

Friday, October 27, 2017, 8pm  
Zellerbach Hall

## **Dorrance Dance**

Michelle Dorrance, *artistic director*

### **Dancers**

Ephrat “Bounce” Asherie, Christopher Broughton, Elizabeth Burke, Warren Craft,  
Michelle Dorrance, Claudia Rahardjanoto, Byron Tittle, Matthew “Megawatt” West,  
Gabriel Winns Ortiz, Nicholas Van Young

### **PROGRAM**

#### ***Jungle Blues (2012)***

Choreography by Michelle Dorrance  
With solo improvisation by Christopher Broughton  
Music by Branford Marsalis Quartet  
Lighting Design by Kathy Kaufmann  
Costume Design by Amy Page

#### **DANCERS**

Full Company

#### **SOLOISTS**

Claudia Rahardjanoto  
Elizabeth Burke & Nicholas Van Young  
Michelle Dorrance & Warren Craft  
Byron Tittle  
Christopher Broughton

#### **PAUSE**

#### ***Three to One (2011)***

Choreography by Michelle Dorrance  
Music by Aphex Twin, Thom Yorke  
Lighting Design by Kathy Kaufmann  
Costume Design by Michelle Dorrance and Mishay Petronelli

#### **DANCERS**

Michelle Dorrance, Byron Tittle, Matthew “Megawatt” West

*The creation of Three to One was made possible, in part, by the Danspace Project  
2010–11 Commissioning Initiative with support from the Jerome Foundation.*

*Danspace’s Commissioning Initiative is a core component of the Choreographic Center Without Walls (CW<sup>2</sup>).*

#### **PAUSE**



## *Myelination* (2017)

Choreography by Michelle Dorrance,  
in collaboration with and featuring improvisation by the dancers  
Additional choreography by Ephrat “Bounce” Asherie and Matthew “Megawatt” West

Original Music by Prawn til Dante  
(Donovan Dorrance and Gregory Richardson) with Aaron Marcellus

Lighting Design by Kathy Kaufmann

Costume Design by Amy Page  
Elizabeth Burke and Byron Tittle, *dance captains*

### DANCERS

Full Company

### MUSICIANS

Donovan Dorrance, *piano and clarinet*

Aaron Marcellus, *vocals and keys*

Gregory Richardson, *bass and clarinet*

Nicholas Van Young, *percussion*

### WITH

Warren Craft, *guitar*

*Myelination (2017) has been commissioned, in part, by Cal Performances, UC Berkeley. Myelination (2017 and 2015) has also been commissioned by New York City Center for the Fall for Dance Festival with generous support from the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation. Music for Myelination (2015) commissioned by the Charles and Joan Gross Family Foundation.*

*Myelination (2017) was also made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The 2017–18 creation and presentation of an evening-length version of Myelination is also supported, in part, by a New Music USA Project Grant.*

*The presentation of Dorrance Dance was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.*

*Cal Performances' 2017–18 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.*

**Dorrance Dance** is an award-winning tap dance company based in New York City. The company's work aims to honor tap dance's uniquely beautiful history in a new, dynamic, and compelling context; not by stripping the form of its tradition, but by pushing it—rhythmically, technically, and conceptually. The company's inaugural performance garnered a "Bessie" Award for "blasting open our notions of tap" and the company continues its passionate commitment to expanding the audience for tap dance, one of America's original art forms.

Founded in 2011 by artistic director and 2015 MacArthur Fellow Michelle Dorrance, the company has received countless accolades and rave reviews and performed for packed houses at venues including the Joyce Theater, New York City Center, Lincoln Center Out of Doors (New York City), the Kennedy Center (Washington, DC), Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival (Beckett, MA), Vail International Dance Festival (Vail, CO), National Arts Centre of Canada and Danse Danse Montréal (Canada), Fira Tarrega (Spain), Staatstheater Darmstadt (Germany), Hong Kong Arts Festival, as well as many colleges and universities across the United States.

PERFORMERS



**Michelle Dorrance** (*artistic director, choreographer, and dancer*), founder and artistic director of Dorrance Dance, is a New York City-based tap dancer, performer, choreographer, teacher, and director. Mentored by Gene Medler, she grew up performing with his North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble and has since performed with *STOMP*, Savion Glover's *ti dii*, Manhattan Tap, Barbara Duffy & Co, JazzTap Ensemble, Rumba Tap, Ayodele Casel's *Diary of a Tap Dancer*, Mable Lee's *Dancing Ladies*, Harold Cromer's original *Opus One*, Derick Grant's *Imagine Tap*, Jason Samuels Smith's *Charlie's Angels/Chasing the Bird*, Jon Batiste and Stay Human (on CBS' *The Late Show with*

*Stephen Colbert*), Damian Woetzel's Vail Dance Festival Projects, and the Martha Graham Dance Company (guest choreographer and performer); she also toured the world playing bass for indie-pop sensation Darwin Deez. A 2016–17 New York City Center Choreography Fellow, 2016 United States Artists Award Recipient, 2015 MacArthur Fellow, 2014 Alpert Award winner, 2013 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award winner, 2012 Princess Grace Award winner, 2012 Field Dance Fund recipient, 2011/2015 "Bessie" Award winner, and a Capezio Athlete, Dorrance holds a bachelor's degree from New York University and teaches on faculty for IFTRA.

**Ephrat "Bounce" Asherie** (*dancer*), a 2016 "Bessie" Award winner for Innovative Achievement in Dance, is a New York City-based b-girl, dancer, and choreographer. As artistic director of Ephrat Asherie Dance, she has presented work at Jacob's Pillow, Fira Tarrega, and New York Live Arts, among others. Asherie has received numerous awards to support her work, including a Kevin Spacey Artist of Choice Award, a Mondo Cane! Commission from Dixon Place, and an Extended Life Residency from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. She is on faculty at Wesleyan University and Broadway Dance Center. For more information please visit [www.ephratasherie.com](http://www.ephratasherie.com).

**Christopher Broughton** (*dancer*), born and raised in Los Angeles, began dancing at the age of 11 and has never looked back. Under the instruction of Paul and Arlene Kennedy at Universal Dance, he soon became a member of the Kennedy Tap Company, where he twice received the national NAACP ACT-SO Award. Broughton now travels worldwide both as a soloist and with Jason Samuels Smith's A.C.G.I., Rasta Thomas' *Tap Stars*, and Dorrance Dance. Performances include New York City Center's *Cotton Club Parade*; Juba! Master's of Tap & Percussive Dance at the Kennedy Center; and Broadway's Tony and Astaire Award-winning production *After Midnight*.

**Elizabeth Burke** (*rehearsal director and dancer*) has been working with Dorrance Dance since



the company's inception in 2010–11 and prior to that spent 11 years under the tutelage of her mentor, Gene Medler, in the acclaimed North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble. She also works with Nicholas Young's SoundMovement Dance Company and Caleb Teicher & Company, as well as with other choreographers. Burke is a graduate of the School at Jacob's Pillow and Marymount Manhattan College (bachelor's degrees in political science and communication arts, *magna cum laude*, 2014). When not working with Dorrance Dance, Burke teaches and pursues her own choreographic work.

**Warren Craft** (*dancer*) is a New York City tap dancer who has trained in ballet with both the American Ballet Theatre and the School of American Ballet. He has been a member of Brenda Bufalino's New American Tap Dance Orchestra, Max Pollak's RumbaTap, and Dorrance Dance. Craft moves with "bizarre physicality" and "unconventional eloquence" (*New York Times*).

**Donovan Dorrance** (*music director, composer, and musician*) hails from Chapel Hill, NC, where he studied piano, guitar, drums, and

voice before attending the University of North Carolina (BA in philosophy). After spending time singing in an *cappella* group, drumming in an indie-rock band, and waiting tables in restaurants, Donovan moved to Brooklyn to assist his sister's company and pursue his passion for music. In his spare time, he composes music with Greg Richardson for Dorrance Dance, takes online business courses, and is occasionally published in his UNC professors' books in the field of philosophy.

**Aaron Marcellus** (*co-composer and musician*), a singer, vocal coach, writer, musician, dancer, and actor from Atlanta, started in Gospel music and has performed around the world. He has recorded albums and was selected part of the Top 24 on *American Idol* in 2011. After a world tour, Marcellus was featured in a Chapstick commercial, on NBC's *Next Caller*, and as a cast member of *STOMP*. He also hosts a burlesque show at Duane Park. Most importantly, Marcellus founded both Surrender To Love, LLC, a foundation that supports arts programs and seeks to feed the hungry, and Adventure Voice, a training program offering vocal classes for groups and individuals.

**Claudia Rahardjanoto** (*dancer*) was born and raised in Berlin, Germany, and started dancing professionally at the age of nine at the Deutsche Oper Berlin. Named one of “25 To Watch” by *Dance Magazine* in 2010 and featured on the cover of *Dance Teacher Magazine* in 2011, she has danced with and learned from Andreas Dänel, Sven Göttlicher, Dianne Walker, Ted Levy, Dormeshia Sumbry-Edwards, Michelle Dorrance, Derick Grant, Brenda Bufalino, Roxane Butterfly, Andrew Nemr, Barbara Duffy, Jane Goldberg, Jared Grimes, Max Pollak, Michael Minery, the late Harold “Stumpy” Cromer, and the legendary Mable Lee, among others. She is grateful to be able to share her passion and love for tap dance through her performances and teaching worldwide.

**Gregory Richardson** (*composer and musician*) was born in Tucson, AZ, and learned rhythm and blues at an early age from a family of church musicians, where everyone could play at least a little piano and was expected to sing. He went on to study music at Bard College and settled finally in New York City, where he has been living and creating ever since. Richardson tours the world with the band Darwin Deez and gigs in New York City with the trio Analogue Experimental and with Damian Quinones y su Conjunto, playing *son*, salsa, jazz, *cumbia*, and boogaloo. In recent years he has found a second home within the tightly-knit New York City tap dance community, performing with SoundMovement Dance Company, the Institute for the Rhythmic Arts, and the American Tap Dance Foundation. Richardson has composed and performed in several productions with Dorrance Dance, including *Myelination*, *SOUNDspace*, *ETM: The Initial Approach*, *ETM: Double Down* at the Jacob’s Pillow festival, and *Delta to Dusk*.

**Byron Tittle** (*dancer*) has been dancing since the age of seven in his hometown of New York. Starting with tap and ballet, he soon grew to enjoy the different genres and aesthetics in the realm of dance. He began tapping with the American Tap Dance Foundation’s Tap City Youth Ensemble, where he met Michelle Dor-

rance. Continually taking her master classes and workshops, he joined the company in 2013 and has been involved with the ensemble since then. Commercially, Tittle has danced for Janet Jackson and Nicki Minaj but feels most at home on stage with Dorrance Dance.

**Nicholas Van Young** (*dancer and musician*), a New York-based dancer, choreographer, musician, and master teacher, began his professional career under Acia Gray and Deidre Strand with Tapestry Dance Company in Austin, TX, eventually becoming a principal dancer and resident choreographer. Since moving to New York, he has performed with Manhattan Tap, Rumba-Tap, Dorrance Dance, and “Beat the Donkey.” He also has toured as a drummer for Darwin Deez and spent almost a decade performing with *STOMP*. Van Young recently premiered his dance company, Sound Movement, and is currently collaborating with Michelle Dorrance on a new world of dance and music featuring innovative and unique tap dance instruments of Young’s own design.

**Matthew “Megawatt” West** (*dancer*) started dancing at age 16 on his church’s dance team in Queens, New York, and with the company On Point Choreography, with whom he learned challenging choreography and mastered different styles of hip-hop dance. He has competed in several b-boy competitions, and strives to impart knowledge and wisdom to the next generation of dancers; he has taught at Coney Island’s Shining Angels Studio and at after-school programs in Queens. West is an avid listener of house music and a dedicated student of house dance, training with the NYC crew MAWU, Conrad Rochester, and James “Cricket” Colter.

**Gabe Winns Ortiz** (*dancer*), 26, was born and raised in San Diego. He started dancing at the age of 11, and his love for the art form has continued to grow ever since. Ortiz has toured worldwide with the critically acclaimed stage show *Tap Kids*, and since moving to New York City has worked with various companies, including RumbaTap, Dorrance Dance, and

Swing FX. He also directs his own group, Students of Sound, and teaches at the American Tap Dance Foundation. Television credits include *America's Most Talented Kids* (2002), *America's Got Talent* (2011), and *FakeOff* (2014).

PRODUCTION/STAFF

**Donald Borrer** (*executive director*), from Columbus, Ohio, is an emerging arts leader in New York City. He joins Dorrance Dance from Dunch Arts, a cultural management consulting firm where he worked with Mark Morris Dance Group and the Apollo Theater, among others. Borrer was a producer for Lincoln Center Education and a company dancer for Ballet Hispanico. He has served as board chair of both the Dance/NYC Junior Committee and BE-MOVING, a San Francisco-based nonprofit dance advocacy organization. Borrer holds a BFA in dance from the Juilliard School, receiving the Martha Hill Prize for Artistic Achievement and Leadership, and earned his masters in arts administration from Columbia University.

**Kathy Kaufmann** (*lighting designer*) is a resident designer at Danspace Project whose work has been seen throughout the US, Canada, and Europe. She is a two-time "Bessie" Award recipient and was nominated for her work on Rebecca Davis' *Bloowst Windku* at Here in 2015. Kaufmann was also honored to be included in *Curtain Call: Celebrating 100 Years of Women in Design* at the New York Performing Arts Library and currently teaches lighting at Sarah Lawrence. Recent projects include designs for Joanna Kotze, David Parker, Eiko & Koma, Jillian Peña, Larissa Velez Jackson, and Dorrance Dance (*The Blues Project*, *SOUNDSpace*, and *ETM*).

**Christopher Marc** (*production manager and sound engineer*). Credits include the Kennedy Center TYA: Elephant and Piggy's *We are in a Play*; national tour of *Clifford the Big Red Dog Live!*; Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival (*Forever Plaid*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Fantasticks*). Design credits: Off-Broadway; *The*

*Black Book*; Aquila Theatre national tour; *Wuthering Heights*, *The Tempest*, *Fahrenheit 451*, *Twelfth Night*.

**Diego Quintanar** (*technical director and assistant stage manager*), started working in theater production as a student at the College of the Holy Cross. He was introduced to Dorrance Dance through his work with the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum's Works & Process series as a project coordinator. Other credits include: Latino Cultural Center and Wyly Theater, Dallas, TX, where he worked as a carpenter and electrician; the off-Broadway musical *I Like It Like That* as production manager (NYC); Shen Wei Dance Arts (NYC); and Dance Heginbotham (NYC) as an assistant stage manager and scenic charge.

**Courtney Runft** (*general manager*) hails from Wichita, Kansas, and presently resides in New York City. She is a graduate of Friends University and holds a BA in business management (*magna cum laude*). In addition to her work with Dorrance Dance, Runft is the former director of the American Tap Dance Foundation's Tap City Junior Ensemble, Tap City's summer youth program, and education associate/registrant. A passionate educator, Runft is the lower school dance teacher at St. Luke's School and is on faculty at the ATDF.

DORRANCE DANCE STAFF

- Michelle Dorrance, *artistic director*
- Donald Borrer, *executive director*
- Courtney Runft, *general manager*
- Elizabeth Burke, *rehearsal director*
- Donovan Dorrance, *music director*
- Christopher Marc, *production manager and sound engineer*
- Kathy Kaufmann, *lighting design*
- Diego Quintanar, *technical director and assistant stage manager*

Artist Representative

Margaret Selby, Selby/Artists Management