



Impact Performance: The Healing Art of Dance

benefitting The Julie Valentine Center



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Saturday, February 8
7:00pm

DanceArts Greenville's Black
Box Theatre

255 Service Bay Road
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IMPACT
PERFORMANCE

Impact Performance: The Healing Art of Dance

Thank you for joining us for an evening of captivating performances celebrating the power of love while supporting the vital work of the Julie Valentine Center.

Romeo and Juliet

Music by Sergei Prokofiev
Choreography by Hernan Justo
Gabrielle Moore, Brandon Penn

Waiting Room

Music by Arvo Pärt • Choreography by Salvatore Aiello
Originally staged by Mia Cunningham, restaged by Anita Pacylowski-Justo
Under permission of the Salvatore Aiello Trust
Jerri Kumery, Curator
Meghan Loman, Sofia Justo, Rebekah Purdom

Dying Swan

Music by Camille Saint-Saëns • Choreography by Michel Fokine • Staged by Hernan Justo
Gabrielle Moore

Carmen (Love duo)

Music by Georges Bizet arranged by Rodion Shchedrin
• Choreography by Alexander Plisetski after original by Alberto Alonso
• Staged by Hernan Justo
Martin Justo, Meghan Loman

Switch

Music by Serú Girán • Choreography Hernan Justo
Jessie Arnold, Andrea Gonzalez, Isabella Normandin, Rebekah Purdom

How Lucky We Are

Music by Zach Brian • Choreography by Sofia Justo
Aly Warner, Caroline Warner

Ricochet

Music by Beats Antique • Choreography by Matt Harvey
Meghan Loman, Martin Justo, Gabrielle Moore, Marja' Quaqua, Aubrey Houle, Eve Grunenwald

Broadway Melody

Music by Roger Edens • Choreography by Hernan Justo
Sofia Justo, Brandon Penn

The Fedora Suite

Music by Jacques Revaux, Version by Frank Sinatra, Lyrics by Paul Anka, Joe Cocker, Tom Jones, Randy Newman
• Choreography by Hernan Justo and Sofia Justo

Meghan Loman, Martin Justo, Brandon Penn, Gabrielle Moore, Sofia Justo, Marja' Quaqua, Aubrey Houle,
Jessie Arnold, Andrea Gonzalez, Eve Grunenwald, Isabella Normandin, Rebekah Purdom

ARTISTIC TEAM



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 Instituton 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-Justo, co-direct and teach at DanceArts Greenville.



Anita Pacylowski-Justo, a Columbia, MD native, trained at the Washington School of Ballet. She has received awards including the Princess Grace Award in Dance and the Presidential Scholar in the Arts. She was a finalist at the New York International Ballet Competition, a semi-finalist at the Prix de Lausanne, and a Benois de la Danse Award nominee. Anita's career began at The Washington Ballet, where she toured internationally. Highlights include performing The Nutcracker's Grand Pas de Deux at the Kennedy Center for President Clinton and at the White House. She later became a principal dancer with Charlotte Ballet, where she met her husband, Hernan Justo. From 2017-2021, Anita served as Associate Artistic Director of the Academy of Charlotte Ballet. She and her husband have led CBT since 2004. In 2023, she launched the Alonzo King Immersion Project for the Fine Arts Center. Anita is the co-artistic director of DanceArts Greenville and the primary ballet instructor at Fine Arts Center Dance, directed by Gina Buntz.



Erica Sturman is a native of Springfield, Illinois, where she began dancing at the age of 3 under direction of Grace Nanavatti. She joined the Springfield Ballet Company in 1999 under the direction of Julie Ratz and performed soloist roles in Snow Queen, The Nutcracker and Romeo and Juliet. In 2005, Erica moved to Greenville, SC to start her professional career with CBT. She has performed in many leading roles with CBT. Erica also had the privilege of working with Alonzo King's "Map" and Dwight Roden's "Beetlejuice". Erica has been a dance instructor at DAG since 2007.

CBT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Roberta Phillips brings a wealth of experience in the areas of strategic planning, community engagement and partnership collaboration. Roberta is dedicated to raising awareness, advocacy, and funding to the Carolina Ballet Theatre and recently joined Greenville Women Giving. As the Chief Executive Officer of the Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS), Phillips oversaw all operations of its nineteen branch libraries that serve a diverse population of approximately 960,000. Her work focused on advancing the community through inclusive practices, strategic and conceptual thinking and evidence based best practices for 21st century learning. In addition, she amplified community partnerships and community engagement with the library. Prior to working at PGCMLS, Phillips served as the Director of Planning and Projects for the award-winning Richland Library in Columbia, South Carolina. During her tenure at Richland Library, Phillips worked on strategic plan initiatives, community engagement and special projects. Most notably, Phillips coordinated interiors, space planning, and customer experiences for twelve building projects with three new facilities and nine renovations, including the renovation of the 240,000-square foot Main Library. Previously, she served as the Director of the Orangeburg County Library in Orangeburg, South Carolina. Roberta resides in Easley with her husband Chris, dog Finn and cat Kitts.



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COMPANY DANCERS



Meghan Loman was born in Springfield, Illinois. Meghan has been dancing with CBT for over a decade. She began training with Grace Luttrell Nanavati in Springfield and began performing with the Springfield Ballet Company under Julienne Ratz in 1999. In 2001, Meghan placed in the top ten of the Youth America Grand Prix Chicago Semi-Finals and competed in the NYC Finals. Meghan has been privileged to work with choreographers such as Dwight Rhoden, Adam Sage, Robert Philander Valentine, Mark Diamond, Marcus Herman Payne, Julie Tice, and Krenley Guzman. She has performed original works created by Martha Graham, Alvin Aley, Dwight Rhoden, and Alonzo King. She has enjoyed sharing the stage with fellow dancers Herman and Erica Cornejo, Jeanette Delgado, Skylar Brandt, and Daniel Ulbrich.



Martin Justo is from Caracas, Venezuela, and began dancing in 1999. He trained with Quinte Ballet School in Canada and School of Carolina Ballet Theatre. He has toured throughout Uruguay with CBT and has recently traveled and performed as a guest in Fujinomia, Japan, dancing pas de deux from Giselle, La Bayadere, and Swan Lake. Some of his signature roles are the charming young Nutcracker Prince in Hernan Justo's The Nutcracker, the Mad Scientist in Madeline Jazz's Super Heroes, and the male soloist in A Tango for Angelina. Martin performed works by renowned contemporary choreographers such as Dwight Rhoden's Beatle Juice, and Alonzo King's Map.



Gabrielle Moore trained and performed with Carolina Ballet Theatre from 2005-2016. After which, she trained with Charlotte Ballet until 2019. This will be her fourth season with Carolina Ballet Theatre. Her hometown is Greenville, South Carolina; however, she previously danced with the Roanoke Ballet Theater in Virginia. Her favorite roles have been dancing Russian Girl in Serenade under the direction of Patricia McBride as well as the Sugar Plum Fairy in Nutcracker.



Brandon Penn was born and raised in Richmond, VA. At age 10, he began his dance training at the Pine Camp Cultural Arts Center, where he trained for 2 years, learning various styles. He later enrolled in the School of Richmond Ballet for 3 years before being accepted as a company trainee while completing his senior year. After graduating, Brandon spent one year at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Purchase College Conservatory for Dance before being offered a position with Atlanta Ballet 2. After two years in Atlanta, Brandon was offered a company position with South Carolina Ballet where he spent two years before transitioning to principal dancer with Fort Wayne Ballet. Since then, he has taken upon a freelance career and guested around the country before joining CBT.



Sofia Justo is in her second season as a company member with Carolina Ballet Theatre. Just before joining the company, she graduated from the University of South Carolina with a bachelor's degree in dance performance and choreography and a cognate in education. Her career has been enriched through collaborations with esteemed directors and choreographers such as Alonzo King, Dwight Rhoden, Bill T. Jones, and Mark Diamond. Her favorite pieces to perform with the company are Merceditas and Tango for Angelina by Hernan Justo. Her favorite ballet to perform is Ghosts.



Marja' Quaqua was born and raised in Greenville, SC with her journey in dance beginning at age 3. She has been successful at Youth America Grand Prix competitions ranking in the Top 3 in semi-finals granting her a chance to go to the finals. In April 2023, Marja' placed Top 12 in her YAGP trio. She has traveled along the east coast as a guest artist, more specifically for Ballet in The City (a non-profit organization). This is her second year as a professional with CBT.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL DANCERS



Aubrey Houle



Jessie Arnold



Andrea Gonzalez



Eve Grunenwald



Isabella Normandin



Rebekah Purdom

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