

# **UNION TANGUERA + KATE WEARE COMPANY**

### Sin Salida

Artistic Direction Esteban Moreno and Claudia Codega

**Choreography** Kate Weare of Kate Weare Company in collaboration with Esteban Moreno and Claudia Codega of Union Tanguera

Performers Claudia Codega, Pablo Estigarribia, Esteban Moreno, Thryn Saxon, Daniel del Valle Escobar, Nicole Vaughan-Diaz

**Original Music** Gustavo Beytelmann, along with traditional selections from Juan D'Arienzo and Osvaldo Pugliese

Voice Jean Paul Sartre in his interview about the piece No Exit in 1964

Lighting Design Judicaël Montrobert

Costume Design Nadine Chabannier

**PROGRAM** There will not be an intermission.

### Friday, April 5 @ 8 PM Saturday, April 6 @ 2 PM

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Zellerbach Theatre



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



The presentation of Union Tanguera + Kate Weare Company was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Sin Salida was co-produced by Nuits de Fourvière, Tango de Soie, CCN de Créteil & Val-de-Marne, Cie Käfig, ADAMI, SPEDIDAM, Région Auvergne Rhône-Alpes, Ville de Lyon, Ville de Boulogne Billancourt, with the support of the Centre Chorégraphik Pôle Pik, Aqueduc de Dardilly, Carré Belle-Feuille Boulogne Billancourt, Maison de la Danse de Lyon, and Kate Wormald.

Sin Salida was made possible, in part, by generous support from DANCEworks, a unique collaboration and creative residency program established between SUMMERDANCE Santa Barbara and the Lobero Theatre. Sin Salida was also made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

## PROGRAM NOTES

#### **Artist Statement**

Esteban Moreno and Claudia Codega, co-artistic directors of tango company Union Tanguera (France and Argentina) and choreographer Kate Weare, artistic director of contemporary dance company Kate Weare Company (USA), bring together artists from Argentinian tango and New York contemporary dance for a unique cross-pollination of disciplines, cultures and values in *Sin Salida*.

Tango as a form suggests the extent to which we must rely on others to perceive ourselves and our shifting desires, exploring individual freedom only through continuous connection between partners. In tango, a "solo" refers to a dancing couple taking a turn on the floor, never a solo dancer. For those who do not dance tango, the name of an important basic step is "salida," which means "exit".

In contrast, modern and contemporary dance has always exalted the individual as both locus of meaning and generator of content, putting forward a long and rebellious (ie: feminist) tradition of the individual's unique consciousness made visible through form. How might these two disciplines - each over a century old — speak to each other, wrestle with, embrace each other? Within this project, we seek to engage our respective forms toward a common human predicament: one needs the other to perceive oneself.

As Jean Paul Sartre (whose voice you will hear tonight) suggests: seeing ourselves through the eyes of another remains our only existential option. In this moment when cultures, countries and identities are pulling apart, this project insists that we apprehend each other. How do we hold onto ourselves while listening to another? This question is at the heart of tango.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

#### Union Tanguera

Founded in 2002, Union Tanguera is a French/Argentinean contemporary tango company based in Lyon and Buenos Aires. The company's works are created by Co-Artistic Directors Esteban Moreno and Claudia Codega, utilizing traditional tango music and dance as the foundation for their creative process. With deep respect to the purity and legacy of tango as a social dance, Union Tanguera seeks to reformulate tango's theatrical expression by incorporating elements of contemporary dance and theatre. Union Tanguera has had a home at Tango de Soie, a school and cultural center for tango in Lyon, since 2006.

Dedicated to pushing the traditional vision of Argentinean tango and exploring the contemporary voice, Union Tanguera has a history of experimental collaboration. *Nuit Blanche* (2010) was created in collaboration with two contemporary Paris-based dancers from Pina Bausch's company, Jorge Crudo and Rolan van Loor. *No Exit* (2017) was developed with the well-known composer Gustavo Beytelmann.

Union Tanguera has toured in Europe to the Maison de la Danse Lyon (France); the Biennale de la Danse, Lyon (France); the Festival Les Nuits de Fourvière in Lyon; the Carré Belle-Feuille, Boulogne-Billancourt (France); Festival "Tarbes En Tango," Tarbes (France); Radiant-Bellevue, Caluire et Cuire, Odyssud, Blagnac (France); Teatro Ponchielli di Cremona (Italy); the Collegno-Lavanderia a Vapore, Turin (Italy); the Theater Akzent, Vienne (Austria); and the Lucent Danstheater, La Haye (The Netherlands), among others.

The company made its North American debut in the fall of 2013 with a tour of *Nuit Blanche* to Cal Performances, Berkeley, CA; White Bird, Portland, OR; Calgary's Arts Commons; and UA Presents, among others. In the 2014/2015 season, it was presented by the New Orleans Ballet Association, the Pittsburgh Dance Council, Weis Center for the Performing Arts and at The Joyce Theater for a two-week season. This year, *Sin Salida* will be presented by Annenberg Center Live and NextMove Dance, Purdue Convocations, The Ringling, the City of Las Vegas and the Savannah Music Festival. uniontanguera.com @Cia.UnionTanguera

Union Tanguera would like to thank Randy Swartz and the teams of NextMove Dance and the Annenberg Center for the invitation to perform. These performances mark the company's debut in Philadelphia.

#### Kate Weare Company

Founded in New York City in 2005, Kate Weare Company is a contemporary dance group known for its startling combination of formal choreographic value and emotional interpretation. Weare's dances deal with intimacy, identity, gender, power and the body's brilliant capacity for truth-telling. As Artistic Director, Weare cultivates the individuality of her dancers to unleash a chemistry onstage that is heartfelt, precise and bold. "Weare gets under the skin of movement with almost surgical exactness, inflames it, and then makes it glow with a strange, yet familiar light. No one else is making work quite like hers." (New York dance critic Deborah Jowitt)

Weare has a long history of collaboration, commissioning original scores from an eclectic array of composers as well as diverse visual artists for design within her dances. *Sin Salida* marks Weare's first collaboration with choreographers from another dance form. Kate Weare Company has been presented throughout the U.S. at Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Joyce Theater, Guggenheim Works & Process, American Dance Festival, Chicago Dancing Festival, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, The Ringling Museum and The Boston Institute of Contemporary Art, among many others.

**Esteban Moreno** (Union Tanguera Choreographer, Artistic Director and Dancer) Moreno is one of the most renowned tango dancers in the world today. He created a style inspired by the heritage of traditional tango that has become the touchstone for a new generation of tango dancers. His work as a performer, choreographer and teacher has played an important role in tango's growing popularity. Moreno began dancing tango in the 80's in Buenos Aires, while he was student of the great tango maestros Antonio Todaro, Pepito Avellaneda, Alberto Villarraso, Roberto Grassi, Pupi Castello and Petaca Lerman, among others. There, he also worked with dancers of "Salon Style" in the Villa Urquiza neighborhood in Buenos Aires. He continues to practice this style with sincerity and enthusiasm and an eye to tango's relevance in the contemporary world.

Moreno has worked with partner Claudia Codega for 25 years. Together, they founded Union Tanguera in 2002. The shows they create with their company are intense and dynamic, a synthesis of styles reinterpreted in which fantasy and imagination are joined inside the logic of improvisation and tango. Since representing Argentina in the Universal Exposition of Seville in 1992, Moreno and Codega have been invited to important tango festivals and events around the world such as the Montpellier Dance Festival, Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra, *Opéra Maria de Buenos Aires* by Piazzola-Ferrer, Edinburgh Fringe Festival and Théâtre National de Chaillot, among others.

#### Kate Weare (Kate Weare Company Artistic Director)

Weare is recognized as a preeminent American choreographer whose dances are lucid, layered and visually sophisticated. Raised by a painter and a printmaker in Oakland, CA, Weare draws on visual art sources, language, poetry, contemporary music, psychology and nature in creating her work. Called by *Dance Magazine* "the voice of the 'it's complicated' generation," Weare celebrated her company's 10th anniversary season at The Brooklyn Academy of Music in the 2014/2015 season. Weare's recent awards include: North Carolina Arts Council Fellowship (2018); Dance/NYC Dance Advancement Fund (2018); National Dance Project (2017); Aninstantia Foundation Award (2017); The DANCEworks Fellowship (2017); The Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship (2014); White Bird Barney Creative Prize (2015); The Inaugural BAM Artist Residency (2013); the inaugural Evelyn Sharp Summer Artist-in-Residency at CalArts (2014); The Joyce Theater Mellon Foundation Awards (2011, 2015); and The Princess Grace Fellowship in Choreography (2009). Weare's 2016 work, *Marksman*, was co-commissioned by American Dance Festival and The Joyce Theater.

Companies worldwide have commissioned Weare to set work on their dancers, including Scottish Dance Theater, Cincinnati Ballet, The Limón Dance Company and The Juilliard School in New York, Cleveland's Groundworks Dance Theater and ODC Dance/SF (where Weare is Resident Artist) in co-commission with White Bird's Barney Creative Prize. Weare has acted as guest faculty at Princeton University, and taught in residence at The Juilliard School, NYU's Summer Residency Program, Gibney Dance Center, Virginia Commonwealth University, Keene State University, Marymount Manhattan and ODC's Summer Program, among others.

Fascinated by collaboration, Weare has commissioned original scores from and performed live with many artists including composer Michel Galante of NY-based Argento Chamber Ensemble; the experimental violinist David Ryther; SF-based old-time band The Crooked Jades (Jeff Kazor & Lisa Berman); opera composer Barbara White, Princeton University; Brooklyn-based indie band One Ring Zero (Michael Hearst & Joshua Camp); NYC electro-acoustic cellist/composer Christopher Lancaster; and Canadian jazz saxophonist and composer Curtis Robert Macdonald. Weare has collaborated with visual artists Kurt Perschke and Clifford Ross for set design in her dances *Lean-to* (2009), *Garden* (2011), *Dark Lark* (2013) and *Marksman* (2016).

#### Gustavo Beytelmann (Composer)

Beytelmann was born in 1945 in Venado Tuerto, Argentina into a music-loving family. He learned to play music, and tango specifically, at a very early age, joining a dance orchestra where his father, a talented violinist, often played. He studied music formally at the Institute of Music of the University of Rosario and later, composition under Francisco Kröpfl. Beytelmann has written music for the cinema, worked as pianist and arranger for the record industry, and performed with various jazz ensembles in Argentina, Italy, Germany and France. He has made appearances at the Festival of Tango of Buenos Aires and the International Moritzburg Festival in Germany. Together with Juan José Mosalini and Patrice Caratini, Beytelmann formed a trio which performed for 12 years across Europe and the Americas, recording three albums and making a significant contribution to the evolution that tango underwent in that period. From 1993 onwards, he intensified his work as a composer. He has been the artistic director of the Tango Department at the Conservatory in Rotterdam since 1996, and has taught at the universities of Seattle and Bellingham (USA) and Music Academy of Monaco, among others.

#### Claudia Codega (Union Tanguera Artistic Director and Dancer)

Codega trained in ballet, contemporary dance, jazz and composition with the renowned Argentinean choreographer Ana Maria Stekelman. She performed as a contemporary dancer in various theatres, finding tango in 1990. She met Esteban Moreno while working with Ballet Ciclos. Since representing Argentina in the Universal Exposition of Seville, where Codega and Moreno worked with renowned Argentinean choreographer Oscar Araiz, the tango couple has been invited to the most important tango festivals around the world. Prior to founding Union Tanguera, Codega and Moreno created Con este tango (1995), Locura Tangueraj (1996), turn in Holland with Tango Tango, El arte del tango with the Het National Ballet, and the opera Maria de Buenos Aires. Codega and Moreno are part of a generation that has been credited with recovering tango as a social dance. They have been integral in creating the conditions for its current popularity. They are students of the areatest tango maestros of the 80's and 90's, such as Antonio Todaro, Pepito Avellaneda, Roberto Grassi, Alberto Villarraso and Lampazo Vazquez, with whom they share a common love for traditional tango. Codega and Moreno have created a style that serves as a reference for the new generation of tango dancers and teachers. estebanyclaudia.com

#### Pablo Estigarribia (Pianist)

Estigarribia is a world-renowned virtuoso Argentine tango pianist, arranger and composer that began his musical journey in classical music. He was awarded the 1st Prize of the Bienal Juvenil National Competition in 2005. After a brief detour through jazz, he discovered tango in 2005, when he was awarded with the Orquesta Escuela de Tango scholarship for joining the ensemble under the directorship of Maestro Emilio Balcarce. He continued the path as a tango performer through Germany, France, Belgium, Japan, Russia, Finland, Canada, USA and Cuba, in over 1,000 concerts with elite Argentine tango orchestras including Victor Lavallen Orchestra, Tango Pasión and Lisandro Adrover Quintet, and also as a solo artist. Estigarribia was awarded the Gardel Prize in 2015 for the best tango recording by a new artist for his album, *Tangos Para Piano* (EPSA). He was also awarded with the Medal of

Honor by the Argentine Tango Society for his educational efforts at the Stowe Tango Music Festival (Vermont) in 2014 and 2015. Estigarribia came to the U.S. in 2017 and has performed at Blue Note Jazz. He has made appearances on NBC, Univision and Telemundo. Estigarribia published his original compositions and arrangements of traditional pieces, *Tangos de Concierto* and teaches regularly in tango festivals all over the world.

#### Thryn Saxon (Kate Weare Company Dancer)

Saxon was born and raised in Miami, FL where she attended New World School of the Arts High School. In 2014, Saxon received her BFA in dance from Florida State University. She spent her first year in New York as an apprentice with the Bill T. Jones Arnie/Zane Company and had the honor of performing with them in New York and Baltimore, MD. Saxon has had the privilege of performing works in NYC by John Zullo and Rosie DeAngelo, and is currently performing with SpacesOfFontana and Julia Ehrstrand. She is thrilled to be starting her third season as a company member with Kate Weare Company.

#### Daniel Del Valle Escobar (Union Tanguera Dancer)

Del Valle Escobar grew up dancing salon tango in Argentina. Having danced traditional tango for 15 years, he is inspired by the possibilities and different dynamics that today's tango has to offer. Since 2004, Del Valle Escobar has taught and performed in Europe, Russia, Cyprus, Japan and Hong Kong. He performed for Compañía Tango Bizzarro, Compañía Tango Seduction, Tanguera El Musical, Tango a Tierra, Compañía Tango Vivo and Compañia Otango. While in Buenos Aires, he gives regular lessons and workshops at La Viruta, El Viejo Correo, Club Gricel and Oliverio Girongo Tango. Del Valle Escobar has studied with Gabriel Angio y Natalia Gamez, Francisco Santapa y Mimi Santapa, Damian Essel y Nancy Louzan, Mariano Chicho Frumboli, Gustavo Naveira y Giselle Anne and Sebastián Arce y Mariana Montes, among others. He joined Union Tanguera in 2017.

#### Nicole Vaughan-Diaz (Kate Weare Company Dancer)

Vaughan-Diaz began her training in Miami, Florida, performing at venues including Art Basel, Miami Dance Festival and Colony Theatre. In 2013, Vaughan-Diaz graduated cum laude from the University of South Florida, receiving a BFA in dance performance, where she was awarded the BRAVO and Hope Rietschlin scholarship awards for superior artistry and performance. There, she performed works by Doug Varone, Rosie Herrera, Michael Foley, Colleen Thomas and Ben Munisteri. Additionally, she has both studied and performed solo work in Paris, France as part of USF's esteemed Dance in Paris program. Relocating to New York City, Vaughan-Diaz joined Kate Weare Company in 2013, performing as part of its Brooklyn Academy of Music and Joyce Theatre seasons, among many others.

#### Judicael Montrobert (Lighting Designer)

Since 1998, Montrobert has worked as a technical manager with theatre and dance companies. As lighting designer, he has created for dance and music companies, as well as for contemporary art exhibitions. He has worked for Cia Vértice/Christiane Jatahy (Rio de Janeiro), Théâtre La Colline (Paris), Cie Maguy Marin/CCN (Lyon), L'Association Fragile/Christian Rizzo (Paris), and Cie La Maison/Nasser Martin Gousset (Paris), among others. Since 2012, he has regularly collaborated with Union Tanguera, working on the productions of *Nuit Blanche, Station Tango, No Exit*, and most recently, *Sin Salida*. Montrobert has worked as a stage manager and light operator for the city of Firminy, France since 2017.

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