

SEGERSTROM HALL

April 28, 2011

Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

The Center gratefully
acknowledges the
Segerstrom Foundation
for its lead support of
this performance.

Support for the Center's International
Dance Series provided by:

**Audrey Steele Burnand Endowed Fund
for International Dance**

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Tim and Mary Harward

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Janice M. Johnson

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PLAZA**

Please take a moment to silence all cellular phones,
pagers and watch alarms. The use of any audio or
videorecording device and the taking of photographs
(with or without flash) are strictly prohibited. Thank you.

Segerstrom Center for the Arts
presents

Tour De
FORCE II

A GALA DANCE SPECTACULAR

FEATURING

BOLSHOI THEATRE

Natalia Osipova Ivan Vasiliev

MARIINSKY THEATRE OF ST. PETERSBURG

Diana Vishneva Anastasia Matvienko Denis Matvienko

NEW YORK CITY BALLET

Tiler Peck Joaquin De Luz

AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE

Marcelo Gomes

NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA

Heather Ogden Guillaume Cote

DRESDEN SEMPEROPER BALLETT

Katherina Markowskaja

THE FORSYTHE COMPANY

Noah Gelber

SPECIAL GUESTS

Patrick De Bana & Dimo Kirilov

EIFMAN BALLET OF ST. PETERSBURG

Artistic Director, Boris Eifman

Presented in association with Ardani Artists

Sergei Danilian, Producer

*There will be one intermission
Program and cast subject to change*



THE CENTER'S DANCE LEGACY

Tour de Force II: A Gala Dance Spectacular is the latest in a long line of exciting dance performances at Segerstrom Center for the Arts. The illustrious dancers and choreographers represented on stage tonight continue a glorious tradition of presenting the world's finest dance. This celebration of dance symbolizes the Center's commitment to the highest caliber of artistic expression.

Since opening in 1986, the Center has presented one of the nation's finest dance series, including many important premieres, debuts and commissions. Sixty-five companies from around the world have appeared at the Center, many of which are represented here tonight. The world's reigning stars have danced on our stages. They have shared performances of electrifying artistry and emotion with an enthusiastic and loyal audience.

We are so grateful to our dance audiences and generous supporters who help us make this incredible dance legacy possible.

We are particularly grateful for the steadfast commitment and generosity of Mrs. Audrey Steele Burnand and the Audrey Steele Burnand Endowed Fund for International Dance. Her extraordinary support has made all of this possible.



TOUR DE FORCE II

A GALA DANCE SPECTACULAR

ACT ONE

Who's Who

(First scene of Act II)
West Coast Premiere
Premiere: 2003

Inspired by the classic motion picture *Some Like It Hot*, Boris Eifman recreates a moment from the famous beach scene.

Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg
Choreography: Boris Eifman
Music: "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin and "The Minor Goes Muggin' " by Sy Oliver.

"The Entertainer" (orchestra version) – Scott Joplin (arrang. Marvin Hamlisch) – *The Sting*. Original Motion Picture Soundtrack featuring the Music of Scott Joplin. Music composed & adapted by Marvin Hamlisch. 1974 MCA Records, Inc. – "The Minor Goes Muggin'" composed by Sy Oliver – Highlights from *The Duke Ellington Centennial Edition* (1927 – 1973). RCA Victor

Sylvia

(Pas-de-Deux)
Premiere: 1951

Anastasia Matvienko and Denis Matvienko
Choreography: Balanchine and restaged by Marina Eglevsky specifically for *Tour de Force II*
Music: Léo Delibes

Cinderella

(Pas-de-Deux)
West Coast Premiere
Premiere: 2004

Heather Ogden and Guillaume Côte
Choreography: James Kudelka
Music: Sergei Prokofiev

Tarantella

Premiere: 1964

First performed at the Center by New York City Ballet (NYCB) in 1990

Tiler Peck and Joaquin De Luz
Choreography: George Balanchine
Music: Grand Tarantelle for Piano and Orchestra, Op. 67 by Louis Moreau Gottschalk/Hershey Kay

The performance of *Tarantella*, a Balanchine® Ballet, is presented by arrangement with The George Balanchine Trust and has been produced in accordance with the Balanchine Style® and Balanchine Technique® Service standards established and provided by the Trust.

Creature

American Premiere
Premiere: 2006

Patrick De Bana and Dimo Kirilov Milev
Choreography: Patrick De Bana
Music: *Parvaz* by Kayhan Kalhor and The Brooklyn Riders and *Dawn Prayer* by Dhafer Youssef

In The Middle, Somewhat Elevated

(Pas-de-Deux)
Premiere: 1987

Katya Markowskaja and Noah Gelber
Choreography: William Forsythe
Music: Thom Willems

Lady of the Camellias

Premiere: 1978

West Coast Premiere at the Center in 2007

Diana Vishneva and Marcelo Gomes
Choreography: John Neumeier
Music: Frédéric Chopin
Pianist: Conrad Tao
Mr. Tao appears courtesy of IMG Artists.

Rossini

(Pas-de-Deux)
American Premiere
Premiere: 2011

Natalia Osipova and Ivan Vasiliev
Choreography: Leonid Jacobson
Music: Gioacchino Rossini
Staged for *Tour de Force II* by Tatiana Sevostyanova and Igor Kuzmin

— INTERMISSION —

ACT TWO

Who's Who

(First scene of Act I – “Night Club Scene”)
West Coast Premiere
Premiere: 2003

Inspired by the classic motion picture *Some Like It Hot*, Boris Eifman recreates a moment from the famous night club scene.

Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg
Choreography: Boris Eifman
Music: “Sing, Sing, Sing (With a Swing)” by Louis Prima, performed by Benny Goodman.

“Sing, Sing, Sing (With a Swing)” – Louis Prima (*Benny Goodman*)
– *Greatest Hits*. RCA Victor. Planet jazz. BMG classics. 1962

Proust: The Intermittences of the Heart

(Excerpts)
Center Premiere
Premiere: 1988

Guillaume Côté (solo), Denis Matvienko and Marcelo Gomes (pas-de-deux)
Choreography: Roland Petit
Music: Cello Concerto by Gabriel Fauré

The Picture of...

American Premiere
Premiere: 2008

Patrick De Bana
Choreography: Patrick De Bana
Music: “When I Am Laid in My Grave” from *Dido and Aeneas* by Henry Purcell, sung by Jessye Norman, plus whale songs.

Tchaikovsky

(Pas-de-Deux)
Premiere: 1960

Center premiere was 1986 with NYCB

Tiler Peck and Joaquin De Luz
Choreography: George Balanchine
Music: from *Swan Lake* by Piotr Ilyitch Tchaikovsky

The performance of *Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux*, a Balanchine® Ballet, is presented by arrangement with The George Balanchine Trust and has been produced in accordance with the Balanchine Style® and Balanchine Technique® Service standards established and provided by the Trust.

Slingerland

(Pas-de-Deux)
Premiere: 1960

Katya Markowskaja and Noah Gelber
Choreography: William Forsythe
Music: Gavin Bryars, String Quartet no. 1

Le Corsaire

(Pas-de-Deux)
Premiere: 1856

First performed complete at the Center by Kirov Ballet in 1989

Anastasia and Denis Matvienko
Choreography: Maurius Petipa
Music: Adolphe Adam

Onegin

Premiere: 1965

Center premiere by National Ballet of Canada in 1988

Heather Ogden and Guillaume Côté
Choreography: John Cranko
Music: Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Vertigo

American Premiere
Premiere: 2010

Diana Vishneva and Marcelo Gomes
Choreography: Mauro Bigonzetti
Music: Dimitri Shostakovich – String Quartet No. 8, “Largo” arranged for orchestra and Piano Concerto No. 1 for Piano, Trumpet and Strings, Opus 35 “Lento.”

FINALE:

Don Quixote

(Pas-de-Deux)
Premiere: 1869, staged by Alexander Gorsky in 1900

Center premiere by ABT in 1992

Natalia Osipova and Ivan Vasiliev
Choreography: Alexander Gorsky
Music: Ludwig Minkus

Don Quixote or Fantasies of a Madman

Premiere: 2010

Center premiere in 2011 as part of Eifman engagement

Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg
Choreography: Boris Eifman
Music: Ludwig Minkus

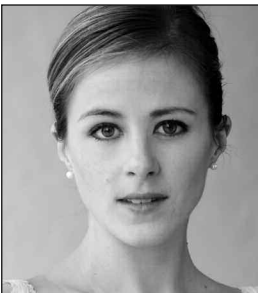
ABOUT THE ARTISTS



KATYA MARKOWSKAJA



ANASTASIA MATVIENKO



HEATHER OGDEN



NATALIA OSIPOVA



TILER PECK



DIANA VISHNEVA



GUILLAUME CÔTÉ



PATRICK DE BANA



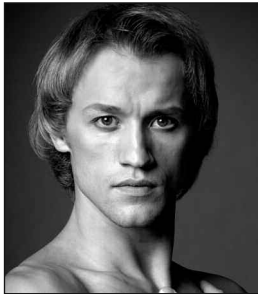
JOAQUIN DE LUZ



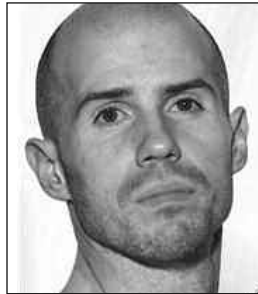
NOAH GELBER



MARCELO GOMES



DENIS MATVIENKO



DIMO KIRILOV MILEV



IVAN VASILIEV

KATHERINA MARKOWSKAJA

Katherina Markowskaja was born in Kiev, Ukraine, where she completed her training at the National Ballet Academy of Arts. While at school, she was invited to perform with the Kiev State Ballet, and at age 16 she accepted the offer of the scholarship to come to Munich and become a graduate of the Bosl. Stiftung Academy. After graduation she got an engagement at the Saxon State Opera Dresden under the direction of the Russian ballet star Vladimir Derevianko, who named her 2 years later as a Principal Dancer. In 1999 she was honored with Mary Wigman prize. She has worked with many interesting people that have shaped and promoted her career:

John Neumeier, William Forsythe, David Howard, William Burman, Patricia Neary, Cynthia Harvey, V. Vassilew, V. Derevianko, Andrea Hall, Stephan Thoss, Noëlla Pontois, Tom Schilling, Giselle Roberge, Yannick Boguin, Nanette Glushak, Johan Inger, Her numerous classical and contemporary repertoire includes:

Giselle in *Giselle*; Kitri in *Don Quixote*; Lise in *La Fille mal Gardée* (J. Lazzini); Bianca in *The Taming of the Shrew* (J. Cranko); Marie in *The Nutcracker*; Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; Rosalind in *As You Like It*; Chloé in *Daphnis and Chloe* (J. Neumeier); Otilie in *Elective Affinities* (T. Schilling); Muse in *Paganini* (V. Vassiliev); Ballerina in *Petrushka* (M. Fokine); Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty* (A. Watkin after M. Petipa); Mathilde in *Red and Black* (Uwe Scholz); *Theme and Variations*; *Rubies*, *La Tarantella* (G. Balanchine); *In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated*; *The Thrill of Vertiginous Exactitude*; *Enemy in the Figure* (W. Forsythe); *Nuages* (J. Kylian); *Le Sacre* (J. Neumeier); *Voluntaries* (G. Tetley); *Ways* (P. Zuska); *Mahler* (M. Bigonzetti).

Since 2010 she is traveling as an international principal guest.

ANASTASIA MATVIENKO

Born in Sevastopol (Ukraine). After graduating from the Kiev State School of Choreography in 2001, she joined the National Shevchenko Opera of Ukraine (Kiev) and was promoted to the rank of soloist six months later. She was a prima ballerina at the Mikhailovsky Theatre from 2007–2009 where she performed in the ballets *The Sleeping Beauty* (Aurora), *Swan Lake* (Odette-Odile), *La Bayadere* (Nikia), *The Nutcracker* (Masha), *La Sylphide* (Sylph), *Giselle* (Giselle), *Raymonda* (Raymonda), *Don Quixote* (Kitri), *Le Corsaire* (Medora), *Spartacus* (Sabina; choreography by Georgy Kovtun) and *Romeo and Juliet* (Juliet). Mariinsky Theatre soloist since 2009. Prize winner at the IV International Serge Lifar Competition (Kiev, 2002, silver medal). *Best Duet* prize and Press Jury first prize at the International Ballet Competition in Varna (2004). Prize winner at the X International Ballet and Choreography Competition (Moscow, 2005, gold medal).

HEATHER OGDEN

Heather Ogden was born in Toronto and trained at the Richmond Academy of Dance in British Columbia before joining The National Ballet of Canada in 1998. She was promoted to Principal Dancer in 2005. Ms. Ogden's repertoire with the National Ballet includes principal roles in *Swan Lake*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Nutcracker*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Onegin*, *The Merry Widow*, *La Bayadère* and *Cinderella*. In addition, Ms. Ogden has danced featured roles in diverse works such as James Kudelka's *The Four Seasons*, Dominique Dumais' *one hundred words for snow*, George Balanchine's *Apollo*, *Jewels*, *The Four Temperaments*, *Theme and Variations* and *Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux*, Eliot Feld's *Intermezzo*, August Bournonville's *La Sylphide* and Victor Gsovsky's *Grand Pas Classique*. Recent company premieres include lead roles in John Neumeier's *The Seagull* and Davide Bombana's *Carmen*. Recent world premieres have included Jorma Elo's *Pur ti Miro* and Aszure Barton's *Watch her*. In 2005, she travelled with The Suzanne

Farrell Ballet to perform the role of Dulcinea in Balanchine's *Don Quixote* in Edinburgh and danced in the National Ballet's company premiere of the work in 2007. Ms. Ogden represented the National Ballet at The Sixth International Competition for The Erik Bruhn Prize with Guillaume Côté in 2002. In 2007, she performed in the Stars of the 21st Century gala performance in New York City and was a guest performer at the Banff Centre's 60th Anniversary Gala. Ms. Ogden also performed at the Ruby Gala des Étoiles in New Orleans in 2010 and in Montréal in 2006 and 2007.

NATALIA OSIPOVA

Natalia Osipova was born in Moscow in 1986. She graduated from the Bolshoi Ballet Academy in 2004 and joined Bolshoi Ballet the same year. She was promoted to the rank of First Soloist in January 2008 and to Leading Soloist in October of that year. In May 2010 she was named a Principal dancer of the company. Ms. Osipova's repertoire with the Bolshoi includes Gamzatti and Nikiya in *La Bayadère*; Medora in *Le Corsaire*; Kitri in *Don Quixote*; Jeanne in Alexei Ratmansky's *The Flames of Paris*; Ramze and Aspacia in *The Pharaoh's Daughter*; Swanilda in *Coppélia*; title roles in *Giselle* and Yuri Burlaka's *La Esmeralda*; Sylph in *La Sylphide*; the Ballerina in Ratmansky's *The Bright Stream*; and principal roles in Leonide Massine's *Les Presages* (Frivolity); Ratmansky's *Middle Duet*, *Russian Seasons* (Girl in Red), and *Jeu de Cartes*; Twyla Tharp's *In the Upper Room*; Asaf Messerer's *Class Concert*; as well as George Balanchine's *Serenade* (Russian Dance) and *Symphony in C* (3rd Movement). She originated featured roles in Mr. Possokhov's *Cinderella* and Mr. Ratmansky's *Bolero*, *the Bolt*, and *Jeu De Cartes*. Ms. Osipova has appeared as a guest artist with the Mariinsky Ballet (Kitri in *Don Quixote*, the title role in *Giselle*), Zurich Ballet (Sylph in *La Sylphide*), the Mikhailovsky Ballet (the title role in *Giselle*), the Novosibirsk State Ballet (Nikiya in *La Bayadère*, Kitri in *Don Quixote*, the title role in *Giselle*), Teatro alla

Scala (Kitri in Rudolf Nureyev's *Don Quixote*), Paris Opera Ballet (Doll in *Petrushka*, Clara in Rudolf Nureyev's *The Nutcracker*), and American Ballet Theater (title role in *Giselle*, Sylph in *La Sylphide*, Kitri in *Don Quixote*, Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty* and Juliet in MacMillan's *Romeo and Juliet*). Her awards include the Grand Prix at the Prix de Luxembourg International Ballet Competition (2003); the Bronze Medal in the Senior Division – Moscow International Ballet Competition (2005); Russian *Ballet magazine's* Soul of the Dance Award in the "Rising Star" category (2007); Russia's National Theater Award, the Golden Mask, for her performance in Twyla Tharp's *In the Upper Room* (2008); Britain's Critics' Circle National Dance Awards – Best Female Dancer of 2007; Leonide Massine's Positano Dance Award and the Benois de la Danse Award as Best Female Dancer, both in 2008; as well as a Golden Mask (Special Jury Prize) for her duet with Vyachaslav Lopatin in *La Sylphide* (2009), and the London Critics Circle Award, 2010. Alexei Ratmansky's *The Flames of Paris*, starring Ms. Osipova, was recently filmed by Bel Air Classiques for future DVD release.

TILER PECK

Tiler Peck was born in Bakersfield, California. She began her dance training at the age of 7, studying privately with former Bolshoi Ballet Principal Dancer Alla Khaniashvili in Hollywood. At the age of 11 she began studying at Conjunctive Point in Culver City, California, with former New York City Ballet dancers Colleen and Patricia Neary. During this time she also studied with former NYCB Principal Yvonne Mounsey at Westside School of Ballet in Santa Monica. At the age of 12, Ms. Peck entered the School of American Ballet, the official school of New York City Ballet, for most of the 2000–2001 Winter Term. She returned to SAB during the summers of 2002 and 2003, and that fall began as a full-time student. In September 2004, Ms. Peck became an apprentice with New York City Ballet. In February 2005 she joined the Company as a member of the corps de ballet and was promoted to soloist

in December 2006 and in October 2009 was promoted to Principal Dancer. She performed in Meredith Willson's *The Music Man* on Broadway and as Clara in the *Radio City Christmas Spectacular*. At the opening ceremony for the 1998 Goodwill Games, Ms. Peck danced a featured role in choreography by Marguerite Derricks. Ms. Peck is a 2004 recipient of the Princess Grace Foundation – USA Dance Fellowship, the 2004 Mae L. Wien Award recipient and Janice Levin Honoree for 2006–2007. Ms. Peck's film credits include appearances in *A Time for Dancing* (2000), *Geppetto* (2000), and *Donnie Darko* (2001).

DIANA VISHNEVA

Diana Vishneva was born in Leningrad. She graduated from the Vaganova Academy of Russian Ballet (class of Professor Lyudmila Kovaleva). During her last year at the Academy she also trained at the Mariinsky Theatre. Vishneva joined the Mariinsky Ballet Company in 1995, and has been a Mariinsky Theatre soloist since 1996. Vishneva frequently performs at the Europe's most prestigious venues. In 2001 she made her debut at the Bayerisches Staatsballett (Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon*) and at the Teatro alla Scala (Aurora in Rudolf Nureyev's version of *The Sleeping Beauty*), while in 2002 she appeared at the Opera de Paris (Kitri in Rudolf Nureyev's version of *Don Quixote*). In 2003 came her debut at the Metropolitan Opera in New York (Juliet in Kenneth Macmillan's version of *Romeo and Juliet*). Since 2002 she has appeared as a guest soloist at the Staatsoper Unter den Linden (Berlin), performing the principal roles in the ballets *Giselle*, *La Bayadere*, *Swan Lake* (Patrice Bart's version), Maurice Bejart's *Ring um den Ring*, *Manon* and *The Sleeping Beauty*. Since 2005 she has also been a guest soloist with American Ballet Theatre, performing in the ballets *Swan Lake*, *Giselle*, *Don Quixote*, *Manon*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Ballet Imperial*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *The Dream* and *La Bayadere*. At American Ballet Theatre Vishneva has performed lead roles in the ballets *Sylvia* and *Thaïs Pas de deux* by Frederick Ashton, Alexei

Ratmansky's *On the Dnieper* and John Neumeier's *Lady of the Camellias*. Vishneva frequently works with renowned contemporary choreographers and stage directors. In 2005 at the Mariinsky Theatre came the premiere of Petr Zuska's ballet *Les Bras de mer*, staged specially for Diana Vishneva. In 2007 Andrei Moguchy and Alexei Kononov staged the production *Silenzio Diana Vishneva*. In 2008 Vishneva, together with Ardani Artists Management and the Orange County Performing Arts Center, presented the program *Beauty in Motion* (Alexei Ratmansky's *Pierrot Lunaire*, Dwight Rhoden's *Three Point Turn* and Moses Pendleton's *F.L.O.W.*). People's Artist of Russia (2007). Recipient of the State Prize of Russia (2000). Prize-winner at the International Ballet Competition (Lausanne, 1994). Recipient of the Benois de la danse prize (1995), the Golden Soffit (1996), the Baltika prize (1998), the Golden Mask (2001), the Dancer of Europe 2002 prize, Ballet magazine prize (2003) and a second Golden Mask (2009) in three categories – Best Female Role, Modern Dance/Female Role and Critics' Prize (Diana Vishneva: *Beauty in Motion*; project by Sergei Danilian, USA-Russia).

GUILLAUME CÔTÉ

Guillaume Côté is a native of Lac-Saint-Jean, Québec. He studied at Canada's National Ballet School, joined The National Ballet of Canada in 1999 and has been a Principal Dancer since 2004. Mr. Côté's repertoire with The National Ballet of Canada includes lead roles in *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Merry Widow*, *Swan Lake*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Giselle*, *The Nutcracker*, *Onegin* and *Le Corsaire* among others. He has created a number of lead roles in ballets by James Kudelka including Ferdinand in *An Italian Straw Hat*, Her Prince Charming in *Cinderella* and Will in *The Contract (The Pied Piper)*. Mr. Côté is in demand as an international guest artist and has danced with American Ballet Theatre, English National Ballet, Teatro Colón de Buenos Aires, Berlin's Staatsoper and Teatro alla Scala. He has also performed at Covent

Garden in London, the Metropolitan Opera in New York City and New York State Theater. Mr. Côté is also an accomplished musician and composer and has composed music for a number of dance and theatre productions internationally. Mr. Côté was awarded a Gemini Award as well as the Galileo 2000 "A life for music" Prize for his dance and musical collaboration in the documentary *Moving to His Music: The Two Muses of Guillaume Côté*. Mr. Côté is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Emmanuelle Gattuso & Allan Slaight. In 2009, he joined to *Kings of the Dance* project.

PATRICK DE BANA

Born in Hamburg, Germany, Patrick de Bana studied at the school of Hamburg Ballet (directed by John Neumeier and Truman Finney), before he was engaged at the Bejart Ballet Lausanne in 1987, where he shortly after got promoted to a Principal Dancer. He left the Bejart Ballet Lausanne in 1992 in order to join the Compañía Nacional de Danza of Spain where he stayed for more than 10 years as a Principal Dancer. In 2003 he created his own company, the Nafas Dance Company. Patrick de Bana and Nafas Dance Company were awarded Best Male Dancer and Best Dance Performance by the Generalitat of Valencia. He choreographed and performed in the movies *Iberia* (2004) and *Fados* (2006), directed by Spanish film director Carlos Saura. In 2007, de Bana toured Europe with world-famous fado singer Mariza. He created the first version of *Creatures*, performed by Introdans in Holland. In 2008, de Bana created the *Picture of...* for Paris Opera Etoile Manuel Legris. The piece was premiered in December 2008 in Tokyo. In January 2009, Patrick de Bana created a pas-de-deux based on Marie Antoinette for the Paris Opera Etoile Agnes Letestu and himself as her partner. In February 2009 he is created and performed *Encounter*, an exchange between a dancer and a percussionist. In 2009 de Bana created a new version of *Creatures* after an invitation by Manuel Legris for the Summer Dance Festival of Cattolica in Italy. In 2009 de

Bana created *White Shadows* for the Tokyo Ballet, including Manuel Legris and himself as guest artists. He has worked with dancers such as: Manuel Legris, Agnes Letestu, Aurelie Dupont, Friedeman Vogel, Mizuka Uneno, Farouk Ruzimatov, Eva la Yerbabuena and others. With Nafas Dance Company and as a guest artist de Bana traveled many countries around the world such as Turkey, Holland, Cuba, Israel, Columbia, Japan, South and North America, Australia, New Zealand and more.

JOAQUIN DE LUZ

Joaquin De Luz was born in Madrid and received his training at the Victor Ullate School of Ballet. He danced with Victor Ullate Ballet Company from 1992 until 1995. In August 1996, he joined the Pennsylvania Ballet as a soloist. With Pennsylvania Ballet, he danced leading roles in *La Bayadère*, *Diana and Acteon*, *Don Quixote*, *Paquita Suite*, *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Swan Lake*, as well as George Balanchine's *Allegro Brillante*, *Theme and Variations* and *Who Cares?* Mr. De Luz joined American Ballet Theatre as a member of the corps de ballet in 1997 and was promoted to soloist in 1998. His repertory with ABT included the Bronze Idol in *La Bayadère* (choreographed by Natalia Makarova after Marius Petipa), the Red Cowboy in *Billy The Kid* (Eugene Loring), the first sailor in *Fancy Free* (Jerome Robbins), Benno in *Swan Lake* (Kevin McKenzie after Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov), and leading roles in *Bruch Violin Concerto No. 1* (Clark Tippet) and *Theme and Variations* (George Balanchine). Mr. De Luz joined New York City Ballet as a soloist in 2003, and in January 2005, he was promoted to the rank of principal dancer. Mr. De Luz has appeared as a guest artist in numerous dance events as well as with the Ballet Mediterraneo with Fernando Bujones and with American Ballet Stars 1997 Tour of China. In March 1996, Mr. De Luz won the Gold Medal at the Second Nureyev International Ballet Competition in Budapest, Hungary. In February 1997, Mr. De Luz was awarded the Rising Star prize

by *Seven Arts Magazine* in Philadelphia. Mr. De Luz represented Spain at the Expo '98 in Lisbon, dancing in the gala Stars of Spanish Ballet. Since 2008 he's in *Kings of the Dance*, and will perform American premiere of David Fernandez's *Five Variations on Theme*.

NOAH D. GELBER

Noah D. Gelber was born in New York City. He studied 11 years at the School of American Ballet, becoming a principal dancer at 16 with the American Ballet Company. He toured the U.S. and Mexico as a principal guest artist before moving to Europe. He was a soloist with the Royal Ballet of Flanders before William Forsythe invited him to join the Frankfurt Ballet. Over nearly a decade as one of William Forsythe's featured artists, Noah performed the greater portion of the company's repertoire, notably premiering in the original cast of *The Vertiginous Thrill of Exactitude*. Aside from virtuosic dancing, Forsythe often spotlighted Noah's vocal talents as a featured singer. As a solo pop-singer, Noah sang for television and in concerts in Germany and Austria. His original songs were released on music CDs for the European market. Noah was active in the choreographic processes at the Frankfurt Ballet, creating considerable solo and pas-de-deux material contained in some Forsythe pieces. Noah has also choreographed for the TV show *Born to Dance* in Israel. His first story ballet for the Kirov/Mariinsky Ballet, *The Overcoat* after Nikolai Gogol, won three major awards including St. Petersburg's Golden Lantern for Best Ballet of the Year, and Russia's highest theatrical prize, the Golden Mask. His other creations include *The Golden Age* also for the Mariinsky Ballet, *Object Ours* for dancers of the Royal Ballet, *Running Time* duet, and his own solos *Gnos Naos* and *Opus 3/1-3*. His choreographic works have been presented in Moscow, St. Petersburg, New York, London, Montreal, Tel Aviv and Frankfurt. Since 1997, while still dancing, Noah has maintained the responsibility of choreographic assistant for 10 different ballets from William Forsythe's repertoire, working

with more than 25 different ballet companies in major theaters around the world. He performs regularly in international galas, dancing solos and duets created especially for him by William Forsythe and other choreographers.

MARCELO GOMES

Marcelo Gomes, a native of Brazil, began his dance studies at the age of 5 at the Helena Lobato and Dalal Aschcar ballet schools in Rio de Janeiro. Upon winning the Revelation Prize at the Festival of Dance in Joinville in 1993, he traveled to the United States to continue his training at The Harid Conservatory in Boca Raton, Florida, as well as at the schools of the Boston Ballet, Houston Ballet and Cuba Ballet, where he studied under Alicia Alonso. Mr. Gomes was awarded second place at the National Society of Arts and Letters in 1994, and was the recipient of the Hope Prize at Lausanne in 1996, after which he spent a year at the school of the Paris Opera Ballet. Mr. Gomes joined American Ballet Theatre in 1997 as a member of the corps de ballet, and rose quickly through the ranks, being promoted to Soloist in 2000 and Principal Dancer in 2002. He has performed in virtually every full-length classical ballet in the company's repertoire, including Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*, Albrecht in *Giselle*, Prince Siegfried, Benno and von Rothbart in *Swan Lake*, Solor in *La Bayadere*, Prince Desire in *Sleeping Beauty*, Franz in *Coppelia*, Espada and Basilio in *Don Quixote*, Prince Charming in *Cinderella*, Onegin and Prince Gremin in *Onegin*, Conrad, Ali the Slave, and Lankendem in *Le Corsaire*, the Cavalier in *The Nutcracker*, the Moor in *Othello*, Jeanne de Brienne and Abderakman in *Raymonda* and Lescaut and Des Grieux in *Manon*. Mr. Gomes has performed leading roles in the works of George Balanchine, Mikhail Fokine, Antony Tudor, Jerome Robbins, Sir Frederick Ashton, John Cranko and Martha Graham, and has worked with, as well as created roles for, Twyla Tharp, William Forsythe, Paul Taylor, Mark Morris, Jiri Kylian, Lar Lubovitch, James Kudelka, Nacho Duato, Stanton

Welsh, Jorma Elo, Christopher Wheeldon and Alexei Ratmansky. Mr. Gomes' performances have been seen throughout the world. In addition to his touring with American Ballet Theatre, he has appeared at many international dance festivals, and has been a guest artist with the Kirov Ballet, the Dutch National Ballet, the National Ballet of Canada, the Houston Ballet, the Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires, the Teatro Municipal Do Rio de Janeiro, the Universal Ballet and the New York City Ballet. In the summer of 2008, he accompanied Alessandra Ferri on her farewell tour in Japan and Italy, and recently was the recipient of the prestigious Prix Benois de la Dance award in Moscow.

DENIS MATVIENKO

Denis was born in 1979 in Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine. From 1989 to 1997 he was studied at Kiev state choreographic school. While a student he made his debut on the stage of National Opera and Ballet Theatre of Ukraine in *The Sleeping Beauty* as Desire. In 1997 he was promoted to Principal Dancer of National Opera and Ballet Theatre of Ukraine. From March 2001 to March 2002 he worked at Mariinsky Theatre of St. Petersburg as Soloist. He performed such roles as *Don Quixote* (as Basil), *Jewels and Prodigal Son* of George Balanchine and title role in Alexei Ratmansky's *Cinderella*. In January 2003 Denis returned to Ukraine and joined National Opera as Principal Dancer. Since October 2007 he has been a Principal Dancer of Mikhailovsky Theatre, St. Petersburg, Russia. Since March 2009 he's a Principal Dancer of Mariinsky Theatre, St. Petersburg, Russia. As a guest artist Matvienko has performed with such ballet companies as New National Theatre (Japan), Bolshoi Theatre (Russia), Teatro alla Scala (Italy) and Paris Opera (France). His repertoire includes title roles in such ballets as *The Sleeping Beauty* (Prince), *Swan Lake* (Siegfried), *Giselle* (Albrecht), *La Sylphide* (James), *La Bayadere* (Solor), *Romeo and Juliet* (Romeo), *Cinderella* (Prince), *Raymonda* (Jean de Brienne), *Manon* (Des Grieux), *Le Corsaire* (Conrad),

Spartacus (Spartacus), *The Golden Age* (Boris). Matvienko is the winner of many international ballet competitions including IV International Ballet Competition in Luxembourg (1997, Grand Prix), III Rudolf Nureyev International Ballet Competition in Budapest (1998, Grand Prix), III International Competition of Modern and Classical Dance in Nagoya (1999, Gold Medal and Vaclav Nijinsky Prize), X International Ballet Competition in Moscow (2005, Grand Prix).

DIMO KIRILOV MILEV

Dimo Milev was born in Sofia, Bulgaria. He began his studies at the National Ballet school of Sofia. In 1993 he was part of The National Opera of Sofia and a year later he joined the Jeunne Ballet de France. He was a soloist in Ballet National de Nancy et Lorraine from 1996 to 2001 where his repertoire include *Giselle*, *Swan Lake*, *Theme and Variations*, *The Prodigal Son* and works by Kylian, Jorma Uotinen, Jean Francois Durrure, Abou Lagraa, Hans van Manen. In September 2001 he joined the Compañia Nacional de Danza under the direction of Nacho Duato where he became quickly a principal dancer. He has been involved in many of Nacho's creations, dancing main parts of his repertoire. He has worked with choreographers including Jiri Kylian, Mats Ek, Wim Vandekeybus, Orjan Anderson, Jacopo Godani, Gustavo Ramirez and William Forsythe. Since 2009 he has worked as a freelance dancer in different projects.

IVAN VASILIEV

Ivan Vasiliev was born in Vladivostok, Russia in 1989. He studied at the Dnepropetrovsk Ballet School in Ukraine and later at the Belorussian State Choreographic College in Minsk, graduating in 2006. Vasiliev danced Basilio in *Don Quixote* and Ali in *Le Corsaire* with the Belarus National Ballet while still a student at college. In 2006 he was invited to join Bolshoi Ballet as a Soloist, making his debut with the company, at age 17, as Basilio in *Don Quixote*. He was promoted

to the rank of Principal dancer in May 2010. He is coached by the former Bolshoi star Yuri Vladimirov. Mr. Vasiliev's repertoire with the Bolshoi includes Basilio in *Don Quixote*, the title role in *Spartacus*, the Nutcracker-Prince in *The Nutcracker*, Colas in Sir Frederick Ashton's *La Fille Mal Gardée*, Solor and The Golden Idol in *La Bayadère*, Conrad and Pas des esclaves in *Le Corsaire*, Philippe in Alexei Ratmansky's *The Flames of Paris*, Acteon in Yuri Burlaka's *La Esmeralda*, The Young Man in Roland Petit's *Le Jeune Homme et la Mort*, soloist in Christopher Wheeldon's *Misericordes* and Asaf Messerer's *Class Concert*. Mr. Vasiliev has been a guest artist with International Rudolf Nureyev Festival in Kazan, dancing Ali in *Le Corsaire* in 2006 and Basil in *Don Quixote* in 2008 and 2009. He has also appeared with the Novosibirsk Opera and Ballet Theater as Solor (*La Bayadère*) and Basil (*Don Quixote*), and with the Mikhailovsky Ballet in St. Petersburg in the role of Albrecht (*Giselle*) in 2009. His numerous awards include the Bronze medal at the Varna International Ballet Competition (2004), the Gold medal at the Moscow International Ballet Competition (2005), the Gold medal at the *Arabesque-96* Ballet Competition in Perm (2006), and the Grand Prix – Varna International Ballet Competition (2006). He is also the winner of the Triumph Youth prize (2006), British Critics' Circle National Dance Awards (2008 and 2010), and the *Benois de la Danse* prize for his performance in *Le Corsaire* and *The Flames of Paris* (2009). Alexei Ratmansky's *The Flames of Paris*, starring Mr. Vasiliev, was recently filmed by Bel Air Classiques for future DVD release.

CONRAD TAO

Born in Urbana, Illinois, 16-year-old pianist and composer Conrad Tao was found playing children's songs on the piano at 18 months of age. Conrad started formal piano lessons at 3, gave his first public piano recital at age 4, and performed a recital at the World Piano Pedagogy Conference in Orlando, Florida at age 7. He made his concerto debut at age 8, and has since per-

formed with many of the world's leading orchestras. He has also given solo piano recitals in venues across the United States, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Mexico and Chile. He has appeared on NPR's *From the Top* as a pianist and composer and PBS's *From the Top – Live from Carnegie Hall* television series as a pianist, violinist, and composer. Most recently, Conrad performed Chopin's Nocturne in C minor for the world premiere of American Ballet Theatre principal dancer Marcelo Gomes' ballet *Ami* at New York's City Center.

As a composer, Conrad has been a seven-time consecutive winner of the ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer award; his latest winning composition, *Desire/Eventide (Piano Trio)*, also received ASCAP's Charlotte V. Bergen scholarship. In 2008, the Davidson Institute for Talent Development named Conrad a Davidson Fellow Laureate.

SPECIAL THANKS

Bolshoi Theatre of Russia

Anatoly Iksanov, General Director

Mariinsky Theatre of St. Petersburg

Valery Gergiev, Artistic & General Director

Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg

Boris Eifman, Artistic Director

New York City Ballet

Peter Martins, Choreographer in Chief

American Ballet Theatre

Kevin McKenzie, Artistic Director

National Ballet of Canada

Karen Kain, Artistic Director

STAFF FOR TOUR DE FORCE:

Staging and Lighting DesignBoris Eifman
 Production and Stage ManagerMichael Vool
 Lighting Supervisor.....Yury Timofeev
 Music SupervisorGennady Albert
 Executive ProducerGina Ardani
 Producer.....Sergei Danilian