

WENDY WHELAN *RESTLESS CREATURE*

TUE, APR 21, 2015 • 7:30PM



"AMERICA'S GREATEST
CONTEMPORARY
BALLERINA."

— *The New York Times*



PERFORMANCE BENEFACTOR

This performance is sponsored by Jane Ellison.

TUE, APR 21 • 7:30PM

Wendy Whelan, *performer*

Kyle Abraham, *choreographer/performer*

Joshua Beamish, *choreographer/performer*

Brian Brooks, *choreographer/performer*

Alejandro Cerrudo, *choreographer/performer*

World premiere: Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival,
Becket, MA, USA on Wednesday August 14, 2013

Sunny Artist Management Inc.,

Wendy Whelan, *executive producers*

Ilter Ibrahimof, Valérie Cusson, *producers*

The Joyce Theater Foundation, *co-producer*

Carolina Performing Arts,

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival,

The Joyce Theater Foundation, *co-commissioners*

David Michalek, *creative director*

Joe Levasseur, *lighting design*

Karen Young, *costume design*

Davison Scandrett, *production manager*

Meredith Belis, *stage manager*

Courtney Ozaki Moch, *project manager*

PROGRAM

EGO ET TU (2013)

Alejandro Cerrudo, *choreography*

Alejandro Cerrudo and Wendy Whelan, *performers*

Music: "Monologue" from *Perfect Sense* and *The Twins* (Prague) by Max Richter;
Orphée's Bedroom by Philip Glass; *We (Too) Shall Rest* by Ólafur Arnalds; *Intermezzo II* by Gavin Bryars

Atlantic Screen Group [Max Richter, "Perfect Sense"], Universal Music Publishing Group
[Max Richter, "The Twins (Prague)"]; ©1993, 1984 Dunvagen Music Publishers Inc.
Used by Permission [Philip Glass, "Orphée's Bedroom"]; Netzwerk One Music Group
[Ólafur Arnalds]; European American Distributors Company [Gavin Bryars]

CONDITIONAL SENTENCES (2015)

Joshua Beamish, *choreography*

Joshua Beamish and Wendy Whelan, *performers*

Music: Partita No. 2 in C minor BWV 826 by J.S. Bach from *Glenn Gould Plays Bach*

THE SERPENT AND THE SMOKE (2013)

Kyle Abraham, *choreography*

Kyle Abraham and Wendy Whelan, *performers*

Music: #304 and #320 by Hauschka & Hildur Guðnadóttir

Music used by permission: Music Sales Corporation, G. Schirmer, Inc.; Touch Music

FIRST FALL (2012)

Brian Brooks, *choreography*

Brian Brooks and Wendy Whelan, *performers*

Music: 1957 Award Montage; *November 25, Ichigaya*; *1962: Body Building*; *Mishima/Closing*;
String Quartet No. 3 ("Mishima") by Philip Glass from *Brooklyn Rider plays Philip Glass*

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First Fall was commissioned by Damian Woetzel for the 2012 Vail
International Dance Festival in Vail, Colorado.

WENDY WHELAN, PERFORMER

Wendy Whelan began dance classes at the age of three. At age eight she performed as a mouse with the Louisville Ballet in *The Nutcracker*. Joining the Louisville Ballet Academy that year, she began intense professional training. She became a member of the New York City Ballet corps de ballet in 1986 and was promoted to principal dancer in 1991. She has performed a wide spectrum of the Balanchine repertory and worked closely with Jerome Robbins on many of his ballets. She has originated featured roles in 13 ballets for Christopher Wheeldon, as well as in the ballets of William Forsythe, Alexei Ratmansky, Wayne McGregor, Jorma Elo, Shen Wei, Jerome Robbins and Twyla Tharp. In 2007, she was nominated for an Olivier Award and a Critics Circle Award for her performances with Morphoses/Wheeldon Company. She has been a guest artist with The Royal Ballet and with the Kirov Ballet. She received the 2007 *Dance Magazine* Award, and in 2009 was given a Doctorate of Arts, honoris causa, from Bellarmine University. In 2011, she was honored with both The Jerome Robbins Award and a Bessie Award for her Sustained Achievement in Performance.

In 2012, Ms. Whelan began developing new collaborative projects. Her inaugural project, *Restless Creature*, which premiered at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in August of 2013, is a suite of four duets created by and danced with four of today's most cutting-edge contemporary dancer/choreographers – Kyle Abraham, Joshua Beamish, Brian Brooks and Alejandro Cerrudo. *Restless Creature* traveled to London and Vail in 2014 and began touring the US in January 2015. Wendy Whelan was recently appointed an artistic associate at New York's City Center, and for two years beginning November 1, 2014, City Center will be her home for developing future projects.

KYLE ABRAHAM,
CHOREOGRAPHER/PERFORMER

2013 MacArthur Fellow Kyle Abraham received a BFA from SUNY Purchase and an MFA from NYU Tisch School of the Arts. In 2012, he was named the New York Live Arts Resident Commissioned Artist for 2012-2014. One month later, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater premiered his newest work, *Another Night*. Abraham was named a 2012 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award recipient and a 2012 USA Ford Fellow.

Mr. Abraham received a Bessie Award for Outstanding Performance in Dance for his work in *The Radio Show*, and a Princess Grace Award for Choreography in 2010. He was selected as one of *Dance Magazine's* 25 To Watch for 2009 and received a Jerome Travel and Study Grant in 2008. His choreography has been presented throughout the US and abroad, most recently at On The Boards, South MiamiDade Cultural Arts Center, REDCAT, Philly Live Arts, Portland's Time Based Arts Festival, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Danspace Project, Dance Theater Workshop, Bates Dance Festival, Harlem Stage, Fall for Dance Festival at New York's City Center, Montreal, Germany, Jordan, Ecuador, Dublin's Project Arts Center, The Okinawa Prefectural Museum & Art Museum in Japan, The Andy Warhol Museum, and The Kelly Strayhorn Theater in his hometown of Pittsburgh, PA.

In addition to performing and developing new works for his company, Abraham.In.Motion, he recently premiered *The Serpent and The Smoke*, a new pas de deux for himself and acclaimed Bessie Award-winning dancer and New York City Ballet principle Wendy Whelan as

part of *Restless Creature* at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. In 2011, *OUT Magazine* labeled Abraham as the "best and brightest creative talent to emerge in New York City in the age of Obama."

Kyle Abraham would like to extend his special thanks to Denis Robert Hurlin and Ellen Denise, Rena Butler, Chalvar Monteiro, Rachelle Rafailedes, Risa Steinberg and Alexandra Wells for their assistance and feedback.

JOSHUA BEAMISH,
CHOREOGRAPHER/PERFORMER

Joshua Beamish founded MOVE: the company in 2005 and his works have since toured extensively throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Africa. Outside of the company, he has created in collaboration with The Royal Ballet, New York City Ballet Principal Ashley Boudier for The Ashley Boudier Project, The National Ballet of Canada's YOUdance, Compañía Nacional de Danza de México, Cape Dance Company/South Africa, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Toronto Dance Theatre, Ballet Kelowna and Kansas City's Wylliams/Henry Contemporary Dance, among others. He choreographed for the CBC Radio Canada reality series *Its Dansent*, the Opening Ceremonies of the 2011 International Children's Winter Games, the Cultural Olympiads for both the 2010 and the 2012 Olympics and with Cirque du Soleil for World EXPO Shanghai.

He has worked closely with Paul Becker as an assistant choreographer or performer in Warner Brother's *The Wicker Man* with Nicholas Cage, New Line's *Code Name: The Cleaner*, Nickelodeon's *Jinxed*, The CW's *HELLCATS* and VH1's *Totally Awesome* with Chris Kattan of *Saturday Night Live*. He also appeared in Nickelodeon's *Spectacular* and in the ABC series *Life As We Know It* with Kelly Osbourne.

Joshua is the recipient of artistic residencies throughout North America, including the Banff Centre, Jacob's Pillow and a term as the National Incubator Artist for the American Dance Institute in Washington, DC. He is an alumnus of the New York Choreographic Institute, an affiliate organization of New York City Ballet and the School of American Ballet, and is a Jerome Robbins Foundation grantee. Notable recent presentations include The Royal Opera House in London, New York's Guggenheim Museum and a 24-dancer evening for MOVE: the company commissioned by the Bangkok International Festival to celebrate 50 years of Canadian and Thai political relations. In 2012, he performed in Jacob's Pillow's 80th Anniversary improvisation project *From the Horse's Mouth: The Men Dancers* at Jacob's Pillow alongside dance legends Arthur Mitchell and Lar Lubovitch. He is a current member of The Joyce Theatre's Young Leader's Circle Committee.

Joshua would like to extend his special thanks to Joanna and Brian Fisher, Deborah Wingert Arkin, Cathy Eilers, Larry Henry, Ella Baff, Chalvar Monteiro, Pablo Francisco Ruvalcaba Tovar, Erin Fogarty, Kyle Abraham, Risa Steinberg, Joshua Green and Chelsea Beamish.

BRIAN BROOKS,
CHOREOGRAPHER/PERFORMER

Brian Brooks was awarded with a 2013 Guggenheim Fellowship. He is a proud recipient of the NY City Center Fellowship (2012-2013), the Jerome Robbins New Essential Works grant (2013), and the Joyce Theater's Artist Residency (2013-2014).

His interest in choreography emerged at a young age while growing up in Hingham, MA, and was supported with a scholarship to train at Boston's Jeannette Neill Dance Studio when he was 17. Since moving to New York City in 1994, he has danced with numerous choreographers, including three years with daredevil Elizabeth Streb.

His dance group, the Brian Brooks Moving Company, has been presented throughout the US, South Korea and in Germany, and was presented by BAM in their 2013 Next Wave Festival. The company will be presented by The Joyce Theater in June 2015. Other NYC presentations have included repeat engagements at Dance Theater Workshop (currently NYLiveArts), a world premiere at the Lincoln Center Out of Doors Festival, presentations in the Fall for Dance festival at NY City Center, and performances in the Works and Process series at the Guggenheim Museum. For three consecutive years, he has been commissioned by Damian Woetzel at the Vail International Dance Festival to create new works featuring dancers from NYC Ballet. He choreographed director Julie Taymor's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2013), which was the inaugural performance at Theatre for a New Audience's Brooklyn home.

As a guest artist, Brian Brooks has created new dances at schools including The Juilliard School, The Boston Conservatory, Skidmore College, Barnard College of Columbia University, Alfred University and the University of Maryland at College Park. He has served as part-time faculty at Rutgers University and Princeton University and was a Teaching Artist at the Lincoln Center Institute from 1999-2012.

ALEJANDRO CERRUDO, CHOREOGRAPHER/PERFORMER

Alejandro Cerrudo was born in Madrid, Spain and trained at the Real Conservatorio Profesional de Danza de Madrid. His professional career began in 1998 and includes work with Victor Ullate Ballet, Stuttgart Ballet and Nederlands Dans Theater 2. He joined Hubbard Street Dance Chicago in 2005, was named Choreographic Fellow in 2008, and became the company's first Resident Choreographer in 2009. Fifteen works choreographed to date for Hubbard Street include collaborations with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, The Second City and Nederlands Dans Theater 2. These pieces and additional commissions are in repertory at companies around the US as well as in Australia, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands. Touring engagements have brought his work still further abroad, to audiences in Algeria, Canada, Morocco and Spain. In 2012, Pacific Northwest Ballet invited Cerrudo to choreograph his first work for the company, *Memory Glow*, upon receiving the Joyce Theater Foundation's second Rudolf Nureyev Prize for New Dance. Additional honors include an award from the Boomerang Fund for Artists (2011) and a Prince Prize for Commissioning Original Work from the Prince Charitable Trusts (2012) for his acclaimed first eveninglength work, *One Thousand Pieces*. Alejandro Cerrudo was named the 2014 USA Donnell Fellow by United States Artists.

Restless Creature is the inaugural work of the Wendy Whelan New Works Initiative, and is made possible by a creative residency space grant provided by the Baryshnikov Arts Center. Presentations of *Restless Creature* are made possible by the MetLife Community Connections Fund of the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project. Major support for National Dance Project is

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Sunny Artist Management, Inc., worldwide representation
www.sunnyartistmanagement.com
www.restlesscreature.com

Blake Zidell & Associates, press representative

2015/16 SEASON
ANNOUNCEMENT

May 20, 2015, 8:00pm
Register at cpatix.org

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