



Max Puccinelli

MOMIX

Alchemia

Moses Pendleton, Artistic Director
Cynthia Quinn, Associate Director

Michael Korsch, Lighting Design
Phoebe Katzin, Costume Design
Jeffrey Main, Production Stage Manager
Jameson Wiley, Stage Manager
Woodrow Dick, Production Manager
Carla DeBeasi Ruiz, General Manager

Dancers: **Jerrica Blankenship**, **Aaron Canfield**, **Jennifer Chicheportiche**,
Eddy Fernandez, **Vincent Harris**, **Catherine Jaeger**, **Rebecca Rasmussen**,
Changyong Sung, **Ryan Taylor** and **Risa Yokoi**

Conceived and directed by **Moses Pendleton**
Cynthia Quinn, First Assistant

PROGRAM

There will be no intermission.

Thursday, May 8 at 7:30 PM
Friday, May 9 at 8 PM
Saturday, May 10 at 2 PM & 8 PM
Sunday, May 11 at 3 PM

**MOMIX dedicates its Philadelphia performances to
the memory and joyous spirit of Laura Swartz.**

PROGRAM NOTES

Alchemia

Conceived and directed by Moses Pendleton

First Assistant: Cynthia Quinn

Assisted by: Tsarra Bequette, Dajuan Booker, Autumn Burnette, Jonathan Bryant, Aaron Canfield, Jennifer Chicheportiche, David Dillow, Simona Di Tucci, Eddy Fernandez, Rory Freeman, Jon Eden, Vincent Harris, Morgan Hulen, Catherine Jaeger, Jaime Johnson, Jennifer Levy, Elizabeth Loft, Nicole Loizides, Steven Marshall, Anila Mazhari, Emily McArdle, Danielle McFall, Graci Meier, Sarah Nachbauer, Cynthia Quinn, Quinn Pendleton, Rebecca Rasmussen, Cara Seymour, Matt Shanbacher, Brian Simerson, Ryan Taylor, Evelyn Toh

Lighting Design: Michael Korsch

Costume Design: Phoebe Katzin, Moses Pendleton, Cynthia Quinn

Costume Construction: Phoebe Katzin

Costume Assistants: Beryl Taylor, Linda Durovcova, Kimberly Lombard

Video Projection: Moses Pendleton

Video Editing: Woodrow F. Dick, III

Music Collage: Moses Pendleton

Music Editing: Andrew Hansen

Special Thanks: Sharon Dante, Nutmeg Ballet; John Bonanni, Warner Theatre; Phillip Holland; The Talbot Family; Laura Daly; Julio Alvarez and Margaret Selby

Part 1: Quest for FireWater

Part 2: Led into Gold

"Somewhere in there is gold if you press hard enough" - Moses Pendleton

"If you don't pick up the tempo you don't pick up the fruit" - Moses Pendleton

"The ritual production of fire produces birth in the world" - Alan Chemise

"The changing of bodies into light and light into bodies is very conformable to the course of nature which seems delighted with transmutation" - Isaac Newton

I drew aside the curtains and looked out into the darkness, and it seemed to my troubled fancy that all those little points of light filling the sky were the furnaces of innumerable divine alchemists, who labour continually, turning lead into gold, weariness into ecstasy, bodies into souls, the darkness into God; and at their perfect labour my mortality grew heavy, and I cried out, as so many dreamers and men of letters in our age have cried, for the birth of that elaborate spiritual beauty which could alone uplift souls weighted with so many dreamers.

- W.B. Yeats, a selection from *Rosa Alchemia*

Alchemia Soundtrack:

1. Danna & Clement, "Sunrise West" from the album *Slumberland Episode Two Awaken and Dreaming*. Published by Summerland Music/ SOCAN.
2. Oreobambo, "Track 12" from the album *Tollan*. Published by EM Productions. And Daimon, "Skin to Skin" from the Waveform Records album *Temenos*. Courtesy of Waveform Records.
3. Escala, "Requiem for a Tower" from the album *Escala*. Composed by Clinton Mansell. Published by Universal Music Publishing.
4. Ennio Morricone, "Remorse" from the album *The Mission*.
5. Oreobambo, "Track 10" from the album *Tollan*. Published by EM Productions.
6. Magna Canta, "Gilentium" from the album *Enchanted Spirits*. Composed by Junior Deros and Ray Frederico.
7. Skin to Skin, "Nekyia I" from the Waveform album *Temenos*. Courtesy of Waveform Records.
8. A Positive Life, "Lighten Up!" from the Waveform album *Synesthetic*. Courtesy of Waveform Records.
9. Ennio Morricone, "Once Upon a Time in America: Debhorah's Theme" played by Yo-Yo Ma on the album *Yo-Yo Plays Ennio Morricone*. Published by Sony BMG Music.
10. Ralph Zurmuhle, "Horizon" from the album *Our Mother*.
11. Sounds From the Ground, "Tumbledown" (featuring BJ Cole) from the album *Luminal*. Composed by Nick Woolfson, Elliot Morgan Jones, BJ Cole. Published by Netzwerk Songs.
12. Vas, "Remembrance" from the album *Sunyata* and "Kali Basa" from the album *Feast of Silence*. Composed by Azam Ali and Greg Ellis.
13. Liquid Bloom, "Whispers of our Ancestors" from the album *Spa India*.
14. Silvard, "Rain" from the album *Life is Grand...On Cape Cod*.
15. Sanjiva, "Four Dimensional Interaction" from the album *Slumberland Episode Two Awake and Dreaming*.
16. Ennio Morricone, "Penance" and "Refusal" from the album *The Mission*. Published by Virgin Records. And Escala, "Chai Mai" from the album *Escala*. Composed by Ennio Morricone. Published by SIAE UK.
17. Escala, "Palladio" from the album *Escala*. Composed by Karl Jenkins.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

MOMIX is a company of dancer-illusionists under the direction of Moses Pendleton. In addition to stage performances world-wide, MOMIX has worked in film and television, recently appearing in a national commercial for Hanes underwear and a Target ad that premiered during the airing of the 67th Annual Golden Globe® Awards. With performances on PBS's *Dance in America* series, France's *Antenne II* and Italian RAI television, the company's repertory has been broadcast to 55 countries. Joining the Montréal Symphony in the Rhombus Media film of Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* and winner of an International Emmy® for Best Performing Arts Special, the company's performance was distributed on laser disc by Decca Records. MOMIX was also featured in *Imagine*, one of the first 3-D IMAX films to be released in IMAX theaters world-wide. MOMIX dancers Cynthia Quinn and Karl Baumann, under Moses Pendleton's direction, played the role of "Bluey" in the feature film *FX2*; and *White Widow*, co-choreographed by Moses Pendleton and Cynthia Quinn, was featured in Robert Altman's movie, *The Company*. Commissioned by corporations such as Fiat and Mercedes Benz, MOMIX performed at Fiat's month-long 100th Anniversary Celebration in Torino, Italy and Mercedes Benz's International Auto Show in Frankfurt, Germany. Participating in the *Homage a Picasso* in Paris, the company was also selected to represent the U.S. at the European Cultural Center at Delphi. With the support of the Scottsdale Cultural Council Scottsdale Center for the Arts in Scottsdale, Arizona, Pendleton created *Bat Habits* to celebrate the opening of the San Francisco Giants' new spring training park in Scottsdale. This work served as the forerunner of *Baseball* and joins such acclaimed original productions as *Lunar Sea*, *Opus Cactus*, *Orbit*, *Passion* and *Botanica*. With nothing more than light, shadow, props, the human body and an epic imagination, MOMIX has astonished audiences on five continents for more than 30 years.

Moses Pendleton (Artistic Director) has been one of America's most innovative and widely performed choreographers and directors for over 40 years. A co-founder of the ground-breaking Pilobolus Dance Theater in 1971, he formed his own company, MOMIX, in 1980. Pendleton has also worked extensively in film, TV and opera and as a choreographer for ballet companies and special events.

Pendleton was born and raised on a dairy farm in Northern Vermont. His earliest experiences as a showman came from exhibiting his family's dairy cows at the Caledonian County Fair. He received his BA in English Literature from Dartmouth College in 1971. Pilobolus began touring immediately, and the group shot to fame in the 1970s, performing on Broadway under the sponsorship of Pierre Cardin, touring internationally and appearing in PBS's *Dance in America* and *Great Performances* series.

By the end of the decade, Pendleton had begun to work outside of Pilobolus, performing in and serving as principal choreographer for the Paris Opera's Integrale Erik Satie in 1979 and choreographing the Closing Ceremonies of the Winter Olympics at Lake Placid in 1980. In 1981, he created MOMIX, which rapidly established an international reputation for highly inventive and often illusionistic choreography. The troupe has been touring steadily and is currently performing several programs internationally. The company has made numerous special programs for Italian and French television and received the Gold Medal of the Verona Festival in 1994.

Pendleton has also been active as a performer and choreographer for other companies. He has staged Picabia's Dadaist ballet *Relache* for the Joffrey Ballet and *Tutuguri*, based on the writings of Artaud, for the Deutsch Opera. He created the role of the Fool for Yuri Lyubimov's production of Mussorgsky's *Khovanschina* at La Scala

and choreographed Rameau's *Platee* for the U.S. Spoleto Festival in 1987. He contributed choreography to Lina Wertmuller's production of *Carmen* at the Munich State Opera in 1993. More recently, he has choreographed new works for the Arizona Ballet and the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet. He teamed up with Danny Ezralow and David Parsons to choreograph AEROS with the Romanian gymnastics team.

His film and television work includes the feature film *FX2* with Cynthia Quinn, *Moses Pendleton Presents Moses Pendleton* for ABC ARTS cable (winner of a Cine Golden Eagle award) and *Pictures at an Exhibition* with Charles Dutoit and the Montreal Symphony, which received an International Emmy® for Best Performing Arts Special in 1991. Pendleton has made music videos with Prince, Julian Lennon and Cathy Dennis.

Pendleton is an avid photographer with works presented in Rome, Milan, Florence and Aspen. Images of his sunflower plantings at his home in northwestern Connecticut have been featured in numerous books and articles on gardening. He is the subject of the book *Salto di Gravita* by Lisavetta Scarbi, published in Italy in 1999. Pendleton was a recipient of the Connecticut Commission on the Arts Governor's Award in 1998. He received the Positano Choreographic Award in 1999 and was a Guggenheim Fellow in 1977. He is a recipient of a 2002 American Choreography Award for his contributions to choreography for film and television. In May 2010, Pendleton received an honorary doctorate of fine arts and delivered the keynote address to the University of the Arts in Philadelphia.

Cynthia Quinn (Associate Director) grew up in Southern California. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California at Riverside and continued there as an Associate in Dance for five years. In 1988, she received the University's Alumni Association's Outstanding Young Graduate Award. As a member of Pilobolus, she performed on Broadway and throughout the United States, Europe, Canada, Israel and Japan. She collaborated on the choreography of *Day Two, Elegy for the Moment, Mirage, What Grows in Huygens Window* and *Stabat Mater*. Quinn began performing with MOMIX in 1983 and has since toured throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, South America and Japan. She has appeared in numerous television programs and music videos and has assisted Moses Pendleton in the choreography of *Pulcinella* for the Ballet Nancy in France, *Tutuguri* for the Berlin Opera Ballet, *Platee* for the Spoleto Festival USA, *Les Maries de la Tour Eiffel* in New York, *AccorDION* for the Zurich-Vorbuhne Theatre and *Carmen* for the Munich State Opera. She has also appeared as a guest artist with the Ballet Theatre Francaise de Nancy, the Berlin Opera Ballet and the Munich State Opera, as well as at international galas in Italy, France and Japan. Quinn made her film debut as Bluey (a role she shared with Karl Baumann) in *FX2*. She was a featured performer in the Emmy® award-winning film *Pictures at an Exhibition* with the Montreal Symphony and has also appeared in a 3D IMAX film. Quinn is a board member of the Nutmeg Conservatory in Torrington, CT and is on the advisory board of the Susan B. Anthony Project, also in Torrington, CT. Quinn was featured with Ru Paul and k.d. Lang for M.A.C. Cosmetics' Fashion Cares benefits in Toronto and Vancouver. She is co-choreographer of *White Widow*, which is featured prominently in the new Robert Altman film *The Company*. Quinn will also appear in the upcoming film *First Born* with Elisabeth Shue. However, her most rewarding and challenging role is as a mother to her daughter, Quinn Elisabeth.

Jerrica Blankenship (Dancer) is originally from Morgantown, West Virginia. She graduated from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia with a BFA in jazz dance performance in 2012. Growing up, Blankenship was a National Training Scholar with the American Ballet Theater, where she was trained and mentored. She has apprenticed with River North Chicago Dance Company and interned with

Philadelphia's BalletX. She started touring as a company member of Brian Sanders' JUNK her junior year of college and continues to work with him. While in college, Blankenship was awarded the Elizabeth A. Pulaski Memorial Scholarship and Stella Moore Award of Excellence, chosen by her professors. This past year, she toured with *The Radio City Christmas Spectacular* as a dancer in the ensemble. Blankenship was honored to join MOMIX this past summer.

Aaron Canfield (Dancer) Originally from Baltimore, MD, Aaron Canfield received his training from Southwest Virginia Ballet with Pedro Szalay, Post School of Ballet with Terri Post, New Castle School of Dance with Sandra Smeltzer, Elie Lazar, Todd Allen and was a trainee with the Richmond Ballet for two years. He has been a guest artist with the Lexington Ballet, Una Dance Theatre, Community Dance Connection Theatre, Rockingham Ballet Theatre and Southwest Virginia Ballet. In addition to his dance training, Canfield has a first degree black belt in Taekwondo and was a national medalist for four consecutive years.

Jennifer Chicheportiche (Dancer) was born in Bordeaux, France. She trained at the Academie Besso Ballet de Toulouse and completed her studies in Paris with Dominique Khalfouni. At the age of 19, she joined the Jeune Ballet International de Rosella Hightower in Cannes, where she performed works from Prejlocaj, Balanchine, Renatto Zanella and Jhon Butler, before becoming a member of Balletto Teatro Di Torino. While in the Italian company, she toured Europe and performed at the International Ballet Festival de Miami. In 2004, she moved to Scotland to dance with The Ensemblegroup. Chicheportiche continued her career in the UK with Opera North, doing the national tour of *One Touch Of Venus*. While in Europe, she worked with internationally renowned choreographers such as Luca Vegetti, Carol Armitage, William Tuckett and Christopher Hampson. After coming to NYC, she performed with Chamber Dance Project, International Ballet Theater, Lydia Johnson, New Generation Dance and Adam Miller Dance Company. She was part of *Botanica's* original cast and is involved in the creation process of MOMIX's newest show. Chicheportiche joined MOMIX in 2007.

Eddy Fernandez (Dancer) is a native of West Palm Beach, FL. He began dancing as part of the performing organization called The Young Americans. Fernandez then continued his studies at Chapman University in Orange County, CA, where he received his BA in Dance in 2009. He is absolutely ecstatic about working with MOMIX.

Vincent Harris (Dancer) was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. At the age of eight, he was a professional hip hop dancer, dancing back up for recording artist Immature and was named New York's Youngest Choreographer by Fox 5 News. He began his ballet training at the Dance Theater of Harlem, and later received a full scholarship to Studio Maestro to continue his training under the direction of Francois Perron and Nadege Hottier. Harris graduated with honors from Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of the Performing Arts as a dance major. He has worked with artists such as Amerie, Ashanti, Lil' Mama, Talia Coles and Tyme Johnson. He has played a major role in the choreography for the film *A Dance for Grace*. Harris joined MOMIX in 2010.

Catherine Jaeger (Dancer) A native of Poughquag, NY, Catherine Jaeger began her dance training at The Ridgefield Conservatory of Dance, where she received the Patricia Schuster Award for Dance Excellence. In May 2012, Jaeger graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BFA in Contemporary Dance Performance from The Boston Conservatory. As well as performing works by Martha Graham, José Limon, Alwin Nikolais, Thang Dao, Danielle Agami, Trisha Brown and Ohad Naharin, she danced for BalletRox under the direction of Tony Williams. After graduating, Jaeger worked

with Nimbus Dance Works under the direction of Samuel Pott, and toured with Ballet Hispanico under the direction of Eduardo Vilario. She is performing for the first time with MOMIX.

Rebecca Rasmussen (Dancer) was born and raised in Moorpark, CA, where she professionally performed with the Media City Ballet, La Danserie and the DeDa Dance Theatre. Rasmussen received her BFA in Dance from The Boston Conservatory, where she had the honor of performing works by Paul Taylor, José Limon, Michael Folkiner and Murray Louis. She would like to thank her family and friends for all their endless love and support because without them she wouldn't be where she is now. Rasmussen has been traveling the world with MOMIX since 2006.

Risa Yokoi (Dancer) Originally from Tokushima, Japan, Risa Yokoi began her dance training at Teruki Shimada Ballet Theater and Tokushima Ballet Theater. She then studied at Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan, where she worked with Joyce Herring and Vivi Flindt. She is a graduate of the Boston Conservatory with a BFA in Dance, where she was awarded the merit scholarship. While there, Yokoi had the opportunity to perform works by Gerald Arpino, Alwin Nikolais, José Limon, Paul Taylor, Larry Keigwin, Daniel Pelzig and Viktor Plotnikov. Her summer study included LINES Ballet, the Juilliard School and Nederlands Dans Theater. She is also working on a second degree in Management Studies at Boston University. This is her first season with MOMIX.

Woodrow F. Dick III (Technical Director) No, this name is not someone's idea of something funny to slip into the program. Woodrow, or "Woody" as he is affectionately called, gave up being taken seriously long ago. You won't believe anything that is written here so why should he even bother to tell you about himself? He has worked on various productions, some big, most of them small. This would probably have been the bio that gave you that smug satisfaction of recognizing an obscure production that no one else you came with has seen. But really, what's the point in listing all of that stuff and wasting space in this program when you still don't believe there's a guy out there named Woody Dick?

Phoebe Katzin (Costume Designer) has been designing and constructing dresses and costumes for over twenty years. After graduating from Endicott College's fashion design program, she worked for Kitty Daly, building dance costumes and dressmaking. For several years, she lived in New York making costumes for Kitty Leach, Greg Barnes and Allison Conner. For the past few years, she has been working for MOMIX and Pilobolus.

Michael Korsch (Lighting Designer) is a lighting and scenic designer based in Philadelphia, PA, where he graduated from Temple University with a BA in Theatre. He has worked with numerous directors and choreographers, creating visual designs for dance and theatre throughout North and South America, Europe, Australia and Asia. Korsch has been the resident lighting/scenic designer and technical director for Complexions Contemporary Ballet since 1998 and the resident lighting designer for Ballet Arizona since 2001. In addition, he has created original designs for companies including Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Aspen/Santa Fe Ballet, BalletMet, BalletX, Carolina Ballet, Cleveland Play House, DanceBrazil, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Daytona Contemporary Dance Company, Disney Creative Entertainment, English National Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, North Carolina Dance Theatre, Oakland Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Sacramento Ballet, Staatsballett Berlin and Washington Ballet.

Carla DeBeasi Ruiz (General Manager) graduated from Western Kentucky University with a degree in public relations and a concentration in performing arts management. Ruiz was the public relations director for her alma mater's theatre and dance department and has experience promoting visual and musical artists. She joined MOMIX in 2007.