



Presented by Dance Affiliates  
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# **ROSIE HERRERA** **DANCE THEATRE**

## **PROGRAM**

*Dining Alone*

**// Intermission //**

*Various Stages of Drowning: A Cabaret*



**Thursday, January 15 at 7:30 PM**

**Friday, January 16 at 8 PM**

**Saturday, January 17 at 2 PM and 8 PM**

Zellerbach Theatre

## PROGRAM NOTES

### ***Dining Alone***

Dedicated to the memory of the late, great Jennylyn Duanny

Choreography and Direction: **Rosie Herrera**

Costumes: **Rosie Herrera with Katie Stirman**

Lighting Design: **David Ferri**

Commissioned by the American Dance Festival and the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts in 2011. Research supported by The Miami Light Project's Here and Now commissioning program and the Maggie Allesse National Center for Choreography.

// Intermission //

### ***Various Stages of Drowning: A Cabaret***

Choreography and Direction: **Rosie Herrera**

Costumes: **Rosie Herrera**

Lighting Design: **David Ferri**

Underwater Film: **Rosie Herrera and Adam Reign**

Commissioned by the Miami Light Project in association with the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts in 2009.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

### **Rosie Herrera Dance Theatre**

Since its discovery in 2009 by Charles Reinhart after the premiere of *Various Stages of Drowning: A Cabaret*, Rosie Herrera Dance Theatre (RHDT) has quickly become a beloved fixture in the contemporary arts scene in Miami. With a whirlwind success that has taken them from sold out performances at the prestigious American Dance Festival, The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami Dade County and, most recently, The Baryshnikov Arts Center in NYC, the company is becoming a force to be reckoned with in the national dance scene. Known for its diverse ensemble that consists of some of Miami's most brilliant performers and creators ranging in genres from theatre, performance art, opera, drag and contemporary ballet, RHDT has had the privilege of performing two American Dance Festival commissioned pieces and premiering them at the festival as well as enjoying unprecedented success in Miami. The NYC premiere of *Various Stages of Drowning: A Cabaret* was said by Kayt MacMaster of BroadwayWorld.com to be "so innovative, searing and disturbing..." that it warranted "repeat viewings..." and their recent NYC premiere of *Dining Alone* was hailed by Deborah Jowitt as "earthy, poetic and beyond dada imaginative."

**Rosie Herrera** was described by *The New York Times* as "the Pina Bausch of South Beach." At her company's New York debut, Rosie Herrera emerged as a choreographic force to be reckoned with in the contemporary performance scene. A dance graduate from New World School of the Arts, she is also a classically trained coloratura soprano who performed with the Performers Music Institute Opera Ensemble and has worked extensively in theatre, opera, cabaret and dance for over a decade. As a Miami-based artist, her choreography has been commissioned by The Miami Light Project, in association with the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, The American Dance Festival (2010, 2012 and 2013) and Moving Ground Dance Theater (Ohio, 2013). Most recently, she received a 2013 Princess Grace Award for her new work for Ballet Hispanico. Herrera has also collaborated on productions with The South Miami Dade Cultural Arts Center, New World School of the Arts, Zoetic Stage and Six Floor Ensemble as well as with theater artist Rudi Goblen and filmmakers Adam Reign and Lucas Leyva. She was a 2010 MANCC choreographic fellow and a 2011 Miami Dance Fellow.

**Leah Verier-Dunn** (Dancer) is a graduate of New World School of the Arts. She is the Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director of Moving Ethos, a Florida-based modern dance company. Verier-Dunn has danced for KEIGWIN + COMPANY, Adele Myers and Dancers and Bill Doolin and played a leading role in the Miami cast of Diane Paulus' *The Donkey Show*. Today, she actively performs with Rosie Herrera Dance Theatre and Red Dirt Dance.

**Ana Mendez** (Dancer) was born in Miami and is a graduate from the University of Illinois. She is a professional dancer and performance artist and has been commissioned by the Adrienne Arsht Center and Miami Light Project for the Here and Now Festival, the de la Cruz Collection, Miami Art Museum, the Bass Museum and the Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami. Mendez is an artist fellow for the Artist in Residence in the Everglades program. She was recently commissioned to present her first ever sculptural installation, *Fortress*, at Bas Fisher Invitational. Mendez has also performed for Natasha Tsakos, Octavio Campos, Miami Contemporary Dance Company and Circ X. She is currently a visiting performance artist at Spinello Projects.

**Rudi Goblen** (Dancer) is a writer, dancer and actor who has trained and worked with DV8 Physical Theater and Cirque De Soleil. He is a founding member of Teo Castellanos' D-Projects, Rosie Herrera Dance Theatre, Octavio Campos' Camposition Hybrid Theater Works and interactive performance troupe Circ X. Goblen is a recipient of the 2008 Future Aesthetics Artist Regrant, funded by the Ford Foundation in conjunction with the Future Aesthetics Cohort, and the 2013 Miami-Dade County's Dance Miami Choreographers Program Award. He currently teaches and tours nationally and internationally with his three one-man shows, *Insanity Isn't*, *Fair Welling* and *PET*, all of which were originally commissioned and presented by Miami Light Project.

**Luis Alberto Cuevas** (Dancer) hails from the Dominican Republic via New York City. Cuevas attended the BFA program at the New World School of the Arts and has worked with choreographers Peter London, Garth Fagan, Dale Andree and Bill Doolin. He has had the privilege of performing with several companies including Gold Coast Theater Company, Momentum Dance Company, Freddick Bratcher and Company, Teo Castellanos' D-Projects, Circ X (with Director Heidi Marshall in a world premiere original musical) and Rosie Herrera Dance Theatre and performed recently in Diane Paulus' *Donkey Show* as Puck/Dr. Wheelgood. As a choreographer, Cuevas' work has been presented by New World School of the Arts, Miami Dade College, The Emerging Choreographers Series, The Florida Dance Festival, The New World Symphony and Thomas Amour Youth Ballet with The Dranoff International Foundation. Most recently, he was commissioned by The Miami Light Project for the 2012 Here and Now Festival.

**Gerardo Pilatti** (Dancer), better known as Miami's infamous character and drag queen comedienne "Geraldine," has been presenting his avant garde drag performances in Miami for seven years, until he retired from the drag scene searching for new adventures. Born in Argentina, Pilatti is a self-taught comedian and craft man and accomplished designer and make-up artist. He has designed wardrobe and make-up for the premiere of *1000 homosexuals* at The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts as well as developed a cult following for his original drag and non-drag characters. His "Geraldine" impersonation won the Miami New Times Best Drag Queen award. Pilatti loves his family very much and has co-written the ongoing duet "Eeeh" by SIG. Pilatti is currently living in Los Angeles.

**Katie Stirman** (Dancer), a graduate of the New World School of the Arts, returned to her alma mater five years ago to scout fellow alumni for her production company. She was introduced to Rosie Herrera and has enjoyed working with her ever since. Stirman has worked with choreographers Tatiana Baganova, Gerri Houlihan, Michael Foley, Sean Curran,

Jane Carrington, Peter London and Hattie Mae Williams, and most recently with Rosie Herrera. She is also a certified Bikram instructor.

**Simon Thomas-Train** (Dancer) began his dance training as a freshman cross-country ski recruit at Middlebury College in 2005. Ever-fascinated by the intersection of the artist and the athlete, he has doggedly pursued dance wherever he can since graduation in 2009. He has had the pleasure of working with Satya Roosens/Studio Eclipse, Big Action Performance Ensemble, Attack Theatre, Alexandra Beller, Kendra Portier, Third Rail Projects' *Then She Fell*, Rosie Herrera Dance Theatre, Red Dirt Dance and David Dorfman Dance. Thomas-Train creates his own blend of collaborative multidisciplinary performance under the name The Space We Make with his co-director Caitlin Scholl.

**David Ferri** (Lighting Designer) has worked with prominent choreographers such as Pina Bausch, Shen Wei, Doug Varone, Yin Mei, Eiko and Koma, Jane Comfort, David Rousseve, Jody Sperling and Ballet Preljocaj. He has been the Production Manager for the prestigious American Dance Festival since 1996 training upcoming designers in America. Ferri is the recipient of 1987-1988 Bessie Award for his design of Doug Varone's *Straits* and 2000-2001 Bessie Award for Sustained Achievement in Lighting Design. He is the resident Lighting Designer - Technical Director for The Vassar College Dance Department and was also resident lighting designer and technical director at PS 122 from 1985-1991. Ferri lives in New York between his travels and projects.

**Elayne Bryan** (Company Manager) joins Herrera's lively company having worked in Miami, California and at sea as a Stage Manager, Scenic Designer and Audio Engineer. Bryan is the Executive Producing Director of the Miami based alternative theater company, The Project [theatre].

**Tiffany Schrepferman** (Stage Manager) stage manages for Rosie Herrera Dance Theatre and also freelances as a lighting designer and stage manager for dance and theatre. After graduating from Belhaven University with a BFA in Dance, Schrepferman worked for the American Dance Festival as Production Stage Manager of the Reynolds Theater for five summers. She also currently serves as the Production Stage Manager and resident Lighting Designer for Ad Deum Dance Company and Ad Deum II based in Houston, TX, where she also performs with the company.

Thank you to Charles Reinhart, Jodee Nimerichter, Beth Boone and all the dancers and collaborators who have breathed life into this work at some time or another. A special thank you to the late, great Jennylin Duanny.