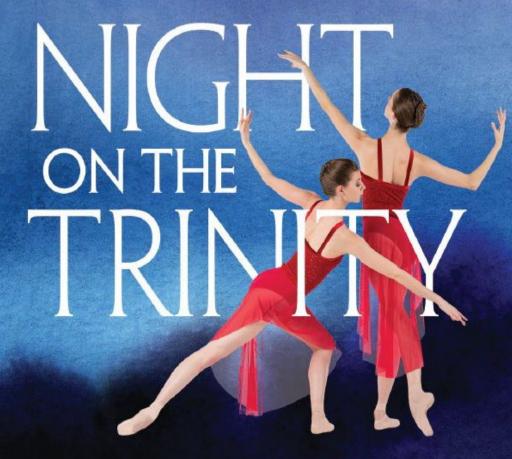
BALLET NORTH TEXAS



September 17 at 7:30pm September 18 at 2:00pm & 7:30pm Moody Performance Hall

www.BalletNorthTexas.org



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BALLET NORTH TEXAS



With Guest Performance by



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STARS OF THE BALLET

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Elster Family Stacie Carborough Partha & Anjali Datta Paul & Rosalyn Dods Allan & Amy González Jazzercise Lake Highlands Leigh Ann Hutchins Peter Irwin Charmaine Holcomb-Merritt Pepsico Foundation Rick Reed Peggy Sipp Meagan Skarbek Veritex Bank

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Welcome

Dear Friends of the Ballet,

Welcome back to Moody Performance Hall. It is strange to realize that it is now close to two years since we have performed on this stage. Whether you are a long-time patron or new to the world of ballet, we've missed you and we are ready to share our art form once again, LIVE. There is an energy that exists between performer and patron—a unique and powerful thread that connects a room full of people who are experiencing something together, there is truly something special about the experience of a live performance that cannot be replicated or replaced.

I am so proud of our dancers' perseverance, and this season we bring you our "Love Letter to Dance". Through everything we have managed to find the best of ourselves, and with this performance hope to demonstrate meticulous displays of disciplined technique, exceptional athleticism, and evoke emotional connections of love and romance.

Our first full season back since COVID includes our commitment to a fourth production. Coming this February, we introduce INNOVATIONS, a repertory concert that includes the work of returning Seattle based choreographer, Kiyon Gaines, as well as new to BNT choreographer Snowflake Calvert from San Francisco. This eclectic mix of dance is sure to be an adventure that will take your breath away.

I would like to take the time to thank our donors and sponsors that have made all this possible, and ask that you continue to support the arts.

We are ready, all we need is you ...

Sincerely,

Nicolina Lawson Executive & Artistic Director, Ballet North Texas

BALLET NORTH TEXAS NORTH TEXAS CONSERVATORY

ONGOING ENROLLMENT 2021-2022 SEASON

- Children's Classes
- Pre-Professional Division
- Professional Training Division
- Open Classes

- Private Coaching
- Private Music Classes



BNT BALLET NORTH TEXAS ARTISTIC STAFF



Nicolina Lawson, Executive & Artistic Director

Nicolina Lawson founded Ballet North Texas in November 2017 for the purpose of bringing, classical and new contemporary works to Dallas with its very own professional ballet company. Throughout Mrs. Lawson's long performance career, she performed nationally and internationally, acquiring a vast repertory that includes many principal roles in classical and contemporary works that heavily

influence her choreography. In 2019 she founded North Texas Conservatory as the official school of Ballet North Texas, bringing a wealth of experience to the organization as a dancer, choreographer, and businesswomen.



Cindy Michaels, Assistant Artistic Director & Choreographer

Cindy Michaels, originally from California, served as Artistic Director of Redding City Ballet from 1997-2012, and as Director of Dance for the Shasta College Fine Arts Department teaching ballet, modern dance, Choreography/Dance Analysis, and Partnered Adagio classes. Her forty-year performance and teaching career has provided her with extensive knowledge of classical and

contemporary ballet repertory as well as the mechanics that govern the technique of classical training. She has set historical works, created numerous works of her own for operas, musicals, summer theater festivals, and now, Ballet North Texas.



Olga Balbocean, Master Teacher & Regisseur

Olga Balbocean graduated from the Moldovan Academy of Ballet (Russian Vaganova Method) and the University of Musical Theatre and Fine Arts. Throughout her career she has worked with many companies across the world such as; Moldavian National Opera and Ballet, Ballet Russe United Kingdom, Crown of Russian Ballet in

Moscow, and Moscow Ballet in United States. From 2009-2020 she was the Owner and Artistic Director of Olga's Russian Ballet School in El Paso, Texas. In 2014 she won the YAGP Outstanding Teacher Award. Mrs. Balbocean recently moved to Dallas where she offers private coaching and stages ballets for Ballet North Texas.

BNT BALLET NORTH TEXAS ARTISTIC STAFF



Marlen Alimanov, Master Teacher & Guest Performer

Marlen Alimanov began his training at the Almaty Ballet Academy in Kazakhstan. After graduating he danced with the Almaty Ballet and Opera, Ballet Novosibirsk and the Russian National Ballet. In 2010 he danced with Manassas Ballet Theater, New Jersey Ballet Company, and Texas Ballet Theater. Mr. Alimanov has had the pleasure of

dancing leads such as Romeo in Romeo and Juliet, Frederic in Ben Stevenson's Dracula, Escamillo in Carlos Acosta's Carmen, The Prince in the Nutcracker, Prince Desire in Sleeping Beauty and highlight roles in Etudes and Seven Sonatas. Marlen is currently a principal guest artist in the DFW area and a Master Teacher at BNT.



Lisa Miller, Resident Lighting Designer

Lisa Miller works with many organizations in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, including Texas Ballet Theater and Kitchen Dog Theater. She is also Lighting Director for The Galveston Island East End Theatre Company. Lisa is the founder of Hope Rising, an arts organization in North Texas that seeks to raise awareness and put an end to Sexual

and Domestic Violence through the arts. She has been the resident lighting designer for Ballet North Texas since its founding, taking on notable full-length ballets as well as mix rep performances.



Allan González, Resident Photographer & Videographer

Allan González is the founder of a local professional photography business called AAfotos / DFW Dance Photography. His work is all about capturing the essence of a moment, and the beauty of a performance, staying true to the heart of each image and subject. He has been the resident photographer of Ballet North Texas since its

founding, producing all the images for the dancers and media.



Lorinda Mitchell, Costume Designer & Backstage Manager

Sewing various items since the age of 10, Lorinda discovered her love of ballet costumes in 2010, perfecting the tradition of tutu and tunic construction. She has been assisting with costuming and backstage organization for Ballet North Texas since their first Nutcracker in 2018, working directly with Mrs. Lawson and other choreographers

in the design of the ballets. She is also the founding curator of Sew Busy Creations.

BNT BALLET NORTH TEXAS ARTISTIC STAFF



Lindsi Dec, Resident Regisseur & Master Teacher

Lindsi Dec is from Fairfax, Virginia. She trained at Washington School of Ballet and joined Pacific Northwest Ballet as an apprentice in 2001. She was promoted to corps de ballet in 2002, soloist in 2009, and principal in 2014. Ms. Dec retired from Pacific Northwest Ballet in July of 2020. Upon retirement, she and her husband, Karel Cruz,

founded DeCruz Ballet in San Antonio. In addition to working with BNT, she continues to freelance as a guest artist, teach master classes, and stage ballets for Kiyon Gaines.



Lauren Kellison, Marketing & Company Manager

Lauren Kellison, originally from Littleton, Colorado, began her classical training at the age of three. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Dance from Colorado State University. While at CSU, she received her pedagogical certification in modern technique and

Vaganova ballet technique, while holding an Assistant to Director title for the CSU Tour Dance Company her junior and senior years. She has danced with Contrapose Dance Company out of Boston, trained on scholarship and performed with José Mateo Ballet Theatre in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and has danced as a guest artist with Saint Paul Ballet in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Some of Lauren's performance credits include *The Nutcracker, Carnival of the Animals*, and *Great Ballet Classics*, a program that included excerpts from *Swan Lake, Snow White, Coppélia*, and *Cinderella* that she danced in as a company member with Montana Ballet Company. Lauren also danced with Wild Space Dance Company under artistic director Debra Loewen in Milwaukee, Wisconsin before landing in Dallas, Texas where she became a founding member of Ballet North Texas. In 2019 she became Marketing and Company Manager working directly with the Artistic and Executive Staff.



COMPANY DANCERS



Gianna Biondo



Michelle Chaviano



Chloe Davis



Jenna Holcomb



Mackenzie Jones



Lauren Kellison



Rachael Mitchell



Colleen Reed



Kara Weigel





COMPANY DANCERS

TRAINEES



Laci Hellmuth



Madison Niemeyer



Caitlyn Steele



Susanna Wesson

GUEST ARTISTS



Marlen Alimanov

NIGHT RINITY

Moody Performance Hall | September 17 – 18, 2021

<u>Red Violin</u>

Choreography: Nicolina Lawson Music: John Corigliano Costumes: Nicolina Lawson

<u>Dancers</u> Gianna Biondo, Michelle Chaviano, Lauren Kellison, Colleen Reed, Kara Weigel

5-minute Pause -

<u>Blue</u>

Bruce Wood Dance

Choreography: Joy Bollinger Music: Ludwig van Beethoven (Moonlight Sonata – Movements 1 & 3) Costumes: Susan Austin

Dancers

Jillyn Bryant, Lauren Hibbard, Weaver Rhodes, Megan Storey, Elliott Trahan, Cole Vernon, Seth York

NIGHT RINITY

Moody Performance Hall | September 17 – 18, 2021

INTERMISSION -

Les Sylphides

Choreography: Mikhail Fokin Regisseur: Olga Balbocean Music: Frédéric Chopin

> Marlen Alimanov Jenna Holcomb

<u>Soloists</u> Chloe Davis Michelle Chaviano

Corps de Ballet

Trinity Ball, Gianna Biondo, Laci Hellmuth, Mackenzie Jones, Lauren Kellison, Rachael Mitchell, Madison Niemeyer, Colleen Reed, Susanna Wesson, Kara Weigel

Lighting Design: Lisa Miller

Stage Manager: Wendy Wester

Set Design: Alan Michaels & Dillon Lawson

Costume Design: Nicolina Lawson & Lorinda Mitchell

Photography & Videography: DFW Dance Photography





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