

NOBA

New Orleans Ballet Association

Sponsored by



presents

Saturday, January 20, 2024

Mahalia Jackson Theater

Compañía Nacional de Danza

Artistic Director: Joaquín De Luz
Assistant Director: Ángel Valero
Assistant Artistic Director: Pino Alosa
Manager: Inmaculada López
Technical Directors: Manuel Fontanals
Technical Director: Matxalen Díez
Production Director: Amanda del Monte
Communication Director: Maite Villanueva

Lead Principal Dancers: Alessandro Riga, Giada Rossi

First Dancer: Kayoko Everhart

Principal Dancers: Cristina Casa, Yanier Gómez Noda, Isaac Montllor, Anthony Pina

Soloist Dancers: Elisabet Biosca, Ana María Calderón, Elisabetta Formento, Yaman Kelemet, Natalia Muñoz, YaeGee Park, Ana Pérez-Nievas, Shani Peretz, Ion Agirretxe, Mario Galindo, Thomas Giugovaz, Erez Ilan, Eunsoo Lee, Shlomi Shlomo Miara, Josué Ullate, Daan Vervoort

Corps de Ballet: Natalia Butragueño, Celia Dávila, Sara Fernández, Martina Giuffrida, Tamara Juárez, Sara Khatiboun, Akane Kogure, Clara Maroto, María Muñoz, Mariavittoria Muscettola, Ayuka Nitta, Daniella Oropesa, Hamin Park, Laura Pérez Hierro, Pauline Perraut, Irene Ureña, Samantha Vottari, Kana Yamaguchi, Niccolò Balossini, José Alberto Becerra, Théo Bourg, Juan José Carazo, Eduardo Díez de Jesús, Felipe Domingos, Daniel Lozano, Álvaro Madrigal, Marcos Montes, Jorge Palacios, Benjamin Poirier, Iván Sánchez, Roberto Sánchez, Rodrigo Sanz, Tomás Sanza

Ballet Masters: Arantxa Argüelles, Catalina Arteaga, Yoko Taira, Daan Vervoort

Artistic Coordinator: Rodrigo Sanz

Pianists: Carlos Faxas, Viktoriia Glushchenko, Juan Antonio Mata

Physical Therapist: Sara A. Harris, Guadalupe M^a Martín, Antonio Casas

Gyrotonic @: Eva Pérez

Sponsorship and Patronage: Aída Pérez

Staff: Rosa González

Administration: Manuel Díaz, María Ríos

Communication: Asunción Guerrero

Production: Javier Serrano

Technical Direction Assistants: Deborah Macías, Manuel Jesús Báñez

Stage Managers: José Cotillo, Rebecca Hall

Stage Hands: Francisco Padilla, Gozeder Itoiz

Electricity: Juan Carlos Gallardo, Carlos Carpintero

Audiovisuals: Pedro Álvaro, Jesús Ramón Santos, Juan Antonio Haba

Wardrobe: Ana Guerrero, Mar Aguado

Properties: José Luis Mora

Storehouse: Reyes Sánchez

Concierges: Miguel Ángel Cruz, Teresa Morató



Patrons are requested to turn off all cellular phones and signal watches during performances. The taking of photographs and the use of recording devices are strictly prohibited. Program and artists are subject to change.

NOBA is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA); a grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council, and the NEA, a Federal agency; a Community Arts Grant made possible by the City of New Orleans as administered by Arts New Orleans; and a grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council. Compañía Nacional de Danza is supported by promotional partners Louisiana Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Hispanic Heritage Foundation, Casa Argentina, Sociedad Española, and the Honorary Consul General of Spain. The 2023-24 Season is supported, in part, by Hyatt Regency New Orleans.



PROGRAM

SAD CASE

Choreography: Sol León & Paul Lightfoot
Music: Pérez Prado, Alberto Dominguez, Ernesto Lecuona, Ray Barretto, Trío Los Panchos
Choreography Assistant: Menghan Lou
Set and Costume Design: Sol León & Paul Lightfoot
Lighting Design: Tom Bevoort

Dance Artists:

Erez Ilan, Shlomi Shlomo Miara, YaeGee Park, Anthony Pina, Irene Ureña

World Premiere (extended version) by NTD2 on November 4, 2014, at Theater Aan Het Spui (The Hague, Holland), from the original version by NTD1 on February 7, 1998, at Lucent Dans Theater (The Hague, Holland). **Premiere by Compañía Nacional de Danza at Teatro Real, Madrid, Spain, October 3, 2022.**

Sad Case was originally created for NDT 1 in 1998 when Sol León was seven months pregnant with their daughter, and acts as one of the main pillars of León & Lightfoot's oeuvre. Surprising and earthly movements on Mexican mambo music show a continual search for the tension between satirical and classic moments.

Oeuvres: *The Bard of Avon* (NDT2) 1989/ *Spilt Milk* (NDT workshop) 1990/ *Step Lightly* (NDT2) 1991/ *Satchitananda* (NDT workshop) 1992/ *Seconds* (NDT1) 1992/ *Sigue* (NDT workshop) 1993/ *Solitaire* (NDT2) 1994/ *Susto* (NDT3) 1994/ *SHBOOM!* (NDT workshop) 1994/ *So Sorry* (NDT3) 1994/ *Softly, as I leave you* (NDT1) 1994/ *Syllabus* (NDT workshop) 1995/ *Arcimboldo* (NDT1) 1995/ *Skew-Whiff* (NDT2) 1996/ *Start to Finish* (NDT1) 1996/ *Shangri-La* (NDT1) 1997/ *Stilleven* (NDT1) 1997/ *Sad Case* (NDT2) 1998/ *Singing Apes* (NDT1) 1998/ *Small moves* (NDT3) 1999/ *Speak for Yourself* (NDT1) 1999/ *Squeaky Wheel* (NDT3) 2000/ *Arcimboldo* (NDT1, 2&3) 2000/ *Said and Done* (NDT2) 2001/ *Safe as Houses* (NDT1) 2001/ *Subject to Change* (NDT2) 2003/ *Shutters Shut* (NDT2) 2003/ *Signing Off* (NDT1) 2003/ *Source of Inspiration* (NDT1) 2004/ *Drawn Onward* (NDT1) 2004/ *SHBOOM!* (NDT1 new version) 2004/ *Postscript* (NDT2) 2005/ *Silent Screen* (NDT1) 2005/ *Shoot the Moon* (NDT1) 2006/ *Sleight of Hand* (NDT2) 2007/ *Sooner or Later* (NDT1) 2007/ *Same Difference* (NDT1) 2007/ *Passe-Partout* (NDT2) 2009/ *Sehnsucht* (NDT1) 2009/ *Limbo* (NDT1) 2009/ *Studio Two* (NDT2) 2009/ *Swansong* (NDT1) 2010/ *Schmetterling* (NDT1) 2010/ *Skipping Over Damaged Area* (NDT1) 2011/ *Short Time Together* (HNB) 2012/ *Shine a Light* (NDT1) 2012/ *School of Thought* (NDT1) 2013/ *Stop Motion* (NDT1) 2014/ *Spiritwalking* (NDT1) 2014/ *Sad Case* (NDT2 new version) 2014/ *Schubert* (NDT2) 2014/ *Some Other Time* (NDT2) 2014/ *Short Time Together* (Version RDB) 2015/ *Shut Eye* (NDT1) 2016/ *Singulière Odyssee* (NDT1) 2017/ *Sisters* (NDT1) 2017/ *Subtle Dust* (NDT1) 2018/ *Kunstkamer* (NDT1 &2) 2019/ *She Remembers* (NDT1) 2020/ *Standby* (NDT1 &2) 2020. *Semillas Seltas* (Orsolina) 2021. *Selvportræt* (Kammerballetten) 2021.

INTERMISSION

PASSENGERS WITHIN

Choreography: Joaquín De Luz
Music: "Mishima" by Philip Glass. "Etude No. 2" by Philip Glass © 1984, 1992 Dunvagen Music Publishers Inc. Used with permission.
Costume Design: Anthony Pina
Lighting Design: Nicolás Fischtel (A.A.I.)
Costume Construction: Wardrobe CND, Carmen Granell, Francisco Manuel Ferreras

Dance Artists:

Kayoko Everhart, Alessandro Riga

Giada Rossi, Thomas Giugovaz

Cristina Casa, Mario Galindo
YaeGee Park, Anthony Pina

Natalia Butragueño, Martina Giuffrida, Kana Yamaguchi, Shani Peretz, Laura Pérez Hierro, Pauline Perraut, Niccolò Balossini, Théo Bourg, Juan José Carazo, Felipe Domingos, Álvaro Madrigal, Jorge Palacios

Worldwide premiere by Compañía Nacional de Danza at Teatros del Canal, Madrid, Spain, December 1, 2022.

The idea of *Passengers Within* is inspired by today's society. We have become slaves to the system and paradigm we live in. Technology, the media and consumerism keep the population sleepwalking, and we wander like zombies to the incessant beat they set for us. From the moment we get up we are bombarded, with no respite, by incessant waves of information like the music of Philip Glass. We are subjugated and judged by society's expectations of us. Stereotypes and morals obligate us to follow a script that is too generic for us to be individuals. The principal couple represent people who are awakening, who are questioning things. They do not want to be passengers but, rather, to rule their own lives based on their essence and their presence.

INTERMISSION

WHITE DARKNESS

Choreography: Nacho Duato
Music: Karl Jenkins ("Adiemus Variations" - Adiemus: Songs of Sanctuary; "String Quartet n° 2," Passacaglia)
Original Editor: Boosey and Hawkes Music Publishing, London
Costume Design: Lourdes Frías
Set Design: Jaffar Chalabi
Lighting Design: Joop Caboot

Dance Artists:

Kayoko Everhart, Benjamin Poirier

Sara Fernández, Erez Ilan
Shlomi Shlomo Miara, Shani Peretz
Laura Pérez Hierro, Álvaro Madrigal
Mario Galindo, Irene Ureña

World premiered by Compañía Nacional de Danza at Teatro de la Zarzuela in Madrid, Spain, November 16, 2001.

Nacho Duato's work for Compañía Nacional de Danza followed his creative development of the last years at CND. The choreographer researches choreographic formulae through the movement and starting from a deep musical knowledge. These choreographic formulae enlarge his vocabulary, departing always from his dancers' potential expressiveness.

WHO'S WHO IN THE COMPANY

Joaquín De Luz (*Artistic Director, Choreographer*) See page 19 in the program book.

Sol León (*Choreographer, Set Designer, Costume Designer*) (Córdoba, Spain), joined NDT2 in 1987 after graduating from the National Ballet Academy of Madrid. Two years later, she moved into NDT1, where she danced in the masterpieces of Jirí Kylian, Hans Van Manen, Mats Ek and Ohad Naharin. León continued to dance up until 2003, when she decided to fully devote herself to being the house choreographer of NDT together with Paul Lightfoot. From 2012 until 2020, León was also the artistic advisor for the company. León and Lightfoot have been a choreographic duo since 1989, and, together, they have created more than 60 world premieres for NDT, for which they have received many prestigious awards. In 2002, León and Lightfoot were appointed house choreographers of NDT, the position they remained in until 2020.

Paul Lightfoot (*Choreographer, Set Designer, Costume Designer*) (Cheshire, England) graduated from the Royal Ballet School in London before joining Nederlands Dans Theater in 1985. Lightfoot began as a dancer with NDT2, and two years later, he moved into NDT1, where he danced until 2008. Early in his career, Lightfoot began choreographing together with Sol León. From September 2011 until August 2020, Lightfoot was the artistic director of NDT.

Nacho Duato (*Choreographer*) was trained at Rambert School of London, Maurice Béjart's Mudra of Bruselas and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. At the age of 21, Duato signed his first contract at the Cullberg Ballet in Stockholm, and, a year later, Jiří Kylián hired him for the Nederlands Dans Theater in Den Haag. The ten-year period he spent in the Dutch company marked Duato's artistic career; there he created his first work, *Jardí Tancat* (1983), became the official choreographer along with Hans Van Manen in 1988, and imbibed the Kylián artistic legacy.

Duato became the artistic director of the Compañía Nacional de Danza at the age of 32, for a period of 20 years (1990-2010). During these years, he created more than 30 works: *Mediterránea* (1992), *Por vos muero* (1996), *Romeo y Julieta* (1998), *Multiplidad. Formas de silencio y vacío* (2000), *Herrumbre* (2004), and *Alas* (2006), among many others. His ballets are in the repertoire of some of the most important companies in the world, including American Ballet Theater, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Australian Ballet and the Cullberg Ballet, among many others. His work and dedication as the director of the Compañía Nacional included the formation of the Compañía Nacional de Danza 2, which he directed alongside Tony Fabre, as a school for young dancers.

Duato received multiple awards as a choreographer: the first prize in the International Choreographic Contest of Köln for his work *Jardí Tancat*, the gold medal for Fine Arts from the Spanish government in 1998, the Benois de la danse award in 2000, the National Dance Award in 2003 and the City of Alcalá for Arts and Literature Award in 2015. Furthermore, the Spanish Foundation SGAE awarded him the Max de Honor award in 2020.

Duato was appointed artistic director of the Mikhailovsky Theatre in St. Petersburg, Russia, from 2010 to 2014, where he still remains artistically related. In 2014, Duato became artistic director of the Staatsballett Berlin until 2018. His last world premiere for Compañía Nacional de Danza, *Morgen*, was staged February 2022 at Palacio de Festivales in Santander, Spain.

Karl Jenkins (*Music - White Darkness*) was born in 1944 of a Welsh mother and Swedish father. At the age of six, he started his piano studies encouraged by his father, a chorus director and organist. At the age of eleven, he started to play the oboe and to work at the National Youth Orchestra of Wales. He also studied composition at University of Wales at Cardiff, finishing his training in the Royal Academy of Music in London, where he specialized in playing the saxophone. Jenkins received awards for his oboe interpretations for jazz and as a multi-instrumentalist. Jenkins worked, among others, with Ronnie Scott and created *Nucleus*, winning the first prize of Montreal Jazz Festival in 1972. Later, he joined Soft Machine, which in the 1970s played a wide range of styles (jazz, classic, rock and even minimalism). In April 1995, Jenkins published *Adiemus - Songs of Sanctuary*, an extensive work composed for voice, percussion and string, which was an unprecedented success in Europe and Japan.

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Thank You to Our Community Partners



NOBA extends a special THANK YOU to the local dance group joining us for tonight's performance!

NOCCA FOUNDATION

<https://noccafoundation.org/>

The New Orleans Center for Creative Arts was founded in 1973 and opened its doors to students in 1974. Today, NOCCA is Louisiana's arts conservatory for high school students, offering intensive instruction in Classical Music, Creative Writing, Culinary Arts, Dance, Drama, Entertainment Production Design, Jazz, Media Arts, Musical Theatre, Vocal Music, Visual Arts, and academics. Students come from across Louisiana, attending via full-day, afternoon, and after-school sessions. Admission to NOCCA is by audition, and there is no tuition.

NOBA EDUCATION

TUITION-FREE DANCE CLASSES FOR AGES 4-18

Flyers are available on the first floor of the lobby.
- also see pages 24-25 in the program book.

Limited spaces remain for NOBA's 2024 spring semester of Early Childhood, Preparatory and Teen Dance Program classes. Youth ages 4-18 can enjoy after-school instruction in ballet, jazz, and hip hop at neighborhood partner sites in both Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes. Space availability varies depending on the location and class. More information and registration instructions online at www.nobadance.com/youth-classes.



Photos by Jeff Strout

Join NOBA's Weekly OPEN COMMUNITY DANCE & ARTS HEALING CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Flyers are available on the first floor of the lobby
- also see pages 26-27 in the program book.

Dance, movement, wellness and arts healing classes include Senior Dance Fitness for ages 55+; the Oscar J. Tolmas Charitable Trust Dance for Parkinson's Program; plus weekly morning ballet master classes for adults and teens led by NOBA Master Artists in Residence!



Photos by Jeff Strout



NOBA extends its gratitude to The Helis Foundation for making it possible for hundreds of NOBA students and their families to attend tonight's performance.

BALLET RESOURCE AND VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION (BRAVO)

The Ballet Resource And Volunteer Organization (BRAVO)

Thanks Its Triple Crown Supporters!



The Triple Crown kicked off last night with the first of three magnificent events with a special reception at The Cabildo with the artists from Compañía Nacional de Danza and dignitaries celebrating the historic and cultural ties between Louisiana and Spain. Sponsors also attended a pre-reception hosted by Marilyn and Glen Smith at the Pontalba apartments. Guests enjoyed Spanish themed food and drink, entertainment, and the chance to mix and mingle with the company artists.

Premier Platinum Presenters



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For more information or to make a donation to the Triple Crown,
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