



THE CAROLINA BALLET THEATRE PRESENTS

# GHOSTS

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR HERNAN JUSTO

GUNTER THEATRE  
FOR TICKETS: [PEACECENTER.ORG](http://PEACECENTER.ORG)

A THRILLING BALLET PERFORMANCE  
OCTOBER 22 & 23



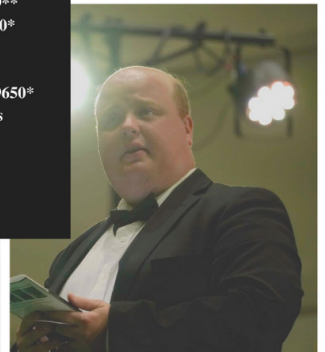
#### 2021-22 Season

Mainstage Orchestra Series: Masterworks I, September 18\*  
Spotlight Chamber Series: Mike Criss, October 1\*\*  
Mainstage Orchestra Series: Masterworks II, November 6\*  
Spotlight Chamber Series: Brass Quintet Concert, November 20\*\*  
Mainstage Orchestra Series: Christmas Pops Concert, December 11\*  
Mainstage Orchestra Series: Chamber Orchestra, February 5\*  
Spotlight Chamber Series: String Quartet Concert, February 26\*\*  
Spotlight Chamber Series: Woodwind Quintet, March 12\*\*  
Mainstage Orchestra Series: Masterworks III, March 26\*  
Spotlight Chamber Series: Chamber Selections, April 9\*\*  
Mainstage Orchestra Series: Pops Celebration, April 30\*



All Concerts start at 7pm  
Riverside Baptist Church, 1249 S. Suber Rd Greer, SC 29650\*  
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We hope to see you out at a concert in 2021-22!

# GHOSTS

**Music** by Michael Jackson

**Choreography and Story**

by Hernan Justo After Michael Jackson and Michael Peters

**Additional Choreography**

by Erica Sturman and Francesca Genovese

**Artistic Director** Hernan Justo

**Associate Artistic Director** Anita Pacylowski-Justo

**Ballet Répétiteur** Erica Sturman

**Tap Choreographer** Robyn Maggio

**Costume Designer** Mary AllyeB Purtle

**Production Manager** D. Alexander Forrest

**Lighting Designer** Ceili Hesselgrave



## THE CAST

**Emcee:** Meghan Loman\*

**Ghosts:** Katie Donlin, Ella Emery, Mae Eubank, Lucina Frank^, Sullivan Ivey, Sofia Justo^, Keira Morgan\*, Jonimarie Purtle, Jordan Ann Shannon, Ava Singh

**Black Widow Leads:** Mary Kate Reynolds\*, Hannah Williams\*

**Black Widows:** Maggie Aiesi, Eve Grunenwald, Ava Grace Hart, Jenna Larocque, Caroline Thomasson, Cate Wells

**Dead Bride Lead:** Gabrielle Moore\*

**Dead Brides:** Nina Brown, Eve Buckingham, Abigail Busha, Evy Hansz, Marissa Larocque, Mikayla Morrison, Natalie Oyer, Teagan Prickett

**Trick-or-Treaters:** Chiara Ball, Harper Crow, Claire Foster, Andrew Larocque, Miguel Reyes Jimenez, Molly Weiss

**Skeleton Leads:** Jacqueline Calle Hernandez\*, Ella Emery, Sullivan Ivey

**Skeletons:** Ella Brashier, Serene Carmack, Isabella Ludkowski, Lillian Rogers, Anna Wells, Cate Wells

**Lost Kids:** Christyiana Boyd, Weathers Cheves, Keira Collins, Kayla Nora Edwards, Claire George, Kate George, Samuel Hendricks, Salie Hutchison, Catherine King, Vivian Mercurio, Olivia Stephens

**Tappers:** Lindsay Anderson, Libby Dasbach, Sandra Ebeloe, Brittney King, Andrew Larocque, Sarah Lowum, Shelby Ptacek, Tarah Reeves

**\*CBT Company Members**  
**^University of South Carolina students**

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Scenic Carpenter

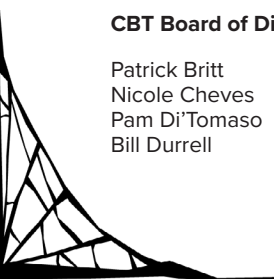
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# ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP



**Hernan Justo** was invited to become Artistic Director of Carolina Ballet Theatre by its founder Barbara Selvy in 2000. He has been involved in all aspects of the company: from teaching classes, coaching, teaching after school dance and outreach classes to creating original works. His repertoire for the company is from classical to contemporary. Choreographing full length ballets such as *Hunchback of Notre Dame* to his Award-winning choreography *Pulling the Strings* which toured internationally with the company. Hernan has also brought world renowned choreographers such as Alonzo King and Dwight Rhoden. His training came from the national ballet school of Buenos Aires, Argentina the Instituto Superior de Arte Teatro Colón. He joined the ballet Estable del Teatro Colón in 1982 and then Ballet del Teatro Argentino de la Plata two years later. In 1988, his career took him to the Ballet de Santiago, Chile. After three years, Hernan joined the Ballet Clásico de Cámara in Caracas, Venezuela, under the direction of Nina Novak, formerly prima ballerina of Les Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo.

Hernan arrived in the United States as a principal dancer with the Charlotte Ballet in 1994 under the artistic direction of the late Salvatore Aiello and later, Jean Pierre Bonnefoux, Patricia McBride and Jerri Kumery all artists affiliated with New York City Ballet. He added to his repertoire several Balanchine masterpieces for which he was critically acclaimed by *Dance Magazine* and *The New York Times*. Hernan and his wife, Anita Pacylowski, co-direct and teach at DanceArts Greenville. When Hernan is not at the studio you can find him watching soccer either on TV or his son on the field or enjoying a good movie, book or meal.



**Anita Pacylowski** is a native of Columbia, MD. Her formal ballet training came from the Washington School of Ballet in Washington, D.C. She is a Princess Grace Award in Dance, National Young Arts Level 1 winner, and received the Presidential Scholar in the Arts in Dance award by the White House Commission in the Arts at the White House. She also was a finalist at the New York International Ballet Competition, and semi-finalist at the Prix de Lausanne competition in Lausanne, Switzerland. She's been nominated for the coveted Benois de la Danse Award, "the Oscars" of the Ballet world. Her professional career started in The Washington Ballet under the direction of Mary Day. While there, her international touring was to Russia, Thailand, Singapore, France, England and Spain. Highlights include performing the Grand Pas de Deux from *The Nutcracker* at the Kennedy Center for President Clinton and the First Lady, and performing at the White House Holiday Tea Party. She then moved to Charlotte Ballet as a principal dancer where she met her husband, Hernan Justo. After 7 years with that company she joined her husband as artistic leadership of Carolina Ballet Theatre. After nearly ten years with CBT and now a mother of two children, Anita retired in 2011.

For the last twenty years, Anita is the co-artistic director of DanceArts Greenville. Anita serves on the Board of the Directors of the Fine Arts Center and co-chairs the Parent Engagement committee. As a Presidential Scholar in Arts alumni, Anita served on the Presidential Scholar Alumni Association's steering committee to build a network and platform for PSA dance alumnus.

When not in the studio, you can find Anita at the Augusta Road Pure Barre, cheering on her son at soccer or watching her daughter at USC Dance company.



**Erica Sturman** is a native of Springfield, Illinois, where she began dancing at the age of 3 under direction from Grace Nanavatti. She then joined the Springfield Ballet Company in 1999 under the direction of Julie Ratz and performed many leading and soloist roles including *Sugar Plum Fairy*, *Snow Queen* and *Dew Drop* in *The Nutcracker*, *Juliet* in *Romeo and Juliet*, *Odette* in *Swan Lake* and *Princess Flourine* in *The Sleeping Beauty*. In 2005, Erica moved to Greenville, SC to start her professional training and career with Carolina Ballet Theatre under artistic direction from Hernan Justo. She has performed in many leading and soloist roles in both classical and contemporary ballets set by Hernan Justo and resident choreographer Francesca Genovese. These include *Sugar Plum Fairy* and *Clara* in *The Nutcracker*, *Carabosse* and *Aurora* in *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Ambrosia* in *Francesca Genovese's The Ribbon*, *Eva Peron* in *Hernan Justo's The Chestnut of your Eyes* erased and the wife of a military soldier in *He Never Came Back*. Erica also had the extreme privilege of working with and performing Alonzo King's "Map" and Dwight Roden's "Beetlejuice". Erica has been a dance instructor at DAG since 2007. When Erica is not in the studio, she is with her husband, Andrew, and her baby boy, Beckett.



# PRINCIPAL DANCERS



**Meghan Loman** born in Springfield, Illinois and currently in her ninth year with Carolina Ballet Theater under director Hernan Justo. She began her training with Grace Luttrell Nanavati at Dance Arts Studio in Springfield and began performing with the Springfield Ballet Company in 1999. She auditioned for the first year of their Trainee program at age 10 and later was accepted into the Company as a member performing soloist and then principal for over 10 years. In 2001, Meghan placed in the top ten of the Youth American Grand Prix Chicago semi-finals, went on to compete in the New York City finals and performed in the Grand Gala. Meghan has been privileged to work with some amazing choreographers such as Dwight Rhoden, Adam Sage, Robert Philander Valentine, Marcus Herman Payne, Julie Tice, Krenley Guzman, and of course Hernan Justo. She has been honored to dance alongside Herman Cornejo, Erica Cornejo, Jeanette Delgado, and Daniel Ulbrich.



**Mary Kate Reynolds** grew up in Greenville, South Carolina, where she started ballet at the Greenville Ballet School at age two. At age 14, she joined the school of Carolina Ballet Theatre under the direction of Hernan Justo and Anita Pacylowski. In 2007, Mary Kate became an apprentice to the company of Carolina Ballet Theatre where she experienced highlights, including a week spent with Alonzo King, rehearsing and performing his pas de deux from MAP; and the opportunity to replace a principal dancer on an international tour to South America. In 2009, Mary Kate joined First State Ballet Theatre, in Wilmington, DE. She spent 8 seasons there under the direction of Pasha Kambalov, who was instrumental in her growth thanks to his knowledge and coaching of the Vaganova method. In 2012, she debuted as Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty* and appeared in a range of principal roles, including *Swan Lake* (Odette/Odile), *Cinderella* (title role), *The Nutcracker* (Marie, Sugar Plum Fairy, Dew Drop) *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Titania), and Juliet in Viktor Plotnikov's *Romeo and Juliet*. Mary Kate is currently living in New York where she is a freelance dancer.

# COMPANY DANCERS



**Jacqueline Calle Hernández** is from Queens, NY, recently graduated from The Conservatory of Dance at SUNY Purchase with a BFA in Dance and double major in Arts Entertainment Media. She holds a trainee position with humanitarian organization, MindLeaps (NYC) and is an alumnus of The Fine Arts Center, and School of Carolina Ballet Theatre. She has performed most recently with The Purchase Dance Company, The Metropolitan Opera Ballet, Ardani Artists, A/Y Dancers, and Cross Move Lab. She has toured internationally with resident choreographer of The Mariinsky Theatre, Vladimir Varnava, dancing alongside Natalia Osipova in his production of *ISADORA*, and served the position of Rehearsal Assistant.



**Kiera Morgan** hails from Florida where she trained at Sarasota Ballet during her high school years. After graduating a year early, she spent 2 years at Charlotte Ballet studying under Mark Diamond, Patricia McBride, Kati Mayo and Jeanene Perry. Her professional career started at Richmond Ballet, where her favorite piece George Balanchine's "Theme and Variations" was performed. This will be her first season with Carolina Ballet Theatre, but not her first time working with Hernan Justo or Anita Pacylowski.



**Gabrielle Moore** trained and performed with Carolina Ballet Theatre from 2005-2016 and has been a guest in recent performances. She will be joining the company full-time for the 2021–2022 season. Her hometown is Greenville, South Carolina; however, she has spent the last two seasons dancing with the Roanoke Ballet Theater in Virginia.



**Hannah Williams** is from Roswell, Georgia. Hannah began her dance training at the Tolbert-Yilmaz School of Dance at the age of four. She continued her training there as a performer of the Roswell Dance Theatre as well as the resident pre-Professional program. In 2019, Hannah began her company experience with The Georgia Ballet, under Artistic Director Daet Rodriguez. She began as a trainee and later became a company member, remaining there until 2021. Amidst the global pandemic in 2020, Hannah was grateful to guest perform with the faith-based project company Bluebird Uncaged for multiple dance projects. In summer of 2021, Hannah moved to Greenville to begin her debut season with Carolina Ballet Theatre.

# 50TH ANNIVERSARY LETTER



## ANNIVERSARY

### A letter from Hernan Justo:

Anniversaries are very nice to celebrate, but they are also opportunities to analyze the past and plan for the future. Even if that future may not include us, we have to make sure that we leave the organization in better condition than we found it.

In 2000, I met Barbara Selvy through a mutual friend, the great master Gyula Pandi. Barbara was the force that started this beautiful dream of having a ballet company in Greenville, SC. Barbara is an artist with vision and dedication. I think Barbara and I were a perfect partnership at the time. Very quickly we both realized

that we were looking for each other. She had some negative experiences with artistic directors that ultimately taught her what qualities she wanted in the person who would lead this organization. I also came from some frustrations in the business especially with people not very committed to this art. And now after 50 years of CBT in existence and 20 years of my artistic leadership, Barbara found someone with the commitment and energy to continue developing her dream. I am eternally grateful to her for leaving me a strong foundation, which allows me to develop my own ideas.

Without a doubt, the road was full of obstacles. I simply ask you to remember how different this country was 20 years ago on September 10, 2001 when I first started. This art form needs a lot of funds to operate efficiently. We suffered severe financial setbacks and even a virus outbreak that almost shut us down. But, despite all that, looking back there is much to be proud of with this Greenville ballet company. We've had international tours, prestigious choreographers who visited, international guests in our performances, collaborated with all kinds of institutions in the upstate such as hospitals, philanthropic institutions, businesses, museums, schools, universities, orchestras, opera companies, theater companies, and other ballet companies.

Since 2004, the company always had paid full time dancers and our repertoire grew exponentially. Greenville audiences had the chance to enjoy many famous ballets from the classical repertoire in their full versions, many creations by famous choreographers, and new works developing local young choreographers. Many of our dancers are now members of ballet companies on the national and international circuits.

**I welcome you all to the 50th anniversary season 2021 – 2022**, where we return to our home the Peace Center with three productions. Our successful ballet Ghosts inspired by the music of Michael Jackson, our unique version of The Nutcracker that places it in the city of Greenville in Victorian times, and our spring show Arabian Nights which is a beautiful ballet inspired by the movie "Invitation to the Dance" by Gene Kelly. I hope to see you in the audience enjoying these shows.

Sincerely,  
**Hernan Justo**



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Congrats to CBT on 50 years of dancing and Hernan Justo on 20 years as Artistic Director!



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