Advance Program Notes

Pilobolus

Shadowland: The New Adventure

Saturday, May 11, 2019, 7:30 PM

These Advance Program Notes are provided online for our patrons who like to read about performances ahead of time. Printed programs will be provided to patrons at the performances. Programs are subject to change.

Shadowland: The New Adventure was created by
Steven Banks, Renée Jaworski, Matt Kent, and Itamar Kubovy

in collaboration with original cast members
Shawn Fitzgerald Ahern, Antoine Banks-Sullivan, Krystal Butler, Benjamin Coalter, Jordan Kriston, Derion Loman, Sayer Mansfield, Teo Spencer, and Mike Tyus

Original Music
David Poe

Additional Sound Design
David Van Tieghem

Lighting Design
Thom Weaver

Set Design
Gregory Laffey

Costume Design
Andrea Lauer

Performed by
Nathaniel Buchsbaum, Krystal Butler, Quincy Ellis, Heather Favretto, Marlon Feliz, Mistral Hay, Teo Spencer, and Jacob Michael Warren

Touring: IMG Artists | 212-994-3500 | imgartists.com
General Inquiries: 860-868-0538 | info@pilobolus.org
Shadowland Tour Marketing and Publicity: C Major Marketing, Inc.
PILOBOLUS.ORG

Major support for Pilobolus artistic programming provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art, and by the Shubert Foundation.

This performance is supported in part by a gift from the Easels.
**Program Note**

*Shadowland: The New Adventure* uses exploration of mixed media to tell a love story about two people and their quixotic quest to save an imaginary bird. Employing animation, video, and shadow-theatre, this madcap adventure dips its toe into the genres of science fiction, film noir, and romantic comedy. *Shadowland* has toured the globe but has rarely been seen in the U.S., making this a special treat for local audiences.

**About Pilobolus**

For 47 years Pilobolus has tested the limits of human physicality to explore the beauty and the power of connected bodies. We continue to bring this tradition to global audiences through our post-disciplinary collaborations with some of the greatest influencers, thinkers, and creators in the world. Now, in our digitally-driven and increasingly mediated landscape, we also reach beyond performance to teach people how to connect through designed live experiences. We bring our decades of expertise telling stories with the human form to show diverse communities, brands, and organizations how to maximize group creativity, solve problems, create surprise, and generate joy through the power of nonverbal communication.

Pilobolus has created and toured over 120 pieces of repertory to more than 65 countries. We currently perform our work for over 300,000 people across the U.S. and around the world each year. In the last year, Pilobolus was featured on *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, NBC’s *TODAY Show*, MTV’s Video Music Awards, *The Harry Connick Show*, ABC’s *The Chew*, and the CW Network’s *Penn & Teller: Fool Us*. Pilobolus has been recognized with many prestigious honors, including a TED Fellowship, a 2012 Grammy nomination, a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Achievement in Cultural Programming, and several Cannes Lion Awards at the International Festival of Creativity. In 2015 Pilobolus was named one of Dance Heritage Coalition’s “Irreplaceable Dance Treasures.” Pilobolus has collaborated with more than 25 brands and organizations in finance, retail, media, fashion, sports, and more to create bespoke performances for television, film, and live events.

For more information, please visit pilobolus.org and find Pilobolus at facebook.com/PilobolusDance and on Instagram and Twitter at @Pilobolus.
Biographies

NATHANIEL BUCHSBAUM, dancer

Nathaniel Buchsbaum was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and realized his love for movement while attending high school in Florida. Buchsbaum worked as a guest artist with the Tallahassee Ballet and in 2011 graduated from Florida State University with a bachelor of fine arts in dance. He has had the pleasure of working with KineticArchitecture, Amalgamate Dance Company, Gerri Houlihan, Martha Clarke, Brian Brooks Moving Company, and Doug Elkins. His choreography has been featured in the NewGrounds Dance Festival and the Five by Five event in Tampa, Florida, as well as the Amalgamate Artist Series in New York. Buchsbaum is honored to have joined Pilobolus’ Shadowland in 2012.

KRYS'TAL BUTLER, dancer

Krystal Butler began her training at Duke Ellington School of the Arts under the direction of Sandra Fortune and Charles Augins in Washington, D.C. Butler continued her education at Long Island University and earned a bachelor of fine arts in dance. She was a scholarship student at Ailey School Summer Intensive, American Dance Festival, Earl Mosley’s Institute of the Arts, and Arke Danza. She was a member of INSPRIT, a dance company, and Forces of Nature Dance Theater. Since joining Pilobolus in 2010, Butler has toured and performed in over 30 countries with the evening-length shows Magnifico, Shadowland, and Shadowland: The New Adventure, as well as numerous repertory works spanning the company’s 48-year history.

QUINCY ELLIS, dancer

Quincy Ellis was born in Waterville, Maine, and spent his youth in gymnastics and figure skating. Ellis earned a bachelor of fine arts in acting from Emerson College and has worked as both an actor and dancer in New York City for nine years. He has worked with companies such as the MoveShop, Calince Dance, DeFunes Dance, and Theatre Raleigh, among others. Ellis has also been lucky enough to tour and teach internationally, both as a dancer and actor. His own work, Savor, was recently produced in New York City. Ellis is thrilled to join the cast of Shadowland and is incredibly honored to be working with Pilobolus.

HEATHER FAVRETTO, dancer/dance captain

Heather Favretto grew up in New Jersey where her hyperactivity as a child drove her parents to place her in dance classes. Years later, Favretto received a bachelor of fine arts in dance from Rutgers University and was awarded the Dance Express Honor for outstanding choreography. Upon graduation, she worked for Douglas Dunn and Dancers, Cleo Mack Dance Project, and Naganuma Dance, while producing her own work in and around New York City. She joined Pilobolus in 2010 to work on a musical adaptation of James and the Giant Peach with Academy Award-winning composers Pasek and Paul. She has since helped create numerous works with Pilobolus and its collaborators. She has had the pleasure and honor of performing in over 30 countries, as well as on The Late Show with Stephen Colbert and The Today Show with Kathie Lee and Hoda! It continues to be a wild ride, and Favretto is truly elated to be sharing her love of art and theatre with all of you tonight!

MARLON FELIZ, dancer

Marlon Feliz was born in the Dominican Republic and raised in Miami, where she studied classical ballet and modern dance techniques at New World School of the Arts High School while exploring jazz, hip-hop, and lyrical dance at a local studio. Feliz later graduated from New York University Tisch School of the Arts with a bachelor of fine arts in dance performance and choreography. She also trained at the Joffrey Ballet, Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet, and Northwest Dance Project, and worked with H.T. Chen and Dancers, Human Kinetics Movement Arts, the Moving Beauty Series, and performed onboard Royal Caribbean’s Legend of the Seas. Feliz thanks her family for supporting her passion for dance and life, and was thrilled to join the incredible Pilobolus family in 2014.
Biographies, continued

MISTRAL HAY, dancer

Mistral Hay hails from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and grew up on ballet, training in both Cecchetti and Vaganova styles. Hay continued her dance education at SUNY Purchase College and now works as a dancer, yoga teacher, and aerialist out of New York City. She has had the pleasure of working with Alison Chase Performance, Company Stefanie Batten Bland, and Manuel Vignolle M/motions. Hay has performed with Pilobolus since 2010, including a project that helped them break the world record for most people to fit inside a Mini Cooper (26 people). Hay is honored to have joined Shadowland in 2016.

TEO SPENCER, dancer

Teo Spencer, a Vermont native, studied at the University of San Martin in Argentina, where he specialized in aerial fabric. After completing his studies, Spencer performed with Fuerza Bruta and Prix Dami. His credits include a performance for the presidency of Argentina and the award of “Best Overall Performance” at the Denver Aerial Arts Festival. Spencer returned to North America with a passion for combining circus and dance and after completing a year with Pilobolus as an apprentice, was a collaborator in the creation of Shadowland: The New Adventure in 2016.

JACOB MICHAEL WARREN, dancer/dance captain

Jacob Michael Warren was born in San Francisco and raised in Boston, where he began tap dancing. Tap gave way to ballet and modern dance, and in 2009 Warren graduated from Marymount Manhattan College with a bachelor of fine arts in dance. Since graduation, Warren has performed in New York and around the world with Armitage Gone! Dance, the Steps on Broadway Ensemble, TakeDance, and Pilobolus’s Shadowland. He has done multiple film, musical, and theatrical projects including Wind & Tree, a film by Abe Abraham, and Promise, an experimental theatre piece with Chris D’Amboise and Jed Bernstein. Warren is also a dedicated musician and a founding member of the Harmonica Lewinskies, a New York City-based blues/rock band.

CREATIVE TEAM

ITAMAR KUBOVY, executive producer

Itamar Kubovy oversees the many moving parts of Pilobolus. After joining Pilobolus in 2004, Kubovy founded Pilobolus’ acclaimed International Collaborators Project, a program that invites artists and thinkers from diverse fields to participate in Pilobolus’ collaborative choreographic process. He also grew the business of Pilobolus Creative Services, collaborating with clients to develop custom movement and storytelling for film, advertising, publishing, and corporate events. Kubovy was born in Israel and grew up in New Haven, where he studied philosophy at Yale. Prior to joining Pilobolus, he ran theatres in Germany and Sweden, directed plays by John Guare, co-directed the 2002 season finale of The West Wing, and made a film, Upheaval, starring Frances McDormand.

RENÉE JAWORSKI, co-artistic director

Renée Jaworski received a bachelor of fine arts from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Upon graduating Jaworski began work with MOMIX, performing and teaching throughout the world, as well as creating her own work in Philadelphia. She began performing with Pilobolus in 2000. Jaworski has served as choreographer and creator for exciting projects and collaborations, such as the 79th Annual Academy Awards, the Grammy-nominated video for OK Go’s All is Not Lost, and Radiolab Live: In the Dark, and has worked with myriad outside artists through the International Collaborator’s Project. In 2010 her alma mater honored her with the University’s Silver Star Alumni Award for her work as an artist in the field of dance. Jaworski lives in Connecticut
Biographies, continued

with her husband and daughter.

MATT KENT, co-artistic director

Matt Kent has worked with Pilobolus since 1996 as a dancer, collaborator, creative director, and choreographer. Kent’s past Pilobolus projects include head choreographer for Andre Heller’s Magnifico, a large-scale circus production; choreographer for a Sports Emmy-nominated teaser created in collaboration with the NFL network; and choreographer for a television appearance on Late Night with Conan O’Brien. His work for Pilobolus on Shakespeare’s The Tempest, co-directed by Teller (of Penn & Teller) and Aaron Posner, was nominated for Best Choreography by the L.A. Drama Critics Circle. Outside of Pilobolus, Kent has worked as zombie choreographer for AMC’s hit series The Walking Dead, as movement consultant on the Duncan Sheik musical Whisper House, and has created family and children’s performances with Rob Kapilow. Kent lives in Connecticut with his wife and two sons.

STEVEN BANKS, creative collaborator

Steven Banks is the Emmy-nominated head writer of SpongeBob Squarepants. Banks wrote and starred in the critically acclaimed one-man play Home Entertainment Center, which aired on Showtime and won L.A. Weekly, Drama-Logue, and Bay Area Critic’s Circle awards and is featured on Hulu. He also created and starred in the national PBS series The Steven Banks Show. His young adult novel, King of the Creeps, was published by Knopf. His plays include Love Tapes (co-written with Penn Jillette of Penn & Teller) and New York productions of Looking at Christmas and American Love Sex Death. Banks’ film and TV credits include Mom, My Crazy Ex-Girlfriend, The Aristocrats, and The Jimmy Kimmel Show. He is currently creating a show for the Disney Channel. Banks attended Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey's Clown College.

DAVID POE, composer

David Poe performed, composed, and produced the music for Shadowland and Shadowland: The New Adventure. Poe has toured the world with the likes of Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, and Tori Amos, and his songs have been recorded by several other artists, including T-Bone Burnett, Curtis Stigers, Oh Land, Ana Moura, Thomas Dybdahl, Grace Kelly, the cast of Nashville, Grace Potter, and Daryl Hall. Poe’s work also appears in a variety of film and television projects. He has scored numerous films and was named a composer fellow of the Sundance Institute in 2009. Poe’s solo recordings include his most recent effort God & the Girl, as well as Shadowland and Shadowland: The New Adventure, The Late Album, Love Is Red, The Copier: Music for Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet and his self-titled debut, produced by T-Bone Burnett. Hear the music from tonight’s performance at davidpoemusic.com

DAVID VAN TIEGHEM, additional sound design

David Van Tieghem’s Broadway credits include Doubt, The Lyons, Romeo and Juliet, The Big Knife, Born Yesterday, Arcadia, The Normal Heart, Reckless, An Enemy of the People, Mrs. Warren’s Profession, A Behanding in Spokane, A Man for All Seasons, Inherit the Wind, Frozen, After Miss Julie, Judgment at Nuremberg, The Constant Wife, The Crucible, Three Days of Rain, and The Best Man. His off-Broadway credits include Wit, The Piano Lesson, Through a Glass Darkly, and How I Learned to Drive. Van Tieghem’s film and TV credits include Buried Prayers, Working Girls, Penn & Teller, and Wooster Group. His dance credits include works with such names as Twyla Tharp, Doug Varone, Elizabeth Streb, Elisa Monte, and Michael Moschen. He has worked as a percussionist for Laurie Anderson, the Talking Heads, Brian Eno, and Steve Reich. Van Tieghem’s awards and nominations include the Drama Desk, Obie, Bessie, Lortel, and Guggenheim. Van Tieghem’s CDs include Thrown for a Loop, Strange Cargo, Safety in Numbers, and These Things Happen.
Biographies, continued

THOM WEAVER, lighting designer

Thom Weaver studied at Carnegie-Mellon and Yale and has previously worked with Matt Kent and Pilobolus on Teller (of Penn & Teller) and Aaron Posner’s The Tempest at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre. In New York, Weaver’s work has been seen at NYSF/Public Theatre, Primary Stages, Signature Theatre, Player’s Theatre (Play Dead with Teller), 37ARTS (Frankenstein), Cherry Lane, Lincoln Center Festival, Lincoln Center Institute, and SPF. Weaver has worked regionally at CenterStage, Syracuse Stage, Huntington, Milwaukee Rep, Shakespeare Theatre, Asolo, Theatre J, Berkshire Theatre Festival, Williamstown, Folger Theatre, Cleveland Playhouse, Roundhouse Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse, Hangar, Spoleto Festival USA, City Theatre, Virginia Stage, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, and Yale Rep. Weaver has received three Barrymore Awards (and 21 nominations), four Helen Hayes nominations, and two AUDELCO Awards.

GREGORY LAFFEY, set design and art direction

Gregory Laffey is a designer and artist from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Laffey has focused on stages, props, and costumes for dancers, theatre, and film. He now lives in New York City and has been working on various Pilobolus projects since 2009. His favorites include the Pilobolus projects Shadowland, Radiolab Live: In the Dark, and everything that enables him to travel to other countries.

ANDREA LAUER, costume design

Andrea Lauer is a costume/set designer and fashion stylist. Lauer’s recent credits include Red Bull’s School for Scandal at the Lucille Lortel, the German premier of Shadowland: The New Adventure by Pilobolus, and MEOW ROYALE in Tasmania, Australia. Her work has been seen on Broadway (American Idiot and Bring it On), around the country and internationally. Upcoming projects this fall are MEOW’S PANDEMONIUM with the London Philharmonic at the Royal Festival Hall and The Blueprint Musicals under the direction of Tom Ridgely, a site specific piece on the U.S.S. Intrepid as part of The Public’s Under the Radar Festival, where she will be doing sets and costumes. Also working as a stylist for various artists, commercials, and publications, Lauer’s work can be seen in Rolling Stone, Vogue, Interview, and OUT Magazine; at the 52nd Annual Grammy Awards and the Tony Awards; at red carpet events; and in music videos.

ERIC TAYLOR, touring technical director

Eric Taylor is from Tennessee, where he spends his time working as a rigger and stagehand for area theatre productions and corporate events. Taylor enjoyed touring with Pilobolus from 2011-2015 and is happy to be back on the road!

KRISTA MICKELSON, stage manager

Krista Mickelson is a freelance stage manager and production manager based out of Chicago. Mickelson previously toured with The Ruffians’ Burning Bluebeard and Lifeline Theatre. In Chicago she worked closely with companies such as Barrel of Monkeys, the Neo-Futurists, the Hypocrites, and Haven Theatre Company. Mickelson would like to thank her friends and family for their continued support!
Biographies, continued

KAILI STORY, lighting supervisor

Kaili Story earned a master of fine arts from Northwestern University in stage design and a bachelor’s degree in dance production and management from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Story is a Chicago-based lighting designer and has designed internationally in Australia, Korea, and the Turks and Caicos Islands. She is also a metalsmith and created a jewelry line called Savage GRL. Story began working with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago as the lighting supervisor in fall 2017 and is excited for her newest adventure with Pilobolus. For more information and upcoming work, please visit kailistory.com.

MAK BOOHER, props technician

Mak Booher is excited to be part of Pilobolus as their props technician. Booher is thankful for the opportunity to go on the road and work with a fantastic and creative team. “Then one day when you least expect it, the great adventure finds you” — this is how Booher feels about being with this company!

Pilobolus Staff

Executive Producer
Itamar Kubovy

Co-Artistic Directors
Renée Jaworski and Matt Kent

Charter Artistic Directors
Robby Barnett and Michael Tracy

Senior Company Manager
Kirsten Leon

Education and Community Engagement Manager
Emily Kent

Marketing Manager
Bridgid Pierce

Programming and Development Manager
Hannah Firestone

Production Manager
Anna Bate

Technical Director
Josh Sandberg

Dance Captains
Heather Favretto and Jacob Michael Warren

Touring Technical Director
Eric Taylor

Produccion Stage Manager
Krista Mickelson

Lighting Supervisor
Kaili Story

Props Technician
Mak Booher
Go Beyond

Which visual effects in Shadowland: The New Adventure dazzled you the most? What set those effects apart from others you saw in the performance?

In the Galleries

Opening this summer:
15TH ANNUAL 2019 NEW RIVER ART BIENNIAL
Presented by the Blacksburg Regional Art Association
Thursday, June 13-Saturday, August 3, 2019
All galleries

The 2019 New River Art Biennial Exhibition, the 15th iteration of this regionwide juried art show, takes place in the Moss Arts Center galleries this summer, featuring a selection of works in a variety of media from across Virginia and areas of West Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Tennessee. For more information on the biennial and the Blacksburg Regional Art Association, visit blacksburgart.org.

About the Juror
Emily Smith is the executive director of 1708 Gallery, a non-profit contemporary art space in Richmond, Virginia. Her experience as a director, curator, and advocate for the arts is expansive ranging from positions at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts; Piedmont Arts in Martinsville, Virginia; and the Second Street Gallery in Charlottesville, Virginia. She has served on the Virginia Commission for the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts grants review panel and is a statewide speaker for the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

OPENING RECEPTION
Thursday, June 13, 2019, 5-7 PM
Grand Lobby
Free; refreshments provided

GALLERY HOURS
Monday-Friday, 10 AM-5:30 PM
Saturday, 10 AM-4 PM

To arrange a group tour or class visit, please contact Meggin Hicklin, exhibitions program manager, at megh79@vt.edu.