

THE PRE-PROFESSIONAL PERFORMING ENSEMBLE OF THE JOFFREY BALLET SCHOOL

JBCG

JOFFREY BALLET CONCERT GROUP

AND FRIENDS



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MAY 14 | 7:30PM

WORKS BY

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR BRADLEY SHELVER

CHOREOGRAPHER ERIC TROPE

GUESTS LE JEUNE DANCE CHOREOGRAPHER STEVE BEIRENS



JOFFREY
BALLET SCHOOL
FOUNDED BY ROBERT JOFFREY IN 1953

THE RIVERSIDE THEATER

91 CLAREMONT AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY, 10027

ARTISTIC STAFF

Artistic Director of the Joffrey Ballet Concert Group: Bradley Shelver

Artistic Director of the Ballet Trainee Program: Era Jouravlev

Artistic Director of the Children's & Youth Ballet Programs: Jo Matos

Artistic Director of the Jazz & Contemporary Trainee & Open Class Programs: Angelica Stiskin

Associate Artistic Director of the Jazz & Contemporary Trainee Program: Michael Waldrop

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Executive Director: Frank Lee Merwin

Associate Executive Director: Nancy Cole

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Director of Operations: Hanro Janse van Rensburg

Director of Customer Support: Crista Daniel

Director of Audition Tour: Angelica Stiskin

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Music Director: Bruce Lazarus

Staff Musicians: Paul Bedal, David Bukhin, Asher Denburg, Marc di Minno, David Finkelstein, Allan Greene, Wendy Griffiths, Benjamin Katz, Martin Kennedy, Jensen Krall, Tamara Kushe, Annie Lebeaux, Ray Leslee, Kai Lovelace, Peter Manhiem, Irina Milko, Alon Nechushtan, Gregory Nissen, Emiko Ohara Walsh, Igor Pancevski, Peter Saleh, David Sannella, Robert Sardo, Eli Schildkraut, Rosanne Soifer

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Associate Operations Manager: Madeleine Parks

Associate Operations Coordinator: Veronica Kulik

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Program Coordinator for the Jazz & Contemporary Program: Sarah Strebel

Program Coordinator & Registrar for Children's & Youth Programs: Lana Fuqua

Residence Life Coordinator: Sara Matin

Office Manager: Graham Shelton

Office & Rentals Manager: Naomi Alcantara

Health & Wellness Coordinator: Giuliana Hazelwood

Open Class Program Coordinators: Erika Massey, Laura Stiles

Registrar for Trainee & Summer Programs: Nancy Cole

International Student Visa Coordinator: Elizabeth D'Anna

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MARKETING & PRESS

Creative Director & Information Technology: Maria Zamri

Marketing Intern: Kennedy Cole

JBCG & FRIENDS CHOREOGRAPHERS

Bradley Shelver
Eric Trope

GUEST PERFORMANCES

Le Jeune Dance
Founding Artistic Co Academy Director, Steve Beirens
Founding Associate Co Academy Director, Hannah Dorfmueller

JBCG & FRIENDS PRODUCTION STAFF

Publicist: Audrey Ross
Production Manager: Graham Shelton
Lighting Designer: Serena Wong
Production Stage Manager: Jacob Wexler

THE COMPANY

Faahkir Bestman, Daniele Campi, Amaury Castro, Joliana Canaan, Annika Davis, Jean Da Silva, Eleonora Ducceschi, Laura Goossens, Akari Kato, Mari Murata, Lucas Monteiro Gomes, Laura Mendes, Kathryn Mayer, Breeanna Palmer, Faith Shover, Remie Maia Suvanto, Yumeno Takechi, Giovana Vasques Silveira

REHEARSAL ASSISTANTS

Laura Severo Mendes
Laura Goossens

SPECIAL THANKS

Gail D'addario, Lee Merwin, Graham Shelton, Naomi Alcantara, Hanro Janse van Rensburg, Nancy Cole, Maria Zamri, Michael Waldrop, Allie Young, Jaime Viggiani, Hannah Dorfmueller, Angelica Stiskin, Era Jouralev, Tiffany Patrick, Jo Matos, Veronica Kulik, Lana Fuqua, Temishia Johnson of Riverside Theater.



ACT 1

THE 12TH ROOM

(Premiere: February 16, 2023 - Ailey Citigroup Theater)

Choreography: Bradley Shelver

Music: Ezio Bossa, Philip Glass, Andrea Falconieri, Olafur Arnalds

Lighting Design: Serena Wong

Set Design: Alexandra McNamara

Costume Design: Erica Johnston

I set out to create a work that was surreal in its concept and cinematic in its execution. Inspired by both classic indie film and ambient music, I wanted to comment on the concepts of belonging to a group, belonging to someone and inevitably solitude. The 12th Room is about whatever moment you are destined too and whatever path you choose.

Dancers:

THE HALLWAY

Laura Mendes

THE PARTY

Mari Murata, Laura Goossens, Annika Davis, Eleonora Ducceschi, Daniele Campi, Kathryn Mayer, Yumeno Takechi, Lucas Monterio Gomes, Faith Shover, Giovana Vasques Silveira, Akari Kato, Amaury Castro, Remie Suvanto

THE NEIGHBORS

Breeanna Palmer/ Jean Da Silva

THE 12TH ROOM

Joliana Canaan, Laura Mendes, Daniele Campi

RACHMANINOFF

Guests: Le Jeune Dance

Choreography: Steve Beirens

Music: Concerto for Piano and Orchestra No 3 in D Minor, Op. 30: III. Finale: All Breve

Dancers:

Grace Davis, Makayla Halbleib, Amelia Legault, Lydia Payne, Abby Meschoulam, Callie Mitchell, Veronica Somsakhein

RANDOM PEOPLE WITH BEAUTIFUL PARTS

(Premiere: February 16, 2023)

Choreography: Bradley Shelver

Music: JS Bach, Hillard Ensemble

Lighting: Serena Wong

Dancers:

Mari Murata, Eleonora Ducceschi, Daniele Campi, Lucas Monterio Gomes, Faakhir Bestman, Jean Da Silva, Breeanna Palmer, Joliana Canaan, Akari Kato, Yumeno Takechi, Amaury Castro

INTERMISSION (10 MINUTES)

BEETHOVEN

Guests: Le Jeune Dance

Choreography: Steve Beirens

Music: Sonata for Piano No. 14 C-Sharp Minor, 'Moonlight', Op. 27: III. Presto agitato

Dancers:

Grace Davis, Makayla Halbleib, Amelia Legault, Lydia Payne,
Abby Meschoulam, Callie Mitchell, Veronica Somsakhein

GAZEBO DANCES

Choreography: Eric Trope

Music: John Corigliano

Lighting: Serena Wong

Costumes: Erica Johnston

Dancers:

Joliana Canaan, Breeanna Palmer, Laura Mendes, Faith Shover, Amaury Castro, Kathryn Mayer,
Laura Gossens, Annika Davis, Remie Maia Suvanto, Eleonora Ducceschi, Mari Murata,
Lucas Monterio Gomes, Daniele Campi, Akari Kato, Yumeno Takechi

SCHUMANN

Guests- Le Jeune Dance

Choreography: Steve Beirens

Music: 1-6 Symphony No. 2 in C Major, Op. 61: 1. Sostenuto assai - Un poco più vivace - Allegro ma non troppo - Con fuoco

Dancers:

Grace Davis, Makayla Halbleib, Amelia Legault, Lydia Payne,
Abby Meschoulam, Callie Mitchell, Veronica Somsakhein

BABEL

(Premiere: April 2018)

Choreography: Bradley Shelver

Music: Boban Markovic, **Edith** Piaff, Antonio Carlos Jobim

Costumes Design: Mondo Morales

Dancers:

Breeanna Palmer, Faakhir Bestman, Kathryn Mayer, Faith Shover, Remie Maia Suvanto,
Amaury Castro, Lucas Monteiro Gomes

LE FOULLE

Laura Mendes / Daniele Campi

LA MANHA

Mari Murata / Jean Da Silva



JOFFREY BALLET CENTER

Located in the heart of New York City, the Joffrey Ballet Center serves as a platform for some of the nation's best young dancers to launch their professional careers. The Center is home to the Joffrey Ballet Concert Group, founded by Robert Joffrey in 1981, as a pre-professional performing ensemble for young artists selected from the Joffrey Ballet School's year-round Trainee Program.

In the years since its inception, selected Trainees studied and performed some of the most celebrated classical and contemporary repertoire. This included the works of Gerald Arpino (Birthday Variations, Light Rain), Robert Battle (Battlefield), George Balanchine (Serenade), August Bournonville (La Ventana), Dwight Rohden (New Work), Africa Guzman (The Stolen Path), Omar Ramon DeJesus (Tip Toe..) and Lindsay Grymes (Falter Upward)

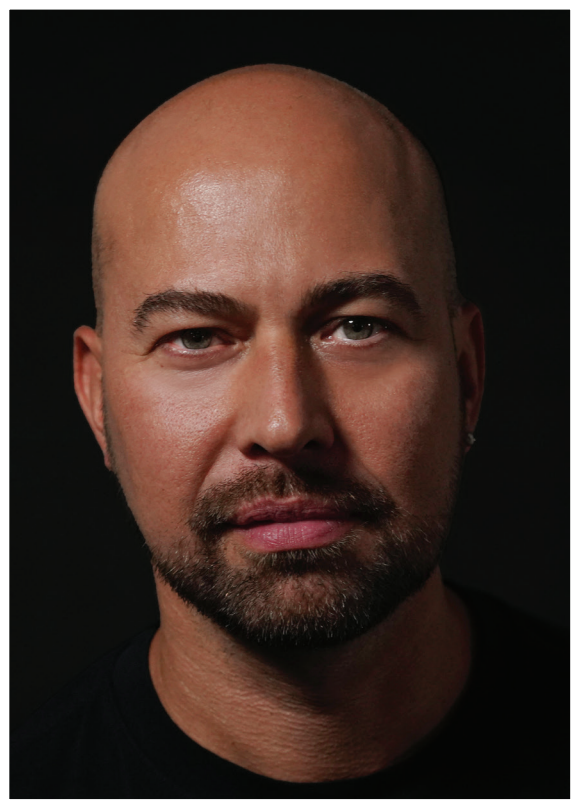
The Joffrey Ballet Concert Group has toured domestically and internationally, providing dancers the experience necessary to confidently transition from student to professional.

The Joffrey Ballet Concert Group is a 501(c)3 Not for Profit organization. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

[To donate please click here.](#)

Your donations go towards supporting the commission of new works and scholarships for talented and deserving dancers.

MEET THE CHOREOGRAPHERS



BRADLEY SHELVER

Artistic Director and Resident Choreographer

Bradley Shelver has danced with the Ailey II, Elisa Monte Dance, Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Ballet Hispanico, The Francesca Harper Project, Limón Dance Company, Phoenix Dance Theater (UK) and in projects with Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Co., Lar Lubovich Dance, The Universal Ballet, Radio City Music Hall, and in productions with the Mark Morris Dance Group.

He is in his 14th season with The Metropolitan Opera Ballet. Mr. Shelver has choreographed works for; Richmond Ballet, Ailey II, Ballet Austin, Graham 2, Lustig Dance Theater, Compania Rio Danca, New Jersey Dance Theater Ensemble, Cape Dance Company, Cedar Lake 2, Sobers & Godley Dance, Nexus Dance Lab, as well as creating works for The Royal Danish and Royal Swedish Ballet Schools, Joffrey Ballet School, Central Ballet School (London) The Ailey School, Boston Conservatory, Long Island University, Montclair State University and Purchase College.

He was co-producer and curator for the annual REVERBdance Festival from 2010–2016. From 2013–2016, he was the Artistic Director of the STEPS Repertory Ensemble and the Production Director for Steps on Broadway.

He was company teacher for Mathew Bourne's "Adventures in Motion Pictures", The Lion King on Broadway, The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Elisa Monte Dance. Mr Shelver is on the faculty of schools and universities worldwide acting as Adjunct Professor at Montclair State University, The Limón Institute, Complexions Contemporary Ballet Academy, Royal Danish and Royal Swedish Ballet Schools, The Ailey School, La Guardia High School for the Performing Arts, Joffrey Ballet School, Bikuratim (Israel), Pan American Modern Dance School (Brazil), Hinton Battle Academy. (Japan), DAR Jazz Academy (Russia) among others. He is a certified ballet teacher with the ABT National Training Curriculum.

He was a contributing writer for Dance Spirit Magazine and His book, "Performance Through the Dance Technique of Lester Horton" is available worldwide. His upcoming choreographic commissions include Graham 2 and Big Muddy Dance Company.



ERIC TROPE

Choreographer – Gazebo Dances

Eric Trope is a freelance choreographer, dancer, repetiteur, and teacher. Eric has created work for the Nantucket Atheneum Dance Festival, the Miami City Ballet School and Apprentice Program, Columbia Ballet Collaborative, Mainly Mozart Festival, Dimensions Dance Theater of Miami, Louisiana Delta Ballet, and the New World Symphony. He was also selected to participate in the 2016 Fall Session of the New York Choreographic Institute, an affiliate of the New York City Ballet. He finished his eighth season with the Miami City Ballet in April of 2021.

He previously danced with the Pennsylvania Ballet for four seasons and most recently was a guest artist with BalletX and Ballet Tucson. Eric has danced a vast amount of repertoire including principal and soloist roles in works by Balanchine, Robbins, Forsythe, Ratmansky, Taylor, Kylian, Peck, and many others. As a performer, he has toured extensively including the NY State Theater and NY City Center in NYC, the Music Center and Segerstrom Center in LA, and the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. Eric recently staged Justin Peck's Heatscape for the Finnish National Ballet in Helsinki where it was performed in the fall of 2022. Finally, Eric is a cofounder of Buddy System, an nonprofit focused on food insecurity that was started in response to the Miami community's immense need during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

www.erictrope.com



STEVE BEIRENS

Founding Artistic Director and Choreographer Le Jeune Dance

Steve Beirens is the collaborating Founder, Artistic and Academy Director of Le Jeune Dance along with his wife Hannah Dorfmueller. Mr. Beirens is originally from Belgium and trained at the Royal Ballet of Flanders. He enjoyed an international career with Le Jeune Ballet de France, Zurich Ballet, Royal Ballet of Flanders, Dusseldorf Ballet, Los Angeles Ballet and finished his stage performances as principal dancer with the The Joffrey Ballet.

Le Jeune Dance was founded to develop the next generation of professional dancers. Mr. Beirens has choreographed many Neo-classical ballets as well as full length classical ballets to feature the strengths and challenge the development of the dancers of Le Jeune Dance.

Mr Beirens and Ms Dorfmueller strive to provide a multitude of experiences for dancers through performance including collaborations around the nation with other influential and inspiring performing artists. After a wonderful experience sharing the stage with The Joffrey Ballet Concert group in Cincinnati, Le Jeune Dance is thrilled to perform in New York City along side The Joffrey Ballet Concert Group.