

# ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

## LEGACY

“The Immeasurable Immensity of Your Inheritance”  
—esperanza spalding

+

## *Ode to Alice Coltrane*



APRIL 11–19, 2026

YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
BLUE SHIELD OF CALIFORNIA THEATER

Adji Cissoko  
© RJ Muna

# POLICIES



YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
BLUE SHIELD OF CALIFORNIA THEATER

**Saturday, April 11 | 7:30 PM**

**Sunday, April 12 | 5 PM**

**Thursday, April 16 | 7:30 PM**

**Friday, April 17 | 7:30 PM\***

**Saturday, April 18 | 2 PM**

**Sunday, April 19 | 5 PM**

*\*Includes Post-Performance Q&A with Alonzo King*

**Family Experiences: Sunday, April 12 | 2:00 PM, 2:30 PM**  
**Sunday, April 19 | 2:00 PM**

**BFA Student Showcase: Wednesday, April 15 | 7:30 PM**

## DEVICES POLICY

Out of courtesy to the artists and your fellow patrons, please take a moment to turn off and refrain from using cellular phones, watch alarms, and similar devices. The use of any audio or video recording device or the taking of photographs (with or without flash) is strictly prohibited.

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The mission of Alonzo King LINES Ballet is to nurture artistry and the development of creative expression in dance through collaboration, performance, and education.



# WELCOME

Thank you for joining Alonzo King LINES Ballet for our 2026 Spring Season.

It has been an extraordinary opportunity to create **LEGACY** with Grammy Award-winning musician and composer esperanza spalding. She has been a joy to collaborate with, and we are deeply grateful for her generosity and commitment to this work.

We are also thrilled to present the return of **Ode to Alice Coltrane**, which has captivated audiences across the U.S. and Europe. Our heartfelt thanks to the Coltrane family, especially Michelle and Ravi Coltrane, for inviting us to celebrate Alice's music. We're honored to welcome Michelle to our performances this season.

On April 15, students of **LINES' BFA Program at Dominican University** will present their annual showcase here at YBCA, an important milestone in their artistic journey, and we'd love to have you experience this with them.

Also this week, we host 750 students at our **Student Matinee**, offering many young people their first live dance performance, and will have several sessions of our **Family Experience**, which brings adults and children together through movement and creativity.

At the **LINES Dance Center**, our studios are alive with ballet, modern, and global dance classes for all levels, rehearsals of dance and opera, and photoshoots. Our **Summer Program** returns in June and continues to grow. Since January, 544 dancers auditioned in ten cities across the U.S. and on video, 200 more than last year!

Looking ahead, we eagerly anticipate **LINES Ballet's 45th anniversary season in 2026–27**, including two world premieres by Alonzo King, performed live at Davies Hall with the **San Francisco Symphony**, under the direction of renowned conductor **James Gaffigan**, November 19–21.

Over the next few months, we will present screenings of our award-winning film **ORIGINS** across the Bay Area, continue **touring nationwide**, and this time next year we will celebrate our anniversary with a **special gala event**. See you there!

Finally, I want to thank our incredible **Board of Directors** for their commitment to making all of this vital work possible, and **donors** at all levels for their generosity.

Welcome again to **LEGACY**. May it remind us that what we inherit, we also shape, and through art we can transform it into something lasting and alive.

Sincerely,



**Ruth Nott**

*Managing Director, Alonzo King LINES Ballet*

Alonzo King LINES Ballet Fall 2026 Season

**LINES Ballet**  
**+**  
**San Francisco Symphony:**  
**Two World Premieres**

November 19–21, 2026  
Davies Symphony Hall



**LINES BALLET FALL 2026 SEASON:**

# **ALONZO KING LINES BALLET + SF Symphony**

**November 19-21, 2026**

Davies Symphony Hall

This fall, LINES Ballet is thrilled to continue its ongoing partnership with the San Francisco Symphony, returning to Davies Hall to perform two world premiere works choreographed by LINES Artistic Director and Co-Founder Alonzo King. Set to two of the most iconic works in the classical music canon, Copland's *Suite from Appalachian Spring* and Debussy's *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune* (*Afternoon of a Faun*), the program offers the unparalleled experience of live symphonic music performed on stage alongside LINES' extraordinary dancers.

Conductor James Gaffigan will lead the SF Symphony in this collaborative program, which will also include Prokofiev's *Sinfonia Concertante*, featuring SF Symphony Principal Cellist Rainer Eudeikis.

To guarantee the best seats to this collaborative program, become a San Francisco Symphony subscriber. Subscribers receive presale access and the best pricing.



Subscribe at <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Subscribe>

Single tickets go on sale Saturday, July 18 at 12:00 PM.

\*Please note: LINES Ballet will not present a Fall Season program at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in 2026



# THE COMPANY

## **Alonzo King**

Artistic Director, Co-Founder

## **Robert Rosenwasser**

Creative Director, Co-Founder

## **Korri Jackson**

Board Chair

## **Ruth Nott**

Managing Director

## **Adjì Cissoko**

Associate Artistic Director

## THE COMPANY

**Maël Amatoul • Adjì Cissoko • Theo Duff-Grant  
Lorris Eichinger • Shuaib Elhassan • Joshua Francique  
Mikal Gilbert • Anna Joy • Marusya Madubuko  
Tatum Quiñónez • Amanda Smith**

**Brandi Williams** General Manager

**Seah Johnson** Director of Production

**Byron Roman** Rehearsal/Stage Manager

**Philip Perkins** Sound Designer/Music Supervisor

**Ilaria Guerra, Jenny Sandler, Meredith Webster** Rehearsal Directors

**Adam Cook & Joshua Weckesser** Stage Supervisors

**Joan Raymond** Costume Construction

**Callie Floor, Chanterelle Grove, Joan Raymond, Kevin Tijerina, Keely Weiman** Stitchers

Alonzo King LINES Ballet would like to thank the following funders for their invaluable support:

### Premiere Creation

LSP FAMILY  
FOUNDATION

ADVANCING A BETTER  
FUTURE FOR ALL

Penny Cooper and  
Rena Rosenwasser

### Hospitality Sponsors

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### Company Sponsor

The Shaw Pincus Family

### Media Sponsor

KQED

# LEGACY

## “The Immeasurable Immensity of Your Inheritance” —esperanza spalding

World Premiere: April 11, 2026 | YBCA, San Francisco

Approx. run time: 32 minutes

Choreography **Alonzo King**

Music composition & performance **esperanza spalding**

Lighting Design **Alexander V. Nichols**

Costume Design **Robert Rosenwasser**

esperanza spalding's costume design by **Colleen Quen & Robert Rosenwasser**

Sound Design **Philip Perkins**

Music Publishing **Due Hope Music/Kobalt (ASCAP)**

### **I. OPENING**

Adji Cissoko

### **2. WHAT IS THIS WONDER**

Shuaib Elhassan, Adji Cissoko, Theo  
Duff-Grant, Mikal Gilbert

### **3. DOWN-IN-MY-BONE HOME**

Maël Amatoul with  
Joshua Francique, Marusya Madubuko,  
Lorris Eichinger

### **4. LINEAGE**

Shuaib Elhassan, Joshua Francique,  
Tatum Quiñónez

### **5. SO, THAT IS THE WONDER?!**

Full Company

### **6. GIVE THANKS**

Lorris Eichinger with Joshua Francique &  
Tatum Quiñónez (4/11, 4/16, 4/18, 4/19)  
or Marusya Madubuko (4/12, 4/17)

### **7. I**

Adji Cissoko, Mikal Gilbert,  
Theo Duff-Grant

### **8. LINE/AGE**

Tatum Quiñónez, Marusya Madubuko,  
Theo Duff-Grant (4/11, 4/16, 4/18, 4/19)  
or Marusya Madubuko, Mikal Gilbert,  
Maël Amatoul (4/12, 4/17)

### **9. CURRENCY OF INHERITANCE**

Full Company

### **10. GIVE THANKS AND HONOR**

Full Company

### **11. SPACE IN THE EARTH OF LIFE**

Marusya Madubuko (4/11, 4/16, 4/18, 4/19)  
or Tatum Quiñónez (4/12, 4/17)  
with Shuaib Elhassan, Mikal Gilbert,  
Theo Duff-Grant, Adji Cissoko

### **12. THROUGH TWO NOT TWO**

Adji Cissoko & Shuaib Elhassan

### **13. TIME IS NOW!**

Lorris Eichinger, Mikal Gilbert,  
Marusya Madubuko & Company

### **14. THAT IS...**

Shuaib Elhassan & Company

### **15. HOME**

Full Company

### **16. YOUR LINNEAL SEED**

Adji Cissoko, Marusya Madubuko,  
Tatum Quiñónez

*Special thanks to the  
Lisa Pritzker Family Foundation, Penny Cooper,  
and Rena Rosenwasser for supporting the  
creation of this premiere.*

# ODE TO ALICE COLTRANE

World Premiere: YBCA, San Francisco, 2024

*Approx. run time: 47 minutes*

Choreography **Alonzo King**

Music **Alice Coltrane\***

Lighting Design **Seah Johnson**

Costume Design **Robert Rosenwasser**

Prelude Music + Music Supervision **Philip Perkins**

## Company

**PRELUDE: MIGRATION WALKING**

**WISDOM EYE**

**RADHE-SHYAM**

**TRANSCENDENCE**

**JOURNEY IN SATCHIDANANDA**

**TRANSLINEAR LIGHT**

**THE SUN**

**TURIYA AND RAMAKRISHNA**

**RADHE-SHYAM**

**GOVINDA HARI**

**OM SUPREME**

**HARI SIVA**

**SPIRITUAL ETERNAL**

**JAI RAMACHANDRA**

**GOING HOME** (featuring Adji Cissoko 4/11, 4/16, 4/17, 4/19,

or Theo Duff-Grant 4/12, 4/18)

*Special thanks to the Coltrane estate, the Coltrane family, the Lisa Stone Pritzker Family Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts for supporting this creation.*

\*For full credits on the music featured in tonight's performance of *Ode To Alice Coltrane*, check out our [comprehensive catalog](#).

# LEGACY

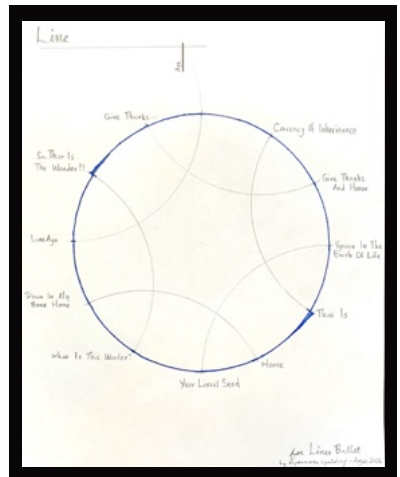
## “The Immeasurable Immensity of Your Inheritance” —esperanza spalding



*This music began in the hills of Tygh Valley, Oregon. When Alonzo first asked me to send some musical ideas, I thought it best to place myself in the land and listen for what sounds emerged from that healthy, vast, wild environment. I knew I wanted to create a composition about each person’s rich ancestral origins,*

*while exploring a more robust concept of “inheritance.” As land is the common relative in all of our lineage histories, I thought it appropriate to begin the writing process from a posture of sitting at the feet of our common ancestor. Most of the themes, patterns, melodies, harmonic progressions in this piece were born during that initial visit with the land at Tygh Valley. For a while I had been rolling the term “lineage” over in my mind and delighting at its combination of the words “line” and “age.” I couldn’t unsee the concept of “lineage” as a horizontal line representing all the life that has unfolded continuously up to our current age. Along that loooong horizontal line—representing the continuum of all the life that made us—there appears our unique little life, like one vertical hatch marking the age we find ourselves born into.*

*Sitting to begin the work of fleshing out the initial melodic and harmonic content, I drew a horizontal line representing the continuum of all life we emerge from, and one vertical hatch for each musical/lyrical movement representing a singular life in their singular age. Then I remembered that there’s no proof time is linear. Letting go of the idea of beginning or end, I began to notice how all the musical/lyrical themes reflected and contained each other, such that, no matter where I started in the sequence of the musical/lyrical movements, the progression flowed with thematic and narrative coherency, flowing logically from one to the next, to the next...all the way around to wherever I started. To better represent the relationships between each movement within the composition then, I drew the continual line of life we emerge from as one great circle, with each thematic movement as a vertical hatch along this circular line.*



(continued on next page)

# LEGACY

## “The Immeasurable Immensity of Your Inheritance” —esperanza spalding

*As the ballet began to come into being, into its shape, flow and unique lexicon, Alonzo asked me to compose additional music to complement and enwhole the initial composition. These additional portions of music—born subsequently while sitting at the feet (literally!) of the phenomenal artists, dancers, dreamers, lineage bearers comprising the LINES Ballet company—brought new depth of meaning and coherency to the initial composition in ways I could never have imagined on my own. The compositional process of creating this piece feels now like that little hatch line, emerging from and intersecting with the circle of every being involved in this work. I am deeply grateful to Alonzo for this invitation, and deeply grateful to and blessed by my encounters with each of the artists in this company, along with the brilliant production and support staff holding us through this creation process.*

—esperanza spalding



“Collaborating with esperanza spalding on this world premiere has been such a rare opportunity, because she is not simply accompanying the choreography, she is composing in real time with the dancers’ bodies, her presence and artistry transforming the space into a living conversation between sound and movement. To have an artist of esperanza’s depth and creativity performing live on stage with LINES is going to be exhilarating; it asks the dancers to meet her imagination moment by moment. That shared risk is where true discovery lives, not only for the artists but for the audience as well.”

—Alonzo King, LINES Ballet Artistic Director & Co-Founder

# INSPIRATION FOR ODE TO ALICE COLTRANE

In an extraordinary 2024 collaboration, Alonzo King LINES Ballet partnered with The John & Alice Coltrane Home and the Coltrane Family to celebrate the life and work of the legendary spiritual leader, composer, pianist, and harpist Alice Coltrane, an artist celebrated for her pioneering and trailblazing career. As part of “The Year of Alice,” LINES Ballet premiered a new work set to her transformative music. This premiere was part of a series of nationwide tributes honoring Alice Coltrane’s extraordinary legacy. LINES Ballet joined organizations including Impulse! Records, the Detroit Jazz Festival, the Hammer Museum, and The New York Historical Society to honor Alice Coltrane through performances and exhibitions.

Alonzo King choreographed his very first work to the music of Alice Coltrane, which premiered at the company’s inaugural performance in 1982 at the McKenna Theater, San Francisco State University. King continues to draw inspiration from her groundbreaking contributions. “I’ve been mesmerized by the transcendental music of the incredible Alice Coltrane since I was a child,” says King.

Jazz saxophonist Ravi Coltrane, Alice’s son, reflects on her enduring impact: “Alice was ahead of her time, one of the first people to move outside the mainstream, and certainly one of the first female, Black, American jazz musicians to record her own music in her own studio, and to release music on her own terms...people across all generations are finding their way to Alice’s music in a myriad of different ways. It’s hard to pinpoint what makes her music so powerful, but there’s something in her spirit, in her intention, that is very clear—and people can feel that immediately.”

## ARTURO FERNANDEZ

We dedicate our Spring Season Opening Night Performance to Arturo Fernandez, longtime friend, collaborator, mentor, teacher, and ballet master to LINES Ballet and a tremendous force to Bay Area dance. We are all deeply saddened by his recent passing.

For 25 years with LINES, Arturo traveled on innumerable tours and preserved, coached, and passed on countless hours of choreography to our dancers. He also shared immense insight in the classroom and dedicated his radiant energy to drawing the best out of his students across all of our education programs. Arturo's dedication, passion, and care for each individual has made a huge impact on LINES Ballet, our community, and our history. We are incredibly grateful to have been touched by this incredible artist and human being. Deepest care to his husband, Derek Gordon, with whom he shared 38 years of life.



# ARTURO FERNANDEZ



Arturo Fernandez, a native of Oakland, CA, began dance training at the School of Performing Arts of USIU in San Diego. After only two years of study, he joined San Diego Ballet in 1976. Over the course of his career, he performed with California Ballet, Arizona Ballet, New Jersey Ballet, Ballets Trocadero de Monte Carlo and Pittsburgh Ballet Theater.

After moving back to California he joined Oakland Ballet for a short time and ODC/San Francisco (11 years) and there served as the assistant to the choreographers from 1988–1991.

From 1992–2017 he was the Ballet Master for Alonzo King LINES Ballet and assisted King in the creation of numerous new works.

He coordinated and taught in Alonzo King's Professional Workshop beginning in 1998, and in 2001 he directed the first ever Summer Pre-Professional Program at LINES. For more than two decades, through 2019, he was an integral part of the Alonzo King LINES Dance Center, the LINES Training Program and the LINES BFA Program at Dominican University of California. He set Alonzo King's ballets on companies and universities including NYU, Washington University in St. Louis, and Western Michigan University, most notably Alonzo King's *HANDEL* on the Royal Swedish Ballet in Stockholm.



# COLLABORATOR/COMPOSER PROFILES



esperanza spalding | © julian loma

## esperanza spalding

Born in 1984 in Portland, Oregon, esperanza spalding is an eabibacliitoti\* artist, trained and initiated in the North American (masculine) jazz lineage and tradition. Her work interweaves through various combinations of instrumental music, improvisation, singing, composition, poetry, dance, therapeutic research, storytelling, teaching, regenerative agriculture, urban land & artist-sanctuary custodianship, and growing in love as a daughter, sister, cousin, niece, auntie, great-auntie, friend, while collaboratively decolonizing within and through her hometown community.

She founded and serves as co-director of Prismid Sanctuary, a non-profit that creates and stewards free artist residency, performance, and workshop space in Portland, Oregon (Prismid.org).

With her dance project “Off Brand gOdds” and her therapeutic music incubator “Songwrights Apothecary Lab” she co-leads performance, teaching, workshop, and therapeutic-arts research residencies in collaboration with colleges and arts venues across the Americas and throughout the world. She is a 2024 recipient of the Doris Duke Foundation Artist Award and a 2016 Ford Foundation “Art of Change” Fellow.

*\*European-African ancestored being influenced by American cultures living in Indigenous Territories of Turtle Island*



Alice Coltrane  
Photo courtesy of the Coltrane Family

## ALICE COLTRANE

Alice Coltrane’s pioneering and trailblazing career has changed the course of history. She forged masterful creative works, created music that beams universal love and spirituality to anyone that is listening, and laid the groundwork for musicians for years to come to do the same. She was prolific in her creation, with iconic works that include *Journey In Satchidananda* (one of *Rolling Stone’s* 500 greatest albums), *A Monastic Trio*, *Universal Consciousness*, *Ptah*, *the El Daoud*, and continued creating music when she started her ashram in California—music from that time would later be released to critical acclaim. Beyond her recorded output (elegantly explored in *The New York Times’ Five Minutes That Will Make You Love Alice Coltrane*), Coltrane was a beloved and wise spiritual leader, a pragmatic person with a keen eye for business, and a deeply giving human, who emphasized the importance of charitable giving, education, and spiritual guidance.

# DESIGNER PROFILES

## SEAH JOHNSON, DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION

Seah Johnson has over two decades of freelance production experience as a lighting designer, touring lighting supervisor, production manager, and technical director for a variety of dance, theatre, and opera companies across the world. She was the resident lighting designer and lighting supervisor at Aspen Santa Fe Ballet for fourteen seasons, lighting world premieres of ballets by Cayetano Soto, Nicolo Fonte, Jorma Elo, Alejandro Cerrudo, Fernando Melo, and many more. She currently tours with LINES Ballet as the company Production Director and is based out of Seattle, WA.

## ALEXANDER V. NICHOLS, LIGHTING DESIGNER

Mr. Nichols' designs have been seen on Broadway, off-Broadway and in opera houses, concert halls, theaters, warehouses and vacant lots throughout the world. Previously, for LINES Ballet he design the lighting for *THE BEAUTY OF DISSOLVING PORTRAITS*. Recent projects include scenic design for Chanel Dasilva's *WABASH AND YOU* at Joffrey Ballet, projection design for *HOW SHAKESPEARE SAVED MY LIFE* at Berkeley Rep, scenic and lighting design for Gypsy Snider's *CAUGHT IN THE ACT* and Brenda Way's *AFTER THE DELUGE* at ODC. Upcoming projects include lighting design for Shana Carroll's *THE ATTIC* with Les Sept Doigts de la Main, scenic design for *NIXON IN CHINA* and projection design for *MADAMA* at the Washington National Opera.

## PHILIP PERKINS, SOUND DESIGNER & MUSIC SUPERVISOR

Philip Perkins has served as Sound Designer and Music Supervisor for Alonzo King LINES Ballet since 2012, and was co-composer of Alonzo King's ballets *Figures of Speech* and *Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled*. Other choreographers he has worked with include Meredith Webster, Laura O' Malley, Kara Wilkes, The Cambrians, Rashaun Mitchell, Charlotte Griffen, Risa Jaroslow, and Mary Oslund. He was a member of The Residents performance ensemble (1978–1984) and also served as their cinematographer and lighting designer. He has released 21 albums of his own sound and music work 1979–2025 on the Fun Music, Artifact, CHoon SubCity, and Captured Tracks labels. Musicians and directors he has worked with include Errol Morris, Oliver Stone, John Korty, Albert Maysles, HP Mendoza, Emiko Omori, Debra Chasnoff, Tom Waits, Fred Frith, Charles Lloyd, Jason Moran, Bobby McFerrin, Lisa Fischer, Rova Saxophone Quartet, Pauline Oliveros, Frederika von Stade, Bob Mould, Mike Patton, negativland, Kronos Quartet, Wadada Leo Smith, "Blue" Gene Tyranny, The Hub, Alasdair Fraser, Ambrose Akinmusire, Phillippe Jaroussky, and Zakir Hussain, among many others.



## ALONZO KING

*Choreographer, Artistic Director & Co-Founder*

Alonzo King is an internationally acclaimed pioneer of contemporary ballet.

Named as a choreographer with “astonishing originality” by *The New York Times*, he has guided LINES Ballet with his unique artistic vision since 1982. His work has been recognized for its impact on the cultural fabric of the company’s home in San Francisco, as well as internationally by the dance world’s most prestigious institutions.

King calls his works “thought structures” — created by the manipulation of energies that exist in matter through laws, which govern the shapes and movement directions of everything that exists.

Working in the repertoires of the world’s leading ballet and modern companies, he has collaborated with distinguished visual artists, musicians, and composers across the globe.

Named a Master of Choreography by the Kennedy Center in 2005, King is the recipient of the NEA Choreographer’s Fellowship, the Jacob’s Pillow Creativity Award, the US Artist Award in Dance, the NY Bessie Award, the SF Arts Medallion Award, and the National Dance Project’s Residency and Touring Awards. In 2015, he received the Doris Duke Artist Award in recognition of his ongoing contributions to the advancement of contemporary dance. King was also named one of America’s “Irreplaceable Dance Treasures” by the Dance Heritage Coalition, joining historic icons in the field. In 2020, he was honored with a [Dance Magazine Award](#), and his choreography appears in the 2023 short film *Flower*, produced by and starring Misty Copeland. King was also inducted into the California Hall of Fame in 2022 and received the Minyon Harlin Award from UCSF in 2024 for his service to women and girls with HIV. Alonzo King’s celebrated ballet *Deep River* is featured on NEXT at The Kennedy Center—a series on PBS that showcases artists who are at the forefront of their disciplines and serve as culture bearers of the 21st Century. [ORIGINS](#), a cinematic portrait of Alonzo King and LINES Ballet directed by award-winning filmmaker Drea Cooper.

Renowned for his skill as a teacher, King was also honored with the [Lifetime Achievement Award](#) by the Corps de Ballet International Teacher Conference in 2012. An internationally acclaimed guest ballet master, his training philosophy undergirds the educational programming at the [Alonzo King LINES Dance Center](#) of San Francisco, which includes the pre-professional [Summer Program](#) and the [BFA Program at Dominican University of California](#). Furthermore, King is a former San Francisco commissioner and a writer and lecturer on humanity and art.

King has received honorary doctorates from Dominican University of California, California Institute of the Arts and The Juilliard School, in recognition of his significant contribution to the field of dance.



Alonzo King  
© Franck Thibault

# COMPANY PROFILES



Robert Rosenwasser  
© Quinn B. Wharton

## ROBERT ROSENWASSER

*Creative Director & Co-Founder*

Robert Rosenwasser is a co-founder of LINES Ballet. As Creative Director, he shapes the aesthetic and artistic direction of each project at the company, including conceptual design and production.

Robert Rosenwasser served as Executive Director from 2018 to April 2025. In addition to his work with LINES Ballet, he has designed for Ballet de Monte Carlo, BÉJART Ballet Lausanne, the Royal Swedish Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, American Ballet Theater, Joffrey Ballet, Frankfurt Ballet, and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. He has also collaborated on book projects with artists and poets Richard Tuttle, Mei-mei Berssenbrugge, Kiki Smith, Cecilia Vicuna, and Barbara Guest. His work is found at the New York Museum of Modern Art in the Department of Books and Illustrated Prints, at the Whitney Museum, and the Spencer Collection of the New York Public Library.

Mr. Rosenwasser grew up in New York, attending Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts, Cooper Union, and California Institute of the Arts.

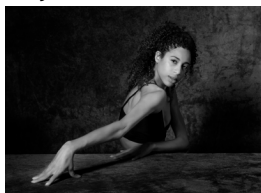
# COMPANY DANCER PROFILES

## MAËL AMATOUL



Maël Amatoul is native to the French Riviera. He embarked on a journey at the PNSD Rosella Hightower in Cannes, where he trained in ballet and contemporary. Amatoul has worked on pieces by choreographers including Jean Christophe Maillot, Christophe Garcia, Hervé Koubi, and Francesco Curci. In 2022, he was awarded a Scholarship of Excellence in Art and Culture from the Côte d'Azur University. After seven years in Cannes, Amatoul decided to open up his dance experience to new techniques and joined The Ailey School. There, he had the opportunity to learn and perform works by Alvin Ailey and renowned choreographers such as Ray Mercer, Branndi Lewis, Renee Robinson, and Clifton Brown. After attending the LINES Ballet Summer Program in June 2023, Amatoul joined Alonzo King LINES Ballet as a company dancer.

## ADJI CISSOKO



Adjé Cissoko was born and grew up in Munich, Germany, where she trained at the Ballet Academy Munich and graduated with a diploma in dance. Cissoko attended the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at American Ballet Theatre in New York City on full scholarship before joining the National Ballet of Canada in 2010. In 2012, she was awarded the Patron Award of Merit by the Patrons' Council Committee of The National Ballet of Canada. Cissoko joined LINES Ballet in 2014. Since then, she's originated many central roles and guested for galas worldwide. Cissoko has given multiple master classes and taught classes around the world as part of the company's outreach program. In 2020, she became certified in health/life coaching and ABT's National Training Curriculum. Cissoko choreographed her first piece, "AZIZ," for Ballet X in 2021. She is also a 2022 recipient of the Toulmin Fellowship and was the Artist-in-Residence for Vail Dance Festival in 2023. On January 1, 2026, Cissoko was appointed to the position of Associate Artistic Director of Alonzo King LINES Ballet.

## THEO DUFF-GRANT



Theo Duff-Grant was born in Vancouver, Canada. He studied at Goh Ballet Academy for ten years before completing his training at the Dutch National Ballet Academy. In 2015, he joined the Dutch National Ballet, and in 2017, he moved to Saint Petersburg, Russia, to join the Mikhailovsky Theatre. He joined LINES Ballet in 2022.

## LORRIS EICHINGER



Lorris Eichinger started training in Grenoble at the National Conservatory and continued at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Danse de Marseille. After training at The School of American Ballet in New York from 2010 to 2013, Eichinger joined the Professional Division Program of the Pacific Northwest Ballet in Seattle. He then moved back to France to dance with the Jeune Ballet de Lyon. Eichinger danced with De Dutch Don't Dance in the Netherlands in 2015 and then moved to Israel to join Kamea Dance Company in 2016. He joined LINES Ballet in 2019.

# COMPANY DANCER PROFILES

## SHUAIB ELHASSAN



Shuaib Elhassan, from Manhattan's Lower East Side, began his formal dance training at The Ailey School under the co-direction of Tracy Inman and Melanie Person on a full scholarship. Elhassan has also trained at intensives with Earl Mosley's Institute of the Arts, Jacob's Pillow, and Complexions Contemporary Ballet. Elhassan was a member of Complexions Contemporary Ballet during their 2012–2013 season. Additionally, Elhassan has performed with Life Dance Company, Zest Collective, Dance Iquail, and the Von Howard Project. Elhassan joined LINES Ballet in 2014.

## JOSHUA FRANCIQUE



Joshua Francique was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. He began his dance training with Deeply Rooted Dance Theater back in 2015. Francique continued his training in the Northern Illinois University BFA Dance Program and soon after at The Ailey School on a full scholarship. Francique has performed works by Nicole Clark-Springer, Gary Abbott, and Kevin Iega Jeff, to name a few. In 2020, Francique attended the LINES Ballet Training Program for a year. He then joined LINES Ballet in 2022.

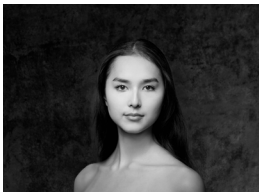
## MIKAL GILBERT



Raised in Virginia Beach, VA, Mikal Gilbert developed a love for dance at the age of 19 while studying music performance at the University of the Arts. It was there that his passion grew upon encouragement from several dance faculty members. He then went on to formally train at Norfolk Academy under the tutelage of Elbert Watson, where he studied ballet and modern. In 2017, Gilbert was an inaugural member of Complexions Contemporary Ballet's Pre-Professional Program. In 2018, he continued his studies at The Ailey School as a full scholarship recipient.

Mikal has attended intensives and workshops at Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Complexions, and BalletX. Mikal is a "Dancer of Philadelphia" and has been a member of Koresh Dance Company (2019–2022), Dance Iquail (2022), and PHILADANCO! (2022–2024), where he performed works by Bernard Gaddis, Milton Myers, Christopher Rudd, and Tommie Wheed. Mikal joined LINES Ballet in 2024.

## ANNA JOY



Anna Joy was born and raised in Rochester, NY, where she began her training at Draper Center for Dance Education. She traveled to Trujillo, Peru, to perform in the Festival Internacional De Ballet Trujillo and attended competitions throughout the U.S. She spent summers at American Ballet Theatre, Houston Ballet, The Royal Ballet School, Alonzo King LINES Ballet, and Complexions Contemporary Ballet. In 2019, Anna competed in Dance Prix De New York where she was offered a full scholarship by Cynthia Harvey to the Upper School at American Ballet Theatre's Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School. She moved to New York, NY, to attend the school where she also participated in projects, including performing in New York Fashion Week. She graduated in 2023 and joined the Washington Ballet School as a Trainee from 2023–2024. Anna joined LINES Ballet in 2025.

# COMPANY DANCER PROFILES

## MARUSYA MADUBUKO



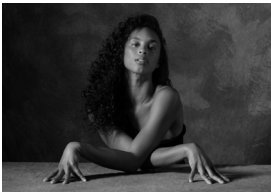
Originally from New York, NY, Marusya Madubuko began her pre-professional training at age 15 with Premiere Division Ballet under the tutelage of Nadege Hottier. In 2019, Madubuko competed at the Royal Grand Prix in Italy, winning second place for her contemporary and classical solo. She trained with the Bolshoi Ballet Academy, the Royal Ballet School, and at San Francisco Ballet School, where she had the opportunity to dance repertoire including Helgi Tomasson's *Nutcracker* and *Cinderella*, as well as George Balanchine's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. In 2021, she participated in BalletUnleashed's first creative project "Switchback," working with choreographer Cathy Marston to create a solo. Madubuko joined LINES Ballet in 2021.

## TATUM QUIÑÓNEZ



Tatum Quiñónez began her training at Master Ballet Academy in Phoenix, Arizona. She then continued her training at Ballet West Academy and the BWA Trainee Program. She spent her summers at Ballet Arizona, Ballet Austin, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Ballet West, and Oregon Ballet Theatre. Quiñónez then joined Oregon Ballet Theatre's second company, OBT2, in 2019. She has performed works by George Balanchine, August Bournonville, Willam Christensen, Gerald Arpino, Christopher Stowell, James Canfield, and LeeWei Chao. Quiñónez joined LINES Ballet in 2021.

## AMANDA SMITH



Amanda Smith grew up in Orange County, CA and trained at California Dance Academy, Pointe of Grace, and Anaheim Ballet. In 2008, she was crowned Miss Dance Drill Team California and USA. She moved to New York to study at SUNY Purchase where she received her BFA in 2012. She also studied abroad and performed at the Dance New York International Dance Festival in Madrid, Spain.

After graduating, Smith joined Charlotte Ballet and worked with Patricia McBride. In 2015, she moved back to New York, where she joined New York Theatre Ballet. Smith also taught and participated in outside projects including The Black Iris Project and Kymera Dance, and she was featured in a national campaign for GAP. She then joined the Dance Theatre of Harlem in 2017 and was featured on the cover of *Dance Magazine's* 2019 April issue. While at DTH, Smith performed many roles in ballets such as *Allegro Brillante* and *Blake Works IV*. She also guested for Debbie Allen's *Hot Chocolate Nutcracker*. Furthermore, Smith has taught classes, performed as a guest artist all over, and worked with many prolific artists such as Arthur Mitchell, Carmen De Lavalade, and William Forsythe.



# UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

## COMPANY TOUR

Chautauqua, NY	August 5 & 8, 2026	Chautauqua Amphitheater
Chicago, IL	May 1–2, 2027	The Harris

## COMPANY HOME SEASON – FALL 2026

San Francisco, CA	November 19-21, 2026	Davies Symphony Hall
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\*Please check [linesballet.org/touring-schedule](https://linesballet.org/touring-schedule) for the most up-to-date touring information as it becomes available.



# THANK YOU to JOAN RAYMOND

## Farewell to LINES Ballet Costume Collaborator Joan Raymond

This production marks the conclusion of a 30+ year partnership between Alonzo King LINES Ballet and costume artist Joan Raymond, who is retiring. Joan has been a costume collaborator, designer, and builder for dance, theatre, and opera companies for over 40 years, including LINES Ballet since 1995.

Her work has also been seen at American Ballet Theater, San Francisco Ballet, ODC, Margaret Jenkins Dance Company, West Bay Opera, Brian Boitano, Menlowe Ballet, Third Cloud from the Left, Teatro ZinZanni, and many others, including over 100 productions at San Francisco's American Conservatory Theater as assistant costume shop manager and design assistant.

According to LINES Ballet Co-Founder and Creative Director Robert Rosenwasser, "Joan has been a joy to work with these past 31 years. She loves an interesting challenge and always finds a brilliant solution. Her artistry, ingenuity, and unwavering dedication have shaped the visual identity of LINES. We are profoundly grateful for the care, brilliance, and heart she has given to every piece. Joan's legacy is quite literally woven into the fabric of this company."

Here is a small sampling of the hundreds of beautiful costumes Joan has created for LINES Ballet.



# THANK YOU to JOAN RAYMOND





# ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

EDUCATION



# EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Through our robust education programs, Alonzo King LINES Ballet provides an environment for the unfolding of students' own creative powers. The cornerstone that shapes our training philosophy is that art is within the artist.

**BFA at Dominican University of California** — Alonzo King LINES Ballet and Dominican University of California join forces in this technically rigorous and artistically expansive four-year program, which culminates in a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. During the program, students acquire the skills and knowledge needed for a professional dance career along with the life-long benefits of an excellent liberal arts education.

**Summer Program** — Our Summer Program offers a unified approach to dance training rooted in the philosophy of Alonzo King. Intensive courses are designed for aspiring dancers ages 11–25. Our renowned faculty guides students on a collaborative journey that takes the foundation of classical training and builds on the values of artistic risk-taking and independent thinking. Students explore a variety of dance techniques, with ballet as their core discipline.

**Community Programs** — LINES Community Programs provide students with access to the creative process of Alonzo King LINES Ballet. Rooted in our unique HeART with LINES curriculum, our Community Programs benefit a child's physical wellness and imagination through the power of discovery and collaboration. Programming includes school residencies, student matinees, field trips, family experiences, school site performances, and HeART of Market—a free, outdoor performance featuring our residency program students along with dancers in LINES' pre-professional education programs. LINES also offers professional development workshops throughout the year for classroom and studio educators of all levels and experiences.



# LINES DANCE CENTER

LINES Dance Center is home to Alonzo King LINES Ballet's professional company and education programs. Monday through Saturday, the Dance Center offers open advanced/professional ballet classes where community members ages sixteen and up can train alongside our company dancers (except during their off-seasons). The Dance Center is also home to a number of independently run classes hosted by esteemed Bay Area teachers.



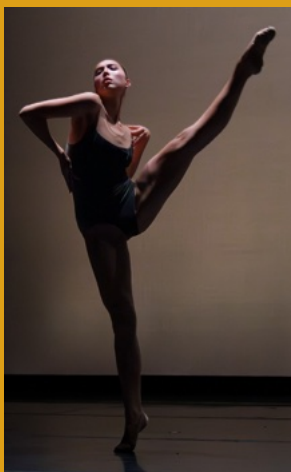
# ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

## SUMMER PROGRAM

Guided by the groundbreaking vision of **Alonzo King**, one of the most influential pioneers of contemporary ballet, the **LINES Ballet Summer Program** invites ballet and contemporary dancers ages 11–25 to explore the limitless potential of movement and artistry in beautiful San Francisco.

Rooted in King's philosophy that dance is a profound act of discovery, the **LINES Ballet Summer Program** is an immersive experience in a positive, inclusive, encouraging environment, focusing on students' dreams, goals, and aspirations.

*This summer, don't just train—transform.*



### JUNIOR

Ages 11–14

### ADVANCED

Ages 14–17

### PRE-PROFESSIONAL

Ages 18–25

More Information:

[linesballet.org/dance-education/summer-program](https://linesballet.org/dance-education/summer-program)



# EDUCATION PERFORMANCES & EVENTS

PROGRAM & EVENT	DATE	THEATER/VENUE
<b>Community Programs</b> Family Experience	April 12 & 19, 2026	Blue Shield of California Theater at YBCA
<b>BFA Program</b> Spring Showcase	April 10–11, 2026	Angelico Hall at Dominican University of California
<b>BFA Program</b> Student Showcase	April 15, 2026	Blue Shield of California Theater at YBCA
<b>BFA Program</b> Dancing in the Park	April 25, 2026	Music Concourse, Golden Gate Park
<b>Summer Program</b> Pre-Pro Showcase	June 27, 2026	Cowell Theater, Fort Mason
<b>Community Programs</b> HeART with LINES Summer Camp	July 6–10, 2026	LINES Dance Center
<b>Summer Program</b> Advanced Showcase	August 1, 2026	Cowell Theater, Fort Mason
<b>BFA Program</b> Fall Showcase	November 2026	Angelico Hall at Dominican University of California

\*Please check our [Education Events List](#) for the most up-to-date information as it becomes available.



# LINES DANCE CENTER

## CLASSES FOR ADULTS ARE IN SESSION: Everyone can dance!

LINES Dance Center offers a full range of independently run dance classes hosted by esteemed Bay Area teachers. Dancers of all ages and experience levels can participate in classes ranging from ballroom, salsa, Bollywood-style, jazz, and flamenco, to weekly “Dance Church” on Sundays!

For details, visit [linesballet.org/lines-dance-center/classes](https://linesballet.org/lines-dance-center/classes).

### BALLET

Maurya Kerr  
Kathy Mata  
Sally Miramon  
Charles Torres

### BOLLYWOOD

Mona Khan Company

### CONTEMPORARY JAZZ

Lynn Brillhante

### DANCE CHURCH – SAN FRANCISCO

Mel Katz  
Ale Preciado

### FLAMENCO

CarOlé Flamenco

### LATIN BALLROOM

Vila Dance - Latin Ballroom Dance

### SALSA

San Francisco Salsa Academy

### ADVANCED/PROFESSIONAL BALLET

Sandra Chinn  
Brett Conway  
Kaori Ogasawara  
Katie Roy  
Carmen Rozestraten

LINES Dance Center | © Chris Hardy

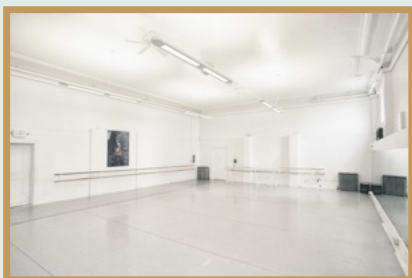
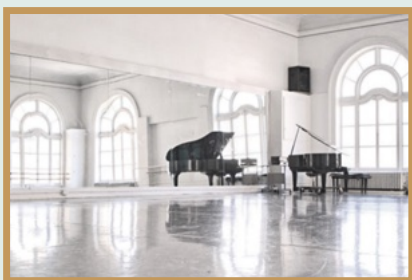


# LINES DANCE CENTER provides studio space for:

- Rehearsals
- Showings
- Dance
- Music
- Theater
- Photography
- Filming



We have six spacious, bright, professionally-equipped studios!  
Email [customerservice@linesballet.org](mailto:customerservice@linesballet.org) for rental details.



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# SUPPORT

“ Alonzo King LINES Ballet is personally meaningful to me, as it is to so many of you. Alonzo’s brilliant artistry and LINES dancers’ work is deeply touching. The belief in the potential of every human to evoke and produce art is profound. ”

— Lisa S. Pritzker

Founder and chair of the LSPFF, which provides support for the creation of new work

Alonzo King LINES Ballet is grateful to the generous individual and institutional supporters who help us meet our mission of touching hearts and stirring minds through dance. Donors enable LINES Ballet to develop innovative new work, while also supporting life-changing dance education. At this critical moment in the funding landscape we invite you to join our list of supporters.

For more information, please contact [development@linesballet.org](mailto:development@linesballet.org) or make an online donation at [linesballet.org/support](https://linesballet.org/support).

# SUPPORT

Alonzo King LINES Ballet is a non-profit 501(c)(3) and runs on the passionate support of those who believe in the transformative power of dance. We are so grateful for the generosity of our donors who have contributed from January 1, 2025 – March 21, 2026.

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Pushan panda

Jannet Park

Miriam Perkoff (*In honor of Ruth Nott*)

Catherine Qin

Christine Reyes (*In memory of John Joseph Brune Jr.*)

Hildegard Richardson

Yvette Robbins

Katherine Roselli

Fred Rosenblum

Ingrid Rucker

Susan Rutberg

Dr. Janice Schreiber & David Hudson

Heather Shane

Donna Shea

Traci Shelton

Hadar Shemtov

Sarah Smith

Susan Strong

Jacob Talbot

Ai Tran

Sister Usha

Abel Valadez

Deborah Verity

Heidi Wagner

Patricia Walton

Niko Washington

Terri Watters

Cedric Westphal

Marcus Williams

Lynne Winslow

Mary Worth

Paul Wyman

Teriha Yaegashi

Orit Yehezkel

Jake & Jessie

Wendy & David Young

Erica Ziegler

# SUPPORT

## ASSOCIATE

### Below \$100

Anonymous (6) *(In honor of Zack Thompson)*  
*(In memory of Michael Parra)*

Rachael Adler

Rebecca Anaya

Tamara Arzumanova

Backster Family

Layla Barber

Anne Batmale

Mark Broomfield

Susan Burke *(In honor of Steve Kerr/Dubs)*

Dawn Cannon *(In honor of Dillon Taylor)*

Diana Casey

Maria Celeste Castillo

Jennifer Cervantes

Dedra Chamberlin

Naomi Chang

Rozen Charitable Giving Account

Winnie Chin

Edna & Ed Colloff

Hillary Curtis

Anne Dahlgren

Steven Andre Dibner *(In honor of Ruth Nott)*

Jennifer *(In honor of Michael Montgomery)*

Judy Domenici

Catherine Dunham

Alisha Eastwood

R.J. Erickson

Mary Finch

Constance Ford

Barbara & Richard Cohn

Kim Girard

Sheila Goodman

Amy Helfant

Jamie Herslow

Jeanette Isenberg

Angela Iton

Elsa Jungman

Clennita Justice

Amy Lauer

Hector V Lee

Enhao Li

Give Lively Donor

Charles Matthews

Wendy Miller

Sitar Mody

Lisa Murray

Beth Navon

Grace Kennedy Panda

Gerri Poindexter

Lesley Ruda

Julien A Schleret

Cynthia Shearer

Marsha Siegel

Howard Simon & Dr. Vivien Igra

Lesley M Steele *(In honor of Sandra Chinn)*

Lesley Steele

Eva Steiner

Lisa Stevens

Lisa Stevens

Richard Turner

Assiamira Ferrara & Stephen Van Den Eeden

Amanda Vaughan

Pierre & Regina Vilanoba

Jeff White

Nathan Hale Williams

Emily Wilson

Marianne Wong

Farley Ziegler



# INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

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Premiere Creation



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Fullerton Family  
Foundation



# INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

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## DANCERS CIRCLE

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*the* HERB  
ALPERT *foundation*

NEWMUSIC  
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Intuitive Surgical	X (formerly known as Twitter)

# STAFF

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Alonzo King, *Choreographer, Artistic Director & Co-Founder*  
Robert Rosenwasser, *Creative Director & Co-Founder*  
Ruth Nott, *Managing Director*  
Adji Cissoko, *Associate Artistic Director*  
Pam Hagen, *Co-Founder & Emeritus Payroll Manager*

## DEVELOPMENT

Kim Bistrong, *Director of Development*  
Madeline DeVries<sup>†</sup>, *Development Associate*  
Lavanya Ganganna, *Database Administrator*  
Sheri Kuehl, *Institutional Giving Manager*

## MARKETING

Philip Mayard, *Marketing Director*  
Jon Finck, *Public Relations Consultant*  
Katie Roy\*, *Digital Marketing Specialist*

## FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Masami Kondo, *Director of Finance*  
Anne Calais, *Director of Human Resources*  
Rebecca Anaya, *Payroll Administrator*

## EDUCATION

Marina Hotchkiss<sup>†</sup>, *BFA Program Director*  
Maddie Sager\*, *BFA Program Coordinator*  
Ilaria Guerra<sup>†\*</sup>, *Summer Program Director*  
Marquis L. Engle, *Community Programs Manager*  
Jamie Wright, *Studio Operations Manager*

## ARCHIVES

Petra Warren, *Archivist*

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Matthew Trevino, *vCIO Consultant*  
James Haruta, *vCIO Consultant*

## COMPANY STAFF

Brandi Williams, *General Manager*  
Syam Waymon, *Assistant to Alonzo King*  
Seah Johnson, *Director of Production*  
Byron Roman\*, *Rehearsal/Stage Manager*  
Philip Perkins, *Sound Designer/Music Supervisor*  
Joan Raymond *Costume Construction*  
Callie Floor, *Chanterelle Grove*, Joan Raymond,  
Kevin Tijerina, *Keely Weiman Stitchers*  
Ilaria Guerra<sup>†\*</sup>, Jenny Sandler, Meredith Webster<sup>†</sup>,  
*Rehearsal Directors*  
Adam Cook & Josh Weckesser, *Stage Supervisors*

## COMPANY DANCERS

Maël Amatoul\* | Adji Cissoko | Theo Duff-Grant  
Lorris Eichinger | Shuaib Elhassan | Joshua Francique\*  
Mikal Gilbert | Anna Joy\* | Marusya Madubuko  
Tatum Quiñónez | Amanda Smith

## BOOKING

Thierry DuClos, *Delta Danse*  
Margaret Selby, *Selby Artists Management*

<sup>†</sup>Former LINES Company Dancer

\*LINES Education Alum

# TEACHING ARTISTS & ACCOMPANISTS

## ADVANCED/ PROFESSIONAL BALLET CLASS TEACHERS & SUBS

Sandra Chinn  
Brett Conway  
Lorris Eichinger  
Kaori Ogasawara  
Katie Roy  
Carmen Rozestraten  
Victor Talledos  
Charles Torres

## TEACHING ARTISTS

Rosika Dater-Merton  
Maxine Flasher-Düzgüneş  
CaroLé Flamenco  
Catalina O'Connor

## BFA PROGRAM FACULTY

Christian Burns  
Sandra Chinn  
Brett Conway  
Kara Davis  
Gregory Dawson  
David Harvey  
Lynn Huang—San Francisco GYROTONIC®  
Audrey Johnson  
Babatunji  
Maurya Kerr  
Dexandro Montalvo  
Charles Moulton  
Tara Pandeya  
Anne-René Petrarca  
Molly Rogers  
Carmen Rozestraten  
Alice Svetic

## ACCOMPANISTS

Gabe Daniels  
Michael Dolman  
Maya Gorodetsky  
Lucy Hudson  
Ben Juodvalkis  
Julia Kaufmann  
Geoffrey Lee  
Stephen Mello  
Tim Murphy  
Eli Nelson  
Donald White



“Monumental textiles hang in splendor”  
KQED

On View

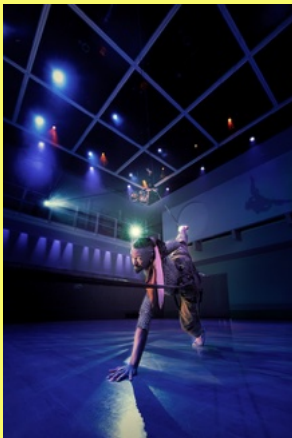
# Diedrick Brackens: gather tender night



May 15–17

## Air Between Us: by Megan Lowe Dances

Landmark vertical dance  
performance



On View

## Conjuring Power: Roots & Futures of Queer & Trans Movements

In collaboration with the  
GLBT Historical Society



Open till 8PM!

## Free Wednesdays @YBCA

Drop-in workshops and evening  
programming

YBCA.org

# ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

