



Saturday, May 6, 2017, 2pm and 8pm
Sunday, May 7, 2017, 3pm and 7pm
Zellerbach Playhouse

RIOULT Dance NY Bach Dances

Pascal Rioult

Artistic Director and Choreographer

Joyce Herring

Associate Artistic Director

Amy Harrison

Executive Director

Company

Catherine Cooch Jake Deibert Brian Flynn Charis Haines
Jere Hunt Melanie Kimmel Corinna Lee Nicholson
Michael Spencer Phillips Sara Elizabeth Seger Sabatino A. Verlezza

Apprentices

Chaney Briggs Amanda Esposito Joseph Columbus

Spencer Anderson

Production Manager

Harry Feiner

Scenic Design

David Finley

Lighting Design

Brian Clifford Beasley

Projection Animation

Karen Young

Costume Design

Major supporters of RIOULT Dance NY include:

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation; Exploring the Arts; Fund for New Works, a Kenneth French Legacy;

Google Ad Grants, The Geoffrey C. Hughes Foundation; Greenberg Traurig LLP;

Harkness Foundation for Dance; Howard Gilman Foundation; Kendall-Parker Associates LLC;

LaGuardia Performing Arts Center; National Endowment for the Arts;

New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature;

The O'Donnell-Green Music and Dance Foundation, The Shubert Foundation;

Sidley Austin LLP; West Survivors Trust Fund; TAG Creative; and Zlotoff Generation Fund.



PROGRAM

Views of the Fleeting World

(dedicated to the memory of Harriet and Gordon Greenfield)

Choreography Pascal Rioult

Music J. S. Bach, *The Art of Fugue*

Projection Design Harry Feiner

Projection Animation Brian Clifford Beasley

Lighting David Finley

Costumes Karen Young

Catherine Cooch Jake Deibert Brian Flynn Charis Haines

Jere Hunt Melanie Kimmel Corinna Lee Nicholson

Michael Spencer Phillips Sara Elizabeth Seger Sabatino A. Verlezza

Orchard

The Company

Gathering Storm

The Company

Wild Horses

The Company

Dusk

Corinna Lee Nicholson and Michael Spencer Phillips

Summer Wind

Charis Haines and Jere Hunt

Moonlight

Sara Elizabeth Seger and Brian Flynn

Flowing River

The Company

J.S. Bach's *The Art of Fugue* is beautifully wrought with both purity and strength and provides a most inspiring canvas on which to choreograph a work that celebrates beauty and humanity in art, as in life. This is the tribute I want to offer to the memory of two exceptional people in dedication to their belief in the transforming power of the performing arts.

—Pascal Rioult, June 2008

(First performed June 3, 2008 – Skirball Center for the Performing Arts, NYC)

Commissioned by the Harriet & Gordon Greenfield Foundation.

Views of the Fleeting World was developed while in residence at the Kaatsbaan International Dance Center, which was supported in part by the Geoffrey C. Hughes Foundation and with a New York State Residency grant from the New York State Council on the Arts and through a space grant with LaGuardia Performing Arts Center's lab program.

PAUSE



Michael Spencer Phillips in *City*. RIOULT Dance NY.

City

Choreography Pascal Rioult
Music J. S. Bach, Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 6
 in G Major, BWV 1019
Projection Design Brian Clifford Beasley
Lighting David Finley
Costumes Karen Young

Catherine Cooch Corinna Lee Nicholson Michael Spencer Phillips Sabatino A. Verlezza

(First performed January 19, 2010 – The Joyce Theater, NYC)

City was developed in residence at the Kaatsbaan International Dance Center supported, in part, with a New York State Residency grant from the New York State Council on the Arts, and through a space grant with LaGuardia Performing Arts Center's lab program.

Additional support was provided by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Kenneth French Fund for New Works.

INTERMISSION

Polymorphous

Choreography Pascal Rioult
Music J. S. Bach, selected Preludes and Fugues
from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*
Scenic Design Harry Feiner
Projection Design Brian Clifford Beasley
Lighting Design David Finley
Costume Design Karen Young

Brian Flynn Charis Haines Jere Hunt Sara Elizabeth Seger

(First performed February 6, 2015 – DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, Notre Dame, IN)

*Support provided by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Fund for New Works,
a Kenneth French Legacy. Additional creative and technical support provided
by the University of Notre Dame's DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.*

PAUSE

Celestial Tides

Choreography Pascal Rioult
Music J. S. Bach,
Brandenburg Concerto No. 6 in B-flat Major,
BWV 1051
Projection Design Harry Feiner
Projection Animation Brian Clifford Beasley
Lighting David Finley
Costumes Karen Young

Catherine Cooch Jake Deibert Charis Haines Jere Hunt Melanie Kimmel
Michael Spencer Phillips Sara Elizabeth Seger Sabatino A. Verlezza

Allegro

The Company

Adagio

Charis Haines Jere Hunt
Sara Elizabeth Seger Michael Spencer Phillips

Allegro

The Company

(First Performed June 14, 2011 – The Joyce Theater, New York City)

*Celestial Tides was developed in residence at the Kaatsbaan International Dance Center
supported, in part, with a New York State Residency grant from the New York State Council on the Arts,
and through a space grant with LaGuardia Performing Arts Center's lab program.
Additional support was provided by the National Endowment for the Arts
and The Kenneth French Fund for New Works.*

RIOULT Dance NY was founded in 1994 and fast became an established name in modern dance with a reputation for presenting the sensual, articulate, and exquisitely musical works of Pascal Rioult. The New York City-based company presents an annual New York season, tours internationally, conducts extensive in-school arts education and community outreach programs, and offers dance training to the public through classes, workshops, and intensives.

Extraordinary for an organization its size, RIOULT Dance NY is highly committed to its dancers, providing steady employment and year-round health insurance. Each dancer's creative development is fostered through training classes, teaching opportunities, and challenging repertory while maintaining comprehensive rehearsal and performance schedules. The company is fortunate to have welcomed new dancers over the years and retained many, some of whom have danced with the company for over a decade.

Education and community outreach have been integral to RIOULT Dance NY since its inception. RIOULT's arts-in-education program, DanceREACH, offers an interactive approach to introducing students to the world of modern dance. It has impacted thousands of students and community members at home, in the US, and abroad. Ongoing relationships with schools in New York City and the metropolitan area allow the company to inspire new generations of dancers and audiences.

RIOULT Dance NY has performed in theaters and festivals throughout North America, including here in Zellerbach Hall and at New York City Center Fall for Dance (New York, NY), Lincoln Center Out-of-Doors (New York, NY), the American Dance Festival (Durham, NC), the Annenberg Center (Philadelphia, PA), and the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts (West Palm Beach, FL). Widespread international touring has brought the company to Rioult's homeland of France for the Cannes International Festival, Danse à Aix, Festival du Val du Marne, Temps le Danse Festival, Paris Opéra Bastille, and La Maison de la Danse, as well as to the Bermuda Festival of

the Performing Arts (Bermuda), the Tamauilpas International Festival (Mexico), Le Grand Théâtre De Québec (Canada), and on stages in Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, and other countries throughout the world.



Pascal Rioult (*artistic director/choreographer*), a former track and field athlete in France, came to the United States on a fellowship from the French Ministry of Culture to study modern dance in 1981.

After performing with the companies of May O'Donnell and Paul Sanasardo he was invited to join the Martha Graham Dance Company. Rioult interpreted many of the most prestigious roles in the Graham repertory as a principal dancer, and in 1990, Graham created the central role (Death Figure) in her ballet *Eye of the Goddess* for him. Rioult 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*, filmed at the Paris Opera.

Since starting his own company, RIOULT Dance NY, in 1994, Rioult has dedicated his energies to developing his own choreographic style and nurturing a robust ensemble of dancers. Of his work *Black Diamond*, Anna Kisselgoff of the *New York Times* wrote, "...he has met the challenge of comparison with George Balanchine."

Rioult's works have been commissioned here at Cal Performances, as well as by the American Dance Festival; the Ballet du Nord in Roubaix, France; the Geneva Ballet, Switzerland; The Orchestra of St. Luke's; the Gordon & Harriet Greenfield Foundation; the Grand Marnier Foundation; the Théâtre de Saint Quentin en Yvelines France; Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA; and Marymount Manhattan College; among others. Pascal Rioult is a two-time recipient of the Choo-San Goh Award for Choreography.



Joyce Herring (*associate artistic director*), a founding member of RIOULT Dance NY, danced with the company until 2004 while holding the positions of rehearsal director, regisseur, and, in 2008–09, executive director. Herring and Rioult met while dancing with the Martha Graham Dance Company, where she was a principal dancer until 1999; they were married in 1988. During her career with the Graham Company Herring interpreted many leading roles, including *Lamentation*, *Deep Song*, Jocasta in *Night Journey*, the Bride in *Appalachian Spring*, the Virgin in *Primitive Mysteries*, *Heretic*, Joan of Arc in *Seraphic Dialogue*, Helen of Troy in *Clytemnestra*, and the Conversation of Lovers in *Acts of Light*.

A former director of the Martha Graham School, Herring remains a regisseur of the Graham Trust. She has been on the faculties of the Conservatory of Dance at SUNY Purchase and Marymount Manhattan College, and has taught as a guest teacher at the Juilliard School, Rudra Béjart (Lausanne), Alfredo Corvino's Dance Circle, the Neighborhood Playhouse, Harvard Summer Dance Center, North Carolina School of the Arts, Ballet du Nord, the Lyon Opera Ballet, the Conservatoire Nationale Supérieure de Musique de Lyon, the Geneva Ballet, the Ballet de Lorraine, Interlochen Academy of the Performing Arts, and others. Herring continues to stage Rioult's work on companies and universities throughout the United States and abroad.

THE DANCERS



Catherine Cooch (*dancer*) is from Fairfax, VA. She began dancing at age three and trained at Maryland Youth Ballet under Michelle Lees. Cooch received a BFA in dance from Marymount Manhattan College under the direction of Katie Langan, where she performed works by Loni Landon, Maxine Steinman, and Anthony Ferro. Cooch joined RIOULT Dance NY in 2013.



Jake Deibert (*dancer*) from Flemington, NJ received a BFA in dance from Montclair State University in 2014. He has performed works by Paul Taylor, José Limón, Larry Keigwin, Robert Battle, Bill T. Jones, and Andrea Miller, among others. Deibert has performed with Earl Mosley's Diversity of Dance, Douglas Dunn and Dancers, 360° Dance Company, Mazzini Dance Collective, 10 Hairy Legs, and the VON HOWARD PROJECT. Deibert joined RIOULT Dance NY in 2015.



Brian Flynn (*dancer/assistant rehearsal director*) is from Walpole, MA. He earned his BFA from the Conservatory of Dance at Purchase College and has performed works by Paul Taylor, Merce Cunningham, Mary Anthony, Eun Me Ahn, and Kevin Wynn. He also performed in the Boston Ballet's production of *Cleopatra*. Flynn has taught and set works for RIOULT at the Alvin Ailey/Fordham University BFA program, Goucher College, and the Bermuda Civic Ballet. He joined RIOULT Dance NY in 1999.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Charis Haines (*dancer*) is originally from Carpinteria, CA. She graduated *summa cum laude* from UC Santa Barbara with a BFA in dance, where she received the Alice Condodina Performance Award. In NYC, Haines has performed with Wendy Osserman, Silver-Brown Dance, Jessica Gaynor Dance, Katherine Howard, Sue Hogan, and Lux Dance. She joined RIOULT Dance NY in 2007.



Jere Hunt (*dancer*), a native of Huntsville, AL, holds a BFA in dance from Marymount Manhattan College. While there, he performed works by David Parsons, Christopher d'Amboise, Martha Graham, Molissa Fenley, Edgar Zendejas, and others. In New York City, he has worked with Veracity Dance Theatre, SYREN Modern Dance, and De Ma Dance, and restaged Pascal Rioult's *Bolero* at Adelphi University. Hunt joined RIOULT Dance NY in 2010.



Melanie Kimmel (*dancer*) is originally from Baltimore, MD. She graduated *cum laude* from Marymount Manhattan College with a BFA in dance. She has performed works by Dwight Rhoden, Katarzyna Skarpetowska, Elena Comendador, Jae Man Joo, and Pascal Rioult. Kimmel is also a certified yoga instructor. She joined RIOULT Dance NY in 2015.



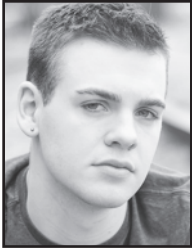
Corinna Lee Nicholson (*dancer*) is from Houston, TX. She graduated *summa cum laude* from Southern Methodist University, receiving her BFA in dance performance with an award for outstanding achievement. Nicholson has performed works by Martha Graham, Maurice Béjart, Alvin Ailey, Paul Taylor, and Robert Battle. In New York City, Nicholson has worked with Amy Marshall Dance Company, Mazzini Dance Collective, and Taylor 2. She joined RIOULT Dance NY in 2015.



Michael Spencer Phillips (*dancer*) is a graduate of the University of Michigan (BFA, dance) where he was also a member of the Peter Sparling Dance Company. He attended the Merce Cunningham School and performed in the Cunningham Repertory Group. Other credits: New York City Opera, Battleworks Dance Company, Jennifer Muller/The Works, Risa Jaraslow and Dancers, and as an apprenticeship with the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. He joined RIOULT Dance NY in 2002.



Sara Elizabeth Seger (*dancer*) is originally from New Jersey, and attended high school at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, where she performed works by Mark Morris, José Limón, Larry Keigwin, Diane Markham, and others. She attended the Fellowship Program at The Ailey School and performed *Memoria* with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Seger joined RIOULT Dance NY in 2011.



Sabatino A. Verlezza (*dancer*) grew up in Shaker Heights, OH. He received a BFA in dance from Kent State University, where he graduated *summa cum laude* with honors from the National Honors Society for Dance Arts, and sat on the board of the National Dance Education Organization. Verlezza trained with the Cleveland San Jose Ballet/Cleveland School of Dance, Nancy Lushington, and his parents, Barbara and Sabatino Verlezza. He joined RIOULT Dance NY in 2012.

Joseph Columbus (*apprentice*) began his training in the Chicagoland area where he studied with Forum Dance Theatre. He attended The School at Jacob's Pillow and Springboard Danse Montréal on scholarship and is a 2016 graduate from the Alvin Ailey/Fordham University BFA program, where he performed works by Pascal Rioult, Alexander Ekman, Mark Morris, Robin Mineko Williams, and Alvin Ailey, among others. Columbus joined RIOULT Dance NY in 2016.

Amanda Esposito (*apprentice*) trained at the Joffrey Ballet School before graduating from Cornell University. She danced on tour with The Illusionists: Live from Broadway, Ballet Hispanico 2, and Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, performing works by Robert Battle, William Forsythe, David Parsons, Pedro Ruiz, Matthew Rushing, Paul Taylor, and others. A 2013 recipient of the Judith Jamison Scholarship at The Ailey School, Esposito joined RIOULT Dance NY in 2016.

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