

NEWS

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The Annenberg Center and NextMove Dance Present Stars of American Ballet

(Philadelphia – October 8, 2019) — [The Annenberg Center](#) and [NextMove Dance](#) present **Stars of American Ballet**, which brings together today's most remarkable ballet talent in a cast of principal and soloist dancers from the New York City Ballet and other renowned companies. Led by Daniel Ulbricht, "one of the best male ballet dancers in New York," (*Dance Magazine*) this collective makes its Philadelphia debut with masterpieces by Balanchine, Wheeldon and more in a captivating ode to ballet. Performances are **Friday, October 18 (8 PM)** and **Saturday, October 19 (2 PM and 8 PM)**. Visit AnnenbergCenter.org for tickets.

Stars of American Ballet

Since its founding, Stars of American Ballet has presented over 80 works including repertory by Petipa, Balanchine, Robbins, Millipied, Wheeldon, Peck and more. Stars travels throughout the United States and abroad to bring the highest caliber of dancers and performances to places that are eager for world-class dance. The program at the Annenberg Center includes George Balanchine's *Tarantella*, *Apollo Pas de deux*, and *Diamonds Pas de Deux*; Christopher Wheeldon's *Liturgie*; Alexei Ratmansky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*; Daniel Ulbricht's *Tatum Pole Boogie*; and *Tres Hombres* by Denys Drozdyuk, Lex Ishimoto, and Daniel Ulbricht.

Dancers appearing in this production are Denys Drozdyuk (three-time World Ballroom Champion and co-founder of ballroom dance duo DNA), Joseph Gatti (New York International Ballet Competition Gold Medalist and international guest artist), Sterling Hyltin (NYC Ballet Principal Dancer), Adrian Danchig-Waring (NYC Ballet Principal Dancer), Ask la Cour (NYC Ballet Principal Dancer), Teresa Reichlen (NYC Ballet Principal Dancer), Kristen Segin (NYC Ballet Corps de Ballet member), Antonina Skobina (two-time USA National Ballroom Dance Champion and co-founder of ballroom dance duo DNA), and Daniel Ulbricht (NYC Ballet Principal Dancer and founder and director of Stars of American Ballet).

Founded and directed by New York City Ballet principal dancer Daniel Ulbricht, the mission of Stars of American Ballet is to see people entertained, educated, uplifted and inspired by the art of ballet and great dancing.

starsofamericanballet.com

Daniel Ulbricht (Founder/Director/Dancer)

Ulbricht was born in St. Petersburg, Florida and began his dance training at the age of 11. At age 16, Ulbricht was invited by the School of American Ballet (SAB), the official school of New York City Ballet, to continue his training. As a student at SAB, Ulbricht performed with New York City Ballet as a Jester in Peter Martins' *The Sleeping Beauty*. In December 2000, he became an apprentice with New York City Ballet and in November 2001, he joined the company as a member of the corps de ballet.

In January 2005, Ulbricht was promoted to the rank of soloist and then principal dancer in May 2007. During his time there, he danced featured roles in many Balanchine, Robbins, Martins and Wheeldon ballets including George

Balanchine's *Prodigal Son*, *Tarantella*, *Stars and Stripes*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Mozartiana*, *Nutcracker*, *Symphony in 3*, *The Steadfast Tin Soldier*; Jerome Robbins's *Fancy Free*, *Interplay*, *Suite of Dances*, *Four Seasons*; and Peter Martins's *Jeu de Cartes*, *Hallelujah Junction*, *Eight More*, *Swan Lake*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Romeo + Juliet*. Ulbricht danced *Tarantella* at the 2004 Kennedy Center Honors to celebrate the Balanchine Centenary. He has also performed at a number of national and international festivals and galas. Ulbricht is a guest teacher at the School of American Ballet and Ballet Academy East, as well as a teaching artist at a number of well-known national dance schools, private schools and universities throughout the United States. Ulbricht is currently the Artistic Advisor of Manhattan Youth Ballet and the Artistic Director of New York State Summer School for the Arts in Saratoga Springs, NY. He is also the founder and director of Stars of American Ballet, a touring group focusing on high art, education and outreach. Ulbricht is the co-founder and producer of Dance Against Cancer, an annual benefit for the American Cancer Society. danielulbricht.com

About the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

The Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts serves as a major cultural destination and crossroads connecting Penn and the greater Philadelphia region through innovative human expression in theatre, music, dance, and film, serving an annual audience of over 60,000. The Annenberg Center also serves as a key resource for the arts at Penn, connecting master artists with Penn students in support of and as an enhancement to the arts curriculum. Student performing arts groups are also key users of the Annenberg Center's multiple performance and rehearsal spaces, while also staffing many operational roles throughout the academic year. In reflection of Penn's core values as a world-respected academic institution, the Annenberg Center emphasizes artistic and intellectual excellence, diversity, and rigor in its presentations; prioritizes broad inclusiveness in the artists, audiences, and groups it serves; manages outstanding performance, conference, and meeting facilities; and stresses comprehensive event planning, production support, and customer service. The Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is a major provider of performing arts access for school children and actively engages a broad range of primary, secondary, and post-secondary student audiences and inclusive constituencies from the campus, community, and greater Philadelphia region. Visit AnnenbergCenter.org.

About NextMove Dance

NextMove Dance Artistic Director Randy Swartz created the first annual dance series in Philadelphia at the Walnut Street Theatre in 1970. In 1983, he launched the Dance Celebration series at the Annenberg Center for a 32-year run and initiated a new annual series at the Prince Theater in October 2015. Dance Affiliates, renamed NextMove Dance, is recognized as one of the nation's finest dance presenters. Known internationally for award-winning presentations for almost four decades, NextMove Dance provides a wealth of opportunities for the Delaware Valley community to interact with the artists through talk-backs, master classes, artistic collaborations, workshops, children's programs and much more. Visit nextmovedance.org.

Annenberg Center Presents 2019-20 chronological calendar is available [online](#).

CALENDAR LISTING

Stars of American Ballet

Friday, October 18, 8 PM

Saturday, October 19, 2 PM

Saturday, October 19, 8 PM

Stars of American Ballet brings together today's most remarkable ballet talents in "an unapologetic showcase of virtuosity." (*The Boston Globe*) Led by Daniel Ulbricht, "one of the best male ballet dancers in New York," (*Dance Magazine*) and featuring a cast of principal and soloist dancers from the New York City Ballet and other renowned companies, this collective makes its Philadelphia debut with masterpieces by Balanchine, Wheeldon and more in a captivating ode to ballet.

Program:

Tarantella - George Balanchine

Apollo Pas de deux - George Balanchine

Liturgy - Christopher Wheeldon

Tatum Pole Boogie - Daniel Ulbricht

Diamonds Pas de Deux - George Balanchine

Pictures at an Exhibition - Alexei Ratmansk

Tres Hombres - Denys Drozdyuk, Lex Ishimoto, Daniel Ulbricht

The 19/20 dance series is presented by the Annenberg Center and NextMove Dance.

Media support for this performance is provided by WRTI.

Visit AnnenbergCenter.org for ticket information.

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CONTACTS:

Katherine Blodgett, for the Annenberg Center

Email: katherineblodgett@gmail.com

Phone: 215.431.1230

Alexander Freeman, Director of Marketing and Ticketing

Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Email: freemana@ac.upenn.edu

Phone: 215.898.9081