



# DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM

**CO-FOUNDERS** Arthur Mitchell (1934-2018) and Karel Shook (1920-1985)

**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR** Robert Garland

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** Anna Glass

**REHEARSAL DIRECTOR** Juan Carlos Peñuela

**COMPANY ARTISTS** Ariana Dickerson, Lindsey Donnell, Carly Greene, Alexandra Hutchinson, Alexandra Rene Jones, Michaela Martin-Mason, Kira Robinson, Kamala Saara, Ingrid Silva, Delaney Washington, Derek Brockington, Micah Bullard, Julian Cottrell, Kouadio Davis, Jhaelin McQuay, Sean Miller, Ethan Wilson, David Wright

**GUEST ARTISTS** Eunhye Darbouze, Amber Harper, Hope Roberts, Tatiana Stevenson, Christopher Crawford, Khen Kurulkar, Joshua Ponton, Michael Shavelle, Amar Smalls

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Zellerbach Theatre

Friday, January 16 @ 7:30 PM

Saturday, January 17 @ 2 PM

Saturday, January 17 @ 7:30 PM

Sunday, January 18 @ 2 PM

There will be two intermissions.

## INSIGHTS

Stay after the Friday performance for a conversation with Robert Garland and Christopher A. Gruits, our Executive & Artistic Director.

The 25/26 season dance series is co-sponsored by Arthur Kaplan, C'67 and Duane Perry alongside Lynn Jerath, W'95 and Kunal Jerath.

## PROGRAM NOTE FROM ROBERT GARLAND

Ballet is an art form that transcends words, telling stories of resilience, transformation and boundless possibility.

In a world that often feels divided, art has the power to bring us together—to remind us of our shared humanity and the beauty that exists even in challenging times. As our company artists take the stage, they bring with them not only passion, grace and joy but also a spirit of innovation that propels us to move boldly forward.

More than 56 years ago, Arthur Mitchell set out to prove that ballet belongs to everyone. His vision of inclusion, access and possibility remains at the heart of everything we do. Thank you for being part of this moment. Your presence and support make it possible for us to dream bigger, reach higher and continue shaping the future of ballet. We invite you to join us on this journey—one that honors our past while embracing the limitless possibilities ahead.

Enjoy the performance!

## SUPPORT FOR DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM



JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.



Generous support for Dance Theatre of Harlem is provided by Alliance Bernstein Foundation; Alphadyne Foundation; Arnhold Foundation; BET Networks; Bloomberg LP; Bloomberg Philanthropies; Booth Ferris Foundation; CIVITAS; Con Edison; COFRA Foundation; Aaron Copland Fund for Music; Dance/NYC; Davis/Dauray Family Fund; Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation; Ford Foundation; Howard Gilman Foundation; GCM Grosvenor; GEICO; Google; The Harkness Foundation for Dance; DuBose & Dorothy Heyward Memorial Fund; The Jockey Hollow Foundation; Hyde and Watson Foundation; IQVIA; JPMorgan Chase; Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts; Klein Family Foundation; Legal Defense Fund; The Lenat Foundation; The Reginald F. Lewis Foundation; Madison Square Garden; The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation; Mellon Foundation; Meta; Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation; Morgan Stanley; Margaret T. Morris Foundation; Henry and Lucy Moses Fund; The New York Community Trust; Nike; Paramount; Tatiana Piankova Foundation; Polar Foundation; Jerome Robbins Foundation; The Fan Fox & Leslie R. Samuels Foundation; The Shubert Foundation; The SHS Foundation; Sony Music Group; The Thompson Family Foundation; Venable Foundation; Warner Music Group & Blavatnik Family Foundation Social Justice Fund, a sponsored project of Moore Impact; Weathspire; Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP; West Harlem Development Corporation; and one anonymous donor.

Dance Theatre of Harlem is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

[Dancetheatreofharlem.org](http://Dancetheatreofharlem.org)

25/26 SEASON

## EVENING PROGRAM

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### **Return** (1999)

**CHOREOGRAPHY** Robert Garland

**MUSIC** James Brown, Alfred Ellis, Aretha Franklin, Carolyn Franklin

**COSTUME DESIGN & EXECUTION** Pamela Allen-Cummings

**LIGHTING** Roma Flowers

#### **“Mother Popcorn”**

Ingrid Silva

Ariana Dickerson, Carly Greene, Michaela Martin-Mason, Kira Robinson, Delaney Washington

Ethan Wilson

Derek Brockington, Julian Cottrell, Sean Miller, Michael Shavelle, Amar Smalls

#### **“Baby, Baby, Baby”**

Ariana Dickerson, Julian Cottrell

Kira Robinson, Amar Smalls, Delaney Washington, Derek Brockington

#### **“I Got The Feelin”**

Ingrid Silva, Michael Shavelle, Sean Miller

Carly Greene, Amar Smalls, Michaela Martin-Mason

#### **“Call Me”**

Alexandra Rene Jones, Derek Brockington

#### **“Superbad”**

Ethan Wilson

The Company

*Return* was choreographed for Dance Theatre of Harlem's 30th anniversary. Choreographer Robert Garland calls the ballet's style "post-modern urban neoclassicism—an attempt to fuse an urban physical sensibility and a neoclassical one." Staged for 12 dancers to songs performed by James Brown and Aretha Franklin, *Return* is "... a witty fusion of ballet technique and street gait whose irony toward rhythm-and-blues had the audience in stitches." (*The New York Times*)

"Mother Popcorn" and "Superbad" performed by James Brown. "Baby, Baby, Baby" performed by Aretha Franklin by arrangement with Warner/Chappell Music, Inc. "Call Me" performed by Aretha Franklin Courtesy of Pronto Music and Fourteenth Hour Music, Inc. "I Got the Feelin" performed by James Brown by arrangement with Round Hill, Inc.

## INTERMISSION

### **Take Me With You** (2021, Dance Theatre of Harlem Premiere 2024, Philadelphia premiere)

**CHOREOGRAPHY** Robert Bondara

**MUSIC** Radiohead

**LIGHTING & COSTUME DESIGN** Robert Bondara

Alexandra Hutchinson, David Wright

#### **NOTE FROM ROBERT BONDARA**

The catchy percussion beat of the Radiohead song "Reckoner" became the first trigger and source of inspiration for movement language and choreography. Getting deeper into the creative process and the vague lyrics of the song in a very personal way, the content of the choreography got closer to reflection about our existence, our efforts to grasp the meaning of life despite "bittersweet distractors." What is essential for the piece is metaphysical experience, an elusive atmosphere determining relations between the dancers on the stage.

This duet was created in 2016 for Polish National Ballet soloists Yuka Ebihara and Kristof Szabo. *Take Me With You* was later performed by many leading dancers, including Roberto Bolle and Melissa Hamilton, among others, and in theatres across the globe and on Polish, Czech and Italian TV. In 2021, Bondera created a larger one act ballet that includes this duet for Poznan Opera Ballet and in 2022 was staged by West Australian Ballet.

"Reckoner" by Radiohead. Thom Yorke, songwriter, vocals. Jonny Greenwood, songwriter, guitar. Colin Greenwood, songwriter, bass. Philip Selway, songwriter, drums. Music by arrangement with Warner/Chappell Music, Inc.

## **Passage of Being** (2025, Philadelphia premiere)

**CHOREOGRAPHY** Jodie Gates

**MUSIC** Ryan Lott, Rob Moose, Son Lux, yMusic

**COSTUME DESIGN & EXECUTION** Martha Chamberlain

**LIGHTING** Michael Korsch

Kamala Saara, Alexandra Rene Jones (Jan 16), Ariana Dickerson (Jan 17)

Derek Brockington, Kouadio Davis, Jhaelin McQuay, Ethan Wilson

### **NOTE BY JODIE GATES**

Time prompts philosophical contemplation about existence, purpose and mortality. The progression of time is a remarkable subject when contemplating the transient aspects of life and the relationship we build with self and with others over a lifetime. As a collective body, this work abstractly calls upon poetic nuances and the poignant allure of time's rapid passage of being.

"Cherry Blossom," written and performed by Ryan Lott. "Don't Say It's Too Late," written by Ryan Lott, performed by Son Lux & Rob Moose. "Eleven," written by Ryan Lott, performed by Ryan Lott & yMusic. Music use courtesy of Domino Music Co. and Ghost Town Inc.

## **INTERMISSION**

### **Donizetti Variations** (1960)

**CHOREOGRAPHY** George Balanchine, ©The George Balanchine Trust

**MUSIC** Gaetano Donizetti

**COSTUMES** Katy A. Freeman

**LIGHTING** Andrea Sala

**STAGING FOR DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM** Kyra Nichols Gray

Carly Greene, Kouadio Davis

Eunhye Darbouze, Sean Miller, Hope Roberts, Alexandra Rene Jones (Jan 16), Kira Robinson (Jan 17), Jhaelin McQuay, Tatiana Stevenson, Michaela Martin-Mason, Michael Shavelle, Amber Harper

The cheerful 26-minute *Donizetti Variations* sets a series of effervescent dances to music from the opera *Don Sebastian*, offering choice but technically challenging roles for two bravura dancers and three supporting trios. This ballet (originally titled *Variations from "Don Sebastian"*) was created for "Salute to Italy," a 1960 New York City Ballet program celebrating the 100th anniversary of Italy's unification.

The performance of *Donizetti Variations*, a Balanchine® Ballet, is presented by arrangement with The George Balanchine Trust and has been produced in accordance with the Balanchine Style® and Balanchine Technique® Service standards established and provided by the Trust.

## MATINEE PROGRAM

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### **New Bach** (2001)

**CHOREOGRAPHY** Robert Garland

**MUSIC** Violin Concerto in A minor, BWV 1041 by Johann Sebastian Bach

**COSTUME DESIGN & EXECUTION** Pamela Allen-Cummings

**LIGHTING DESIGN** Roma Flowers

Carly Greene (Jan 17), Lindsey Donnell (Jan 18)

David Wright, Sean Miller, Julian Cottrell, Jhaelin McQuay

Micah Bullard

Eunhye Darbouze, Ariana Dickerson (Jan 17), Hope Roberts (Jan 18), Kira Robinson (Jan 18), Ingrid Silva (Jan 17), Tatiana Stevenson

"Prejudices are sophisticatedly acquired tastes that destroy innocence—that state of purity in which man can be in accord with himself, his fellow men, and attuned to nature. This innocence is one of the intrinsic beauties of man and if we do not regain it soon, we will perish. True dance, in any of its myriad forms, is an expression of this innocence, and it is through dance that man has the possibility to find himself again."

- Karel Shook in his *Elements of Classical Ballet Technique*, 1977

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### **"Mother Popcorn"**

Alexandra Hutchinson

Ariana Dickerson, Alexandra Rene Jones, Amber Harper, Kira Robinson, Michaela Martin-Mason David Wright (Jan 17), Micah Bullard (Jan 18)

Derek Brockington, Julian Cottrell, Sean Miller, Michael Shavelle, Amar Smalls

**“Baby, Baby, Baby”**

Ariana Dickerson, Julian Cottrell

Alexandra Rene Jones, Amar Smalls, Kira Robinson, Derek Brockington

**“I Got The Feelin”**

Alexandra Hutchinson, Sean Miller, Michael Shavelle

Carly Greene, Ethan Wilson, Ariana Dickerson

**“Call Me”**

Alexandra Rene Jones, Derek Brockington

**“Superbad”**

David Wright (Jan 17), Micah Bullard (Jan 18)

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## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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### **Robert Garland** (Artistic Director)

Garland was a member of the Dance Theatre of Harlem company (DTH), achieving the rank of principal dancer. After creating a work for the DTH School Ensemble, Arthur Mitchell invited Robert Garland to create a work for the Dance Theatre of Harlem company and appointed him the organization's first Resident Choreographer. Prior to becoming DTH Artistic Director, he served as Director of the Dance Theatre of Harlem School.

In addition to choreographing several ballets for DTH, Garland has created works for New York City Ballet, Britain's Royal Ballet, Oakland Ballet and most recently, the San Francisco Ballet. His commercial work has included music videos commercials and short films such as the children's television show *Sesame Street*, a Nike commercial featuring New York Yankee Derek Jeter, the NAACP Image Awards, a short film for designer Donna Karan and the "Charmin Cha-Cha" for Proctor and Gamble. Garland holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from The Juilliard School in New York City.

### **Arthur Mitchell** (Co-Founder)

Mitchell is known around the world for creating and sustaining Dance Theatre of Harlem, the internationally acclaimed ballet company he co-founded with Karel Shook in 1969. Following a brilliant career as a principal artist with the New York City Ballet, Mitchell dedicated his life to changing perceptions and advancing the art form of ballet through the first permanently established African American and racially diverse ballet company.

Born in New York City in 1934, Mitchell began his dance training at New York City's High School of the Performing Arts, where he won the coveted annual dance award and subsequently, a full scholarship to the School of American Ballet. In 1955, he became the first male African American to be a permanent member of a major ballet company when he joined New York City Ballet. Mitchell rose quickly to the rank of principal dancer during his fifteen-year career with New York City Ballet and electrified audiences with his performances in a broad range of roles. Upon learning of the death of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and with financial assistance from Mrs. Alva B. Gimbel, The Ford Foundation and his own savings, Mitchell founded Dance Theatre of Harlem with his mentor and ballet instructor Karel Shook.

With an illustrious career that spanned over 50 years, Mitchell was the recipient of the Kennedy Center Honors a National Medal of the Arts, a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship, the New York Living Landmark Award, the Handel Medallion, the NAACP Image Award and more than a dozen honorary degrees.

### **Karel Shook** (Co-Founder)

Shook played a key role as teacher and mentor to African American dance artists in New York in the 1950s. In addition to co-founding Dance Theatre of Harlem with Arthur Mitchell in 1969, he also was a ballet master choreographer and author. Born in 1920, Shook was a native of Renton, Washington. Encouraged to study ballet at age 13, he was a protégé of Nellie Cornish and received a scholarship to the Cornish School of Allied Arts in Seattle. While his performance career was brief, he appeared on Broadway and danced with the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo and New York City Ballet. Shook's short performance career led to teaching and choreographing mainly in Europe but also in New York. In the early 50s, he opened Studio Arts, one of the few dance studios in the city where African Americans could study ballet. Among his students were Carmen de Lavallade, Pearl Primus, Geoffrey Holder, Louis Johnson, Alvin Ailey and Arthur Mitchell, who first came to him at age 17. Shook left New York in 1959 to become the ballet master of the Dutch National Ballet, where he worked until his former student, Arthur Mitchell, asked him to return to New York to help create the Dance Theatre of Harlem. Shook was an advocate of the universality of classical ballet. His book, *Elements of Classical Ballet*, explores the development of classical ballet in such countries across the globe as China, Turkey, Iran, Japan, Cuba and Mexico. In 1980, he was awarded the United States Presidential Award for Excellence and Dedication in Education.

**Anna Glass** (Executive Director)

Glass has been involved in the performing arts as both an artist and arts administrator for over 25 years. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the Dance Theatre of Harlem, recently named an "American Cultural Treasure" by the Ford Foundation and a recipient of \$18.5 million combined gifts from the Mellon Foundation, Ford Foundation and MacKenzie Scott and Dan Jewett—the largest gift amounts in DTH's history. Together with Artistic Director Virginia Johnson, Glass co-launched a collaborative initiative addressing racial inequity in ballet, The Equity Project. In 2013, she began her own endeavor dedicated to preserving and documenting the legacies of prominent Black artists and cultural institutions, and reinterpreting those legacies onto multiple platforms, including live performance. She recently produced Carmen de Lavallade's newest solo show, *Carmen de Lavallade: Life of a Legend* for Jazz at Lincoln Center and prior to that, *As I Remember It*, an intimate portrait of this legendary artist, which toured across the country.

Glass has served as a consultant providing strategic planning and fundraising guidance to various non-profit arts organizations across the country and as an advisor for the DeVos Institute of Arts Management supporting New York City non-profits. Glass currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Association of Performing Arts Professionals and the International African American Museum in Charleston, SC. Glass received her undergraduate degree from Oberlin College and her JD from the University of Dayton School of Law. She is a licensed attorney in the State of New York. Glass lives in Harlem with her husband and daughter.

**Juan Carlos Peñuela** (Rehearsal Director)

A native of Cali, Colombia, Peñuela began dancing at the age of 12 with Incolballet, a ballet-centered secondary school. After graduation, he was invited by Artistic Director Gloria Castro to join Ballet de Cali Colombia's National Company as a soloist, where he performed in a variety of leading roles in contemporary works as well as classical pieces. Peñuela has danced with Ballet Arizona, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Philadelphia Ballet, Maximum Dance, Ballet Gamonet, Chamber Dance Project and Ballet NY. He has served as guest ballet master and repetiteur with Compania Colombiana de Ballet - Incolballet in Colombia, Chamber Dance Project, Lexington Ballet, The Ajkun Ballet Theatre in New York City, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Ena Ballet Company in Japan and Earl Mosley's Institute of the Arts International Summer Intensive in Kent, CT. In 2011, he was invited to Malaysia, where he taught at their international festival, restaged *Don Quixote* and coached artists from all over the world for their International Gala of the Stars.

From 2014 to 2018, Peñuela held the position of Ballet Master with Ballet Hispánico in New York City, as well Senior Ballet Teacher for its School of Dance. He has served as a faculty member at Joffrey Ballet School, Marymount Manhattan Collage Ballet, Academy East in New York City and Alvin Ailey, as well as a guest teacher at The Juilliard School and Dance Theatre of Harlem. Peñuela holds a Romana's Pilates certification and teaches Pilates designed for dancers. In 2011, he became certified in The American Ballet Theatre National Training Curriculum. In 2013, he was invited to teach in Italy as a faculty member of Alvin Ailey School. Since 2017, he has taught at the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet summer program. In 2014 and 2017, he attended the CPYB teacher's workshop and in 2017, he was featured in the August edition of *Dance Teacher Magazine*. For the last seven years, he has been invited to Panama City as guest teacher and as adjudicator to the Danza Activa competition and the Ecuador Danza Ciad competition. Peñuela continues to return as a guest teacher to Columbia, where his journey began.

**Derek Brockington** (Company Artist)

Born: Chicago, IL and raised in Holland, MI. Training: Grand Rapids Ballet School, Interlochen Arts Academy, Ballet West and Philadelphia Ballet Summer Intensives. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (eighth season), Cincinnati Ballet, Grand Rapids Ballet. Repertoire includes works by: Claudia Schreier, Robert Garland, Stanton Welch, George Balanchine, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, and Darrell Grand Moultrie. Along with Alexandra Hutchinson, he coordinates DTH social media.

**Micah Bullard** (Company Artist)

Born: Houston, TX. Training: The Dance Center of Baytown, University of Oklahoma School of Dance (BFA 2019), Jacob's Pillow Contemporary Ballet Program, Dance Theatre of Harlem Summer Intensive, Texas Ballet Theater Summer Intensive. Professional experience: Oklahoma City Ballet and Dance Theatre of Harlem (fifth season). Repertoire includes works by: Robert Garland, George Balanchine, William Forsythe, Geoffrey Holder, Helen Pickett, Nacho Duato, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Alejandro Cerrudo, Merce Cunningham, Amy Hall Garner, Trey McIntyre, Colin Connor, Stanton Welch, Claudia Schreier and Tiffany Rae-Fisher.

**Julian Cottrell** (Company Artist)

Born: Fort Worth, TX. Training: the University of Oklahoma School of Dance, Fort Worth Academy of Fine Arts, Texas Ballet Theater School. Professional experience: Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, Colorado Springs Philharmonic, Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season). Repertoire includes works by: George Balanchine, Jiří Kylián, William Forsythe, Robert Garland, Penny Saunders, Robin Mineko Williams, Yury Yanowsky and Ryan Nye. Recipient of the OU School of Dance Ovation Award and the Corp de Ballet International Basil Thompson Memorial Scholarship.

**Kouadio Davis** (Company Artist)

Born: Oneonta, NY. Training: Holbrook-Wade School of Dance, Fokine Ballet, New York State Summer School of the Arts with Daniel Ulbricht, NYCB, Carolyn Adams, Alvin Ailey, Nutmeg Ballet, Charlotte Ballet, Alonzo King Lines, French Academie of Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet and Springboard Danse Montreal. 2019 graduate of Ellison Ballet. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (seventh season). Awards: Youth America Grand Prix in 2017 and 2018, where he and his partner won second and then first place in the contemporary pas de deux category.

**Ariana Dickerson** (Company Artist)

Born: Pensacola, FL, raised in Dayton, OH. Training: Interlochen Arts Academy and summer intensives with Alonzo King Lines, Boston Ballet, Indianapolis Ballet and Cincinnati Ballet. Education: Indiana University Bloomington Jacobs School of Music, Bachelor of Science in ballet and media advertising. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (third season). Repertoire includes works by: Justin Peck, Dwight Rhoden, Ulysses Dove, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky and George Balanchine. Dickerson is the recipient of the IU Premier Young Artist Award, the Brown Girls Do Ballet Scholarship for Change, Interlochen Young Artist Award and the Interlochen Arts Academy Fine Arts Award.

**Lindsey Donnell** (Company Artist)

Born: Midland, TX. Training: La Petite Dance Studio, Midland Festival Ballet under Susan Clark. Education: cum laude graduate of Butler University, degrees in dance, arts administration and journalism. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (thirteenth season), Nashville Ballet (trainee). Repertoire includes works by: George Balanchine, Nacho Duato, William Forsythe, Ulysses Dove, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Geoffrey Holder, Donald Byrd, Dianne McIntyre and Robert Garland. Awards and honors: featured artist at opening of One World Trade Center, TEDx Broadway 2016, performer at Kennedy Center Honors 2016 and 2022, and White House performance for Michelle Obama.

**Carly Greene** (Company Artist)

Born: Flower Mound, Texas. Training: The Ballet Conservatory, The Ailey School, Jacob's Pillow Contemporary Dance Ensemble, summer intensives with Houston Ballet, The School of American Ballet, Boston Ballet and Colorado Ballet. Education: magna cum laude graduate of Fordham University, Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance and Bachelor of Arts in digital technology and emerging media. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (third season). Repertoire included works by: George Balanchine, Alvin Ailey, Geoffrey Holder, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Jennifer Archibald, Silas Farley, Helen Simoneau and Ethan Colangelo. Green is a two-time YAGP New York semi-finalist and was a recipient of the Dance Council of North Texas Scholarship and the Alvin Ailey Artistic Scholarship.

**Alexandra Hutchinson** (Company Artist)

Born: Wilmington, DE. Training: The Washington School of Ballet, Wilmington Academy of Dance and summer intensives with Alvin Ailey, Alonzo King, Carolina Ballet, Ballet Chicago and Nashville Ballet 2. Education: Bachelor of Science in ballet, Indiana University, Jacobs School of Music. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (eighth season) and the Nashville Ballet. Repertoire includes works by: George Balanchine, William Forsythe, Stanton Welch, Robert Garland, Helen Pickett, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Darrell Grand Moultrie, Nacho Duato, Paul Vasterling, Septime Webre and Michael Vernon. Awards and honors: The Pierians Foundation Incorporated 2018 Emerging Young Artist Award, Virginia Johnson Scholar, Washington School of Ballet Professional Training Program tuition stipend, 2010, 2011 and 2012. Along with Derek Brockington, she coordinates DTH social media.

**Alexandra Rene Jones** (Company Artist)

Born: Indianapolis, IN. Training: Indianapolis School of Ballet, Indiana University Ballet Theater, and summer intensives with Pacific Northwest Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Philadelphia Ballet and Ballet Rhode Island. Professional experience: Rhode Island Women's Choreography Project, Indianapolis Ballet (guest artist), Dance Kaleidoscope (guest artist), Dance Theatre of Harlem (third season). Repertoire includes works by: George Balanchine, Christopher Wheeldon, Jerome Robbins, Antony Tudor, Sasha Janes, Theresa Jimmerson (Fervers), Michael Vernon and Yury Yanowsky. Awards and honors: Indiana University Jacobs School of Music Premier Young Talent Scholarship and Music Faculty Award. Jones is also featured in the book *People of Indiana University*.

**Michaela Martin-Mason** (Company Artist)

Born: Philadelphia, PA. Training: Alvin Ailey School, Walnut Hill School for the Arts, Indiana University Ballet Theater. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season). Repertoire includes works by Justin Peck, Michael Vernon, George Balanchine, Christina Claessens and Sasha Janes.

**Jhaelin McQuay** (Company Artist)

Born: Los Angeles, CA. Training: Debbie Allen Dance Academy, The Rock School of Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Ballet West, Bolshoi School. Professional experience: Ballet West, Cincinnati Ballet, the Oscars, Mariah Carey, Chris Brown, guest artist and master teacher for the DAP Festival, Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season). Repertoire includes works by: Bill Forsythe, Val Caniparoli, George Balanchine, Alexander Ekman, Jiří Kylián, Jodie Gates, Fredrick Ashton, Twyla Tharp, Ohad Naharin, Anabelle Lopez Ochoa, Alejandro Cerrudo.

**Sean Miller** (Company Artist)

Born: Atlanta, GA. Training: Paris Opera Ballet School, CNSMD of Paris, Sarasota Cuban ballet school. Professional experience: Miami City Ballet 2021-2025, Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season). Repertoire includes works by: Balanchine, Ratmansky, Robbins, John Cranko, Lopez-Ochoa, Jamar Roberts, Claudia Schreier, Durante Verzola, Petipa, Bournonville and Saint-Leon. Awards and honors: YAGP Toronto Grand Prix Award 2020, YAGP 2021 Finals (top 12), YAGP 2021 International Finals (second place pas de deux).

**Kira Robinson** (Company Artist)

Born: Atlanta, GA. Training: Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education. Professional experience: Oklahoma City Ballet II, Dance Theatre of Harlem (second season). Repertoire includes works by: Jiří Kylián, Jerome Robbins, Yury Yankowski, George Balanchine, Septime Webre.

**Kamala Saara** (Company Artist)

Born: Los Angeles, CA. Training: Yuri Grigoriev School of Ballet, School of American Ballet. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (fifth season). Awards and honors: Grow Annenberg Fellowship, a full scholarship for the School of American Ballet, the first place Award for Training and the Performance Scholarship at the 2018 Bolshoi Ballet Academy, and second place in the classical category at the 2016 Youth American Grand Prix Paris, France.

**Ingrid Silva** (Company Artist)

Born: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Training: Projeto Dançando Para Não Dançar, Escola de Dança Maria Olenewa and Centro de Movimento Debora Colker. Education: Universidade da Cidade. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (thirteenth season), Grupo Corpo (apprentice), Armitage Gone! Dance. Repertoire includes works by: Arthur Mitchell, Donald Byrd, George Balanchine, Dianne McIntyre, John Alleyne, Darrel Grand Moultrie, Francesca Harper, Robert Garland, Carol Armitage, Deborah Colker, Rodrigo Pederneiras and Annabelle Lopez Ocha. In 2017, Silva was the first African Brazilian to be on the cover of *Pointe Magazine* and appeared on the cover of *Vogue Brasil* in November 2020. She is the founder of @PodHer and co-founder of @blacksinballet.

**Delaney Washington** (Company Artist)

Born: San Francisco Bay area. Training: Lise la Cour's LaCadeemy, The Ailey School/Fordham University and Jacob's Pillow Summer Program 2021 under the direction of Helen Pickett and Milton Myers. Professional experience: Palm Beach Dance Festival, Dance Theatre of Harlem (fifth season). Repertoire includes works by: Dwight Rhoden, Helen Simoneau, Yusha Marie-Sorzano, Maurya Kerr, Pedro Ruiz and Andre Zachery. Washington is the recipient of the Alvin Ailey Artistic Scholarship.

**Ethan Wilson** (Company Artist)

Born: Houston, TX. Training: Chamberlain School of Ballet, Booker T. Washington HSPVA, Miami City Ballet School, Jacob's Pillow Summer Program. Professional experience: Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season). Repertoire includes works by: Durante Verzola, Alexei Ratmansky and Margarita Armas.

**David Wright** (Company Artist)

Born: Ft. Polk, Louisiana. Training: Infiniti Performing Arts Center, Indiana Ballet Conservatory, Orlando Ballet School. Professional experience: Orlando Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem (fifth season). Repertoire includes works by: Jorden Morris, Val Caniparoli. Wright was a finalist at Beijing International Ballet and Choreography Competition 2019.

**Christopher Crawford** (Guest Artist)

Born: Macon, GA. Training: Kali Dance Studio for the Arts, Dance Arts Studio, Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education, University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Professional experience: Freelance- Sybarite, Club NYC, Brown Girl Dreaming, three-time NFL cheerleader for the Carolina Panther TopCats. Repertoire includes works by: Susan Jaffe, Robert Garland, George Balanchine, Sir Frederick Ashton. Worked with: Juel D. Lane, Darrell Grand Moultrie, Larry Keigwin, Charles "Chuck" Smith, Lacey Schwimmer, Ashley Lindsey, Khi'Shawn Arquez Robinson, Ja'Malik. Awards and honors: one of the first male cheerleaders for the Carolina Panther TopCats.

**Eunhye Darbouze** (Guest Artist)

Born: Brooklyn, NY. Training: School of American Ballet. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season guest artist). Repertoire includes works by: George Balanchine. Awards and honors: American Dance Initiative Scholarship to attend The School of American Ballet, the Carolyn Lewis Wright Scholarship by The School of American Ballet, and Grant of Merit from the Arthur Mitchell Foundation.

**Amber Harper** (Guest Artist)

Born: Cincinnati, OH. Training: Cincinnati Ballet. Professional experience: Cincinnati Ballet Second Company, Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season guest artist). Repertoire includes works by: George Balanchine, Gerald Arpino, Devon Carney, Anna-Marie Holmes.

**Khen Kurulkar** (Guest Artist)

Born: Yavne, Israel. Training: Thelma Yellin High School of the Arts under the mentorship of Ballet Master Elie Lazar, Maslool & Hamisgeret Professional Dance Program. Kurulkar also studied break dancing for five years with the world renowned B-boy Potter. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season guest artist), Vitacca Ballet (four seasons), and a guest artist in the U.S., Israel and Japan. Repertoire includes works by: George Balanchine, Garrett Smith, Elie Lazar, Micaela Taylor, Robyn Mineko Williams, Sean Aaron Carmon, Maddie Hicks, Autumn Eckman, Tina Bhondstet, Helene Simoneau, Marius Petipa, Martha Graham, Benjamin Harkavy, Goyo Monterro, Roy Assaf, Barak Marshall, Ohad Naharin and Jiří Kylián. Awards and honors: Israel's Ministry of Culture and Sport Excellent Dancer.

**Joshua Ponton** (Guest Artist)

Born: Berkeley, CA. Training: Oakland School for the Arts, Contemporary Undergraduate Program at UNCSA. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season guest artist), Vitacca Ballet (three seasons). Repertoire includes works by: Garret Smith, Autumn Eckman, Alana Jones, Robyn Mineko, Micaela Taylor, Cherie Barton, Hélène Simoneau, Robert Battle, Martha Graham and José Limón. Awards and honors: *Pointe Magazine's* 12 Standout Performances of 2023 for Vitacca Ballet's *Hypnotic Forces* by Garrett Smith.

**Hope Roberts** (Guest Artist)

Born: Pittsburgh, PA. Training: Abby Lee Dance Company, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, Richmond Ballet Trainee. Summer intensives: Joffrey Ballet, ABT, Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, Richmond Ballet. Professional experience: Conflux Dance Theater, Charlotte Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season guest artist). Repertoire includes works by: George Balanchine, Robert Garland, Keith Lee, Shannon Alvis, Stoner Winslet and Edward Stierle. Awards and honors: 2018 Changing Lives through Dance full scholarship granted by Marcia Dale Weary.

**Michael Shavelle** (Guest Artist)

Born: Los Angeles, CA. Training: Up Studio under the direction of Alicia Head, the Colburn School under the direction of Silas Farley, Dance Theatre of Harlem School, Barnard College Dance Department. Professional experience: Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season guest artist). Repertoire includes works by: George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins, Merce Cunningham, Silas Farley, Antonio Carmena, Houston Thomas, Durante Verzola, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Da'Von Doane, Emily Kikta.

**Amar Smalls** (Guest Artist)

Born: Brooklyn, NY. Training: The Ailey School, School of American Ballet, Jackie Kennedy Onassis School, LaGuardia High School. Professional experience: Ailey II, Collage Dance Collective, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season guest artist). Repertoire includes works by: William Forsythe, Alvin Ailey, Robert Battle. Smalls is the director of SMALLSDANCE.

**Tatiana Stevenson** (Guest Artist)

Born: Cortland, NY. Training: Dance Theatre of Harlem School, Ballet West Academy and summer intensives at San Francisco Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Exploring Ballet with Suzanne Farrell, Ballet Academy East. Professional experience: Ballet West 2, Ballet West (main company), Dance Theatre of Harlem (first season guest artist).