s new headquarters, complete with a state-of-the-art performance space, in downtown Los Angeles’ Arts District. As founder and Artistic Director of LADP, he is fully committed to creating a dance organization with innovative artistic and economic models designed to thrive upon and respond to the times in which we live. To accommodate the scope of his creative projects, Mr. Millepied founded the Amoveo Film Production Company. In 2014, Millepied co-founded Artform with Nick Britell a tech start-up company with the aim of supporting and promoting present-day artists as well as the arts at large, which will launch in 2019.

In January 2013, the Paris Opera Ballet appointed Mr. Millepied as its new Director. He programmed two seasons for the company before resigning in July 2016 to focus more fully on the development of his own company, LADP, and to pursue his own work as a choreographer. Mr. Millepied’s leadership brought commissioned ballets by Justin Peck, William Forsythe, Crystal Pite, Wayne McGregor, and Jerome Bel into the Paris Opera Ballet repertory, as well as the company premieres of existing works by Anna Teresa Keersmaker, Maguy Marin, Boris Charmatz, Christopher Wheeldon, Alexei Ratmanský, Merce Cunningham, George Balanchine, and Jerome Robbins. Mr. Millepied commissioned new sets for the opera by United Visual Artists, John Baldessari, and Christian Lacroix; new costumes by designers Karl Lagerfeld, Garth Pugh, Marie Katrantzou, and Iris Van Herpen; and new musical scores by composers Nico Muhly and James Blake. Mr. Millepied was also responsible for launching a major new initiative for the opera called “3ème scène” (3rd stage): an internet-based public performance space which invites artists from a variety of backgrounds to create original film works relating to the Paris Opera — its environment, history, present-day artists or, more generally, the inspiration it imparts. In 2016, Mr. Millepied was the subject of the documentary film Reset which chronicles the creation process of his first new ballet as Director of the Paris Opera Ballet. In his capacity as a filmmaker, Mr. Millepied has directed numerous short dance films in recent years and is currently preparing his first feature film, which will be a musical adaptation of Carmen to be released in 2019.

**Etienne Gara, Violin** - Praised for the warm tone and expressiveness of his playing, French born violinist Étienne Gara has performed extensively worldwide, appearing as soloist in such renowned venues as the SOKA Performing Art Center and the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in the Greater Los Angeles Area, the Jordan Hall in Boston, the Marigny Theatre in Paris, the Wiener Saal and the Marmor Saal of the Mirabell Palace in Salzburg. Since making his orchestral solo debut in 2005 with the Savaria Symphony Orchestra in Hungary, he has continued his soloist career in Europe, the United States and Asia. His concerts have been broadcast in the USA, Hungary, Switzerland, France and Belgium.

Mr. Gara has been a frequent guest of international music festivals, including the Stavelot Festival in Belgium, the Aurora Festival in Sweden, the Thy Festival in Denmark and the Academy of Music of Lausanne where he was nominated laureate as part of one of the best violin-piano duos. He performed at the Tons Voisins and the Juventus Festival in France where he met the composer Eric Tanguy, who later wrote a piece for him. He was invited to participate in the Perlman Music Program in New York in 2009 and 2010, and joined Itzhak Perlman for the winter residency of the festival in Sarasota, FL and travels in Israel.

A 2010 laureate of the prestigious Fondation Marcel Bleustein-Blanchet, as well as a laureate of the Fifth International Chamber Music Ensemble competition in Boston, he is a winner of Sir Yehudi Menuhin's "Music Live Now" competition and of the 2014 and 2016 Beverly Hills National Auditions, and won Second Prize at the Raiffeisen Klassik Competition in Salzburg. The Lions Club of France honored him with a scholarship for their national "Young Talent" award. In 2005, he had the honor to be appointed concertmaster for the grand opening of the new Auditorium of the Mozarteum in Salzburg and since then, acts regularly as concertmaster for orchestras such as the Los Angeles Virtuosi Orchestra and the Kontrapunktus Chamber Orchestra. He also appears as guest principal violin with many ensembles in halls including the Disney Concert Hall and the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles.

A passionate chamber musician, Mr. Gara has performed with many renowned players such as Lucy Chapman, Rober Tapping, Jacob Koranyi, Julian Steckel, John Walz, Daniel Blumenthal, Plamena Mangova and Denis Pascal. As an advocate for the arts, he has collaborated with The American Contemporary Ballet, the Austin Eurythmy Ensemble, and appeared on screen in short and feature movies and stars in "Goodbye, You" and "Riptide". He recorded for Leonard Cohen and is the founder of the award-winning Sunset Club Trio, an ensemble joining the forces of the violin, the electric guitar and the flamenco guitar in their own arrangements of the great classical repertoire. Mr. Gara has also been the artistic director of the Open Academy Orchestra, in Los Angeles, and founded the award-winning conductorless chamber orchestra Delirium Musicum in 2018.

Born in Paris to a French mother and Hungarian father, Mr. Gara started playing the violin at the age of five. After studying in Paris, he continued his education at the Mozarteum University of Salzburg with Igor Ozim and Helmut Zehetmair. As an Erasmus scholarship recipient, he worked with Victor Tretiakov at the Musikhochschule of Cologne before completing his Performer Diploma with Mauricio Fuks at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. He earned his Master of Music at New England Conservatory under renowned pedagogue Donald Weilerstein and later joined world-renowned violinist Midori at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. He also worked closely with Irina Botchkova, Miriam Fried, Itzhak Perlman, Kim Kashkashian, Paul Katz, János Starker, Menahem Pressler, the Borromeo Quartet. In 2014, he recorded on a 1714 Stradivarius for Media Hyperium3 a recital program of French music with pianist Sonia Achkar and in 2015, he was the concertmaster on the first album of the Kontrapunktus Chamber Orchestra.

**Sébastien Marcovici, Head Rehearsal Director** began his ballet training at age eight with local teachers, and at age 12 he enrolled at the School of the Paris Opéra Ballet. During the summer of 1993, while studying with Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux and Patricia McBride at the Chautauqua School of Dance, Mr. Marcovici was invited by Ballet Master in Chief Peter Martins to take Company class with New York City Ballet at Saratoga Springs. In November of 1993, he was invited to join New York City Ballet's corps de ballet. Mr. Marcovici was promoted to the rank of soloist in 1998 and to principal dancer in May 2002.

Mr. Marcovici has performed featured roles in numerous ballets by George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins, Peter Martins and additional works by David Parsons and Lynne Taylor-Corbett. Mr. Marcovici also originated roles in Robbins' Brandenburg and West Side Story Suite as well as in works by Peter Martins, Mauro Bigonzetti, Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux, Robert Lafosse, Miriam Mahdavian, Benjamin Millepied, Angelin Preljocaj, Twyla Tharp and Christopher Wheeldon. Mr. Marcovici retired from New York City Ballet in March 2014. He worked as a ballet master with Paris Opera Ballet from 2014 - 2016. He currently works at L.A. Dance Project as a Ballet Master and sets ballets for Benjamin Millepied on ballet companies around the world.

**Doug Baum** began his dance training in Maryland at Mid-Atlantic Center for the Performing Arts before graduating from the Baltimore School for the Arts in 2006. In 2010, Doug received his BFA from Fordham University in collaboration with The Ailey School, where he apprenticed with Ailey II for two years. Since graduating, he has worked with Bad Boys of Dance, Compagnie Flak, Les Ballets Jazz and most recently Complexions Contemporary Ballet. Doug has completed three seasons with Zhukov Dance Theater in addition to guesting with Peridance, Ezdanza, Thang Dao, and Company XIV.

**Anthony Lee Bryant** earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from Juilliard. He also trained at The American Musical and Dramatic Academy in NYC as well as in his home state of North Carolina at University of North Carolina School of the Arts where he received his high school diploma with a concentration in Ballet. Touring credits include: Disney's The Lion King, Cathy Rigby is Peter Pan and L.A. Dance Project. Anthony has performed works by William Forsythe, Benjamin Millepied, Victor Quijada, Aszure Barton, Eliot Feld and other renown choreographers. Proficient in dance and gymnastics he has worked with Christopher Harrison's AntiGravity and most recently Jacob Jonas The Company. Aside from performing he teaches for The Wendy Hilliard Gymnastics Foundation in New York and The Gabriella Foundation in Los Angeles. Anthony is excited and honored to be dancing again with L.A. Dance Project.

**Aaron Carr** began dancing at age six in his hometown of Pensacola, Florida where he studied throughout high school as an ABT National Training Scholar and continued his education at The Juilliard School, graduating in 2009. He immediately became a member of KEIGWIN + COMPANY while simultaneously dancing with ZVIDANCE until joining LADP in 2013 . In addition to international touring and dance work, he worked as repetiteur for Larry Keigwin at UNCSA and CNSMDP in Paris as well as an assistant at the Royal New Zealand Ballet. Aaron is also committed to his work in education and has taught programs with Broadway Dance Center, New York University's summer program, Keigwin + Company's program at Juilliard, the Edinburgh International Festival, and also back home with Ballet Pensacola.

**David Adrian Freeland, Jr.** received his early dance training at LaVilla School of the Arts in Jacksonville, FL and at the Jacksonville Centre of the Arts. He furthered his dance studies at several prestigious intensive programs affiliated with The Juilliard School, Nashville Ballet, Atlanta Festival Ballet, and the Bates Dance Festival. David attended the Conservatory of Dance at SUNY Purchase College and began working toward his BFA in Dance before being invited to join Ailey II, the second company of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, where he danced for three years. During this time, he performed seminal works by Alvin Ailey, Judith Jamison, Robert Battle, as well as new works by Troy Powell, Dwight Rhoden, Jennifer Archibald, Amy Hall-Garner, Malcolm Low, and Donald Byrd, among others. David's professional experience also includes seasons performing with The Metropolitan Opera and Missouri Ballet Theatre. In 2016, David joined L.A. Dance Project where he has both created roles and danced in important stage and film works by Benjamin Millepied, Kyle Abraham, Justin Peck, Ohad Naharin, Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, Roy Assaf, Noé Soulier, and Shannon Gillen. David is the proud recipient of a 2018 Princess Grace Award in Dance.

**Mario Gonzalez** started dancing at the Marya Kennett School of Dance in Goshen, NY. He received his pre-professional training at Walnut Hill School for the Arts under direction of Michael Owen and went on to attain his BFA from the Conservatory of Dance at SUNY Purchase College. While on scholarship Mario has attended summer intensives with the San Francisco Ballet, The Juilliard School, Nederlands Dans Theater, M.I.P. The Cunningham Fellowship Workshop and Springboard Danse Montreal. Prior to joining LADP Mario danced with Visceral Dance Chicago and American Repertory Ballet. During his career he has danced in works by Danielle Agami, George Balanchine, Nicolo Fonte, Mark Godden, Madboots Dance, Stephan Laks, Paul Lightfoot & Sol Leon, Jose Limon, Matthew Neenan, Kevin O'Day, Kirk Peterson, Erica Sobol, Doug Varone and Yin Yue. This is Mario's first season with LA Dance Project.

**Madison Hicks**, originally from Dallas, TX, graduated from Booker T. Washington HSPVA in 2014 and received her BFA from The Juilliard School in May 2018. Madison was a 2013 YoungArts winner for modern dance, 2014 US Presidential Scholar in the Arts Nominee and a guest artist in the 2014 Young Arts Presidential Scholar Gala under the direction of Bill T. Jones. Madison was awarded the Gene Kelly Legacy Scholarship for her choreography and jazz technique in 2016. She was a resident choreographer for both Booker T. Washington HSPVA Rep II Ensemble and The University of Texas at Austin and has had works showcased at Pariapsis Music and Dance and WestFest Dance Festival in New York City. Madison has created and is the director of Moving Forward Dallas, an innovative dance intensive for young artists. Madison has had the opportunity to perform works by Ohad Naharin, Peter Chu, Nacho Duato, Merce Cunningham, Aszure Barton, Gustavo Ramirez Sansano, and Pam Tanowitz.

**Daisy Jacobson** is a French-American born in Manhattan Beach, CA and a recent graduate from The Juilliard School. She is a 2013 Youth America Grand Prix Finalist, National Young Arts Winner, and Presidential Scholar in the Arts. While attending Juilliard, Daisy performed new works by Takehiro Ueyama, Loni Landon, Zvi Gotheiner, Matthew Neenan, and Benjamin Millepied. She performed leading roles in masterworks such as Merce Cunningham's BiPed, Jiri Kylian's Symphony of Psalms, and Nacho Duato's Por Vos Muero. Daisy attended programs with Houston Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Nederlands Dans Theater, Batsheva/gaga Barcelona, ChuThis, BodyTraffic, Ballet BC/ArtsUmbrella, and Springboard Danse Montreal. During these programs, Daisy was privileged to perform works by Alexei Ratmanský, Paul Lightfoot and Sol Leon, Ohad Naharin, Mats Ek, William Forsythe, and Aszure Barton.

**Nathan B. Makolandra** began dancing and choreographing in Greenville, South Carolina. He is a graduate from The Juilliard School under director Lawrence Rhodes. There he performed works by Alexander Ekman, Nacho Duato, Jerome Robbins, Bronsilava Nijinska, Eliot Feld, Sidra Bell, and Jose Limon. Nathan's work appeared in Juilliard's Choreographic Honors concert (2009-2012), and is a recipient of the Hector Zaraspe Award for choreography (2012). In 2011 he placed 1st runner up for the Capezio Award for Choreographic Excellence. He collaborated with composer Jared Miller, and choreographed Richard Walters' music video, "American Stitches." Nathan created "Attitude du Cage" with fellow L.A. Dance Project member, has choreography featured on So You Think You Can Dance, and is a Fresh Dance Intensive faculty member. Professionally Nathan has performed the works of Benjamin Millepied, William Forsythe, Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, Hiroaki Umeda, Emmanuel Gat, Danielle Agami, Julia Eichten, and Justin Peck in locations such as Los Angeles' Union Station, the 2015 Cannes Film Festival, and the Gardens at the Palace of Versailles.

**Rachelle Rafailedes** is a native Ohioan that began her formal dance training at an early age. She has since received her BFA from The Juilliard School in 2009, under the direction of Lawrence Rhodes, where she was awarded the Martha Hill Prize for excellence in leadership and dance. In her career thus far, Rachelle has been fortunate to perform work by renowned choreographers including: Ohad Naharin, Twyla Tharp, Antony Tudor, Merce Cunningham and William Forsythe, as well as guest perform with Keigwin + Company and Lar Lubovitch Dance Company. She was a member of Kyle Abraham/Abraham.In.Motion from 2009-2012 and is a Bessie Award winning collaborator for Mr. Abraham's The Radio Show. Rachelle joined L.A. Dance Project in 2013.

**Gianna Reisen** is originally from Wyckoff, New Jersey, where she trained at In the Spotlight Dance Studio for four years. In 2010, she began studying at the School of American Ballet in New York and danced in George Balanchine's The Nutcracker in Lincoln Center for two years while in the children's division. She also performed in five of the school's annual June Workshops. Reisen participated in the SAB's Student Choreographic Workshop as a dancer in 2014 and in 2015 as both a dancer and a choreographer. She danced in the New York Choreographic Institute's Spring 2015-2016 sessions and soon after, participated in NYCI's Fall 2016 session as a choreographer where she created her second work titled Hexapoda. In 2017, Reisen graduated from both Professional Children's School and the School of American Ballet. That same year, she was commissioned by former artistic director Peter Martins to create a ballet for the New York City Ballet's Fall Fashion Gala. Her work, Composer's Holiday set to music by Lukas Foss, premiered in the fall of 2017 naming her the youngest choreographer in NYCB's history. After her premiere, Reisen moved to Dresden, Germany to join SemperOper Ballet as an apprentice. Gianna joined L.A. Dance Project in 2018.

**Janie Taylor** was born in Houston, TX where she began her ballet training at age 2 with Gilbert Rome. She trained at the Giacobbe Academy of Dance in New Orleans from 1993-1996. After attending two years of the summer program at the School of American Ballet, she became a full-time student in the fall of 1996. While a student at SAB she originated a featured role in Christopher Wheeldon's Soiree Musicale for the Spring workshop performance in June of 1998. She received the Mae L. Wien Award at the SAB Annual Workshop and was invited to become an apprentice with New York City Ballet. A month later, she became a member of NYCB's corps de ballet. She was promoted to the rank of Soloist in February 2001 and to Principal in 2005. During her career with New York City Ballet she originated roles in ballets choreographed by Peter Martins and Benjamin Millepied. She also performed featured roles in numerous ballets by George Balanchine, and Jerome Robbins, as well as pieces by Lynne Taylor-Corbett, Susan Stroman, Twyla Tharp, and Miriam Mahdavian. Ms. Taylor appeared in the film Center Stage directed by Nicholas Hytner which was released in 2000.

She retired from the New York City Ballet on March 1, 2014 and began working as a repetiteur setting ballets for Benjamin Millepied and Justin Peck on companies around the world. She also started a career in costume design. Her designs can be seen at the New York City Ballet, and L.A.Dance Project. In December of 2016, Ms. Taylor joined L.A. Dance Project as a dancer.

**Patricia Zhou** was born in Canada and raised in the United States, she started her formal ballet training at the age of 13. She received four years of training at the Kirov Academy of Ballet in Washington D.C., where she graduated with the president's award - honoring excellence in both academic studies as well as artistry. Patricia competed in a few international competitions including the Prix de Lausanne, which as a prize winner led to an apprenticeship at the Royal Ballet in London and a spotlight segment on ABC's "Dancing with the Stars". Patricia joined Staatsballett-Berlin in 2012, and has since danced many lead and solo roles in both classical and contemporary pieces, and has been hailed as one of the most interesting and versatile dancers in the company. Patricia joined L.A. Dance Project in 2017.



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