

# **CALEB TEICHER & COMPANY**

# **PROGRAM**

There will be an intermission.

Friday, December 14 @ 8 PM Saturday, December 15 @ 2 PM Saturday, December 15 @ 8 PM

Zellerbach Theatre



The 18/19 dance series is presented by Annenberg Center Live and NextMove Dance.

# PROGRAM NOTES

#### Variations

**Choreography** Caleb Teicher

Dancers Brittany DeStefano, Gabriel Winns Ortiz, Caleb Teicher, Byron Tittle Music Goldberg Variations BWV 988, Fugue in E, BWV 878, Johann Sebastian Bach and recorded by Glenn Gould (1955)

**Lighting Design** Serena Wong

Variations was commissioned by the Kupferberg Center for the Arts at Queens College, with the support of the CUNY Dance Initiative, and made possible, in part, thanks to an artistic residency at the American Tap Dance Foundation.

#### Meet Ella

Choreography and Improvisation Nathan Bugh and Caleb Teicher

Dancers Evita Arce and Macy Sullivan

Music Selections from Ella in Rome: The Birthday Concert (Live), Mack The Knife: The Complete Ella in Berlin (Live), Performed and recorded live by Ella Fitzgerald

**Lighting Design** Asami Morita

Costume Design Marion Talan

Meet Ella was created with commissioning support from Gibney Dance with funds provided by the Howard Gilman Foundation. This piece was also made possible, in part, thanks to an artistic residency at the American Tap Dance Foundation.

# **Great Heights**

Choreography/Performance Caleb Teicher

Costume Design Marion Talan

Music Allison Ponthier (Vocalist) and Ben Paterson (Piano/Wurlitzer), recorded by Mickey Alexander, Love Is A Song composed by Frank Churchill and Harry Morley; Five Months, Two Weeks, Two Days composed by Debbie Morris, Don Donaldson; Plastic composed by Moses Sumney

Great Heights was created in part, thanks to an artistic residency at the American Tap Dance Foundation.

# ABOUT THE ARTISTS

### **Caleb Teicher & Company**

Caleb Teicher & Company (CT&Co) was founded in 2015 by acclaimed dancer/choreographer Caleb Teicher and seeks to expand the capacity of America's rich music and dance traditions through innovative choreography, performance and contextualization. Utilizing tap dance, vernacular jazz, lindy hop and a mix of other dance styles born and bred in America, the company's work reflects a collective conscience within modern American culture. Whether tap dancing with a live beatboxer or to Bach's Goldberg Variations, swing dancing to Ella Fitzgerald's famous recordings or to a new contemporary score by pianist Conrad Tao, audiences have warmed to CT&Co's unique style of theatricality, humor, emotional expression and aesthetic exploration.

Past engagements include The Joyce Theater, Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, PS21 Chatham, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival's Inside/Out Series, UNCW, Gibney Dance, Queens College, The Yard on Martha's Vineyard, LaMaMa Experimental Theater Club and the American Tap

Dance Foundation, amongst others. Upcoming engagements include Fall For Dance @ New York City Center, the Kennedy Center (D.C.) with the National Symphony Orchestra and Works & Process at the Guggenheim (NYC). Follow the company on Instagram (@CalebTeicher) and Facebook (facebook.com/calebteicherandcompany), or visit CalebTeicher.net.

#### **Caleb Teicher**

A 2011 Bessie Award winner for Outstanding Individual Performance, one of Dance Magazine's 2012 "25 to Watch", and the 2016 winner of Dance Magazine's "Best Emerging Choreographer" Reader's Choice Award, Caleb Teicher has garnered acclaim for his work as a performer, choreographer and teacher. Favorite credits include: Dorrance Dance, The Chase Brock Experience, The Bang Group and West Side Story (International tour). He's been featured in The New York Times, Vogue, Interview Magazine, Dance Magazine and other publications. He is a proud alum of the School at Jacob's Pillow and the National YoungArts Foundation.

# Evita Arce (Dancer)

Known for her magical energy, high-flying aerials and dynamic movement, Evita Arce is a specialist in the lindy hop, the Charleston and other swing-era dances. Arce performed the featured lindy hop role with partner, Michael Jagger, in the Broadway show SWING for the 2008 Japan tour, The Sacramento Music Circus and the Benedum Theater in Pittsburgh. Arce's choreography and partner work have earned her 1st and 2nd place in numerous national contests. At the American Lindy Hop Championships in October 2007, she won 1st place in Blues and Cabaret. Arce was recognized for her solo Charleston dancing with 1st and 2nd place standings. More recently, she took 1st place in the jazz dance competitions, both solo and partner (with Nathan Bugh), at ILHC 2012.

### **Brittany DeStefano** (Dancer)

Brittany DeStefano is a multi-form dancer from upstate New York. After many years training locally, she began studying in New York City under the mentorship of Derick K. Grant. At the School at Jacob's Pillow, she studied with Lane Alexander, Derick K. Grant, Lisa LaTouche, Brenda Bufalino, Paul Arslanian, Sam Weber, Nicholas Van Young, Jason Samuels Smith and Michelle Dorrance. She began her professional career as a company member of Tap Kids under the direction of Lisa Hopkins and has worked with numerous New Yorkbased choreographers including Lisa LaTouche, Cartier Williams, Leonardo Sandoval and Felipe Galganni. Other performance credits include Jason Samuels Smiths' A.C.G.I at the Brooklyn Dance Festival, Chicago Human Rhythm Project's Juba! Masters of Tap! at the Kennedy Center, ATDF's Rhythm in Motion and Dorrance Dance.

#### Macy Sullivan (Dancer)

From Camas, WA, Macy Sullivan dances in New York City for Dance Heginbotham, The Chase Brock Experience and Caleb Teicher & Company. She has performed as Peter in Isaac Mizrahi's Peter and the Wolf, Marie in Chase Brock's The Nutcracker and as a featured tap dancer in The Poor of New York (Off-Off-Broadway). She made her short film debut in Alientologists, directed by Tyler Rabinowitz, in 2016. Select performance venues include Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, The Joyce, The Guggenheim, Baryshnikov Arts Center, Jacob's Pillow, Danspace Project, Symphony Space, LaMaMa, Dicapo Opera Theatre, The Connelly Theater and Keller Auditorium. She holds a BFA in Dance from The Juilliard School (Martha Hill Prize, John Erskine Prize, Choreographic Honors).

#### Byron Tittle (Dancer)

Byron Tittle has been dancing since the age of five in his hometown of New York. Starting with tap and ballet, he soon grew to enjoy the different genres and aesthetics in the entire realm of dance. He began tapping with the American Tap Dance Foundation's Tap City Youth Ensemble, meeting Michelle Dorrance through workshops and classes held there. He has toured the nation with The Tap Kids under the direction of Lisa Hopkins and Phillip Stern. Most recently, he has enjoyed touring with Dorrance Dance.

# Gabriel Winns Ortiz (Dancer)

Gabriel Winns Ortiz was born and raised in San Diego, CA. He started dancing at the age of 11, and his love for the art form has continued to grow ever since. He has toured worldwide with the critically-acclaimed stage show, Tap Kids, and since moving to New York City, he has worked with various companies including RumbaTap, Dorrance Dance and Swing FX. He also directs his own group called the Students of Sound and teaches at the American Tap Dance Foundation, Television credits include Americas Most Talented Kids (2002). America's Got Talent (2011) and FakeOff (2014).

# **Serena Wong** (Lighting Designer)

Serena Wong is a Brooklyn-based freelance lighting designer for theatre, opera and dance. Her designs have been seen at New York Live Arts, Danspace, Irondale Arts Center, REDCAT and Jacob's Pillow. She is the resident lighting designer for New York Theatre Ballet and enjoys beekeeping and bread-baking.