



School of
Fine and Performing Arts

Rider Dances with American Repertory Ballet

Featuring works by:

Cherilyn Barbone, Mary Barton, Christine Chen, Angela Cusumano, Laney Engelhard,
Jennifer Gladney, Douglas Martin, Danielle Nolen,
Kirk Peterson and Kim Chandler Vaccaro,
with
Marissa DeSantis

Kim Chandler Vaccaro, *director*

Douglas Martin, *artistic director American Repertory Ballet*

Jeanette Rudnicki, Rider '13, *videographer*



Friday, March 30, 2012 ✦ 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 31, 2012 ✦ 3 p.m.
Saturday, March 31, 2012 ✦ 7:30 p.m.
Yvonne Theater
Rider University
Lawrenceville, N.J.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for being here for this milestone in our partnership with American Repertory Ballet. While our students have benefited from a vibrant educational experience for many years with the Princeton Ballet School, this is the first time the professional company has come to campus to perform and interact with us in Rider Dances. We warmly welcome these gorgeous performers and Douglas Martin, artistic director of one of New Jersey's leading dance companies and the People's Choice for 2011.

Tonight we also explore new territory as Rider Dances goes green! We are attempting a (near) paperless concert. We used recyclable tickets, and for your convenience and reference the programs are available as a PDF on our Website www.rider.edu. But for now, please silence your phones (due to the rake in this theater everyone above sees all below); you won't need them anyway!

Working with the talent of the School of Fine and Performing Arts means a non-stop fountain of new ideas, energy and ways of approaching our work. Tonight we present original dance, music and lighting design by current Rider students, cherished alumni and some of the most creative teachers and dance artists in our area.

The arts matter. They give us another way to understand, to reflect and to communicate. They are who we are, where we are and what we are feeling. Tonight represents the diversity of our incredible dance community.

And now introducing American Repertory Ballet.

-Kim Chandler Vaccaro
March 2012



*Eyes That Gently Touch***Choreography:** Kirk Peterson, staged by Douglas Martin**Music:** *Mad Rush* by Philip Glass**Dancers:**

First Duet: Karen Leslie Muscato/Monica Giragosian/Alice Cao & Alexander Dutko/Stephen Campanella

Second Duet: Katie Moorhead/Claire van Bever & Edward Urwin/Marc St-Pierre

Third Duet: Talin Kenar/Samantha Gullace & Joshua Kurtzberg/David DuBois

*Reset for ARB by Douglas Martin**Connect***Choreography:** Christine Chen**Music:** *Home* by LCD Soundsystem**Dancers:** Lauren Clabaugh, Kim Collan, Julia Hambrecht, Dana Linker, Noelle Martone, Diana Quaranta, Courtney Schumacher*Thanks to the dancers for their creative input and to Dr. Kim for the opportunity to step away from my desk.**Kaleidoscope***Choreography:** Cherilyn Barbone**Music:** *Moonlight and Madness* by Trans-Siberian Orchestra**Dancers:** Marissa DaCosta, Brittani Fario, Ashley Miller, Jacquelyn Oathout, Jenna Politoski, Jamie Ropars, Jeanette Rudnicki, Kel Vallery*Look into the kaleidoscope and let your imagination run wild.**Break Forth***Choreography:** Laney Engelhard**Music:** Olafur Arnalds**Dancers:** Andrea Fallacaro, Michelle Figueiredo, Alison Giampolo, Mary Jaeger, Danielle Minichino, Elizabeth Tkaczynski*Refusing to be complacent.**Romeo and Juliet, excerpt***Choreography:** Douglas Martin**Music:** *Romeo and Juliet, Balcony Scene (excerpt) Nos. 19-21 from Act I* by Sergei Prokofiev**Dancers:** Karen Leslie Moscato/Monica Giragosian & David DuBois/Marc St-Pierre*Lose/Lost***Choreography:** Jennifer Gladney assisted by Danielle Nolen**Music:** T. Yorke, M. Richter, J. Grace**Dancers:** Amanda Anderson, Nicole Colossi, Marissa DeSantis, Alison Giampolo, Jennifer Gladney, Julia Hambrecht, Mary Jaeger, Ashley Miller, Danielle Nolen, Kristina Pavia, Elizabeth Tkaczynski, Audrey Yeager
“Karmic philosophy appeals to me on a metaphorical level, how often we must repeat our same mistakes, generating the same old miserable and often catastrophic consequences, until we can finally stop and fix it. The supreme lesson, take care of the problem now, or you’ll suffer again later. The repetition of suffering—that’s hell. Moving out of that endless repetition to a new level of understanding— that’s where you’ll find heaven.” -E. Gilbert

Fire-insides

Choreography: Kim Chandler Vaccaro and the dancers: Julia Hall, Danielle Minichino, Jeanette Rudnicki, Tiffany Scerbo, Elizabeth Smith, Kirin Sugino, Ann Tercovich, Preston Wimbush

Music: *Fire Insides* by Michael Dylan Ferrara ('10) and John Gratton ('11)

Swan Lake, excerpt

Choreography: Marissa DeSantis

Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Dancers: Amanda Anderson, Marissa DeSantis, Helene Paluszek, Audrey Yeager

Blood on the Dance Floor

Choreography: Angela Cusumano

Music: Michael Jackson

Dancers: Brianna Colwell, Alexis Diaz, Andrea Fallacaro, Michelle Figueiredo, Kristina Pavia, Diana Quaranta, Jamie Ropars, Ann Tercovich, Preston Wimbush

Straight Up With a Twist

Choreography: Mary Barton

Music: Kaila Flexer and Third Ear

Dancers: Alice Cao, Shaye Firer, Monica Giragosian, Samantha Gullace, Talin Kenar, Karen Leslie Moscato, Katie Moorhead/Euphrosyne Avery, Claire van Bever, Stephen Campanella, David DuBois, Alexander Dutko, Joshua Kurtzberg, Marc St-Pierre, Edward Urwin



CHERILYN BARBONE: Rider '08, '11 is currently assistant director of Admissions at Rider University. While completing her undergraduate degree that included a minor in dance, she was instrumental in getting tap into the dance program. Previously she choreographed *Internal Stic* 2010, and *The Resaon* 2011 for Rider Dances. Cherilyn is also the advisor for the student group, the Rider Dance Ensemble, on campus.

MARY BARTON, American Repertory Ballet resident choreographer, received her training at the Washington School of Ballet and participated in summer courses at SAB and Joffrey Ballet School. At age 18, she joined the Oldenburg Staat Ballet as principal guest artist. After performing in Europe, she returned to the United States and joined the Dayton Ballet as principal dancer. In 1986, Ms. Barton joined the Joffrey Ballet, where she was chosen by Robert Joffrey for the role of Clara in the world premiere of his new *Nutcracker*. She danced as a principal dancer with the American Repertory Ballet from 1993 to 2004. Some notable roles include Sugar Plum Fairy, Cinderella, Titania, Emily in *Our Town* and leading roles in Balanchine's *Serenade*, *Rubies*, and *Concerto Barocco*. While under the direction of Septime Webre, she performed the role of Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake* and Juliet in his *Romeo and Juliet*. Ms. Barton has been on the faculty of the Princeton Ballet School since 1993, and is also a member of the ballet faculty at the Lewis Center of the Arts at Princeton University and in the Musical Theatre program at Rider University. She is listed in the "Who's Who of American Teachers." As a director, she has helped restage *Romeo and Juliet* and *Our Town* for other companies around the United States. Her choreography has been presented by Rider University, The Outlet, Teamwork Dance and Princeton University Ballet, as well as the annual school productions of Princeton Ballet School.

CHRISTINE CHEN received her early dance training at Princeton Ballet School, then was introduced to modern dance as an undergraduate at Princeton University. She earned her M.F.A. in dance at The Ohio State University before dancing professionally on both coasts, most notably with STREB, AXIS Dance Company and Flyaway Productions. Performance highlights include appearances on *Late Night with David Letterman*; as a featured performer in Cirque du Soleil's *Midnight Sun*; in the 2002 Salt Lake City Cultural Olympiad; and suspended from 40-foot buildings and industrial cranes. After retiring from performing, Christine earned her M.B.A. at the UC Davis Graduate School of Management. She now serves as the managing director of American Repertory Ballet.

ANGELA CUSUMANO started dancing at the age of five in Brooklyn, N.Y., and has studied under some of the biggest choreographers in the industry, including Wade Robson, Tyce Diorio, Gil Duldulao, Savion Glover, Laurie Ann Gibson, Brian Friedman, Mia Michaels, Cris Judd, Geo Hubela, Frank Hatchett and Dave Scott. Theater credits include *The King and I*, *Cabaret*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Sweet Charity*, *Crazy for You* and *West Side Story*. She's toured nationally and internationally as a backup dancer for the group Who Da Funk for their #1 radio hit, *Shiny Disco Balls*. She was also a member of the "alternative jazz" based company Push Factor Dance Company in Astoria, N.Y., as well as the hip hop based company Iconic in Englishtown, N.J. She served as the hip hop instructor of Push Factor's national convention, "DanzJam". Other performances include Britney Spears impersonation work for corporate events throughout New York, New Jersey and Connecticut; "Tubway's In Living Color Fly Girl Tribute" at Mr. Black's Den; KTU's Beatstock; and Fashionably Yours Fashion Show. Angela is currently a faculty member of American Repertory Ballet's Princeton Ballet School, Premiere Dance and American Repertory Ballet's DANCE POWER and DANCE POWER II public school programs.

MARISSA DESANTIS '12, is a journalism and dance double major. She is a member of Omicron Delta Kappa and Lambda Pi Eta honors societies and was a Mildred C. Hawkins Fine Arts Scholarship recipient. Last year, she served as Rider Dance Ensemble's president, a group that she helped to establish in 2010. This is her fourth performance with Rider Dances and her first time choreographing. Marissa would like to thank her family and friends for never missing a show.

LANEY ENGELHARD was born and raised in Ellensburg, Wash., and graduated from the Washington Academy of Performing Arts in Redmond, Wash. She spent summers training at Pacific Northwest Ballet School and The Rock School of Pennsylvania Ballet. Upon graduation, Laney joined Oregon Ballet Theatre and worked with choreographer Trey McIntyre on Michael Curry's production of *Spirits*. She has been a guest artist with Hubbard Street Dance Company II (Chicago's second company); Radio City's Christmas Spectacular; (and in Asheville, N.C. dancing for Terpsicorps Theatre of Dance.) For the past seven seasons, Laney has been dancing with American Repertory Ballet under the direction of Graham Lustig. As a choreographer, Laney has created many works for schools in the New Jersey area. She has created pieces for Princeton's Body Hype ensemble, Rider Dances ComeUnity, American Repertory Ballet, the Outlet Dance Project and Collaborative Arts Motion New Dance Works.

MICHAEL DYLAN FERRARA '10, composer, lives and studies in London, England. He graduated summa cum laude from Rider University. Feel free to Google him and or listen to his compositions at www.michaeldylanferrara.bandcamp.com. Michael would like to thank Dr. Kim and John Gratton for another wonderful opportunity.

JENNIFER GLADNEY '06 is a summa cum laude graduate of Rider University with a double major in elementary education/dance and early childhood education. She has been part of Rider Dances since its inception in 2005 and was the first senior honors student to choreograph for the show *Cross Phases*. Since then, she has come back as an alumna every year since graduation and created six other works for Rider students. Jennifer has been on the faculty at Princeton Ballet School since 2005 and was a company dancer with American Repertory Ballet. She continues to be a freelance dancer, choreographer and teacher. She would like to thank her family, friends and Rider dancers for all the years of continuous support and letting her express that ingredients of both darkness and light are equally present in all of us.

JOHN GRATTON is a freelance composer and audio engineer, currently residing in New York, N.Y. In addition to writing music for a number of theatre and dance productions, John is currently working with notable New York hip-hop artists Gabbie Giftsz and Muggz. John's music uses a combination of sampling, virtual instruments and live performers to create a unique and diverse musical landscape. On the technical side, John is currently working as a mixing engineer in collaboration with the studio Digital Growl in Asbury Park, N.J. For more information please contact johngrattonmusic@gmail.com

American Repertory Ballet Company Director **DOUGLAS MARTIN** started his ballet training with Dimitri Romanoff at the San Jose Ballet School and was one of six dancers selected to study in the newly formed American Ballet Theatre School formed by Mikhail Baryshnikov. He was invited to join the Joffrey Ballet in 1984 where, as a principal dancer, he performed roles in ballets by Ashton, Arpino, Cranko, Balanchine, Joffrey, Taylor, Pendleton, Kudelka and many other great 20th-century choreographers. Mr. Martin was featured in performances of *Dance in America* on PBS and was an original cast member of the historic recreation of Nijinsky's *Le Sacre du Printemps*. He was among the last dancers of the Joffrey Ballet to spend the majority of his career in the company working under founder Robert Joffrey. Martin joined the Cleveland Ballet in 1991, and danced an array of principle roles including the Minister in Agnes deMille's *Fall River Legend*. In 1993 Mr. Martin was

invited to join the American Repertory Ballet (ARB). As leading dancer and ballet master for ARB, Mr. Martin collaborated with directors in creating ballets, including productions as the original cast lead in *Romeo and Juliet*, *Swan Lake*, *The Dream* and *The Nutcracker*. Mr. Martin continued to be a principal dancer in the company as well as ballet master for ARB and ARBW and principal faculty for the PBS Summer Intensive until his retirement from performing in 2002. After retiring from ARB as a performer, Mr. Martin expanded his teaching, production and choreographic work. Martin has been an integral part of the teaching staff at the Princeton Ballet School, Rutgers University and Westminster Choir College, and has also served as the School's music director and ARBW ballet master. He has staged full length and repertory ballets for several companies, including *Romeo and Juliet* and Philip Jerry's *Our Town*. Additionally, Mr. Martin has choreographed for several PBS productions, including *Sleeping Beauty* and *Coppélia*. Last year saw the premiere of ARB's new *Nutcracker*, staged and choreographed by Mr. Martin, as well as the world premiere of his new work, *Ephemeral Possessions*.

DANIELLE NOLEN '07 is a summa cum laude graduate of Rider University. A Mildred C. Hawkins Fine Arts Scholarship recipient, her honors thesis, *Life and Death in D Major*, was featured in the 2007 production of Rider Dances. After graduation, Danielle was a dancer with Ithaca Ballet and taught in their year-round program. She has created pieces for Rider Dances with her co-choreographer, Jennifer Gladney, since 2009. She currently lives and works in New York City. Danielle wishes to thank her family, Charlie, Jen and the Rider arts community.

KIRK PETERSON, American Repertory Ballet guest choreographer, had a distinguished career for 17 years with American Ballet Theatre as principal dancer, choreographer, artistic director of ABTII, ballet master, principal character artist and as master teaching associate. Mr. Peterson was also artistic director of the Hartford Ballet for five years. As a choreographer, he has created over 50 ballets including new versions of *The Firebird* and *Le Sacre du Printemps*. His choreography has been seen with San Francisco Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, Washington Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, BalletMet, San Francisco Opera and The Royal Ballet School. He is a specialist in re-staging the full-length classical repertoire such as *Giselle*, *Don Quixote* and *The Sleeping Beauty*. He was nominated for the prestigious Prix Benois de la Danse in Moscow for *Othello*, created for Alberta Ballet. Peterson was resident choreographer for Cincinnati Ballet for six years and he is also a repetiteur for the Antony Tudor Ballet Trust.

JEANETTE RUDNICKI, filmmaker, is currently a junior radio and television major, with minors in dance and American studies. She was most recently seen in last year's production of *Rider Dances with the Ghosts*, as well as various performances with the Rider Dance Ensemble and Rider Dance Team. Jeanette is thankful that she was able to connect her passions in video production and dance by creating the video shown in this performance. Last summer, she completed an internship

with Millennium Radio Group, LLC, and this semester she has been interning with *CBS This Morning* at CBS News. Jeanette hopes that her experiences both at Rider and in the field will help her achieve her dream of being an on-air entertainment host. She would like to thank Dr. Kim for believing in her and giving her the opportunity to work on this project, as well as her loving parents, family, and friends for their continual support.

About the Seniors

MARISSA DACOSTA '12, is a public relations major with minors in dance and event planning. During her time at Rider, she has performed in *Rider Dances for All Ages*, *Rider Dances with the Ghosts*, and *Rider Dance Ensemble's* fall shows. She has been dancing for 14 years at various studios in Central New Jersey and calls Edison School of Music & Dance home. She would like to thank her family and friends for coming out to support her during her time dancing at Rider.

BRITTANI FARIO '12, is a computer information systems major with a dance minor. She's a member of Delta Sigma Pi and the alumni relations chair of *Rider Dance Ensemble*. She's been dancing since she was three years old at Van Zant Dance Academy. She choreographed last semester and this semester for *Rider Dance Ensemble's* showcases. She's been in *Rider Dances* and *Rider Dance Ensemble's* showcases for the last two years. She would like to thank her family and close friends for always coming to support her in her performances every year and would also like to thank all the teachers who've taught her throughout the years and all her dancers for pushing and believing in her. "Dance like no one's watching!"

HELENE PALUSZEK '12, is a mathematics major with a dance minor. This is her third time performing in *Rider Dances*. She thanks her family and friends for attending her last performance at Rider.

KRISTINA PAVIA '12, a fine arts major with a concentration in dance, sister of Delta Phi Epsilon and member/choreographer of the *Rider Dance Ensemble*. Kristina has been dancing since the age of three at Dance Attitudes in Marlboro, N.J., and has also taken dance intensives at NYU and SOCAPA. Kristina started out as an art major at Rider and switched to dance her junior year to pursue her true passion. She has performed in the *Rider Dance Ensemble's* fall and spring shows, as well as *Rider Dances with the Ghosts*. Outside of Rider, she has performed in the 2008 Orange Bowl Half-Time Show, and "Break Out in Song" on the *Intrepid* in 2009. Currently she teaches ages 5-18 at Dance Attitudes and plans to start a small business painting murals after graduation. Kristina would like to thank everyone involved in *Rider Dances* as well as her family and friends for coming out to support her in her final performance at Rider.



Stage Manager	Kate Fedey
Sound	Rachael Liberto, Tommy Gentile
Lighting Design	Michael Hollinshead
Assistants for Lighting	Caroline Asuncion, Tiffany Reyes,
Administrative Assistant	Marissa DeSantis
Front of House Manager	Rebecca Lustig
Box Office	Rebecca Lustig
Online Networking	Kristina Pavia
Rider News	Jeanette Rudnicki
Poster Design	Kate McCambley
Program	Kel Vallery
Dressing Room	Julia Hambrecht
Press	Kristina Pavia
Video Recording	Michele Graczyk
Crew	Preston Wimbush
Master Electrician	Jason Pratt
Stage Craft Faculty	German Cardenas-Alaminos

Special thanks as always to **Laura Luck** for her support and dedication to the dance program

About Us

Rider University's **WESTMINSTER COLLEGE OF THE ARTS** educates and trains aspiring performers, artists, teachers and students with artistic interests to pursue professional, scholarly and lifelong personal opportunities in art, dance, music and theatre. The College consists of three divisions: Westminster Choir College, the School of Fine and Performing Arts and Westminster Conservatory. **WESTMINSTER CHOIR COLLEGE** is a college of music and graduate school located on Rider's Princeton campus. Renowned for its tradition of choral excellence, Westminster offers programs in music education; music theory and composition; sacred music; voice, organ, and piano performance and pedagogy; choral conducting;

and piano accompanying and coaching. The **SCHOOL OF FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS** is located on Rider's Lawrenceville campus. Its programs include arts administration, musical theatre and fine arts with tracks in dance, music, theatre and art. **WESTMINSTER CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC** is a community music school that serves the Central New Jersey/Eastern Pennsylvania area with on-campus and community-based music instruction as well as community choral, orchestral and theater ensembles. **RIDER UNIVERSITY** is a private co-educational, student-centered university that emphasizes purposeful connections between academic study and education for the professions.

WESTMINSTER
COLLEGE OF THE ARTS



RIDER
UNIVERSITY

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