

WINTER/SPRING SEASON

Jan 23–24	eighth blackbird <i>Hand Eye</i>
Jan 28–30	Toshiki Okada/chelfitsch <i>God Bless Baseball</i>
Feb 4 and 6–7	Ingri Fiksdal, Ingvild Langgård & Signe Becker <i>Cosmic Body</i>
Feb 11–14	Faye Driscoll <i>Thank You For Coming: Attendance</i>
Feb 18–27	Tim Etchells/Forced Entertainment <i>The Notebook, Speak Bitterness, and (In) Complete Works: Table Top Shakespeare</i>
Mar 5–6	Joffrey Academy of Dance <i>Winning Works</i>
Mar 25–26	eighth blackbird, Bryce Dessner, David T. Little, and others <i>Ghostlight</i>
Mar 31–Apr 3	Blair Thomas & Co. <i>Moby Dick</i>
Apr 7–10	Teatrocinema <i>Historia de Amor (Love Story)</i>
Apr 12 and 14–16	Taylor Mac <i>The History of Popular Music</i>
Apr 28–May 1	Kyle Abraham/ Abraham.In.Motion <i>When the Wolves Came In</i>

Mar 5-6, 2016

Joffrey Academy of Dance *Winning Works*

PRESENTED IN ASSOCIATION WITH MCA STAGE

JOFFREY ★ BALLET
CHICAGO

MCA
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THE JOFFREY BALLET

Artistic Director Ashley Wheater

Executive Director Greg Cameron

JOFFREY STUDIO COMPANY

Israel Garcia Chenge
Derek Drilon
Jackson Ferreira
Taiyu He
Yuka Iwai
Jameson Keating
Akari Morimatsu
Promise Smith
Saori Yamashita

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Christina Dennis
Anika De Vore
Olivia Duryea
Taylor Fikes
Amara Galloway
Saskia Gregson-
Williams
Akilah Harris
Yoka Hirayama
Mikaela Johnson
Stella Kim
Gina Lee
Ingrid Lewis
Claudia Aligue Mascaro
Mirra McFadden

Shun Nakajima
Natasha Nunamaker
Ayuko Ogino
Valentina Reneff-
Olson
Mayu Sakai
Katya Schloemann
Yuki Shimaoka
Rachel Skipor
Lydia Slack
Eva Solnick
Mizuki Tajima
Angelica Taylor
Tess Voelker
Macyn Vogt
Lindsey Wales
Elisabeth White
Zoe White

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Academy Artistic Director Anna Reznik

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Student Services Administrator

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Generous support for MCA Dance is provided by David Herro and Jay Franke.

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Joffrey Tower
10 E Randolph St
Chicago, IL 60601
312-784-4600
joffrey.org/joffreyacademy

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JOFFREY ACADEMY
OF DANCE
WINNING WORKS 2016
A Program of World Premieres

COCO + IGOR

**Choreography
and Conception**
Alexei Kremnev

Music Composition
Igor Stravinsky and Gabriel Yared

Rehearsal Assistant
Anna Reznik

Lighting Design
Jason Brown

Costume Design
Gabriel Brandon-Hanson

Assistant Costume Designer
Jesus Marc Herrera

Makeup Design
Jill Glaser

Cast
Derek Drilon, Olivia Duryea, Jackson
Ferreira, Taylor Fikes, Israel Garcia
Chenge, Taiyu He, Yuka Iwai,
Jameson Keating, Akari Morimatsu,
Shun Nakajima, Ayuko Ogino, Mayu
Sakai, Tess Voelker

Coco + Igor is a creation about
artistic genius and the passion of
two twentieth-century icons, Coco
Chanel and Igor Stravinsky. The
relationship between Stravinsky and
Chanel parallels the innovative
spirit of Stravinsky's *The Rite of
Spring* and the creation of Chanel's
signature perfume, Chanel No. 5.
The work combines contrasting
elements of avant-gardism and
conservatism to explore the journey
of two creative powerhouses who
achieved artistic triumph.

CHAPTER 1, CHAPTER 6

Choreography
Jeffrey Cirio

Music Composition
Kiasmos

Rehearsal Assistant
Shannon Alvis

Lighting Design
Jason Brown

Costume Design
Gabriel Brandon-Hanson

Assistant Costume Designer
Jesus Marc Herrera

Cast
Derek Drilon, Olivia Duryea, Amara
Galloway, Taylor Fikes, Taiyu He,
Yuka Iwai, Mayu Sakai, Eva Solnik,
Tess Voelker, Zoe White

Chapter 1, chapter 6: the title speaks
for itself. What began as an
exploration in movement became a
reflection of a life story. Thanks to
all the dancers involved. It could not
have happened without you.

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN

Choreography
Mariana Oliveira

Music Composition
Franz Schubert

Rehearsal Assistant
Shannon Alvis

Lighting Design
Jason Brown

Costume Design
Gabriel Brandon-Hanson

Assistant Costume Designer
Jesus Marc Herrera

Video and Projection Design
Philip Davis

Cast
Anika De Vore, Derek Drilon, Olivia
Duryea, Jackson Ferreira, Taylor
Fikes, Israel Garcia Chenge, Taiyu
He, Jameson Keating, Stella Kim,
Ingrid Lewis, Shun Nakajima, Yuki
Shimaoka, Eva Solnik, Tess Voelker

Death and the Maiden is based on a
poem of the same name written
by German poet Matthias
Claudius, which inspired Franz
Schubert's *String Quartet no. 14*,
also known as "Death and the
Maiden."

The poem describes a tragic yet
seductive conversation between
the two characters, portraying
the agony and the comfort of
death and the vulnerability and
awareness of life.

URGENCE

Choreography
Christian Denice

Music Composition
Armand Amar

Rehearsal Assistant
Ronn Stewart

Lighting Design
Jason Brown

Costume Design
Gabriel Brandon-Hanson

Assistant Costume Designer
Jesus Marc Herrera

Cast
Israel Garcia Chenge, Jameson
Keating, Shun Nakajima, Natasha
Nunamaker (Saturday), Mayu
Sakai, Katya Schloemann (Sunday),
Yuki Shimaoka, Promise Smith,
Mizuki Tajima, Elisabeth White,
Zoe White, Saori Yamashita

Centered on the emotions that
arise during times of crisis,
Urgence explores not only the
urgency and despair in heart-
rending moments of chaos and
profound loss, but also the hope
and strength of humanity
and the communities within it
and our innate ability to persevere
and survive.

Running time is approximately
sixty minutes with no intermissions.

ARTISTS UP CLOSE

MCA Stage's series of artist-
centered talks, workshops,
and open studios allows
the public to engage with
artists in intimate settings
and it provides a closer
look at the creative process.
Join us today.

FIRST NIGHT
MAR 5

Following the evening
performance, audience
members are invited to stay
for a conversation with
Alexei Kremnev and
winning choreographers,
Mariana Oliveira and
Christian Denice, moderated
by Peter Taub, MCA
Director of Performance
Programs.

Apr 28–May 1
at MCA Stage

Kyle Abraham/ Abraham.In.Motion



Sam Pratt, Catherine Ellis Kirk
Photo: Tim Barden

When the Wolves Came In

Tickets at mcachicago.org

ABOUT THE ARTISTIC STAFF

ASHLEY WHEATER The Joffrey Ballet Artistic Director

Born in Scotland and raised in England, Ashley Wheater was trained at The Royal Ballet School. Wheater began his professional career with The Royal Ballet, and danced at the London Festival Ballet, The Australian Ballet, The Joffrey Ballet and San Francisco Ballet.

In 1997, he became Ballet Master at San Francisco Ballet, and in 2002, Assistant to the Artistic Director. In 2007, Wheater was appointed Artistic Director of The Joffrey Ballet. New work is the lifeblood of a company, and he has introduced numerous premieres to the repertoire. In 2008, the Boeing Corporation recognized his commitment to community outreach and diversity in the world



Ashley Wheater. Photo: Jim Luning

of dance, presenting him the “Game Changer” award. In 2010, Wheater, representing The Joffrey Ballet, was named Lincoln Academy Laureate, the highest honor presented by the State of Illinois. The Chicago Tribune selected Wheater as 2013 “Chicagooan of the Year” for his contributions to dance. In 2014, Wheater accepted the Chicago Spirit of Innovation Award for The Joffrey Ballet. In 2015, Wheater received the University of Chicago Rosenberger Medal for Outstanding Achievement in the Creative and Performing Arts.

ALEXEI KREMNEV Academy Artistic Director

Described as “a choreographer, yes—but also a soulful transcendentalist and pioneer of physicality, musicality, and emotion in dance” (“Huffington Post”) Alexei Kremnev is the Founding Artistic Director of the Joffrey Academy and the Joffrey Studio Company. He began his career in Moscow at Bolshoi Ballet Academy, Russian Academy of Theatrical Art (GITIS), and



Alexei Kremnev. Photo courtesy of
The Joffrey Ballet

Moscow State Academy of Choreography (Degree in Pedagogy and Choreography). Either as a Principal Artist, Choreographer or Teacher he has performed, choreographed, and taught internationally with the Moscow Festival Ballet (Russian National Ballet), England's Northern Ballet Theatre, Bolshoi Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, BalletMet, and in the worldwide galas with The Stars of the Ballet. He is the Laureate of the Leonide Massine Award, the Nureyev International and Lifar International Ballet Competition. Kremnev has been praised for his extraordinary ability to work with a young generation of dancers, as well as for his original and creative choreography. In 2004-2006 his choreography was presented at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow and in 2015 at the Lincoln Center in New York. He received the Outstanding Choreographer Award at Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP) in 2006, 2007, and 2009. His works have been successfully performed in collaborations with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Cleveland Orchestra. Under his leadership the Joffrey Academy was named Outstanding School every year they participated (2010, 2012, 2015, and 2016). In 2013, Kremnev received the Achievement Award in Culture from the Chicago Sister Cities International (CSCI). Kremnev's artistic vision has been essential in the creation and success of the Gala of the International Ballet Stars in Cincinnati, Children's Ballet

Theatre Series and Winning Works at The Joffrey Ballet. He has created sixteen original works at the Joffrey.

ANNA REZNIK, Academy Artistic Director, is the founding Artistic Director of the Joffrey Academy of Dance and the Joffrey Studio Company, and in a very short time she has brought a worldwide reputation to the Academy as one of the most innovative and fast-growing dance organizations. She began her career in Moscow at the world famous Bolshoi Ballet Academy (Degree of Ballet Artist) and the Bolshoi Institute of Choreography (Degree in Pedagogy). Reznik toured throughout the world as a Principal Artist with the Moscow Festival Ballet (later the Russian National Ballet), England's Northern Ballet Theatre, Cincinnati Ballet, Bolshoi Ballet, BalletMet, Tulsa Ballet Theatre and Russian and European Stars of the Ballet.



Anna Reznik. Photo courtesy of The Joffrey Ballet

Her performances have received rave reviews in the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Dance Magazine and La Danse de Paris. Reznik has won numerous awards, including a Special Diaghilev Prize, Silver Medal at the 1996 Lifar International Ballet Competition as well as the top prizes at the 1996 Nureyev International Ballet Competition and the 1996 Maya International Ballet Competition. Reznik was featured nationwide in the PBS Holiday Specials Love is Here to Stay and A Family Thanksgiving. In 2002, Reznik was recognized as one of the most influential people in the arts in Cincinnati. She has been praised for her extraordinary ability to work with today's young generation of dancers. Her thorough knowledge of the most current teaching methods and styles has produced many dancers who have been accepted into some of the most prestigious dance companies worldwide including the American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, Dresden Semperoper, Staatsoper Berlin, The Joffrey Ballet, Zurich Ballet and many others. In 2007 Reznik received the Outstanding Teacher Award at Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP). As Artistic Director, Reznik led the Joffrey Academy to become Outstanding School at YAGP in 2010, 2012, 2015 and 2016. In 2013, Reznik received the Achievement Award in Culture from the Chicago Sister Cities International (CSCI).

JASON BROWN, Stage Manager/Lighting Designer, is the Director of Production at

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. Recent dance designs include RPM Productions's Day of the Gypsy (a co-design with Julie E. Ballard), Alexei Kremnev's *Windy Sand*, Jennifer Archibald's *Our North*, Abdul Latif's *A Year From Now Ago*, and Stephanie Martinez's *Non è Normale* with the Joffrey Academy. Upcoming designs include a World Premiere new work with Lucas Crandall and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. He is a member of the adjunct faculty of the Theater School at DePaul University.

GABRIEL BRANDON-HANSON, Costume Design, is honored to have begun his career at The Joffrey Ballet. During his tenure with the Joffrey Academy he has designed and constructed hundreds of costumes, both classical and contemporary. He studied ballet and costuming at Northern Illinois University and Faubourg School of Ballet, he is currently in San Francisco, designing and producing ODC's, Dance Downtown Gala.

CHOREOGRAPHERS

ALEXEI KREMNEV
Please see artistic staff section for bio.

JEFFREY CIRIO
started his ballet training at Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet and went on to train at Boston Ballet. He has won numerous ballet competitions worldwide, including a gold medal at the Helsinki International Ballet Competition. He was also awarded the coveted Princess Grace Award. Cirio joined Boston Ballet in 2009



Jeffrey Cirio. Photo: Liza Voll

and rose quickly through the ranks, becoming a principal dancer in 2012. He has performed numerous classical, neoclassical, and contemporary roles for Boston Ballet and has appeared in world-wide galas with Stars of American Ballet at Vail International Dance Festival and with United Ballet Company in Mongolia and Japan. Cirio danced at the 2014 Kennedy Center Honors in Washington, DC, in honor of Patricia McBride. He joined American Ballet Theatre in 2015 as a soloist. Cirio's latest work has been in choreography; he was commissioned to create two pieces, of "Trial" and "fremd," for Boston Ballet. Cirio has also created pieces for Ballet Academy East and Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet. In 2015, Cirio, along with his sister, Lia Cirio—a principal at Boston Ballet—formed a new company: Cirio Collective. The collective began as a summer project to bring dancers and choreographers together to create and perform without the fear of failure in a

residency environment. In its inaugural year, Cirio Collective performed "MiniM" at Vineyard Arts Project and Cape Dance Festival.

CHRISTIAN DENICE

began his professional dance career at Odyssey Dance Theater in Salt Lake City, Utah, and spent the next three years at River North Dance Chicago in Chicago, Illinois, under the direction of Frank Chaves. In Chicago, Denice worked with such choreographers as Robert Battle, Sidra Bell, Lauri Stallings, and Frank Chaves. He has guest performed with the Montgomery Ballet, Greensboro Ballet, and Company E. Recently, Denice lived in Montreal, Quebec, where he danced for Les Ballets Jazz de Montreal and had the privilege of performing works by Andonis Foniadakis, Cayetano Soto, Wen Wei Wang, and Barak Marshall. In addition to dancing, Christian teaches and choreographs nationally and internationally. He has

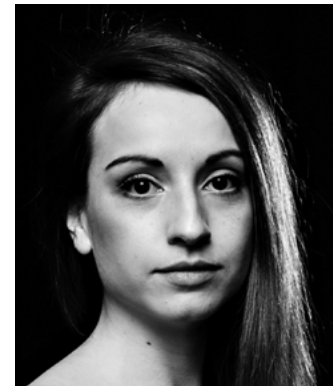


Christian Denice. Photo: Steven Trumon Gray

created works for LEVELdance Chicago and a collaborative piece for DanceWorks Chicago and Interlochen Center for the Arts in Interlochen, Michigan, and he has collaborated with Frank Chaves on work for Odyssey Dance Theatre, Odyssey II, Expansions Dance Company, and River North Dance Chicago. Denice's choreography has been featured at Jazz Dance World Congress and has been performed throughout the United States and Europe. He is the 2015–2016 winner of the University of South Florida's Echo Choreographic Competition, and had a two-week residency at the university where he restaged his 2011 work, "raum."

MARIANA OLIVEIRA

is the choreographer and artistic director of the Union Project Dance Company. Originally from Brazil, she started her career as a ballet dancer, and at the age of seventeen, she had the opportunity to travel to London to study at the Royal Academy of Dance. While living in the UK, Oliveira was a trainee dancer at the National Dance Company of Wales under the direction of Roy Campbell-Moore. At nineteen, she was invited to perform with the Cuban Classical Ballet of Miami. In 2007, Oliveira moved to New York, and two years later she founded the Union Project Dance Company. She has developed works in New York, Miami, Los Angeles, and Brazil, which have been performed in venues including Lincoln Center, Tribeca



Mariana Oliveira. Photo: Dante V. Daux

Performing Arts, and McCallum Theatre, among others. Now a resident of Los Angeles, she was recently invited to present her works at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival Inside/Out Series. Oliveira has been nominated as one of the finalists of the McCallum Theatre's eighteenth Choreography Festival, and has also been nominated for the 2015 World Choreography Awards in the Concert Dance Category.

Apr 7-10
at MCA Stage

Teatrocinema



Photo: Montserrat Quezada A.

Historia de Amor

Tickets at mcachicago.org

JOFFREY STUDIO COMPANY AND JOFFREY ACADEMY TRAINEES

* Joffrey Studio Company
Photos: Matt Glavin



Anika De Vore, San Diego, CA



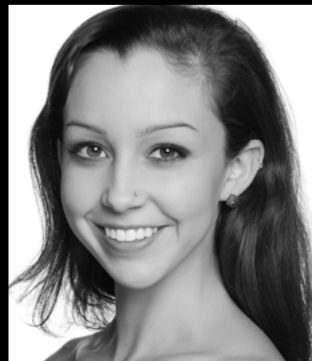
Israel Garcia Chenge*, Mexico



Derek Drilon*, Vancouver, WA



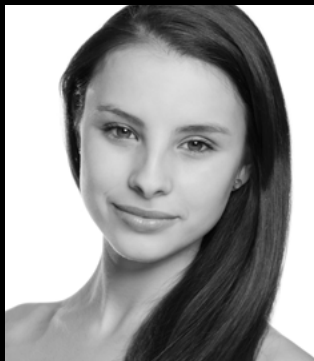
Christina Dennis, Madison, WI



Olivia Duryea, Haslett, MI



Jackson Ferreira*, Brazil



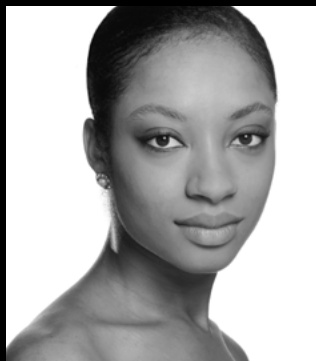
Saskia Gregson-Williams, United Kingdom



Yoka Hirayama, Japan



Jameson Keating*, Santa Barbara, CA



Taylor Fikes, Columbia, MD



Akilah Harris, Chicago, IL



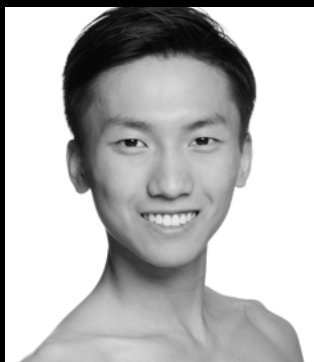
Yuka Iwai*, Japan



Stella Kim, South Korea



Amara Galloway, Fairfax, VA



Taiyu He*, China



Mikaela Johnson, Australia



Gina Lee, South Korea



Ingrid Lewis, Oak Park, IL



Akari Morimatsu*, Japan



Ayuko Ogino, Japan



Katya Schloemann, Sacramento, CA



Claudia Aligue Mascaro, Spain



Shun Nakajima, Japan



Valentina Reneff-Olson, San Francisco, CA



Yuki Shimaoka, Japan



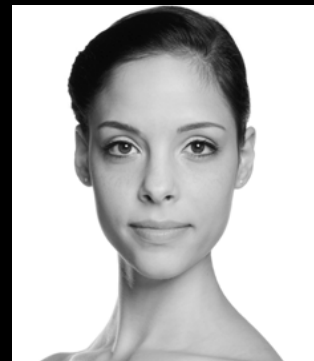
Mirra McFadden, Albuquerque, NM



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Mizuki Tajima, Japan



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Zoe White, Australia



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Saori Yamashita*, Japan



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THE JOFFREY BALLET

This season, The Joffrey Ballet celebrates its 60th Company anniversary. Classically trained to the highest standards, The Joffrey Ballet expresses a unique, inclusive perspective on dance, proudly reflecting the diversity of America with its company, audiences, and repertoire which includes major story ballets, reconstructions of masterpieces and contemporary works.

The Company's commitment to accessibility is met through an extensive touring schedule, an innovative and highly effective education program including the much lauded Academy of Dance, Official School of The Joffrey Ballet, Community Engagement programs and collaborations with myriad other visual and performing arts organizations.

Founded by visionary teacher Robert Joffrey in 1956, guided by celebrated choreographer Gerald Arpino from 1988 until 2007, The Joffrey Ballet continues to thrive under internationally renowned Artistic Director Ashley Wheeler and Executive Director Greg Cameron.

To learn more, please visit joffrey.org.

JOFFREY ACADEMY OF DANCE

The rigorous Trainee Program of the Academy of Dance has an internationally recognized reputation for excellence and gives students the skills needed to launch their careers in the professional world. Academy alumni have danced with companies around the world, including The Joffrey Ballet, American Ballet Theater, New York City Ballet, Dresden Semperoper, Zurich Ballet, and many others.

The Joffrey Studio Company is a scholarship program of the Joffrey Academy that is composed of ten outstanding students at the cusp of their professional careers. The individualized training and performance opportunities provided by the Joffrey Studio Company offer exceptional insight into the life of a professional dancer and push students to realize their full artistic and technical potential.

For more information on the Academy Trainees of The Joffrey Ballet, the Joffrey Studio Company, or other programs at the Academy of Dance, Official School of The Joffrey Ballet, please visit joffrey.org/academy.

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Executive Director
Greg Cameron

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Principal Coach**
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Ballet Master
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Company Pianist
Grace Kim

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Music Administrator**
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Cover Conductor
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Company Manager
Blair Baldwin

**Artistic and Production
Administrative Assistant**
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Katherine Selig

Stage Manager
Amanda Heuermann

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Ellie Cotey

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Gregg Benkovich

Second Assistant
Kate Shattock

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Debra Schoell

Stitcher
Barbara Luchsinger

Head of Hair and Makeup
Alicja Klosek

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Cara Scrementi

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**Community Engagement
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The MCA's newest affinity group, **Enact**, gives longtime performance fans and newcomers alike the opportunity to meet artists, discuss ground-breaking directions with leading curators, and choose key performers to sponsor.

Join Enact, a group of MCA Circle Donors dedicated to supporting and learning more about the renowned programs on the MCA Stage. Membership in Enact enhances your MCA experience by offering you backstage access to artists and insider information about our programs and the current state of the field.

Each year, Enact members choose—through discussion and voting—one performance to sponsor, thereby increasing the impact MCA Stage programming has on the community.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS OF ENACT MEMBERSHIP INCLUDE:

- Members-only programming throughout the MCA Stage season
- Pre and post-performance discussions with artists
- Behind-the-scenes access to select rehearsals
- An annual preview of the upcoming season
- Recognition as the Enact Sponsor of a select program
- All benefits of Circle Donors

Enact dues: \$1,000 annually
Circle Donor contribution: From \$1,500 annually

For more information, contact us at enact@mcachicago.org.

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* Enact Chair
**Enact Cochair

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Generous support for MCA Dance is provided by David Herro and Jay Franke.

Additional generous support is provided by Caryn and King Harris; Shawn M. Donnelley and Christopher M. Kelly; Lois and Steve Eisen and The Eisen Family Foundation; Ginger Farley and Bob Shapiro; the Martha Struthers Farley and Donald C. Farley Jr. Family Foundation; Mary E. Iffelson; Sharon and Lee Oberlander; Maya Polsky; Carol Prins and John Hart/The Jessica Fund; Ellen Stone Belic; Amphion Foundation, Inc.; Leigh and Henry Bienen; Mark Light; Melynda Lopin; Maecenas; Herbert R. and Paula Molner; Elizabeth Price and Lou Yecies; and Ms. Patricia F. Sternberg.

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As of February 2016

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MCA Stage's groundbreaking performances are an integral part of the MCA's artist-activated, audience-engaged programming. Along with the museum's exhibitions and educational initiatives, they encourage a broad and diverse community to experience and discuss the work and ideas of living artists.

PARKING

Validate your ticket at the coat check for \$12 parking in the MCA garage (220 East Chicago Avenue) or the Bernardin garage (747 North Wabash). Discounted parking is limited to six hours on the date of performance.

LOST AND FOUND

To inquire about a lost item, call the museum at 312-280-2660. Unclaimed articles are held for thirty days.

SEATING

Please switch off all noise-making devices while you are in the theater.

Patrons are seated at the management's discretion. Food and open beverage containers are not allowed in the seating area.

REPRODUCTION

Unauthorized recording and reproduction of a performance is prohibited.

GENERAL INFORMATION

312-280-2660

BOX OFFICE

312-397-4010

VOLUNTEER FOR PERFORMANCES

312-397-4072

mcastage@mcachicago.org

MUSEUM HOURS

Tuesday: 10 am–8 pm

Wednesday–Sunday: 10 am–5 pm

Closed Mondays, New Year's Day,
Thanksgiving, and Christmas

Anne Kaplan, Chair of
the Board of
Trustees
Madeleine Grynstejn,
Pritzker Director
Teresa Samala
de Guzman, Deputy
Director
Michael Darling,
James W. Alsdorf
Chief Curator

PERFORMANCE PROGRAMS

Peter Taub, Director
Yolanda Cesta Cursach,
Associate Director
John Rich, Manager
Isabel Dieppa,
Coordinator
Richard Norwood,
Theater
Production
Manager
Meghan Claire
Coppolett, Intern
Udita Upadhyaya, Intern

HOUSE MANAGEMENT

Kevin Brown, Associate
Phill Cabeen, Associate
Quinlan Kirchner,
Associate

BOX OFFICE

Matti Allison, Manager
Phongtorn Phongluantum,
Assistant Manager
Molly Laemle,
Coordinator
Lucas Baisch, Associate
Stephanie Branco,
Associate
Nora Carroll, Associate
Emma Dwyer, Associate
Wright Gatewood,
Associate
Julie Kriegel, Associate
Laura Volkening, Associate

Program notes compiled by
Yolanda Cesta Cursach

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