

Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre

Friday and Saturday, November 7–8, 8 pm, 2003
Zellerbach Hall

Pascal Rioult, artistic director and choreographer

Joyce Herring, associate artistic director
Linda Hodes, rehearsal director
Karen M. Stupic, executive director
David Finley, lighting design
Pilar Limosner and Russ Vogler, costume design
Harry Feiner, set design

Spencer Anderson, production manager

Company

Lorena B. Egan Brian Flynn Penelope Gonzalez
Francisco Graciano Joyce Herring Michael Spencer Phillips
Pascal Rioult Anastasia Soroczynski Marianna Tsartolia Royce K. Zackery
Kate Ashby, understudy

Major Support of the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre's 2003 Season has been provided by:
Altria Group, Inc.

The Choo-San Goh & H. Robert Magee Foundation
The Florence Gould Foundation
The Grand Marnier Foundation
The Harkness Foundation for Dance
Donald L. Holley
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The Lila Acheson Wallace Theater Fund of the New York Community Trust
The National Endowment for the Arts
The New York State Council on the Arts

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and the Zellerbach Family Foundation for their generous support.

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a federal agency that supports the visual, literary, and performing arts to benefit all Americans,
and the California Arts Council, a state agency.

Veneziana

A Postcard for Amy

Choreography: Pascal Rioult
Music: Igor Stravinsky, Pulcinella Suite*
Lighting: David Finley
Costumes: Pilar Limosner

Set: Harry Feiner

Dancers

Marianna Tsartolia Francisco Graciano

Lorena B. Egan Brian Flynn Penelope Gonzalez
Michael Spencer Phillips Anastasia Soroczynski Royce K. Zackery
First performed on April 17, 2003 – The Joyce Theater, New York

Veneziana was commissioned by Richard Korn in memory of Amy Korn.

Additional funding was provided by a 2002 Choo-San Goh Award for Choreography
from the Choo-San Goh & H. Robert Magee Foundation.

*Music used by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes, Inc., publisher and copyright owner

INTERMISSION

Firebird

Choreography: Pascal Rioult
Music: Igor Stravinsky, Firebird Suite
Lighting: David Finley
Costumes: Pilar Limosner

Set: Harry Feiner

Dancers

Lorena B. Egan Brian Flynn Penelope Gonzalez Francisco Graciano
Michael Spencer Phillips Anastasia Soroczynski Marianna Tsartolia Royce K. Zackery
with
Hannah Burnette

In the Russian folktale, as in Navajo legend, the gift of a feather from the Golden Bird brings power to man to overcome evil and to be reborn. This universal theme is the basis of the piece. —Pascal Rioult

First performed on June 17, 2003 – American Dance Festival, Durham, NC

Firebird was co-commissioned by the American Dance Festival,
with support from the Doris Duke Awards for New Work and the Altria Group, Inc.,
and Cal Performances, and was completed with funding from the Kenneth French Fund for New Works.

INTERMISSION

Black Diamond

Choreography: Pascal Rioult
Music: Igor Stravinsky, Duo Concertant*
Lighting: David Finley

Set and Costumes: Pascal Rioult

Dancers

Lorena B. Egan Penelope Gonzalez

First performed on April 17, 2003 – The Joyce Theater, New York

Black Diamond was commissioned by The Grand Marnier Foundation.

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PAUSE

Bolero

Choreography: Pascal Rioult
Music: Maurice Ravel, Bolero
Lighting: David Finley
Costumes: Russ Vogler

Set: Harry Feiner

Dancers

Lorena B. Egan Brian Flynn Penelope Gonzalez Francisco Graciano
Michael Spencer Phillips Anastasia Soroczynski Marianna Tsartolia Royce K. Zackery

First performed February 15, 2002 – Cal Performances, Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley, California

Bolero was co-commissioned by Cal Performances
and The Théâtre de Saint Quentin en Yvelines, France.

Additional funding provided by The Florence Gould Foundation, The Harkness Foundation for Dance,
and, in part, by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, and with public funds
from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs Cultural Challenge Program.

Set underwriting provided by The Grand Marnier Foundation.

The Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre was founded for the purpose of expressing the artistic vision of dancer and choreographer Pascal Rioult. Twelve years later, the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre is recognized both nationally and internationally as a “superb company” of 10 dancers who perform works that are powerful, lyrical, and exhilarating.

More than two decades ago, Pascal Rioult came to the United States on a fellowship from the French Ministry of Culture to study modern dance; in 1986, he joined the acclaimed Martha Graham Dance Company. His career as a choreographer began three years later when he held an informal showing of his first works at New York’s 92nd Street “Y.” Since then, the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre has toured worldwide, receiving high praise from audiences and critics alike. In North America, the company has danced and taught workshops in New York City, throughout the United States, and in Canada. Abroad, the company has performed throughout France—including the Cannes International Dance Festival, the Festival International “Danse à Aix,” Maison de la Danse, and the Opéra Bastille—

as well as at festivals in Italy, Germany, Bermuda, and Mexico.

To date, the company has a repertoire of more than 24 dances—a diverse body of work that exemplifies Rioult’s prolific and significant talents. Last season saw the premiere of Rioult’s long-awaited Ravel Project at such venues as Cal Performances’ Zellerbach Hall, the Théâtre de Saint Quentin en Yvelines, France, and The Joyce Theater, New York. Anna Kisselgoff of The New York Times declared that the “Ravel Project . . . makes one of the most original programs of the dance season.” In 2003–04, the company will present its third consecutive season at The Joyce Theater (May 2004) as well as tour to Cal Performances for an encore engagement and travel to Philadelphia (PA), El Paso (TX), and Bermuda.

The company’s educational component, DanceREACH, takes an interactive approach to introducing students to the world of modern dance. Ongoing relationships with schools in New York City and the New York metropolitan area allow DanceREACH to impact new generations of dancers and audiences.

Pascal Rioult (artistic director/choreographer) was born in Normandy, France. He earned a master’s degree in science education from the University of Paris, and in 1981, he was awarded a fellowship from the French Ministry of Culture to study dance in New York City. He performed with the companies of May O’Donnell and Paul Sanasardo before joining the Martha Graham Dance Company in 1986. As a principal dancer, he interpreted many of the most prestigious roles in the Graham repertory, and in 1990, Miss Graham created for him the central role (Death Figure) in her ballet *Eyes of the Goddess*. He has performed opposite Mikhail Baryshnikov and Joyce Herring in *El Penitente*, and was featured in two television specials: *Martha Graham in Japan* and *Five Dances by Martha Graham* at the Paris Opera. Rioult began choreographing in 1989 while still a member of the Graham troupe, and produced his first concerts at the Theater of the Riverside Church in 1991

and 1992. His pieces *Narayama* and *Harvest* were danced by the Graham company during its New York City seasons at City Center.

Since 1994, Rioult has dedicated his energies to building a choreographic style of his own, as well as his own company, the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre. Rioult's work has been performed and/or commissioned by numerous modern dance and ballet companies in the United States and in Europe. He is the recipient of a 1998 and 2002 Choo-San Goh Award for Choreography, and he has been awarded grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, The Paul Lepercq Foundation, The Florence Gould Foundation, The Grand Marnier Foundation, The Greenwall Foundation, The Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, and The Harkness Foundation for Dance, among others.

Joyce Herring (associate artistic director/dancer) was born in Grassy Point, New York. A graduate of The Juilliard School, Herring was a principal dancer with the Martha Graham Dance Company from 1981 to 1994 and a guest artist until 1999. She is a founding member of the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre and has assisted Rioult since 1989. Herring was the director of the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance and is an internationally known teacher who has been invited to teach at Rudra Béjart, the Lyon Opera Ballet, the Conservatoire Nationale Supérieure de Musique, The Juilliard School, the Harvard Summer Dance Center, the Geneva Ballet, the Colorado Ballet, the Neighborhood Playhouse, and Alfredo Corvino's Dance Circle. She has staged and coached the works of Martha Graham and Pascal Rioult in the United States and abroad.

Lorena B. Egan (dancer) began her training at the Phoenix School of Ballet in Arizona. She attended The Juilliard School and earned a bachelor of fine arts degree in 1998. Before joining the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre in 1999, she was a member of the Buglisi/ Foreman Dance Company.

Brian Flynn (dancer) is originally from Walpole, MA. He earned his BFA from the Conservatory of Dance at Purchase College. Flynn has performed in the works of such choreographers as Paul Taylor, Merce Cunningham, Mary Anthony, Eun Me Ahn, and Kevin Wynn. He has also performed with the Boston Ballet and has participated in a residency with Cortez & Co. at Jacob's Pillow. Flynn joined PRDT in September of 1999. He would like to thank his family for all of their support.

Penelope Gonzalez (dancer) was born in Mexico City, where she began her dance studies on scholarship at the National Ballet of Mexico. She came to New York on a private grant and was subsequently awarded a scholarship from the Martha Graham School. In the United States, she has worked with the Martha Graham Dance Company, Gomez Dance Theater, Coyote Dancers, and Analysis Dance Company. She performed *Celebration* and *Panorama* during the Martha Graham company seasons in 1991, 1992, and 1993. Gonzalez has taught modern dance at universities throughout the United States and Mexico, including the Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon, the Martha Graham School, and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center.

Francisco Graciano (dancer) a native of San Antonio, TX, began dancing and acting at an early age. After earning a BFA in dance from Stephens College for Women (male scholarship), he studied with scholarships at the Alvin Ailey and Paul Taylor schools. He has danced with Connecticut Ballet, Ben Munisteri Dance Company, Max Luna III, Michael Mao and, most notably, Cortez & Co. Graciano has also had the privilege to work with Robert Wilson in premieres in Europe and New York. He joined the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre in 2002.

Michael Spencer Phillips (dancer) is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where he received his BFA in dance. While in Ann Arbor, he performed with Peter Sparling Dance Company. Upon graduation, Phillips received a scholarship to attend the Merce Cunningham School and was a member of the Merce Cunningham Repertory Group. He has also worked with New York City

Opera, Risa Jaraslow and Dancers, Robert Wood, and was an apprentice with Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. Phillips joined the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre in 2002.

Anastasia Soroczynski (dancer) was born and raised in New Jersey. In 2002, she graduated with a BFA in dance from SUNY Purchase. She has been privileged to work with choreographers such as Donald Byrd, Kevin Wynn, Kazuko Hirabayashi, Ayako Kurakako, and Tracie Standfield. Soroczynski joined Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre in 2002.

Marianna Tsartolia (dancer) was born in Athens, Greece, where she received her BFA in dance from the State School of Dance. In December of 1997, she graduated from the Merce Cunningham Dance Studio as a recipient of Onassis Foundation and Merce Cunningham Dance Foundation scholarships. She has performed in the US and in Europe with various companies, including Harry Mandafounis' Modern Dance Company, Octana Dance Theatre, Connecticut Ballet, Analysis Dance Company, and Valia Alexandratou. In September 1998, she joined the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre. This year, she enjoyed being a resident teaching artist for the PRDT's outreach program, DanceREACH.

Royce K. Zackery (dancer) is a graduate of Southern Methodist University, where he received his BFA in dance. He began his training at Spellman College and furthered his training with Ballethnic Dance Academy, Dance Aspen, and North Carolina School of the Arts. Zackery has performed with Dallas Summer Musicals, the Regal Players, Tommy Tune's My One And Only, Tuzer Ballet, and Ballethnic Dance Company. He has also ventured overseas to Stuttgart, Germany, as a teacher, choreographer, conductor of workshops, and a member of the Manhattan City Dance Company. Zackery joined the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre in 2002.

Hannah Burnette (dancer) has been dancing all of her life. Her first performance was at Meredith College in Raleigh, North Carolina, when her mother performed while seven months pregnant. Burnette presently lives in New York City and studies dance with her mother, Kimberly Burnette, at PS 3; Elizabeth Streb at the Streb Action Invention Lab; and Ellen Robbins at Dance Theatre Workshop (DTW). She has presented her own choreography at DTW in the Family Matters Series Young Choreographers Concert. Burnette is honored and thrilled to have been given the opportunity to dance with the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre.

Harry Feiner (scenic designer) designs scenery and lighting for theater, opera, and dance. He has designed for the North Carolina Dance Theatre, North Carolina School of the Arts, and the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre. Other work includes projects for the Pittsburgh Public Theatre, McCarter Theatre, Missouri Repertory Theatre, Delaware Theatre Company, Two River Theatre, Pearl Theatre Co., Philadelphia Drama Guild, Studio Arena Theatre, GEVA, George Street Playhouse, Syracuse Stage, Theatre Virginia, Stony Brook International Arts Festival, Jewish Repertory Theatre, Irish Arts Center, Central City Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, Pennsylvania Opera Theatre, Syracuse Opera, Chataqua Opera, Lake George Opera Festival, Opera Theatre of Pittsburgh, Fort Worth Opera, Orchestra of St. Luke's, Manhattan School of Music, and the Shakespeare festivals of Colorado, Alabama, New Jersey, and North Carolina. Feiner is the chairman of drama and dance at Queens College. He has also received a Graham Foundation grant to write on theatrical space and architecture.

David Finley (lighting designer) has been lighting designer for the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre since the company's birth. Selected television credits include: Scott Hamilton's Back On The Ice (CBS) and Kurt Browning's Gotta Skate (NBC). Finley was the lighting designer/director for Martha Graham Dance Company from 1987–1992, where his credits included: Night Chant, American Document, Maple Leaf Rag, Eyes of the Goddess, Deep Song, and Steps in the Street. Current projects include the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre at The Joyce, Hallmark Presents (CBS), A Tribute to Burt Bacharach (NBC), Holiday Celebration on Ice with Lee Ann Womack (NBC), and Brian Boitano's Holiday Spectacular (NBC). Finley graduated from, and is on the faculty of, SUNY

Purchase; a member of Local 829 United Scenic Artists; and a daytime Emmy nominee for Outstanding Achievement in Lighting Direction. He is honored to be part of Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre.

Linda Hodes (rehearsal director) was a dancer in the Martha Graham Dance Company for 15 years. In 1964, she moved to Israel, where she was a founding member of the Batsheva Dance Company. There, she had the privilege of working with such diverse choreographers as Jerome Robbins, Glen Tetley, John Cranko, Tally Beatty, Donald McKayle, and Anna Sokolow. She acted as director of the company for two years before returning to New York to work again with Martha Graham as director of the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance and as rehearsal director for the company. In 1974, she became associate artistic director, a position she held until 1992, when she joined the staff of the Paul Taylor organization as both the director of the Taylor School and director of the Taylor 2 company. Currently, she is the rehearsal director of Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre.

Pilar Limosner's (costume designer) credits include the recent White Oak Project's Achilles Heels (choreography by Richard Move), ballets for Karole Armitage (I Had A Dream at the Ballet of Monte Carlo, Predator's Ball at BAM, and Sheherazade for the Maggio Danza di Firenze). Her other theater work includes Eric Bogosian's Talk Radio and Ann Magnuson's You Could Be Home Now, both at the Public Theater, and At Jennie Richee for Ridge Street Theater, for which she won an OBIE. Limosner's film credits include The Yards and The Guru.

Karen M. Stupic (executive director) joined the Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre in May 2000 after serving as senior development associate at the Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance from 1997–2000. She has also served as a panelist for the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Manhattan Community Arts Fund re-grant program and is on the board of directors of Project Zawadi, a nonprofit organization seeking to support orphaned and vulnerable children in Tanzania through educational and community support. Stupic has worked with a variety of arts groups, including Pennsylvania Youth Theatre (Bethlehem, PA), The Association of Youth Museums (Washington, DC), and Artspace (New Haven, CT). She attended The American University in Washington, DC, studying for a master's degree in arts administration, and holds a BA in art from Moravian College in Bethlehem, PA.

Russ Vogler (costume designer) is currently the costumer for the Martha Graham Dance Company, where he has worked with Martha Graham, Halston, Calvin Klein, Donna Karan, and Robert Wilson. Vogler also works with the New York City Opera wardrobe and education departments. He has recently worked with the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, ABT, New York City Ballet, Twyla Tharp Dance, State Ballet of Missouri, Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble, Monte/Brown Dance, and Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre, among others. Vogler received a BFA in ballet/theater from Texas Christian University and an MFA in costume design from the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

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Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre is a member of Pentacle (DanceWorks, Inc.), a non-profit service organization for the performing Arts (Mara Greenberg and Ivan Sygoda, directors). 246 West 38th Street, 8th Floor, New York, NY 10018. Tel: 212.278.8111; Fax: 212.278.8555

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