



NEW YORK
CITY CENTER

SEE THE
WORLD'S BEST

FALL FOR DANCE

Festival

SEP 22 - OCT 3, 2026

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OSCAR

A Wild

Photo by Daniel Boud

A new kind of story ballet is arriving at City Center this fall—a kind that's been far too long coming. When **The Australian Ballet** performs the New York premiere of **Christopher Wheeldon's Oscar©** from October 8 – 11, it will be the first time New York audiences have witnessed a full-length classical story ballet that centers a gay relationship.

The seeds of *Oscar©*, which is based on the life and works of the iconic Irish writer **Oscar Wilde**, were planted decades ago, when Wheeldon was a dancer at New York City Ballet and watched the film *Wilde*. Wheeldon created a one-act work based on Wilde's short story *The Nightingale and the Rose* for New York City Ballet in 2007, but felt there was more to explore, both in Wilde's imaginative work and in his life as a gay man in Victorian London. So when former American Ballet Theatre star and current artistic director of The Australian Ballet **David Hallberg** asked the choreographer to create a narrative ballet for the company, Wheeldon knew the story he wanted to tell.

The resulting ballet is as visionary as its subject. *Oscar©* is cinematic and ornate (look closely: some of the costumes, by **Jean-Marc Puissant**, contain replications of Wilde's handwriting). And unlike previous collaborations between Wheeldon and composer **Joby Talbot**, like *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *Like Water for Chocolate*, which were based on a specific text, Wheeldon and Talbot had more narrative freedom with *Oscar©*. They structured the ballet around the framing device of Wilde's two-year prison sentence for "gross indecency": In the first act, Wilde

reminisces on his once-happy marriage, his rise to fame, and his first gay lover, all against the backdrop of his story *The Nightingale and the Rose*, a fairy tale in which a nightingale sacrifices herself so that a young man can give a rose to his unrequited love. The second act is darker, as Oscar deteriorates and is haunted by memories of the affair that led to his trial and imprisonment. At the same time, the titular character from Wilde's tragic *The Picture of Dorian Gray* experiences his own, and in some ways parallel, downfall.

Oscar© marks The Australian Ballet's first full-length engagement in New York City since 2012, and they'll be in good company, with New York's own 48-piece **Orchestra of St. Luke's** playing Talbot's sweeping score live. Savvy audiences will have another chance to catch the company during their time here: Just before *Oscar©*, the Company will appear in City Center's annual **Fall for Dance Festival**, taking place from September 22 through October 3.

The dancers of The Australian Ballet, under the direction of Hallberg, one of New York City's most beloved dancers, are well-suited for *Oscar's* many thrilling challenges, including a romantic pas de deux between Oscar and his lover, which requires dancers to calibrate their weight differently than they would when partnering a woman on pointe. It's both a deeply moving duet and a truly groundbreaking moment—one that, like the entirety of *Oscar©*, redefines the kinds of stories ballet can tell.

Lauren Wingenroth is a North Carolina-based writer.

Oct 8 – 11
Tickets from \$45
NYCityCenter.org/Oscar

ely Bold New Ballet





Manhattan's first performing arts center, **New York City Center** brings the world's best dance and musical theater to all New Yorkers at an affordable price. City Center was founded by **Mayor Fiorello La Guardia** in 1943 with this precise mission, which is upheld today through celebrated dance and musical theater series as well as education and community engagement programming.

DANCE

City Center's dance programming is anchored by several popular series featuring international artists and hometown favorites. 22,000 dance lovers and newcomers gather every year at the **Fall for Dance Festival**—launched in 2004 with the radical idea of offering every ticket in the house at the same affordable price. The **Flamenco Festival**, now in its 26th year, annually brings Spain's best to sold-out

crowds. And **Artists at the Center** offers a unique platform for artists like **Ayodele Casel**, **Hugo Marchand**, and **Tiler Peck** to share different facets of their artistry.

MUSICAL THEATER

The Tony-honored **Encores!** series began in 1994 to celebrate great scores from American musicals, brought to life with their original orchestrations by **The Encores! Orchestra** in three annual revivals. The 1996 Encores! production of **Chicago** transferred to Broadway, where it remains the longest-running revival in history. City Center's fall Gala presentations also bring culturally relevant musicals back to life, including **Parade** and **Ragtime** which went on to become Tony Award-winning Broadway revivals.



Photo by Benjamin Miller

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

New Yorkers of all ages are invited to learn, make, connect, and build pathways into the performing arts through education and community engagement programming. Thousands of young people from all five boroughs are introduced to the performing arts each year through the **Lynn & Richard Pasculano Student Matinees**. The next generation of artists are invited to develop their skills, discover their voices, and advance their careers through **Preludes! Summer Teen Theater Intensive**, **High School Externships**, **Street Dance Ambassadors**, and more. Affordable ticket programs like the **Community Ticket Initiative** and **Access Club** carry forward City Center's founding commitment to make the arts a vital part of life in New York.

In its over 80-year history, City Center has hosted countless legendary artists from around the world. In just its first five years, **Leonard Bernstein** debuted as conductor of the New York City Symphony, **Paul Robeson** performed as Othello, and **George Balanchine** and **Lincoln Kirstein** established New York City Ballet. In the 1950s and 1960s, City Center's musical theater legacy was established with shows featuring stars such as **Barbara Cook** and **Bob Fosse**. **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** gave its first performance here in 1971 and is now City Center's Principal Dance Company.

As a part of City Center's loyal, enthusiastic, and diverse audience, you join this rich artistic legacy. This is your New York City Center.

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Taylor Trensch in *Bat Boy:
The Musical*; photo by Joan
Marcus.



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CITY CENTER**

MICHAEL S. ROSENBERG CEO
STANFORD MAKISHI WITTEN FAMILY ARTISTIC DIRECTOR FOR DANCE



SEP 22 — OCT 3, 2026

FALL FOR DANCE *Festival*

A.I.M by Kyle Abraham

The Australian Ballet

Boston Ballet

Skylar Brandt & Aran Bell

Juan Tomás de la Molía

Gauthier Dance Dance // Dance Company Theaterhaus Stuttgart

Lior Tavori Dance Company

Martha Graham Dance Company

Miami City Ballet

PHILADANCO! The Philadelphia Dance Company

Pony Cam

Robbie Fairchild's Players

The Royal Ballet

San Francisco Ballet

Friedemann Vogel

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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.



PROGRAM 1

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

A.I.M BY KYLE ABRAHAM

Kyle Abraham, Artistic Director

In the act of undoing

NY Premiere

Choreography JERMAINE SPIVEY

Music JERMAINE SPIVEY

Scenic Design DAN SCULLY

Costume Design KAREN YOUNG

Lighting & Video Design DAN SCULLY

Stage Manager MEREDITH BELIS

Premiere

August 3, 2025

Vilar Performing Arts Center

Vail Dance Festival

Avon, CO

Dancers

JARED ALEQUIN MYKIAH GOREE ALYSIA JOHNSON

FAITH JOY MONDESIRE DESTIN MORISSET WILLIAM OKAJIMA

KALEN SIMPSON NIYA SMITH GIANNA THEODORE OLIVIA WANG

Lead commissioning support provided by Sarah Arison and co-commissioning support by The Carpenter Performing Arts Center at California State University, Long Beach, Executive Director, Megan Kline.

Upcoming Performances

October 10 – 11, 2026

Torinodanza

Torino, Italy

PAUSE



PROGRAM 1 (cont.)

SKYLAR BRANDT & ARAN BELL

L’Air D’Esprit

Choreography GERALD ARPINO
Staging ANN MARIE DEANGELO,
TINA LEBLANC from The Gerald Arpino Foundation
Music ADOLPHE ADAM
Costume Design A. CHRISTINA GIANNINI
Lighting Design JENNIFER TIPTON

Premiere

February 9, 1978
Auditorium Theatre
Chicago, IL

Dancers

SKYLAR BRANDT ARAN BELL

The performance of *L’Air D’Esprit* is presented with permission from The Gerald Arpino Foundation and is produced in accordance with the standards established by the foundation. arpinofoundation.org

Upcoming Performances

October 15 – November 1, 2026
With American Ballet Theatre
David H. Koch Theater
New York, NY

INTERMISSION



PROGRAM 1 (cont.)

MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY

Janet Eilber, Artistic Director

Cortege

Choreography BAYE & ASA

Music JACK GRABOW[†]

Costume Design CALEB KRIEG

Lighting Design YI-CHUNG CHEN

Premiere

April 1, 2025

The Joyce Theater

New York, NY

Dancers

LAUREL DALLEY SMITH ZACHARY JEPPSEN-TOY LLOYD KNIGHT

ANTONIO LEONE JAI PEREZ ANNE SOUDER

LESLIE ANDREA WILLIAMS XIN YING

[†]Baye & Asa are inspired by Martha Graham's *Cortege of Eagles* to consider groups under attack in our time. Jack Grabow's score reflects themes from Eugene Lester's original score for the Graham work.

Cortege was made possible with a significant commissioning grant from The O'Donnell-Green Music and Dance Foundation. Major support for *Cortege* was provided by Christopher Jones and Deb McAlister, The Hayes Foundation and The SHS Foundation.

Cortege was also 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.

The creation of Jack Grabow's score was supported by The Charles and Joan Gross Family Foundation.

Production support was provided by the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Connecticut.

Technical support provided by Works & Process at the Guggenheim and the Catskill Mountain Foundation.

Upcoming Performance

October 16, 2026

Heymann Performing Arts Center

Lafayette, LA



PROGRAM 2

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Friday, September 25, 2026

PHILADANCO! THE PHILADELPHIA DANCE COMPANY

Joan Myers Brown, *Founder / Artistic Advisor*

Kim Y. Bears-Bailey, *Co-Artistic Director*

Tommie-Waheed Evans, *Co-Artistic Director*

HEIRBORNE

(my mama ain't never touched the sky, but she gave me wings)

NY Premiere

Choreography JUEL D. LANE

Staging/Rehearsal Director TRACY VOGT

Costume Design & Execution ANNA-ALISA BELOUS

Lighting Design NICK KOLIN

Stage Manager NICK KOLIN

Premiere

December 5, 2025

Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts/Ensemble Arts Philly

Philadelphia, PA

Dancers

KAYLAH ARIELLE ERIN BANKS WILLIAM E. BURDEN

ALIYAH CLAY ADDISON HILL FLOYD MCLEAN JR.

NATHAN E. MCNATT JR. L. JAMES O'GILVIE

Music Credit: "2beMe" - Written, arranged, and performed by RAHBI; Composed by Bryce Raburn; Mix engineer "AP" Adrian Porter; Mastered by Irv Johnson "Black Flight"; composed and mixed by Leo Ra Soul

This ballet is made possible by support from the National Endowment for the Arts,
PECO, and PNC Arts Alive.

Upcoming Performances

December 4 – 6, 2026

Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts/Ensemble Arts Philly

Philadelphia, PA

PAUSE



PROGRAM 2 (cont.)

ROBBIE FAIRCHILD'S PLAYERS

Lord Chamberlain's Men

New York City Center Co-commission with Guild Hall

World Premiere Preview Presentation

Choreography ROBBIE FAIRCHILD

(after Sonya Tayeh's *Unveiling*)

Direction ROBBIE FAIRCHILD

Writing RICK ELICE & ROBBIE FAIRCHILD

Music Director, Arranger, Orchestrator SEAN PETER FORTE

Music PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY

Electronic Sound Composer BEN WATERS

Creative Consultant CHRISTOPHER WHEELDON for Toy Theater Productions

Costume Design MÁRION TALÁN DE LA ROSA

Lighting Design CLIFTON TAYLOR

Sound Design DANIEL ERDBERG

Rehearsal Director LILY SHEPPARD

Associate Costume Designer VICTORIA BEK

Stage Manager JESSIE KSANZNAK

Premiere

September 24, 2026

New York City Center

New York, NY

Dancers

ROBBIE FAIRCHILD, *William Shakespeare*

NICO GREETHAM, *George/Lord Chamberlain*

LAUREN LOVETTE, *Anne Hathaway*

VINCENZO DI PRIMO, *Alfonso*

RACHEL LOCKHART, *Emilia*

Musicians

SEAN PETER FORTE, *Pianist, Conductor*

LAVINIA PAVLISH, *Violin*

LEAH COLOFF, *Cello*

BLAIR HAMRICK, *French Horn*

EMMA REINHART, *Clarinet & Flute*

JESS TSANG, *Percussion*

Lord Chamberlain's Men was co-commissioned by New York City Center and Guild Hall for the 2026 Fall for Dance Festival, with production and co-presentation support from Vail Dance Festival and Fire Island Dance Festival.

Lord Chamberlain's Men was developed as part of the 2026 Guild Hall William P. Rayner Artist-in-Residence Program.

Support for new dance works at New York City Center is provided by the Arlene Shuler Artistic Innovation Fund and the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation.

Additional funds were generously provided by Malo and John Harrison, Irene Shen, Denise Saul, Caroline and Paul Cronson, Deborah and Charles Adelman, Heather Watts and Damian Woetzel, Kevin Roon and Simon Yates, Virginia and Timothy Millhiser, and James Adams and Julio Santiago.

INTERMISSION



PROGRAM 2 (cont.)

BOSTON BALLET

Mikko Nissinen, Artistic Director

Vertical Road (Reimagined) 2023

NY Premiere

Direction & Choreography **AKRAM KHAN**

Music **ADITYA PRAKASH** (Foretelling/Prologue),

NITIN SAWHNEY (group piece)

Set Conception **AKRAM KHAN, KIMIE NAKANO, JESPER KONGSHAUG**

Costume Design **KIMIE NAKANO**

Original Lighting Design **JESPER KONGSHAUG**

Lighting Recreation **RICHARD FAGAN**

Dramaturg **RUTH LITTLE**

Staging **ANJULI CIRIO, JOHN LAM**

Production Stage Manager **CRAIG MARGOLIS**

Premiere

October 5, 2023

Boston Ballet

Citizens Opera House

Boston, MA

Dancers

JEFFREY CIRIO LIA CIRIO TYSON ALI CLARK PAUL CRAIG

KYLIE DYSON GRAHAM JOHNS ABIGAIL MERLIS

KYRA MUTTILAINEN LAWRENCE RINES MUNRO HALEY SCHWAN

GEARÓID SOLAN EMMA TOPALOVA SYDNEY WILLIAMS

Boston Ballet is grateful to the Catalyst Fund, with major support from the Abrams Foundation.

Boston Ballet's production of Akram Khan's *Vertical Road (Reimagined) 2023* is generously supported by the Mikko Nissinen Artistic Fund.

The Dancers and Stage Managers of Boston Ballet are members of The American Guild of Musical Artists, AFL-CIO, the union of Artists in the fields of opera, ballet, modern dancer, and choral presentations.

Upcoming Performances

October 8 – 11, 2026

Théâtre des Champs-Élysées

Paris, France



PROGRAM 3

Saturday, September 26, 2026

Sunday, September 27, 2026

JUAN TOMÁS DE LA MOLÍA

Bulería de la Molía

Choreography JUAN TOMÁS DE LA MOLÍA

Staging MANUEL LIÑÁN

Lighting Design VALENTÍN DONAIRE

Lighting Supervisor ISAAC CASTILLO

Stage Manager LORI WEKSELBLATT

Road Manager JOMARY PEÑA

Premiere

February 26, 2026

Flamenco Festival

New York City Center

New York, NY

Dancer

JUAN TOMÁS DE LA MOLÍA

Singers

SEBASTIÁN SÁNCHEZ, “*Sebastián del Puerto*”

JOSÉ ASTARIDA, “*El Pechuguita*”

JUAN NÚÑEZ PEÑA, “*Juan de la María*”

PAUSE



PROGRAM 3 (cont.)

LIOR TAVORI DANCE COMPANY

Lior Tavori, Artistic Director

Crust

US Premiere

Choreography LIOR TAVORI
Music NOAM HELFER
Staging EINAT BETSALEL
Scenic Design LIOR TAVORI
Costume Design by HAREL LISSMAN
Lighting Design ROTEM ELROY
Dramaturg NOA WAGNER
Stage Manager EINAT BETSALEL

Premiere

August 10, 2024

Suzanne Dellal Centre for Dance & Theatre
Tel Aviv, Israel

Dancers

**STAV AZARI NOA GARBER SIMON GNAGY JAZZY KAHN
JOSHUA SUTTON LIAD TAVORI GENNOSAR NAOR WALKER**

Crust was co-produced by Suzanne Dellal Centre X MART Foundation X Lior Tavori Dance Company.

Lior Tavori Dance Company's appearance in the 2026 Fall for Dance Festival was made possible with support of the MART Foundation.

Lior Tavori Dance Company's participation in the Fall for Dance Festival is made possible, in part, by a grant from Israel's Office of Cultural Affairs in North America.

Major Support was provided by Deborah Goodman Davis and Gerald R. Davis.

Upcoming Performance

October 1, 2026

Lyric Theatre

Meridian Arts Centre

Toronto, Canada

INTERMISSION



PROGRAM 3 (cont.)

THE ROYAL BALLET

Kevin O'Hare CBE, *Director*

Emma Southworth, *Director of Creative Programming & Strategy*

Paganini – The First Virtuoso

US Premiere

Original Concept NATALIE ABRAHAMI, STEVEN MCRAE, VASKO VASSILEV

Director NATALIE ABRAHAMI

Choreography LOUGHLAN PRIOR

Music Arrangement PAMELA TAN NICHOLSON & VASKO VASSILEV

Set & Costume Design ANISHA FIELDS

Lighting Design PREMA MEHTA

Videography TAL ROSNER

Sound Design MAX PAPPENHEIM

Additional Choreography STEVEN MCRAE

Senior Repetiteur SAMIRA SAIDI

Senior Producer HANNAH MAYHEW

Producer FIDELMA HANRAHAN

Artistic Associate JENNY WHEELER

Deputy Stage Manager ALEXANDRA KETTELL

Premiere

September 11, 2026

Linbury Theatre, Royal Opera House

London, England

Dancers

SARAH LAMB STEVEN MCRAE

Musicians

VASKO VASSILEV, Violin

PAMELA TAN NICHOLSON, Piano

MUSIC CREDIT: 1. Niccolò Paganini, Caprice No. 24; 2. Pamela Tan Nicholson, Prelude; 3. Niccolò Paganini, Sonata XII; 4. Niccolò Paganini with arrangement by Vasko Vassilev & Pamela Tan Nicholson, La Campanella; 5. Niccolò Paganini, Variation on 'Moses in Egypt' by Gioachino Rossini; 6. Niccolò Paganini with arrangement by Vasko Vassilev & Pamela Tan Nicholson, Variations on 'Nel Cor Più Non Mi Sento' by Giovanni Paisiello

Generous Philanthropic Support provided by Dame Tina Taylor DBE.

Upcoming Performance

October 8, 2026

A Centenary Celebration, Royal Ballet & Opera

London, England



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MEET THE ARTISTS

Rooted in Founder and Artistic Director Kyle Abraham's singular choreographic voice, **A.I.M BY KYLE ABRAHAM** creates provocative dance experiences that spotlight overlooked perspectives with depth and humanity. Founded in 2006 and based in New York City, A.I.M by Kyle Abraham has earned recognition for its "lush movement, infectious music, and magnetic dancers" (*The New York Times*). Committed to reshaping how artists are supported and presented, the company provides dancers with 52-week salaries and retirement benefits, alongside royalty payments in perpetuity for their role in the creation of new work. By expanding what a contemporary dance company can be and who gets to imagine themselves within it, A.I.M by Kyle Abraham challenges the entire arts ecosystem to create space where more people can thrive. @aimbykyleabraham

SKYLAR BRANDT was born in Purchase, New York and began her training at the age of six at Scarsdale Ballet Studio. She attended the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at American Ballet Theatre from 2005–2009. Brandt was a silver medalist at Youth America Grand Prix in 2004 and 2008. She joined American Ballet Theatre's second company, ABT II, in 2009, became an Apprentice with ABT's main company in 2010 and joined the Corps de Ballet in 2011. Brandt was promoted to Soloist in 2015 and to Principal in 2020. Brandt was awarded a 2013 Princess Grace Foundation-USA Dance Fellowship. That same year, she was featured in the film *Ballet's Greatest Hits*. In 2018, Brandt was the recipient of an unprecedented Special Jury Award for her performances on the Russian television show *Big Ballet*. In 2022, Brandt was named to the *Forbes* "30 Under 30" list of influential leaders and entrepreneurs. @skylarbrandt

ARAN BELL was born in Bethesda, Maryland. He began studying ballet at age four, receiving the majority of his early training at Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet and with Denys Ganio in Rome, Italy. He continued his training with Fabrice Herrault in New York City and Magaly Suarez in Florida. He spent summers at The Royal Ballet School in London, and at American Ballet Theatre's (ABT) Summer Intensive. Bell's awards include the Hope Award at the Youth America Grand Prix Finals (2009 & 2010), the Junior Grand Prix (2011), Grand Prix at the Milan International Ballet Competition (2010), the Premio Positano (2011), the Premio Amalfi Young Talent Award (2012), Gold Medal at Tanzolymp Berlin (2012), Gold Medal and Audience Choice Award at Rieti International Ballet Competition (2012), the Premio Roma Jia Ruskaja (2012), and the Premio Capri Danza International Award (2014). Bell joined ABT Studio Company in September 2014 and rose to the rank of ABT Principal Dancer in 2020. @aran_bell

The **MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY** has been a leader in the evolving art form of modern dance since its founding in 1926. It is both the oldest dance company in the United States and the oldest integrated dance company. Today, the Company is embracing a new programming vision that showcases masterpieces by Graham alongside newly commissioned works by contemporary artists. During its 100-year history, the Company has received acclaim from

audiences and critics in more than 50 countries. "These men and women easily embody the choreographer's sense of dancers as angelic athletes," says Robert Greskovic of *The Wall Street Journal*, while Marina Kennedy of *Broadway World* notes, "This is contemporary dance at its very best." Siobhan Burke of *The New York Times* asks, "Can this please never go away?" @marthagrahamdance

The Internationally award-winning **PHILADELPHIA DANCE COMPANY (PHILADANCO!)** is the resident Modern Dance company of The Kimmel Center / "Ensemble Arts Philly." Moving gracefully into the next decade, PHILADANCO! celebrates 56 years of providing exceptional dance performances and training to dancers and audiences throughout the US and around the world. Since 1970, PHILADANCO! has made a significant impact on the dance world. As a cultural ambassador representing the United States, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the City of Philadelphia, etc., its artistic direction and renowned national and international guest choreographers have developed a reputation of producing a dance repertory with passion, power, skill, and diversity. The unique blend of dance styles of PHILADANCO!, and its roster often of 50-60 concert performances and 45 residencies most years, has made them one of the most sought-after modern dance companies in the United States. @philadanco

ROBBIE FAIRCHILD (Director, Choreographer, Co-writer, *William Shakespeare*) is an acclaimed actor and dancer whose career spans Broadway, the West End, film, and television. Fairchild made his Tony-nominated Broadway debut in 2015 as Jerry Mulligan in *An American in Paris*, earning Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, Theatre World, National Dance, and Astaire Awards, plus Evening Standard and Drama League nominations, and later reprised the role in London's West End. From 2009–2017, he was a Principal Dancer with the New York City Ballet dancing Balanchine, Robbins, Wheeldon, Ratmansky, McGregor, and J. Peck. Other stage credits include *The Artist; Illinois; Mary Shelley's Frankenstein; Brigadoon; Oklahoma!; A Chorus Line*; and *Kiss Me, Kate*. Screen credits include HBO's *The Comeback* with Lisa Kudrow, Amazon Prime's *Étoile*, Tom Hooper's *Cats*, Netflix's *Soundtrack*, Fox's *Mixtape*, Julie's *Greenroom*, *The Chaperone*, NY Philharmonic's *Carousel*, *NY Export: Opus Jazz*, and *Dancing With The Stars*. For Judi, Sonnet 116.

VINCENZO DI PRIMO (Alfonso, Lord Chamberlain's Men) grew up in Adrano, Sicily, Italy and graduated from the Vienna State Opera Ballet Academy. Di Primo has worked with The Royal Ballet of London, Greek National Ballet, Complexions Contemporary Ballet and performed works by Crystal Pite, Dwight Rhoden, Morgann Runacre-Temple, Justin Peck, Ricardo Amarante, Jenn Freeman, Jae Man Joo, and more. He received awards including 3rd Prize Winner and Contemporary prize at the Prix de Lausanne, Gold Medal at Grand Prix de Paris, Best Artistry Award at Youth America Grand Prix New York, and Bronze Medal at Beijing International Ballet Competition. In 2019, he was a contestant and finalist on the Italian TV show *Amici*. In 2021, Vincenzo was included in *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch." He was part of the cast of *Étoile*, the ballet drama TV

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OVER 80 YEARS AT THE CENTER OF THE ARTS



series on Amazon Prime Video.

LAUREN LOVETTE (*Anne Hathaway*, Lord Chamberlain's Men) seamlessly bridges the worlds of performance and choreography. Born in Thousand Oaks, California, she received her early training at the Cary Ballet Conservatory before enrolling at the School of American Ballet. She joined the New York City Ballet in 2010, rising to Principal Dancer in 2015. Over her tenure with NYCB, Lovette performed a vast repertoire of masterworks before stepping down in 2021 to dedicate her career equally to performing and choreographing. In 2022, she was appointed the Paul Taylor Dance Company's first Resident Choreographer, and she continues to perform as a guest artist while presenting, curating, and directing dance projects and festivals, like the Nantucket Dance Festival. Lovette's honors include the Clive Barnes Award, the Janice Levin Award, and the Mae L. Wien Award.

NICO GREETHAM (*George/Lord Chamberlain*, Lord Chamberlain's Men) is one of Hollywood's most dynamic rising stars, celebrated for his charisma, range, and magnetic screen presence. He first broke out on Broadway in Disney's *Newsies* before starring in Netflix's *The Prom* alongside Meryl Streep, Nicole Kidman, and James Corden. Greetham has showcased his versatility across film, television, and stage, with credits including *Dramarama*, *Dinner in America*, Hulu's *Love, Victor*, and Ryan Murphy's *American Horror Story* franchise. He stars in the romantic comedy *Before I Do*, currently making the film festival circuit, and will next be seen in Netflix's highly anticipated *Best of the Best*. Fresh off *One of the Good Ones* at Pasadena Playhouse and *The Old Globe*, Greetham continues to establish himself as one of the industry's most exciting talents. He is represented by CAA, Independent Artist Entertainment, and Jackoway Austen Tyerman.

RACHEL LOCKHART (*Emilia*, Lord Chamberlain's Men), is a dancer and choreographer whose work spans Broadway, television, film, and concert stages. A Birmingham, Alabama native and graduate of The Juilliard School and Alabama School of Fine Arts, she began her training at the J. Lockhart Performing Arts Institute under the guidance of her mother. Lockhart made her Broadway debut in Justin Peck's *Illinois*, earning a Chita Rivera Award nomination for Outstanding Dancer in a Broadway Show. Her credits include the MET Opera's *The Life and Times of Malcolm X*, *So You Think You Can Dance*, CBS's *East New York*, and the 2023 MTV Video Music Awards alongside Doja Cat. She was featured on the cover of *Dance Magazine*'s 2025 "Top 25 to Watch" issue and most recently toured nationally with *MJ the Musical*, choreographed by Christopher Wheeldon. As a choreographer, Lockhart has created works exploring social and cultural themes, with choreography selected for Juilliard Choreographic Honors and Dance Theatre of Harlem's Open House. In 2025, she choreographed the finale for Vail Dance Festival. Through her work, Lockhart is committed to storytelling, connection, and the transformative power of movement.

SEAN PETER FORTE (*Music Director, Arranger, Orchestrator, Pianist*, Lord Chamberlain's Men) is a Brooklyn-based multidisciplinary musician and performer. This summer, he returned to Bard SummerScape as the pianist and associate conductor for the world premiere of Courtney Bryan's *Suddenly*

Last Summer. He is the co-adaptor, musical director, and arranger of *figaro/faggots*—a hybrid theater piece combining Larry Kramer's revolutionary novel and Mozart's masterpiece. From 2023–2024, he was the associate musical director of Justin Peck and Jackie Sibbles Drury's Tony Award-winning musical, *Illinois*, at Bard SummerScape, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, the Park Avenue Armory, and the St. James Theatre. In 2022, he served as the musical director and conductor for the Williamstown Theatre Festival production of Daniel Fish's *Most Happy*, a reimagining of the music from Frank Loesser's *Most Happy Fella*. He is a proud member of the understudy family at Cole Escola's *Oh, Mary!*

LAVINIA PAVLISH (*Violin*, Lord Chamberlain's Men) is a dynamic violinist whose career spans film, television, chamber music, and as a solo artist—from New York City to Hawaii. As winner of its Young Artist Competition, Pavlish appeared as soloist with The Cleveland Orchestra in an education concert series entitled Time Travel with the Cleveland Orchestra. She performs regularly in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Date Night Series, both with her trio Rock Paper Scissors and as a solo artist. As a recording artist, Pavlish collaborated on the Grammy-winning song "Life According to Raechel" by Madison Cunningham and served as concertmaster of the 8-Bit Big Band for its Grammy-winning "Meta Knight's Revenge." She has worked with artists ranging from Shakira to Kanye West to Cynthia Erivo, and most recently appeared as a solo violinist on the soundtrack of HBO's hit series *Dexter: Original Sin*. Pavlish completed her bachelor's degree at Northwestern University and her master's at Juilliard. She plays a violin by maker Pierre Flavetta of Cremona, Italy.

LEAH COLOFF (*Cello*, Lord Chamberlain's Men) is a Grammy winning cellist, singer, composer, and creator of multi-disciplinary work. Her one person show, *Super Second Rate* debuted at Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2024. Coloff's multimedia autobiographical song cycle, *ThisTree* premiered in the 2019 Prototype Festival. Coloff won two Grammys as part of the Scorchio Quartet for Carla Patulo's albums, *So She Howls* and *Nomadica*. She played in the band for Daniel Fish's Tony Award winning production of *Oklahoma!* (Broadway) and can be heard on the Grammy-nominated cast recording. Coloff played for Ted Hearn's *The Source*, produced by Beth Morrison Productions for Brooklyn Academy of Music and REDCAT in LA and can be heard on *The Source* (New Amsterdam), selected as one of the best classical recordings of 2015 by *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker*. In 2025, Coloff earned an MFA in Performance and Interactive Media Arts from CUNY, Brooklyn College.

BLAIR HAMRICK (*French Horn*, Lord Chamberlain's Men) is a member of New York Brass Arts Trio, Nu Quintet, Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass, and an associate horn player in Callopie Brass. As a freelance musician, Hamrick performs on several Broadway shows and with bands such as Sigur Rós, Little River Band, and Queens of the Stone Age. Hamrick was the chairholder of the Off-Broadway show *Three Houses* by Dave Malloy and has performed at Big Ears, Bang on a Can, Cape Cod Chamber Music Festival, and the International Women's Brass Conference. She's a member of Modus Operandi Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra of New York, and has made appearances with Santa Fe Symphony, Northeastern

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Pennsylvania Philharmonic, and the Fort Greene Orchestra. Hamrick has a Performance Certificate from Manhattan School of Music and a Doctorate from SUNY Stony Brook.

EMMA REINHART (*Flute/Clarinet*, Lord Chamberlain's Men) is a woodwind specialist and music educator originally from Southern California. She relocated to New York City in 2022 after touring with Jimmy Buffett's Broadway musical, *Escape to Margaritaville*. Her recent Broadway credits include *Ragtime* at Lincoln Center Theater and Jamie Lloyd's *Sunset Blvd*, and she looks forward to performing in the *Radio City Christmas Spectacular* starring the Rockettes for the upcoming 2026–27 season. Reinhart has performed saxophone/clarinet with the New Jersey Symphony, Philharmonic Orchestra of the Americas (Mexico City), American Symphony Orchestra (NYC), and New World Symphony (Miami). An active educator, Reinhart enjoys teaching woodwind ensembles at the British International School of New York and also serves as a teaching artist in public schools through the New York Pops Orchestra's education program. BM: University of Southern California; MM: University of Michigan. (reinhardtmusic.com)

JESS TSANG (*Percussion*, Lord Chamberlain's Men) is a percussionist dedicated to the creation of new interdisciplinary works. She has performed on five continents and has worked extensively in theater and opera, most recently on collaboratively creating the live score for *Parched* at HERE Arts Center. Tsang held the vibraphone chair in Justin Peck and Jackie Sibbles Drury's Tony-award winning Broadway musical, *Illinois*, and performs often as an improviser, playing a bass drum feedback instrument of her own design. She is a founding member of guitar and percussion duo party of one and collective improvisation sextet dogsbody. For the last four years, she has worked with cultural arts collective Found Sound Nation to develop musical exchange programs for artists and communities. jessstsang.net

Since 1963, **BOSTON BALLET** has been recognized as one of the world's leading ballet companies, distinguished by artistic excellence, innovation, and a commitment to advancing the art form. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Mikko Nissinen and Executive Director Ming Min Hui, the Company's 70 dancers, representing 13 nationalities, perform a repertoire spanning masterpieces by Petipa, Balanchine, Robbins, Ashton, Cranko, and Nureyev, alongside works by William Forsythe, Jiří Kylián, Crystal Pite, Akram Khan, Jorma Elo, and other leading choreographers. Committed to both preserving tradition and creating ballet's future, Boston Ballet regularly commissions new works and expands the repertoire through artistic collaboration. *The New York Times* has praised its repertoire as "one of the most eclectic in the country" and its dancers as "striking by national and international standards." The Company performs at Boston's historic Citizens Opera House and tours nationally and internationally. @bostonballet

Born in Trebujena, Cádiz, in 2000, **JUAN TOMÁS DE LA MOLÍA** began his flamenco training at age six at Peña Los Cernícalos in Jerez, studying with masters including José Galván, El Choro, Javier Barón, and Rafael Campallo. He has performed in Manuel Liñán's acclaimed production *Muerta de Amor* and created *Vertebrado* under Liñán's artistic direction;

the work earned him the Revelation Artist Award at the 2024 Festival de Jerez. In 2022, he won the Dance Prize at the XXIII National Flamenco Art Competition of Córdoba. Recognized for his refined technique, musical intelligence, and powerful stage presence, he is one of the most compelling young artists in contemporary flamenco. @juantomassdelamolialiabailor

Israeli choreographer **LIOR TAVORI** is the founder and artistic director of the Lior Tavori Dance Company based in Tel Aviv. He holds a master's degree in dance and a bachelor's degree in fine arts. His works are characterized by passion, sexuality, and animality, while testing the boundaries of the pathological medium combined with innovation, emotion, and technical precision. In recent years, he has created works for dance companies around the world, including the Scapino Ballet, Rotterdam; the Munich National Ballet, the Guangzhou Opera House and Chongqing Ballet, China; and the Quorum Company, Ballet Lisbon. Tavori created dance works for the Curtian Raiser Festival in 2019, 2020 and 2021. His works have won numerous awards in Israel and has performed on countless stages around the world, including China, Italy, Spain, the United States, Brazil, Mexico, Georgia, Taiwan, the Netherlands, Germany, and Portugal. Tavori is the winner of the 2024 Rosenblum Prize for the Performing Arts. @liortavoridance

Born in Sydney, **STEVEN MCRAE** trained with Hilary Kaplan and at The Royal Ballet School. He won the Adeline Genée Gold Medal, 2002, and the Prix de Lausanne, 2003. He joined The Royal Ballet in 2004, promoted to Principal, 2009. He has performed all the classical repertoire and leading roles in contemporary works. He created *Mad Hatter* (*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*), *Jack* (*Sweet Violets*), *Sandman* (*Hansel and Gretel*), *Florizel* (*Winter's Tale*), *Emble* (*Age of Anxiety*), *Creature* (*Frankenstein*), and roles in concerto pour deux, *Three Songs – Two Voices*, *Children of Adam*, *Chroma*, *Acis and Galatea* (Royal Opera), *24 Preludes*, *Human Seasons*, *Tetractys*, *Connectome*, *Woolf Works*, *Multiverse*, *Illustrated 'Farewell'*, and *Yuge*. Awards include the 2006 Emerging Male Artist (Classical) and the 2011 Best Male Dancer Critics' Circle Dance Awards. @stevenmcrae

Born in Boston, **SARAH LAMB** trained with Tatiana Nikolaevna Legat at Boston Ballet School. She was awarded a Gold Medal by President Clinton, 1998, for being a Presidential Scholar in the Arts. She won silver medals at the International Ballet Competition in Nagoya, Japan, 1999, the New York IBC, 2000, and the USA IBC, 2002. She joined Boston Ballet in 1998, promoted to principal, 2003. She joined The Royal Ballet in 2004, promoted to Principal, 2006. Her repertoire includes leading roles in the classical, dramatic and contemporary works. She created *Perdita* (*Winter's Tale*), *Raven Girl*, *Beatrice* (*The Dante Project*) and roles in *Carbon Life*, *Chroma*, *Limen*, *Live Fire Exercise*, *24 Preludes*, *Human Seasons*, *Tetractys*, *Woolf Works*, *Multiverse*, *Illustrated 'Farewell'* and *Yugen*.

Born in Sofia, Bulgaria, **VASKO VASSILEV** (*Violin*, *The Royal Ballet*) was a prize-winner in three major international violin competitions as a teenager, subsequently embarking on an international career as a soloist, conductor, leader and producer. He became the Royal Opera House's first ever

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Concert Master, and its youngest, in 1993. In 2005 he made his British conducting debut at the Royal Albert Hall, and was appointed Creative Producer of the Royal Opera House. He is Artistic Director of Trittico, for which he produces and performs both traditional and contemporary repertory with various artists, groups and orchestras. He is also Artistic Director of the Soloists of Covent Garden, London Chamber Orchestra and Laureate, an orchestra made up exclusively of international prize-winners. @vasko_vassilev_official

PAMELA TAN-NICHOLSON (*Piano, The Royal Ballet*) is a British creative entrepreneur of Chinese heritage. Born in Singapore she trained as both a pianist and a lawyer before moving to London in 1983. Described by a London critic as “a one-woman polymath”, she combines the discipline of a traditional classicist with the imagination of an innovative modernist. Her works bring together diverse genres, artistic disciplines, and cultural influences. She has performed and presented her work in more than forty countries. Her collaborations with McRae and Vassilev include *Triperas*. @pamela.tan.nicholson

KATE ASHTON (*Festival Lighting Director*) has been the Lighting Director of Fall for Dance since 2019 and was the Lighting Director for Hugo Marchand | Artists at the Center in July 2026. Recent design work includes *Swan Lake* and *Cinderella* (Ballet West), *The Sleeping Beauty* (The Washington Ballet), *Atlas* (Hubbard Street Dance Chicago), *Remains* (Gibney Company), *Sekou McMiller & Friends* (Jacob's Pillow), *Of Mice and Men* (Houston Grand Opera, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Des Moines Metro Opera), *Elizabeth Cree* and *Cosi* (Glimmerglass), *Wozzeck* (Des Moines Metro Opera), *Hometown to the World* (Santa Fe Opera), *Turn of the Screw*, and over 30 other productions at Juilliard. Upcoming: *New Dances* (Juilliard), *Don Quixote* (Ballet West), *Carmen* (Madison Opera). BA: College of William & Mary. MFA: NYU. Member, United Scenic Artists. kateashtonlighting.com

DANIEL ERDBERG (*Festival Sound Director*) is a New York and Los Angeles-based sound artist, designer, and composer. His work has been heard on Broadway and at numerous New York City theatres, including The Public, Roundabout, City Center, 59E59, Atlantic, and HERE. Highlights include the inaugural Lincoln Center Contemporary Dance Festival, world premiere of *Stonewall* with City Opera, Ayodele Casel and Arturo O'Farrill at The Joyce, and the American premiere of Caryl Churchill's *Drunk Enough to Say I Love You*. Regional credits include Arena Stage, Milwaukee Rep, Pasadena Playhouse, Geffen, A.C.T., Merrimack, Geva, and Long Wharf, as well as productions in Korea, Japan, China, Canada, and Cuba. This year marks his 15th with Fall for Dance at City Center. Erdberg is a member of USA829, IATSE and SDC, and is a proud graduate of Northwestern University. erdberg.com

LORI WEKSELBLATT (*Production Stage Manager*) is beginning her 21st year as the Fall for Dance Production Stage Manager. Prior to that she was the Principal Stage Manager for over 20 years at American Ballet Theatre. She is currently the PSM for *Lyrics and Lyricists* and *Jazz in July* at 92Y. Wexselblatt currently serves as co-chair of the prestigious Design/Technology program at SUNY Purchase and is head

of the Stage Management Department; this is her 23rd year of teaching the senior stage managers. Wexselblatt is a proud graduate of Indiana University (BA) and Baruch College (MSILR).

STANFORD MAKISHI (*Vice President, Witten Family Artistic Director for 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 the artist collective Drama Dept. in Greenwich Village to La Jolla Playhouse to McCarter Theatre in Princeton to the present, he has helped develop works by all types of artists from playwrights and songwriters, to designers and visual artists, to veterans and students. He has built and guided teams to develop and launch projects in classrooms and parks, on the internet and through snail mail, in theaters big and small on Broadway, Off-Broadway, regionally, and around the world. 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. nycitycenter.org

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