



presents

THE ISRAELI FESTIVAL

CEDAR LAKE CONTEMPORARY BALLET

Founder

Nancy Laurie

Artistic Director

Benoit-Swan Pouffer

Executive Director

Greg Mudd

Ballet Master

Alexandra Damiani

Production Manager

Anita Shah

Company Manager

Pamela Vachon

Technical Director

Peter MacBeth

Production Stage Manager

Renata Almeida

Audio Video Supervisor

Dave Rogge

Wardrobe Supervisor

Eva Blank

Lighting Supervisor

Jim French

Booking

Margaret Selby, CAMI Spectrum LLC

Company Members:

Jubal Battisti
Jon Bond
Soojin Choi
Nickemil Concepcion
Sabra Johnson
Jason Kittelberger

Ana-Maria Lucaciu
Marina Mascarell
James O'Hara
Oscar Ramos
Matthew Rich
Acacia Schachte

Harumi Terayama
Manuel Vignouille
Kristen Weiser
Ebony Williams
Golan Yosef

Thursday June 25–Saturday June 27, 2009 at 8 pm
Durham Performing Arts Center

DECADANCE 2007

CHOREOGRAPHER Ohad Naharin
COSTUME DESIGN Rakefet Levy
LIGHTING DESIGN Avi Yona Bueno (Bambi)
ASSISTANTS TO THE CHOREOGRAPHER Lauren Avnon, Alexandra Damiani,
Shani Garfinkel, Adi Salant

Casting Full Company

Decadance 2007 includes sections from the following works: *Black Milk* (1985), *Mabul* (1992), *Anaphaza* (1993), *Z/na* (1994), *Sabotage Baby* (1997), *Zachacha* (1998), *Moshe* (1999), *Naharin's Virus* (2001), *Telophaza* (2005), and *George and Zalman* (2006).

PROGRAM NOTES

Decadance is about reconstruction: I like to take pieces or sections of existing works and rework it, reorganize it and create the possibility to look at it from a new angle. It always teaches me something new about my work and composition: it teaches me about exaggeration and under statement, it teaches me to laugh at myself, about the importance of perspective and lightness as a virtue, it teaches me about the love of dance and about paying attention to details without forgetting the whole. It is like telling only either the beginning, middle or ending of many stories and from the way it is organized, and glued together, comes its coherency.

—Ohad Naharin

MUSIC

Jana, Jana, arranged by Shama Khader. *Al Jariba*, arranged by Habib Alla Jamal. *Stabat Mater*, by Antonio Vivaldi, performed by James Bowman and the Academy of Ancient Music. *Etude No. 3*. Composer: Paul Smadbeck. Copyright: 1980 Studio 4 Music by Marimba Productions, Inc. *Gopher Mambo*. Writers: Conrad Gozzo, Billy May. Universal-Songs of Polygram International, Inc. *Blue Rhumba*. Composer: Bobby Black. *Sway*. Music by Pablo Beltran Ruiz. Lyrics by Norman Gimbel. Copyright: Peer International Corporation. *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*, by Harold Arlen, adapted by Marusha. *Für Alina*, by Arvo Pärt. Used by arrangement with European American Music Distributors LLC, U.S. and Canadian agent for Universal Edition, Vienna, publisher and copyright owner. Text by Charles Bokovski in the voice of Bobbi Smith. *Recado Bossa Nova*, by Paul Francis Webster, Luiz Antonio & Djalma Ferreira, used by permission of RYTVOG, Inc. *Choo Choo Cha Cha*, by Carl Ford and Lori Ford. Used by permission of Morley Music Co. *Hooray for Hollywood*, Richard Whiting, Johnny Mercer. Copyright 1937 (RENEWED) WB Music Corp. (ASCAP) All rights reserved. Used with permission. *Chihuahua*. Copyright 1957 Ipanema Music Corp. (ASCAP) Written by Luis Oliveira and Ray Gilbert. *Glow Worm Cha-Cha*, Paul Klinke, Larry Owens. Copyright 1959 (RENEWED) Lombardo Music, Inc. (ASCAP) All rights administered by WB Music Corp. All rights reserved. Used with permission. *Hava Nagila*, arranged and played by Dick Dale. *Ehad Mi Yodea*. Traditional music arranged by Ohad Naharin and the Tractor's Revenge. *Guts of a Virgin*. Written by Harris/Zorn/Laswell. Performed by Painkiller. Courtesy of Earache Records/Earache Songs. *Mabrouk Wo Arisna*, by Ali Hassan Kuban. *Claudia*, by Roberto Pregadio. *Hawaii Five-O Theme*. Administrative share 100%. Writer: Morton Stevens. Publisher: Famous Music LLC (ASCAP) Used with permission. *Sonata No. 9*, by Beethoven. *Claudia*. Written by Fabrizio Predagion (SIAE) and Roberto Pregadio (SIAE). Performed by Robert Predagion Orchestra, courtesy of Custom Sounds Inc.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

Founded in 2003 by Nancy Laurie, Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet has distinguished itself through both its exceptionally talented corp of sixteen dancers and its concurrent emphasis on acquiring and commissioning new works by the world's most sought-after emerging choreographers. Under the Artistic Direction of Benoit-Swan Pouffer, Cedar Lake offers a wide-ranging spectrum of both American and international repertory, including works by Nicolo Fonte, Crystal Pite, Jacopo Godani, Stijn Celis, Angelin Preljocaj, Ohad Naharin, Didy Veldman, Jo Strømgren, Luca Veggetti and Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui. Through their daring, athletic movement and integration of ballet into contemporary and popular forms, the dancers of Cedar Lake take audiences on a choreographic journey which explores the infinite possibilities of movement and multimedia. Upcoming works for 2009-2010 include creations by Alexander Ekman and Hofesh Shechter.

ARTISTIC STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

Ohad Naharin (Choreographer) A citizen of both Israel and the United States, Ohad Naharin began his formal dance training with the Tel Aviv-based Batsheva Dance Company. He came to New York at the invitation of Martha Graham to join her company and continued his studies at the Juilliard School of Music and the School of American Ballet. After performing in Europe with Maurice Béjart, he returned to New York, where he made his choreographic debut at the Kazuko Hirabayashi Studio and studied and worked with Maggie Black, David Gordon, Gina Buntz and Billy Siegenfeld. With his wife Mari Kajiwaru (1951-2001), Naharin made his home in New York City until returning to Israel, where he has been artistic director of the Batsheva Dance Company since 1990. His works have been staged by many companies around the world, including the Nederlands Dans Theater, Ballett Frankfurt, Opéra National de Paris, Grand Théâtre de Genève, Sydney Dance Company, Lyon Opera Ballet, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, Rambert Dance, Balé da Cidade de São Paulo and Bavarian State Ballet. Naharin is the winner of two "Bessie" awards and in 1998 was awarded the "Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres" by the French Government.

Benoit-Swan Pouffer (Artistic Director) joined Cedar Lake as Artistic Director in 2005 following an extensive career as a dancer, teacher, and choreographer. Born and raised in Paris his career began with study at the prestigious Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse, where he performed works by such renowned French choreographers as Claude Brumachon, Daniel Larrieu and Angelin Preljocaj. In April 1993, Pouffer took first place in the Benetton European Dance Competition. Pouffer's distinguished career as a professional dancer includes a 7-year tenure with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, seasons with Philadanco, Donald Byrd/The Group and Complexions, as well as offering outreach programs in South Africa and master classes throughout Europe.

Pouffer is credited with an astute and discerning eye for talented dancers, a vision toward artistic excellence and the viewpoint that performers with skilled technique united in works mingling various forms of dance can breathe new life into the art form. Through an informed network of colleagues and friends in the international ballet community, Pouffer eagerly searches out innovative choreographers around the world to invite to Cedar Lake. *The New York Times* recently stated, "Luckily Benoit-Swan Pouffer, the French-born artistic director of Cedar Lake, seems to have taken it on himself to introduce audiences to a new generation of European choreographers." His role as curator of one of the most ambitious world-class repertoires in America today furthers Cedar Lake's mission to provide choreographers a comprehensive environment for creation and presentation.

In 2005 Pouffer introduced and choreographed the first of his series of installation performances. Critically acclaimed and representing a new, less formalized approach to dance performance, Pouffer merges the audience with the dancer to become a collaborator

in the performance. His original works for Cedar Lake include *Seed*, *Between Here and Now*, *Hammer*, *Vastav* and *Glassy Essence*.

Alexandra Damiani (Ballet Master) A native of France, studied ballet at the Geneva Dance Center with David Allen before moving to Paris, where she trained with Attilio Labis from the Paris Opera School. While focusing on her ballet training, she played a supporting role in the French TV sitcom *Pizzanexe*. After winning the International Competition of Marseilles in 1995, Damiani was invited to dance with the stars of the Paris Opera Ballet in Budapest and was awarded a scholarship to the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center, prompting her to move to New York.

She has been a soloist with Donald Byrd/The Group and a member of Complexions. She has also performed with the New York Theatre Ballet, the Metropolitan Opera Ballet, and the German dance company Unterwegs Theater, among others. She assisted Lynne Taylor Corbett in her latest creation for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.

In 2003 she had the opportunity to join Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal, where she performed featured roles in works by Crystal Pite, Mia Michaels, Shaun Hansell, Trey McIntyre and Grupo Corpo's Artistic Director Rodrigo Perdenieras. While in Canada she also had the opportunity to work with Victor Quijada from Rubberbanddance Group. Alexandra has taught master classes in Europe and the United States.

DANCER BIOGRAPHIES

Jubal Battisti (Dancer) began his training at age eight with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School. He performed in various productions with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre throughout middle school and entered its pre-professional Schenley Program in high school. After three years of high school, Battisti began training in the early admissions program at the Juilliard School, where he earned a BFA with scholastic distinction in May 2004.

Jon Bond (Dancer) of Southern California began his training at age 10 with Center Stage Dance Academy. In 2004 Jon spent eight weeks as a Winner Circle Finalist on *Star Search* on CBS. That same year, he served as an ambassador of dance representing the United States at the annual Australian Dance Championship, where he won International First Place Soloist in the Battle of the Stars. His work as a performer also includes the WNBA Sparks' Sparkids, Fiona Apple's "Paperbag" video, Featured Soloist at Los Angeles' Kodak Theater and Guest Artist for the Civic Ballet of San Luis Obispo. Prior to joining Cedar Lake he was a member of Dance Theatre of Harlem's DTB Ensemble. As a choreographer, he was invited to perform his work at the Seventh Annual Dance Under the Stars Choreography Festival in Palm Desert, CA where he won the Jean Ann Hirschl First Place Solo Award. Jon has also choreographed numerous award-winning competition pieces throughout the nation.

Soojin Choi (Dancer) comes to Cedar Lake from Seoul, Korea where she graduated from the Seoul Arts High School in 2003 and the Korea National University of Arts School of Dance in 2007. After her 1st prize performance at the 2007 Seoul International Dance Competition, she was offered a fellowship at the Alvin Ailey School, and moved to New York in January 2008. Soojin has toured internationally in pieces with the Korea National University of Arts Dance Company, as well as with the JEON Mi Sook Dance Company. Additionally, she has won several awards both for dancing and for choreography at KNUA and at festivals in Korea and North America.

Nickemil Concepcion (Dancer) comes from New York, where he received his early training at Broadway Dance and the New Ballet School in New York City. At age thirteen, he began his professional career by performing in a Broadway production of *Cinderella*. He went on to be featured in the 1993 film *Avenue X* and George C. Wolfe's 1996 Off-Broadway production of *On the Town*. Concepcion then joined Ballet Tech, where he performed for seven years.

Sabra Johnson (Dancer) began her training in gymnastics at age 4 in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

At age 16 she attended Dance Impressions in Bountiful, Utah where she trained for two years in ballet and jazz. She spent a year in Las Vegas, Nevada where she danced and taught at The Dance Zone training in ballet, jazz, and contemporary before moving to New York City. She danced on the Fox reality show Season 3 of *So You Think You Can Dance?*. Since the show she has traveled teaching classes in Canada, Australia, South Africa and Iceland.

Jason Kittelberger (Dancer) comes from Rochester, New York, where he began performing at age three at the Draper School of Dance. He continued his dance education at the North Carolina School of the Arts, where he graduated with a BFA in dance performance. Kittelberger has performed with the Rochester Ballet and Hubbard Street II.

Ana-Maria Lucaci (Dancer) was born in Bucharest, Romania. At the age of eleven, she was discovered by the National Ballet School of Canada, where she completed her dance education. She joined the National Ballet and went on to dance with the Royal Danish Ballet, Germany's Augsburg Ballet and Lisbon's Contemporary Portuguese Dance Company. Lucaci has performed works by Jiri Kylian, Nacho Duato, John Neumeier, Lar Lubovitch, Tim Rushton, Vasko Wellenkamp, Alexei Ratmansky, Maurice Bejart and many others.

Marina Mascarell (Dancer) was born in Valencia, Spain and comes to Cedar Lake from Nederlands Dans Theater II in Den Haag, Holland, under the direction of Gerald Tibbs and Anders Hellström. She earned a Bachelor of Interpretation applied to Dance in the Alicia Alonso Superior Dance Institute of Rey Juan Carlos University in Madrid, and a Master of Scenic Arts from the same institution. Marina has won numerous awards both for dancing and for choreography including Outstanding Dancer in the Choreographic Competition of Madrid (2005), a scholarship to the American Dance Festival (2005), and multiple international jury prizes for her own piece, *Discovering Secrets*. Marina has danced in works by many world-renowned choreographers, including Jiri Kylian, Hans van Manen, Ohad Naharin, William Forsythe, Lightfoot-León, Johan Inger, Alexander Ekman, Stijn Celis, Medhi Walerski, Gustavo Ramírez Sansano, and Lukas Timulak among others.

James O'Hara (Dancer) started dancing at an early age in his native Perth, Australia. He was awarded dance scholarships for his studies at the John Curtin College of the Arts, the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA), and STEPS Youth Dance Company. In 2003 he joined the Ballet Junior de Genève in Switzerland. In Geneva, James performed works by Dominique Bagouet, Thierry Malandain, Ken Ossola, and Foofwa d'Immobilité, among others. In December 2004 he received an award from the Monaco Dance Forum, and a few months later he became a member of Ballet Preljocaj in France, creating and touring the pieces *Les 4 Saisons*, *Un Trait d'Union*, and *N*. Since 2006 James has worked with Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui on several projects, notably *Myth* (with which he toured from June 2007 until January 2009) and *La Zon-Mai* (a film installation). He has previously acted as Cherkaoui's assistant for the creation of *L'Homme de Bois* on the Royal Danish Ballet in Copenhagen. Recently he took part in a choreographic workshop and residency directed by Wayne McGregor at the Royal Opera House (London), and is a member of the European Dance Collective and a guest artist with Cross Connections Ballet Company, based in Copenhagen.

Oscar Ramos (Dancer) of Cidra, Puerto Rico began his professional career as a dancer with Ballet Concierto, where he was named 2003 Ballet Dancer of the Year. In 2003, he moved to New York, where he trained as a fellowship student at The Ailey School. In 2004, he relocated to Chicago where he was a member of Hubbard Street until 2007.

Matthew Rich (Dancer) hails from Las Vegas, Nevada, where he studied at the Dance Zone under the direction of Jami Artiga and Kaydee Francis. Rich graduated from the Las Vegas Academy of International Studies, Performing and Visual Arts. Rich has also trained with Shawn Hughes, Missy Cochran, Ralph Perkins and Tara Foy. He has danced competitively, been the recipient of several regional and national titles, and received scholarships for

many dance conventions and workshops.

Acacia Schachte (Dancer) was born in Santa Barbara, California. She trained in Canada at Vancouver's Arts Umbrella, where she was a member of the pre-professional company for five years. She then joined Ballet British Columbia's Mentor Program, where she trained for a year before being accepted into the company. Dancing seven seasons with Ballet British Columbia, Schachte performed the works of such choreographers as John Alleyne, Jiri Kylian, William Forsythe, Twyla Tharp, Jean Grand-Maitre, Serge Bennathan, James Kudelka, Dominique Dumais, Nicolo Fonte and Paul Taylor. She appeared in the CNC film *The Fairie Queen*, has worked independently on several projects with Simone Orlando, and has choreographed for Ballet British Columbia's Mentor Program.

Harumi Terayama (Dancer) of Osaka, Japan, received her BFA from The Juilliard School under the direction of Lawrence Rhodes. At Juilliard, she performed works by William Forsythe, Paul Taylor, and others. Harumi has worked with Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, Pier Group, Nilas Martin Dance Company, Sidra Bell Dance NY, Gallim Dance, and Lar Lubovitch Dance Company. As a choreographer she worked with CityDance Ensemble in Washington DC, and her work was presented at Strathmore Music Center and Joyce SoHo in New York City.

Manuel Vignouille (Dancer) studied at The Conservatoire National Supérieur de Danse de Paris and went on to work with contemporary French choreographers such as Claude Brumachon, Corinne Lanselle, Karine Saporta, Bernardo Montet and Odile Duboc. With the modern-jazz choreographer Redha, Manuel performed for television, video, fashion, opera and musicals. He has also worked as a choreographer's assistant for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Het Nationale Ballet of Nederland and State Theater Dance Company South Africa. Most recently, Manuel danced at the Geneva Ballet under Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Adonis Foniadakis, Cisco Aznar, Annabelle Ochoa Lopez, Carolyn Carlson, Benjamin Millepied, John Neumeier, Isira Makuloluwe, Andonis Foniadakis and Malou Airaud among others. He also appeared as a guest artist for La La La Human Steps, Het Nationale Ballet and State Theatre South Africa. Manuel has also created and performed his own work at the Geneva festival.

Kristen Weiser (Dancer) is originally from Central Pennsylvania. She trained with the Pennsylvania Regional Ballet for thirteen years under the direction of Sandra Carlino before attending the Juilliard School, where she danced works by Anthony Tudor, Ohad Naharin, Paul Taylor, Jiri Kylian, Robert Battle and Nacho Duato. In 2004, Weiser received her BFA from Juilliard. In 2006 Kristen was honored with the Josephine Schwartz award for her choreographic piece entitled *Uakti*, and in 2008 with a National Choreographic Award for *The Beginning of Here*, both with the Pennsylvania Regional Ballet.

Ebony Williams (Dancer) comes from Boston, Massachusetts, where she trained with the Boston Ballet from age eight through high school. She also attended the Roxbury Center for the Performing Arts. She is a May 2005 graduate of the Boston Conservatory, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts. Williams has performed works by such choreographers as Donald Byrd and Luis Fuente.

Golan Yosef (Dancer) began his dance training in Amsterdam at age 10 at the National Ballet Academy. He received a scholarship for intensive training at the Royal Institute for Ballet in Antwerp, and won third prize representing the Netherlands on the Eurovision Young Dancer's Competition 2001. Yosef danced in Barcelona with IT Dansa, where he received several scholarships. He has danced with Scapino Ballet Rotterdam (the Netherlands), Ramon Oller (Barcelona), Ballet des Jeunes d'Europe (France) and Ballet National de Marseille. In 2007 he won First Prize for his choreography *Impulses* at the International Solo Dance Theatre Festival in Stuttgart. He plays in the Disney Channel movie *Cheetah Girls 2* and in the Spanish movie *No me pidas que te bese porque te besaré*, for which he also choreographed (2008).