

25
26



CENTER
FOR THE
ARTS
AT VIRGINIA TECH

BALLET BC
Medhi Walerski, artistic director

Tuesday, October 14, 2025, 7:30 PM

*Street and Davis Performance Hall
Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre*



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U.S. Premiere

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MANIFESTO

Sat., March 28
7:30 PM

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BALLET BC

Medhi Walerski, *artistic director*

Pieces of Tomorrow

20-minute intermission

Silent Tides

20-minute intermission

BOLERO X

This performance will last approximately 95 minutes.

This performance is supported in part by gifts from Mr. Bruce Prichard and Mrs. Nancy Beville Prichard and Kelli Whitfield. Additional funding is provided by the Joe and Linda Hopkins Arts Enrichment Fund.

*Please note, costumes include sheer tops
that may reveal partial nudity.*



PROGRAM

Pieces of Tomorrow

Choreography: Medhi Walerski

Music: Johann Sebastian Bach

Violin Concerto in A minor, BWV 1041, *II Andante*

Violin Concerto in D minor, BWV 1052R, *I Allegro*

Violin Concerto in E major, BWV 1042, *II Adagio*

Violin Concerto in E major, BWV 1042, *III Allegro Assai*

Violin Concerto in D minor, BWV 1052R, *Adagio*

Infinite Bach by Johan Ullén; performed by Christian Svarfvar (violin) and the London Philharmonic Orchestra; by arrangement with Boosey and Hawkes, Inc., rights owner in the U.S. and Canada for Gehrman's Musikforlag AB

Lighting Design: Lisette van der Linden and Pierre Pontvianne

Lighting Director: Lisette van der Linden

Costume Design: Medhi Walerski

Artistic Collaborator: LYLE XOX / Lyle Reimer

Assistant to the Lighting Designer: Matthew Piton

The creation of *Pieces of Tomorrow* began with the concept of legacy. Drawing inspiration from Lyle XOX's sculptures made from found materials, the dancers and I approached the choreography by exploring themes of destruction, creation, and reconstruction. Just as Lyle transforms materials, we focused on repurposing movement elements to breathe new life into them. Johan Ullen's recomposed Bach violin sonatas deepened our exploration with a profound layer. The recycling of musical material echoed our approach, enriching our work with a sense of continuity and growth. Loss, transformation, and rebirth. The cyclical nature of artistic expression, and life.

Silent Tides

Choreography: Medhi Walerski

Music: Composition by Adrien Cronet

Violin concerto in A minor, BWV 1041, *Andante*, by Johann Sebastian Bach; performed by Joji Hattori and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra; courtesy of 1997 Conifer Records Limited; licensed by Sony Music Entertainment (Canada)

Lighting Design: Pierre Pontvianne and Lisette van der Linden

Lighting Consultant: Tom Visser

Set Design: Medhi Walerski

Costume Design: Medhi Walerski

Silent Tides is an intimate work for two dancers that reflects our relationship to one another and to ourselves — the infinite gates where our bodies receive nourishment and otherness, vibration, and energy. Touch, time, eternity, love, death, infinity, low tides, high tides.

PROGRAM, cont.

BOLERO X

Choreography: Shahar Binyamini

Music: *Boléro* M. 81 by Maurice Ravel; performed by Berlin Philharmoniker and Pierre Boulez; licensed by Universal Music Canada Inc.

Lighting Design: Shahar Binyamini

Associate Lighting Design: Matthew Piton

Costume Design: Shahar Binyamini

Set to Ravel's 1928 masterpiece *Boléro*, Ballet BC's full company takes the stage for Shahar Binyamini's *BOLERO X*. The creation explores themes of unison and repetition, while still allowing for individuality and stand-out solo and duet performances. The choreography echoes the gradual rise of the music, with a mesmerizing crescendo and powerful group formations.

The original creation of BOLERO X was made possible through the generous support of the Azrieli Foundation, Josh Pekarsky and Marla Guralnick in honor of Arlene Gladstone, Karen James, Trudy and Dan Pekarsky, Arlene James, the Oasis Foundation, Shirley Barnett, Roberta Beiser, and Jeanie Wexler.

This is Ballet BC's first performance at the Center for the Arts.

BIOGRAPHIES

CHOREOGRAPHERS



SHAHAR BINYAMINI

Shahar Binyamini a choreographer and performer from Israel. Binyamini danced with Batsheva Dance Company from 2006 to 2013, where he extensively performed the repertoire of choreographers Ohad Naharin and Sharon Eyal. During those years in the company, Binyamini began his activity as a Gaga movement language teacher. He acted as the artistic director of the Gaga intensive courses in Tel Aviv, Italy, Los Angeles, New York, and Japan. As a choreographic assistant to Naharin, Binyamini worked with dance companies around the world, including Paris Opera Ballet, Ballet BC, Nederlands Dans Theater, Compañía Nacional de Danza, Finnish National Opera, GöteborgsOperans Danskompani, and Bordeaux National Ballet. After leaving Batsheva Dance Company, Binyamini started his international choreographic path in 2016 in Singapore, where he created FLAT for Frontier DanceLand. In recent years, Binyamini has been commissioned by international dance companies and institutions to create new pieces.

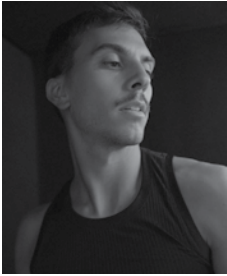


MEDHI WALERSKI, *artistic director*

Medhi Walerski became artistic director of Ballet BC in 2020. Raised in France, Walerski danced at the Paris Opera Ballet and the Ballet du Rhin before joining Nederlands Dans Theater in 2001. For more than a decade he contributed to NDT's famed innovative style and was awarded the Dutch dance prize VSCD Zwaan in 2013. Walerski has created with and performed works by Jiří Kylián, William Forsythe, Ohad Naharin, Paul Lightfoot and Sol Leon, Crystal Pite, Johan Inger, and Wayne McGregor, among others. Since his choreographic debut in 2008, he has created numerous acclaimed works for NDT and Ballet BC, including *Petite Cérémonie* (2011), *Chamber* (2012), *Romeo and Juliet* (2018), *Silent Tides* (2020), *just BEFORE right AFTER* (2022), *Pieces of Tomorrow* (2024), and *Last light* (2025), as well as works for Bern Ballet, Goteborg Ballet, StaatsBallett Hannover, Charlotte Ballet, and more.

BIOGRAPHIES, cont.

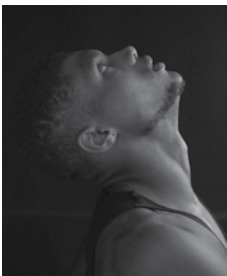
COMPANY ARTISTS



LUCA AFFLITTO

Luca Afflitto is originally from Genova, Italy, where he started dancing at the age of 11. In 2014 Afflitto was admitted to the Academie de Danse Princesse Grace in Monte Carlo under the direction of Luca Masala; he graduated in 2017. At the academy, Afflitto had the opportunity to study with internationally renowned teachers and dance works

by Jiří Kylián, Marco Goecke, and Mats Ek, among others. In 2017 he joined Ballett Zurich, under the direction of Christian Spuck, and after two seasons in the junior ballet, joined the main company. While in Zurich Afflitto had the opportunity to dance works by choreographers such as Crystal Pite, William Forsythe, Ohad Naharin, Kylián, Goecke, Goyo Montero, Edward Clug, Johan Inger, and Cayetano Soto. In 2019 he was awarded the "Dance Prize of the Friends of Ballet Zurich." In 2022 he joined Ballet BC, under the direction of Medhi Walerski, where he has the opportunity to explore, create, and perform works of internationally renowned choreographers for Canadian audiences and around the world, dancing works by Walerski, Sharon Eyal, Pite, Forsythe, Fernando Magadan, Roy Assaf, Jiri Pokorný, Out Innerspace, and Imre & Marne Van Opstal, among others. The 2025-2026 season will be Afflitto's fourth with the company.



SIDNEY CHUCKAS

Sid Chuckas was born in Chicago, Illinois. Chuckas learns, creates, and educates through their multidisciplinary art practices with a larger mission to dismantle the institutionalized marginalization of minoritized bodies. Dancing since the age of five at Dance Center Evanston and graduating from the USC Gloria Kaufman School of Dance and USC

School of Architecture have all taught Chuckas to utilize their diverse experiences to thoughtfully engage in others' work, while engaging those

around them in progressive conversation, practice, and change. Chuckas has performed works by Sharon Eyal, Crystal Pite, Marco Goecke, and Medhi Walerski and premiered roles in new works by Dorotea Saykaly, Shay Keubler, Johan Inger, Roy Assaf, and Out Innerspace. They have also danced for Brandy, Chance the Rapper, and Paris Jackson, and were featured recently in *VOGUE Mexico* for a closing solo performance at Vancouver Fashion Week for Eduardo Fashion Studios. Chuckas also creates and produces their own choreographic works for stage and screen, including a multi-platform solo titled *MANZANAR* and world premieres for Arts Umbrella, LAMONDANCE, and Ballet BC 44. Their time at USC also led them to discover their passion for design, where they completed their undergraduate studies with a minor in architecture and received an academic scholarship to attend the Pratt Institute of Design's master's of architecture program. In 2025-2026 Chuckas is honored to be a part of the Ballet BC community for a fifth season and is humbled by the opportunity to continue feeding their passion for inclusive, collaborative innovation and creativity.



EMANUEL DOSTINE

Emanuel Dostine was born in Detroit, Michigan and received his initial dance training from Spotlight Dance Works, where he was a YoungArts winner in contemporary dance. Dostine moved to Vancouver to further his education at Arts Umbrella with the guidance of Artemis Gordon. After graduating, he was an emerging artist for two seasons with the company. In the last four years he has performed works by Crystal Pite, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Fernando Magadan, Marco Goecke, Sharon Eyal, Johan Inger, Jiri Porkorný, Medhi Walerski, Marne & Imre Van Opstal, Roy Assaf, and Shahar Binyamini. Dostine is thrilled for the 2025-2026 season.

BIOGRAPHIES, cont.



IMANI FRAZIER

Imani Frazer began her training in Colorado Springs at Barbara Ellis Studio of Dance before moving to Arizona to study at Tucson Dance Academy and Club Dance Studio. Graduating with a bachelor of fine arts in dance from NYU Tisch in May 2024 under the direction of Pamela Pietro, Frazier has had the opportunity to perform works by Andrea Miller, Kyle Abraham, Medhi Walerski, Pierre Pontvianne, Shahar Binyamini, Crystal Pite, Fernando Hernando Magadan, Andrea Peña, and Johan Inger. She has completed Orsolina28, Hubbard Street Summer Dance Intensive, Alvin Ailey Professional Division Intensive, and participated in the B12 Summer Festival, which allowed her to study the repertoire of Pite, Marco Goecke, Ohad Naharin, Nacho Duato, Emma Portner, Alvin Ailey, Jermaine Spivey and Spenser Theberge, and Aszure Barton. She has been nominated for the prestigious Princess Grace Award and has had her choreography showcased at the Mark Morris Choreo Lab in New York. With a love for performing and the creation process, Frazier is beyond excited and grateful to be entering her second season with Ballet BC in 2025-2026.



MICHAEL GARCIA

Michael Garcia was born in McAllen, Texas. Garcia's early ambition and passion for dance led him to Dallas, where he finished his training at Dance Industry Performing Arts Center and Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts (BTWHSPVA), during which time he was recognized as a National YoungArts finalist. After high school, he was fortunate to receive a bachelor of fine arts from the Juilliard School, under the direction of Alicia Graf Mack. Since graduation, he is grateful to have performed with Loni Landon Dance Projects and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, and is entering his fourth season as a full-time company artist at Ballet BC. Beyond performing, Garcia

has many pursuits in teaching and choreography and looks forward to further cultivating his career beyond company life, both in Vancouver and around the world. He has been commissioned by Arts Umbrella Dance and BTWHSPVA and is a four-time outstanding choreography award winner from Youth America Grand Prix. Garcia also teaches for Ballet BC's MOVE program, including both contemporary and improvisation classes for adults, as well as faculty for Orsalina28's Walerski intensive and the Ballet BC 44 summer intensive. He has worked as an assistant for New York City Dance Alliance since 2018. Garcia has performed repertoire and creations by Bryan Arias, Roy Assaf, Aszure Barton, Sharon Eyal, William Forsythe, Marco Goecke, Johan Inger, Jose Limon, Lar Lubovitch, Ohad Naharin, Crystal Pite, Out Innerspace, Dwight Rhoden, Jermaine Spivey, Imre and Marne Van Opstal, and Medhi Walerski.

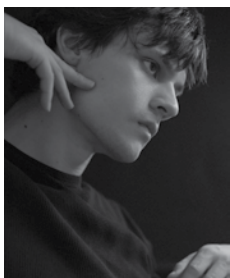


JOZIAH GERMAN

Joziah German, from Frisco, Texas, is a recent graduate of the Juilliard School. German began his dance training at Prodigy Dance and Performing Arts Centre and continued his education at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, where he was recognized as a Texas Young Master and a YoungArts Silver Award

winner in contemporary dance. German has performed in works by choreographers such as Aszure Barton, Michelle Dorrance, Marco Goecke, Johan Inger, Crystal Pite, Bobbi Jene Smith and Or Schraiber, Medhi Walerski, and Johannes Wieland. His versatility also extends to film, with credits spanning projects for ABC, NBC, FOX, Nickelodeon, and Warner Bros. Beyond performance, he is passionate about choreography, having created works for Ballet BC's Take Form, Juilliard's Choreographers and Composers, and Juilliard's Choreographic Honors concerts. German is excited to return to Ballet BC as a full company artist for the 2025-2026 season.

BIOGRAPHIES, cont.



ORLANDO HARBUTT

Orlando Harbutt is a dancer, collaborator, and choreographer. Originally from New York City, Harbutt spent part of his early childhood in Rome, Italy, and began dancing at the age of 10. After relocating to the U.S. in 2011, he trained in ballet and hip-hop, later refining his technique at Manhattan Youth Ballet as the inaugural Men of Merit Scholarship recipient. At 16, Orlando was accepted into the Juilliard School, where he received a rigorous and interdisciplinary dance education. During the pandemic, he trained for a year at Arts Umbrella, under the direction of Artemis Gordon, before returning to Juilliard to complete a bachelor of fine arts. Orlando has performed works by William Forsythe, Marco Goecke, Sharon Eyal, Johan Inger, Johannes Wieland, and Aszure Barton, and has participated in new creations with Medhi Walerski, Crystal Pite, Imre and Marne van Opstal, Bobbi Jene Smith and Or Schraiber, David Raymond and Tiffany Tregarthen, and Shahar Binyamini, among others. He joined Ballet BC in 2022. Beyond performance, Harbutt is deeply interested in acting, philosophy, and visual art — disciplines that continue to inform and expand his artistic practice.



EDUARDO JIMÉNEZ CABRERA

Eduardo Jiménez Cabrera was raised in Cartago, Costa Rica, where he felt an undeniable attraction to movement practices. This led Cabrera to begin his dance training at the age of 15. In 2024 he obtained a bachelor of fine arts in dance from the University of the Arts, under the direction of Donna Faye Burchfield. During his time in the United States, he was a part of BigKid Dance, led by Mark Caserta and Bocatuya and directed by Omar Román de Jesús. He has also worked with Brooklyn-based multidisciplinary arts collective Tribe, under the direction of Shamel Pitts. Cabrera joined Ballet BC in 2023 as an emerging artist. He has performed works by Crystal Pite, Shahar Binyamini, William Forsythe,

Bobbi Jene Smith and Or Schraiber, Johan Inger, Out Innerspace, Medhi Walerski, Imre and Manre Van Opstal, Marco Goecke, Fernando Hernando Magadan, Andrea Peña, Paxton Ricketts, Mark Caserta, and Jesse Zarrit. Cabrera is currently a full company member with Ballet BC.



KIANA JUNG

Kiana Jung is a Vancouver native who began her dance training at Arts Umbrella at the age of nine. Jung completed the professional and graduate program, under the direction of Artemis Gordon. During her time at Arts Umbrella, she was selected to perform in Ballet BC's production of *Romeo + Juliet* during the 2017-2018 season and performed works by notable choreographers, including Amos Ben-Tal, Mats Ek, Stephan Laks, and Emily Molnar. Since joining Ballet BC in 2019, she has had the opportunity to perform at prestigious festivals in North America, such as the National Arts Centre and DanseDanse, and internationally throughout Europe. Her repertoire includes works by choreographers such as Aszure Barton, Sharon Eyal, William Forsythe, Marco Goecke, Johan Inger, Crystal Pite, Out Innerspace, and Medhi Walerski. Locally, she has performed at BC Culture Days 2020 and the Dancing on the Edge Festival 2021. Jung is thrilled to be entering her seventh season with Ballet BC in 2025-2026.

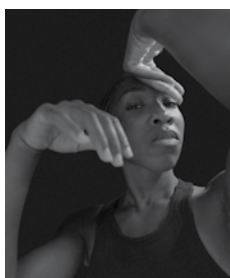


PEI LUN LAI

Pei Lun Lai is from Kaohsiung, Taiwan, where she started dancing at the age of eight. In 2021 Lai joined Hung Dance and performed the America Dance Festival online solo premiere of *Equilibrium* by Hung Dance Artist Director Lai Hung-Chung. In 2022 she performed *Formless Erosion* in Hung Dance. In the same year, *Listen, I'll speak*, the dance creation with the co-choreographer Xiao Annette, won the gold medal in the MOC's Taiwan Creative Competition. In June 2023 she graduated from Taipei National University of the Arts with a bachelor's degree in

BIOGRAPHIES, cont.

dance. During her time there, Lai performed repertoire works by Ihsan Rustem, Lo Man-Fei, Zhang Xiao-Xiong, Tsai Hui Chen, and Tsai Po-Cheng, among others. The 2025-2026 season is Lai's third with Ballet BC.



KELSEY LEWIS

Kelsey Lewis was born and raised in New York City, and her passion for dance and creativity led to her training at the Ailey School, Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School, and MOVE|NYC| Young Professionals Program. Lewis graduated from the Juilliard School in May 2025 with a bachelor of fine arts in dance, under the direction of Alicia Graf Mack. During her

time at Juilliard, she has had the opportunity to perform works by Sidra Bell, Camille A. Brown, Johannes Wieland, Bobbi Jene Smith and Or Schraiber, and many others. She has furthered her training at summer intensives, including Ballet BC 44, NDT, and Complexions. She has also worked with the dance collective kNonAme Artist, under the direction of Roderick George. Lewis is a National YoungArts Winner in modern/contemporary and a *Dance Teacher Magazine* scholar. Since joining Ballet BC, she has had the privilege of performing works by Medhi Walerski, Shahar Binyamini, Crystal Pite, and Johan Inger, among others. Lewis is thrilled to be returning to Ballet BC as a company artist for the 2025-2026 season.



KYLIE MILLER

Kylie Miller is from Vancouver, based on the unceded territories of the x̱məθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) nations. In 2020 Miller completed her training with Modus Operandi Contemporary Dance Program, under the mentorship of Tiffany Tregarthen, David Raymond, and Kate Franklin. Since then, she has worked with Out Innerspace Dance Theatre, Company 605, and Ne. Sans Opera and Dance. In 2022 she

joined the ensemble of Batsheva Dance Company in Tel Aviv, immersing

herself in Gaga movement language and performing works by Ohad Naharin and Bobbi Jene Smith and Or Schraiber. Now, Miller has joined Ballet BC for the 2025-2026 season.



BENJAMIN PERALTA

Benjamin Peralta grew up in Jacksonville, Florida, where he danced competitively and trained at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. In 2018 Peralta left home to pursue a bachelor of fine arts in dance at the USC Gloria Kaufman School of Dance as part of the class of 2022. While studying at USC Kaufman, he performed the works of artists such as William Forsythe, Jiří Kylián, Ohad Naharin, and more. Prior to joining Ballet BC, Peralta staged Forsythe's *The Barre Project* alongside Jodie Gates and Forsythe at Dance Theatre of Harlem. During his time at Ballet BC, he has been in creation processes with Crystal Pite, Medhi Walerski, Johan Inger, Roy Assaf, Pierre Pontvianne, Andrea Peña, and Fernando Hernando Magadan, to name a few. He has also performed works by Sharon Eyal, Marco Goecke, Imre and Marne van Opstal, and others while with Ballet BC. 2025-2026 is Peralta's fourth season as a company member with Ballet BC.



VIVIAN RUIZ

Vivian Ruiz was born in Miami, Florida, where she began her diverse dance training at Stars Dance Company and the Sarasota Cuban Ballet School. In 2019 Ruiz moved to Vancouver to attend the Arts Umbrella post-secondary program, under the direction of Artemis Gordon. During her time at Arts Umbrella, she had the opportunity to study works by Crystal Pite, Marco Goecke, Medhi Walerski, Nacho Duato, Victor Quijada, David Raymond, Lesley Telford, Lukas Timulak, and Sharon Eyal. She also participated in Ballet BC's Performance Project during the 2021-2022 season and was involved in the research process for Pite's *Animation* in 2021. In the spring of 2022 Ruiz joined Kidd Pivot as a swing for the

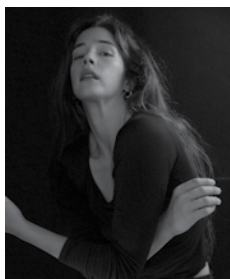
BIOGRAPHIES, cont.

European tour of *Revisor*. Later that year, she became a company artist with Ballet BC, where she has performed works by William Forsythe, Imre and Marne van Opstal, Johan Inger, Roy Assaf, Jiří Pokorný, Out Innerspace, Bobbi Jene Smith and Or Schraiber, and many more inspiring artists. She has also taught repertoire at Ballet BC's 44 Summer Intensive.



KAYLIN STURTEVANT

Kaylin Sturtevant is originally from Plano, Texas, and grew up training at Dance Industry Performing Arts Center and Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. Sturtevant achieved a bachelor of fine arts in dance in 2020 from the USC Kaufman School of Dance in Los Angeles, under the leadership of Jodie Gates. At USC, Sturtevant had the opportunity to work closely with and perform works by artists such as William Forsythe, Barak Marshall, Aszure Barton, and Gates. In 2016 she was named a U.S. Presidential Scholar of the Arts and National YoungArts Winner in modern dance, where she performed at the Kennedy Center in a multifaceted arts show directed by Debbie Allen. She has worked professionally with the DASH Ensemble, directed by Gregory Dolbashian and is a certified Pilates instructor through the BASI Comprehensive Program. During her time at Ballet BC, she has performed throughout Europe, the U.S., and Canada, dancing works by Medhi Walerski, Sharon Eyal and Gai Behar, Forsythe, Johan Inger, Marco Goecke, and Roy Assaf, among others. This is Sturtevant's fifth season with the company.



JACALYN TATRO

A native of Naperville, Illinois, Jacalyn Tatro began her training with Inspire School of Dance, and graduated in May 2022 with a bachelor of fine arts in dance from the Juilliard School. In the spring of 2022 Tatro was chosen for Terese Capucilli's recreation of Martha Graham's 1937 solo, *Deep Song*, becoming the first dancer after Graham to

perform the solo set to its original Henry Cowell music score. Since her time at Ballet BC, she has had the privilege of working on repertoire by Medhi Walerski, Crystal Pite, Johan Inger, William Forsythe, David Raymond and Tiffany Tregarthen, Bobbi Jene Smith and Or Schraiber, Sharon Eyal, Roy Assaf, Jiří Pokorný, and others. She enjoys the challenge of new experiences and has completed Springboard Danse Montreal, the Gaga Lab, Hubbard Street Summer Dance Intensive, and others. Tatro is honored to be returning for a fourth season as a company artist with Ballet BC.

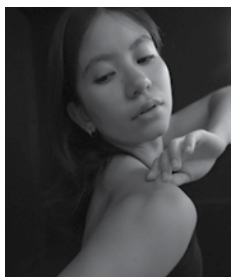
EMERGING ARTISTS



NATHAN BEAR

Nathan Bear grew up locally in Langley, British Columbia and began to dance at the age of six. Bear trained at Tri-City Dance Centre before joining Arts Umbrella's graduate program, under the guidance of Artemis Gordon. During his education he performed works by Crystal Pite, Marco Goecke, Johan Inger, William Forsythe, Paxton Ricketts, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Ethan Colangelo, Rebecca Margolick, Fernando Hernando Magadan, and Medhi Walerski. He had the opportunity to expand his education and participate in company summer intensives such as Netherlands Dans Theatre (NDT) and Complexions Contemporary Ballet. He was the recipient of Ballet BC's Dancers of Today scholarship, which allowed him to continue his training and be a representative of his Indigenous culture. In 2025-2026 Bear is very humbled and grateful to be heading into his second season as an emerging artist with Ballet BC.

BIOGRAPHIES, cont.



EMMA KUUSELA

Emma Kuusela grew up in Vancouver, British Columbia, where she began dancing at Arts Umbrella at the age of five. Kuusela completed the professional program and the post-secondary graduate program at Arts Umbrella, under the guidance of Artemis Gordon, Lynn Sheppard, and Sabra Perry. During her time there, she performed works by Crystal Pite, Aszure Barton, Marco Goecke, William Forsythe, Mats Ek, Lukas Timulak, and Fernando Hernando Magadan. While in the program, she choreographed in the Young Choreographers Mentorship Project directed by Pite. She also had the opportunity to participate in the Ballet BC 44 Summer Intensive. Kuusela is excited and grateful to be returning as an emerging artist in Ballet BC's 2025-2026 season.



STAN TONIN

Originally from Halifax, Nova Scotia, dance artist Stan Tonin moved to Vancouver in 2022 to attend the Arts Umbrella post-graduate dance program, under the direction of Artemis Gordon. During his time at Arts Umbrella, he had the privilege of performing works by choreographers such as Crystal Pite, Sharon Eyal, Marco Goecke, William Forsythe, Mats Ek, Aszure Barton, Rebecca Margolick, and Ethan Colangelo, among others. He also took part in the Young Choreographers Mentorship Project, directed by Pite, contributing as a choreographer. To broaden his artistic development, he attended summer intensives with companies such as Ballet BC and Nederlands Dans Theater. In the fall of 2024 he joined Ballet BC Annex, performing works by Medhi Walerski, Micaela Taylor, and Zachary Seto. Tonin is honoured and thrilled to be joining Ballet BC as an emerging artist for the 2025-2026 season.

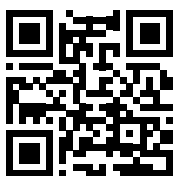


KAILEY WORONTSOFF

Born in Long Island and raised in Wellington, Florida, Kailey Worontsoff began her diverse dance training at Dance Universe and continued her education at Dreyfoos School of the Arts High School. During her time at Dreyfoos, Worontsoff earned recognition as a YoungArts Silver Award recipient in contemporary dance and was honored as a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts. Following high school, she was fortunate enough to move to New York and attend the Juilliard School, under the direction of Alicia Graf Mack, and she will receive a bachelor of fine arts in dance in 2026. During her time at Juilliard, she had the opportunity to perform works by Chanel DaSilva, Hope Boykin, Pam Tanowitz, Kyle Abraham, Jose Limon, Aszure Barton, and many others. She has participated in summer intensives, including Springboard Danse, Ballet BC 44, NDT, Orsolina 28, Arts Umbrella, Alonzo King LINES Ballet, and Complexions Contemporary Ballet. Through these programs, she has studied and performed works by Medhi Walewski, Luca Tesserini, Crystal Pite, William Forsythe, David Raymond and Tiffany Tregarthen, and Sharon Eyal. Worontsoff is beyond excited and grateful to be joining Ballet BC as an emerging artist for the 2025-2026 season.



TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!



We'd love your feedback on this performance. If you complete the short survey, you can enter for a chance to win two tickets to Blacksburg Master Chorale, Handel's *Messiah*, on Sunday, December 14, 2025. bit.ly/ballet-bc-feedback

Please note, survey responses are anonymous. If you would like a response to your feedback, please email artscenter@vt.edu.

GO DEEPER

Maurice Ravel's *Boléro* is celebrated for its hypnotic repetition and gradual crescendo. How does the choreography of *BOLERO X* respond to and interpret the music's structure, both in its build-up of energy and release?



ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

The Center for the Arts seeks to build diverse perspectives, foster creativity, and promote collaboration. We're dedicated to giving people of all ages access to creative experiences that can transform the way they see the world and the people in it.

While at Virginia Tech, Ballet BC artists engaged residents of Warm Hearth Village in a creative movement workshop, **assisted by Virginia Tech dance students.**

Additionally, members of the community gained deeper insights into the iconic music and choreography of *Boléro* with James Robey, chair of Radford University's dance department, in a pre-show discussion before tonight's performance.

Special thanks to Rachel Rugh, School of Performing Arts; Kenny Harrah and Sara McCarter, Warm Hearth Village; and James Robey, Department of Dance, Radford University



PK-12 PROGRAMS

Each year, wildly enthusiastic students — from PK through 12th grade — fill our theatre for free matinee performances by artists from all over the world. They explore our visual arts galleries during school tours and create and learn during hands-on workshops with artists. For many students, visiting the Center for the Arts is the first time they've ever been to a performing arts facility or gallery. Why do young people need access to the arts? Engaging in artistic activities offers a wide range of skills that they will use throughout their lives.

Learn more at bit.ly/artscenteratvt-pk12.



Shaping Stories. Sparking Imagination.

Thanks to donor support, young people experience the transformative power of the arts through free programs like hands-on workshops, gallery tours, and special school-day matinee performances by professional touring artists. Open to public, private, and homeschool students, these opportunities spark creativity and connection.

One highlight was *Mapping My Story*, a collaborative art project for PK-5 students from across the region. Inspired by exhibiting artist Shaunté Gates, young artists used collage and drawing to explore how places — homes, parks, schools, and more — shape their feelings and memories. Their colorful, textured creations were displayed in the Center for the Arts Grand Lobby this spring for all to enjoy.

Your gift makes these moments possible. Whether through an endowed fund or a contribution of any size, your support leaves a lasting impact.

Give today at artscenter.vt.edu/support or contact Paul Brammer at pbrammer@vt.edu.



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CENTER
FOR THE
ARTS
AT VIRGINIA TECH

FALL 2025
EXHIBITIONS



Through Sat., Nov. 22, 2025

Clare Grill and Margaux Ogden

Things I Had No Words For

Ruth C. Horton Gallery

Dana Frankfort and Josephine Halvorson

Seeing and Reading

Miles C. Horton Jr. Gallery and

Sherwood Payne Quillen '71 Reception Gallery

Through July 2026

Mural: Clare Grill and Margaux Ogden

Turner Street exterior wall

Through July 2028

Mural: Brian Dettmer

Memories of the Mountains

Grand Lobby

Free Related Event

Beyond the Frame Gallery Tour

Thurs., Nov. 13, 12 PM

Grand Lobby

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Nov 12, 2025 | 8:00PM
Tickets available at
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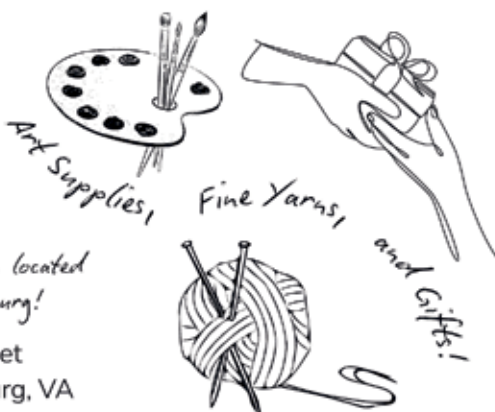
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Raleigh Court Presbyterian
in Roanoke, 7 PM

10.18.25
Church on Main
in Blacksburg, 7:30 PM

25 26

PERFORMANCES

Mon., Oct. 20, 7:30 PM
**Gaelynn Lea and the
 Music Inclusion Ensemble**
 Co-presented with the
 School of Performing Arts

Wed., Oct. 22, 7:30 PM
An Evening with Roz Chast

Thurs., Oct. 30, 7:30 PM
La Santa Cecilia

Thurs., Nov. 6, and
 Fri., Nov. 7, 7:30 PM
**Hotel Modern and Arthur Sauer
 The Great War**

Sun., Nov. 9, 4 PM
360 ALLSTARS

Mon., Nov. 17, 7:30 PM
**Broadway in Blacksburg
 TINA – The Tina Turner Musical**

Sat., Dec. 6, 4 PM
**Roanoke Symphony Orchestra
 Holiday Pops Spectacular**

Sun., Dec. 14, 4 PM
**Blacksburg Master Chorale
 Handel's Messiah**

Thurs., Jan. 22, 7:30 PM
**Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
 Benjamin Grosvenor, piano
 Vasily Petrenko, music director**

Wed., Jan. 28, 7:30 PM
**Julia Bullock, soprano
 Seth Parker Woods, cello
 Conor Hanick, piano
 From Ordinary Things**

Fri., Jan. 30, and
 Sat., Jan. 31, 7:30 PM
**Tim Etchells
 with Bert and Nasi
 L'Addition**

Tues., Feb. 10, and
 Wed., Feb. 11, 7:30 PM
**Cirque Mechanics
 Tilt! A Circus Thrill Ride**

Fri., Feb. 20, 7:30 PM
**Danish Radio Big Band
 with Cécile McLorin Salvant**

Mon., Feb. 23, 7:30 PM
**Broadway in Blacksburg
 Chicago**

Tues., March 17, 7:30 PM
**Irish Baroque Orchestra
 The Trials of Tenucci**

Sat., March 28, 7:30 PM
**Stephanie Lake Company
 Manifesto**

Fri., April 3, 7:30 PM
**Bill Frisell
 In My Dreams
 Featuring Jenny Scheinman,
 Eyvind Kang, Hank Roberts,
 Thomas Morgan, and
 Rudy Royston**

Tues., April 7, 7:30 PM
**National Geographic Live
 Beauty Beyond the Frontlines
 Muhammed Muheisen,
 photojournalist**

Wed., April 15, 7:30 PM
**The Takács Quartet
 with Jordan Bak, viola**

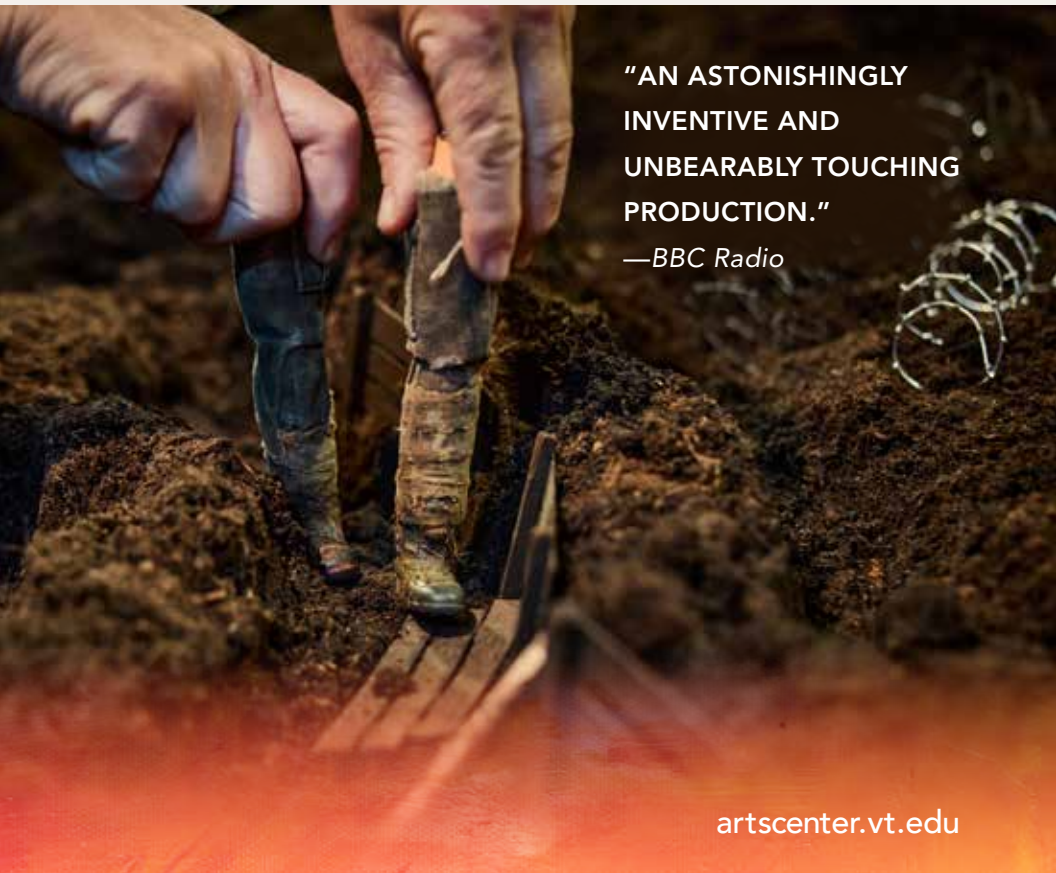
Thurs., April 23, 7:30 PM
**Algeria Moves!
 Music, Dance,
 and Women's Resilience**

Sat., May 9, 7:30 PM
**An Evening with Kelli O'Hara
 Season Closer**

HOTEL MODERN AND ARTHUR SAUER *The Great War*

Thurs., Nov. 6, and Fri., Nov. 7, 7:30 PM

Experience a poetic and deeply moving fusion of puppetry, projection, and storytelling as a miniature battlefield bursts into life with live sound effects and authentic soldier letters that revive the voices of World War I's trench warfare.



**"AN ASTONISHINGLY
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PRODUCTION."**

—*BBC Radio*

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The YMCA at Virginia Tech

Just like Ballet BC, the YMCA at Virginia Tech has some fancy footwork too!

Our student programs support all of our initiatives and connect VT students with our community.

YMCA Student Programs (YSP) are at the heart of the Y. They connect Virginia Tech students to the Blacksburg community through student leadership, community enrichment, and sustainability. Since 1986, students have been involved in all aspects of the Y, from youth development to sustainability initiatives and addressing food insecurity and more.



INVEST IN THE NEXT 150 YEARS!

The YMCA at Virginia Tech is changing lives in every corner of the New River Valley—whether you've lived here your whole life, came here to study, or moved around the globe to find your new home. Your support of our 150th Anniversary Campaign is vital to the future of our community.



Did You Know

The YMCA at Virginia Tech serves our community by promoting lifelong learning, social awareness, and leadership through unique programs and activities which connect diverse individuals and groups.

"Leadership is the ability to empower others to achieve shared goals that promote the common good."



Past Student Leaders of the YMCA



Past Student Leaders of the YMCA

The YMCA works to build leaders in Virginia Tech students, offering programs in which they can participate and gain valuable experience while contributing to their community. Student Programs began in 1986 and has been operating successfully ever since.

The YMCA Programs at Virginia Tech help turn the students of today into the leaders of tomorrow. And it all started with a legacy of leadership that has remained consistent since the YMCA's inception here at Virginia Tech in 1873.



Contra Dance at the Y!

Oct 18 - Stephanie Marie with The McKenzies

Lessons start at 7:00 Dance starts at 7:30
Students \$10 General \$12



www.vtymca.org