



PRESENTS **DORRANCE DANCE**
Ted Shawn Theatre
July 18-22, 2018

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Michelle Dorrance

DANCERS Ephrat "Bounce" Asherie
Christopher Broughton
Elizabeth Burke*
Warren Craft
Michelle Dorrance
Hannah Heller**
Claudia Rahardjanoto
Leonardo Sandoval*
Melinda Sullivan**
Byron Tittle
Nicholas Van Young
Matthew "Megawatt" West
Josette Wiggan-Freund**
Gabe Winns Ortiz*

MUSICIANS Donovan Dorrance
Aaron Marcellus
Gregory Richardson

*Alumni of The School at Jacob's Pillow

**Guest Artists

PROGRAM

All Good Things Come to an End (World Premiere)

CONCEIVED, DIRECTED, Michelle Dorrance Melinda Sullivan
CHOREOGRAPHED & PERFORMED BY Hannah Heller Josette Wiggan-Freund

MUSIC Artie Shaw and Fats Waller

LIGHTING DESIGN Kathy Kaufmann

COSTUME DESIGN Andrew Jordan

The temperatures have risen
The theaters have burned
Life as we know it will never return

We are the keepers of tales from before
The warnings, the fables, the myths, and the lore

We circle what's left of this scorched tired earth
The very last show, tales of woe, myths of mirth

The road, it's been tough but we've had a good run

With love,
Your ever-faithful servants (until we are none)

All Good Things Come to an End (2018) was co-commissioned by Jacob's Pillow and Jim Chervenak with lead support from Jim Chervenak, and created, in part, during a residency at the Pillow Lab.

All Good Things Come to an End (2018) was also created, in part, during a residency made possible by Josh Hilberman, Stephanie Detry, and the Claquettes Club in Liege, Belgium.

Myelination (2017)

CHOREOGRAPHY Michelle Dorrance, in collaboration with and featuring improvisation by the dancers

ADDITIONAL CHOREOGRAPHY Ephrat "Bounce" Asherie & Matthew "Megawatt" West

MUSIC Prawn til Dante (Donovan Dorrance & Gregory Richardson) with Aaron Marcellus

LIGHTING DESIGN Kathy Kaufmann

COSTUME DESIGN Amy Page

DANCERS Company

MUSICIANS Donovan Dorrance (piano/clarinet) Nicholas Van Young (percussion)

 Aaron Marcellus (vocals/keys) Warren Craft (additional guitar)

 Gregory Richardson (bass/clarinet)

Myelination (2017 and 2015) has 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) has also been commissioned, in part, by Cal Performances, University of California – Berkeley. Myelination (2017) 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. Myelination (2017) was supported by New Music USA, made possible by annual program support and/or endowment gifts from Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, New York State Council on the Arts, Helen F. Whitaker Fund, and Aaron Copland Fund for Music.

COMPANY

ABOUT DORRANCE DANCE

Dorrance Dance is an award-winning tap dance company based out of 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 of tap dance, America's original art form.

Founded in 2011 by Artistic Director and 2015 MacArthur Fellow, Michelle Dorrance, the company has received countless accolades, rave reviews, and performed at venues including The Joyce Theater, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, New York City Center, Vail International Dance Festival, The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Carolina Performing Arts at UNC Chapel Hill, Works and Process at the Guggenheim, Cal Performances at UC Berkeley, among many others, including colleges and universities across the United States and international venues in Canada, France, Germany, Spain, England, Hong Kong, and Singapore. dorrancedance.com

MICHELLE DORRANCE

(Artistic Director/Choreographer/Dancer) is a New York City-based artist. Mentored by Gene Medler, she grew up performing with his North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble and was lucky to study under many of the last master hoofers. Career highlights include: *STOMP*, Derick K. Grant's *Imagine Tap*, Jason Samuels Smith's *Charlie's Angels/Chasing the Bird*, Ayodele Casel's *Diary of a Tap Dancer*, Mable Lee's *Dancing Ladies*, and Darwin Deez. Company work: Savion Glover's *ti dii*, Manhattan Tap, Barbara Duffy, Jazz Tap Ensemble, Rumba Tap, and solo work

ranging from *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert* to Damian Woetzel's Vail Dance Festival Projects, and a commission for the Martha Graham Dance Company. A 2018 Doris Duke Artist, 2017 Ford Foundation Art of Change Fellow, and 2015 MacArthur Fellow, Dorrance is humbled to have been acknowledged and supported by United States Artists, The Joyce Theater, New York City Center, the Alpert Awards, Jacob's Pillow, Princess Grace Foundation, The Field, American Tap Dance Foundation, and the Bessie Awards. Dorrance holds a B.A. from New York University and is a Capezio Athlete.

EPHRAT "BOUNCE" ASHERIE (Dancer), a 2016 Bessie Award Winner for Innovative Achievement in Dance, is a NYC-based b-girl, dancer, and choreographer. As Artistic Director of Ephrat Asherie Dance (EAD), she has presented work at Jacob's Pillow, FiraTarrega, and New York Live Arts, among others. Asherie has received numerous awards to support her work including a NDP Award from NEFA, a Mondo Cane! Commission from Dixon Place, and an Extended Life Residency from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. Asherie has taught at Wesleyan University and is on faculty at Broadway Dance Center. She presented the world premiere of her work *Odeon* at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival this year, June 27-July 1. For more information visit ephratashediedance.com.

CHRISTOPHER BROUGHTON (Dancer) Born and raised in Los Angeles, CA, Broughton began dancing at the age of 11 and has never looked back. Under the instruction of Paul and Arlene Kennedy at Universal Dance, he became a member of The Kennedy Tap Company, receiving the national NAACP ACT-SO Award twice. He 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 & Astaire award-winning production *After Midnight*.

ELIZABETH BURKE (Rehearsal Director/Dancer) is a Chapel Hill, North Carolina native who spent 11 years under the direction of her mentor, Gene Medler, in the acclaimed North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble. Burke has been with Dorrance Dance since its inception in 2010. She pursues her own choreographic work, teaches, and performs as a soloist on occasion. She is an alumna of The School at Jacob's Pillow and Marymount Manhattan College (B.A. Political Science, B.A. Communication Arts, magna cum laude).

WARREN CRAFT (Dancer/Musician) is a New York City tap dancer who has trained in ballet with both 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. He moves with "bizarre physicality," and "unconventional eloquence" (*The New York Times*).

DONOVAN DORRANCE

(Musical Director/Composer/Musician) hails from Chapel Hill, NC where he studied piano, guitar, drums, and voice before attending The University of North Carolina for a B.A. in Philosophy. In 2014, Dorrance moved to Brooklyn to assist his sister's company and pursue his passion for music. In addition to composing music with Gregory Richardson for Dorrance Dance, he composes music for film and theatre, collaborating with students from New York University and Columbia University.

Jacob's Pillow is committed to providing an environment that cultivates the celebration of the art of dance and its positive impact on community.

While in our theaters, please refrain from behavior that could disturb other patrons and performers during the performance. We ask that you: silence your cell phone; do not photograph or video record performances; keep your ticket with you at all times; observe that other than water, food and beverages are not allowed in the theaters; and please let a staff member know if you need help. Thank you for observing these House Rules so that everyone can have an enjoyable experience.

We are so glad you are here. Enjoy the show!

HANNAH HELLER (Guest Artist) is a New York based actor, dancer, and writer, truly honored to perform with Dorrance Dance after appearing with them in *Until The Real Thing Comes Along (A Letter To Ourselves)* at The Joyce in 2017. Select New York theater credits include The Builder's Association *Elements of Oz* (3LD), Nellie Tinder's *Emily Climbs: Machine Mechante* (TheBrick), *Evelyn* (The Bushwick Starr), and Donovan and Calderon's *The Reception* (HERE Arts Center). Film and Television credits include *Lemon* (Magnolia Pictures/Killer Films), *Hard World For Small Things* (WEVR), *Jeff and Some Aliens* (Comedy Central), and is the creator of the web series *Morning Chardonnay*. Heller studied with master of humanity, Philippe Gaulier, in France, and she was a founding member of Savion Glover's company *ti dii*. Upcoming, Heller can be seen in The Builder's Association *Strange Window* at BAM and Nellie Tinder's *All Long True American Stories Project* at The Bushwick Starr.

AARON MARCELLUS (Co-Composer/Musician) is a singer, vocal coach, writer, musician, dancer, and actor from Atlanta. He started in Gospel music and has performed around the world. He has recorded albums and was voted top 24 on *American Idol* in 2011. After a world tour, Marcellus was featured in a Chapstick commercial, NBC's *Next Caller*, and was a cast member of *STOMP*. Marcellus also hosts a Burlesque show at Duane Park. Most importantly, he 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), born and raised in Berlin, Germany, 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, Rahardjanoto has danced with and learned from Andreas Dänel, Sven Göttlicher, Dianne Walker, Ted Levy, Dormeshia Sumbry-Edwards, Michelle Dorrance, Derick K. 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, amongst 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/Musician) was born in Tucson, AZ and learned Rhythm and Blues at an early age from a family of musicians where everyone could play at least a little piano and everyone was expected to sing. As a member of the band Darwin Deez, Gregory has performed at many of the world's largest music festivals. In recent years, he's found a second home with the New York City tap dance community, composing for and/or performing in several Dorrance Dance works, including *Myelination*, which was commissioned by the Fall for Dance Festival and premiered at New York City Center.

LEONARDO SANDOVAL (Dancer) has established a reputation in the tap world and beyond for his musicality and for adding his own Brazilian flavor to tap. Sandoval co-founded the *Cia Carioca de Sapateado* in Rio de Janeiro, bringing tap to a wider audience in Brazil. Since moving to New York in 2013, he has performed with Dorrance Dance and as a solo artist, and has presented work as a choreographer at venues across the U.S. and abroad.

MELINDA SULLIVAN (Guest Artist) is a Los Angeles-based artist with a diverse career in dance, television, and theatre. A *So You Think You Can Dance* Top 10 Finalist and All-Star, Sullivan's tours include Disney's *High School Musical* and *Cats*. Her most recent film and television credits include *La La Land*, *The Academy Awards* (2017), *The Late Late Show* with James Corden, and *The Pentatonix Christmas Special*. Sullivan is a recipient of the Capezio A.C.E. Award and *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch." She is thrilled to be performing again with Dorrance Dance after appearing with them last year at the Joyce Theater in *Until the Real Thing Comes Along (A Letter to Ourselves)*. Sullivan is on faculty at the Colburn School in Los Angeles and

continues to teach, perform, and choreograph worldwide.

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 entire realm of dance. He began tap dancing with David Rider and then with the American Tap Dance Foundation's Tap City Youth Ensemble. There, he met Michelle Dorrance and continually took her master classes and workshops. He joined the company in 2014 and has been consistently involved since then. Commercially, he has danced for Janet Jackson and Nicki Minaj, but feels most fulfilled on stage with Dorrance Dance.

NICHOLAS VAN YOUNG (Associate Artistic Director/Dancer/Musician) is a dancer, musician, choreographer, and a 2014 Bessie Award recipient. He began his professional career at age 16 under Acia Gray and Deidre Strand with Tapestry Dance Company in Austin, TX, eventually rising to principal dancer and resident choreographer. Since moving to New York, he has performed with Manhattan Tap, RumbaTap, Dorrance Dance, *Beat the Donkey*, has toured as a drummer for Darwin Deez, and spent almost a decade performing with *STOMP*, where he performed the lead role and acted as rehearsal director. Van Young tours both nationally and internationally, teaching and performing at various tap festivals, and founded Sound Movement dance company and Institute for The Rhythmic Arts (IFTRA). He is thrilled to have found a home with Dorrance Dance, co-creating and developing *ETM: Double Down* and the Guggenheim *Rotunda Project*, both collaborative efforts with Michelle Dorrance.

MATTHEW "MEGAWATT" WEST (Dancer) started dancing at 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 within hip-hop dance. He has competed in several b-boy competitions, and strives to impart knowledge and wisdom on the next generation of dancers; he has taught at

Coney Island's Shining Angels Studio and at after-school programs in Queens. Mega 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.

JOSETTE WIGGAN-FREUND (Guest Artist) began dancing with Paul and Arlene Kennedy in Los Angeles. She was a member of the Kennedy Tap Company and then later transitioned to Lynn Dally's Jazz Tap Ensemble as an adult. A 2006 graduate of UCLA, Wiggan-Freund's career highlights include being 2001 Spotlight award winner in non-classical dance, the 1st National Broadway Tour of *42nd Street*, and the movies *Idlewild* and *Princess and the Frog*. Performing alongside her brother, she was a part of two original casts of Cirque du Soleil's *Banana Shpeel* and *Michael Jackson: The Immortal World Tour*. Most currently, the duo performed in Michelle Dorrance's curated show *TIRELESS*, at Jacob's Pillow and the Asian premiere of *The Blues Project*. Wiggan-Freund is a sought after teacher/ choreographer/ performer, and while residing in Tel Aviv, can also be seen dancing with her husband's band Ron and the Red Beans.

GABE WINNS ORTIZ (Dancer), 27, was born and raised in San Diego, CA. He started dancing at the age of 11, and his love for the art form has continued to grow ever since. He 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 called the 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 TEAM

KATHY KAUFMANN (Lighting Designer), a New York City native, has been happily designing for Dorrance Dance since its inception (*SOUNDspace*, *The Blues Project*, *ETM*, *Myelination*). A resident designer at Danspace Project whose work has been seen throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe, and Asia, she also teaches at Sarah Lawrence College. A two-time Bessie Award recipient, she was nominated for work on Rebecca Davis's *Bloowst Windku* at Here in 2015. Most recent projects include designs for Joanna Kotze, Ben Kimitch, Eva Yaa Asantewaa's *Skeleton Architecture*, David Parker, Eiko, Koma, Larissa Velez Jackson, Rebecca Davis, and Ephrat Asherie.

CHRISTOPHER MARC (Production Manager/Sound Engineer) has credits with The Kennedy Center Theater for Young Audiences' *Elephant and Piggie's We Are in a Play*; the national tour of *Clifford the Big Red Dog Live!*; Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival's productions of *Forever Plaid*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *The Fantasticks*. Design credits include: the off-Broadway play *The Black Book* and Aquila Theatre National Tour which included performances of *Wuthering Heights*, *The Tempest*, *Fahrenheit 451*, and *Twelfth Night*.

DIEGO QUINTANAR (Technical Director/ 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; 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.

DORRANCE DANCE STAFF

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PRODUCTION MANAGER/ SOUND ENGINEER

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ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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ASSISTANT TO THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Donovan Dorrance

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Kathy Kaufmann

LIGHTING SUPERVISOR

Serena Wong

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR/ ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Diego Quintanar

ARTIST REPRESENTATIVE

Margaret Selby, Selby/Artists Management

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PILLOWNOTES

by Constance Valis Hill

The PillowNotes series comprises essays commissioned from our Scholars-in-Residence and others to provide audiences with a broader context for viewing dance.

Since receiving the Jacob's Pillow Dance Award in 2013 and the MacArthur "genius" award in 2015 for combining the musicality of tap with the choreographic intricacies of contemporary dance, Michelle Dorrance has been breaking the glass ceiling for tap dance—setting tap choreographies in museums, outdoor venues, and concert stages; creating percussive-based works for prestigious modern dance and ballet companies, performing tap alongside of East Indian kathak and Spanish flamenco, showing up on late-night TV shows with tap lessons to the host, giving radio interviews, and reminding viewers in new documentaries that tap dance is our most venerable American vernacular dance form. In short, Dorrance is demonstrating that tap is not a mere dance performed in metal-tipped shoes, but the elemental rhythmic soul present in all dance forms.

Dorrance Dance returns to Jacob's Pillow for a fifth Festival engagement with the groundbreaking *Mylineation* and the world premiere of *All Good Things Come to an End* a Jacob's Pillow commission. These tapographies are summations of the work she has done thus far in exploring the acoustic and spatial possibilities of percussive dance, in a creative process that has accumulatively drawn from and been steeped in tap tradition, while revolutionizing the possibilities of the form.

Dorrance's foray into modern dance began in 2015 with a commission by the Martha Graham Dance Company to create a variation of Graham's 1930 anguished solo, *Lamentation*. Smartly deciding not to put her cast of ten in tap shoes, her rhythmic inclinations found their way into the music, with simple, rectangular walking patterns in which flat-footed stomps sank incrementally to the ground. For Colorado's Vail Dance Festival in 2016, Dorrance presented the world premiere of *1-2-3-4-5-6* for its International Evenings of Dance, providing clapping-and-tapping accompaniment for Memphis jooker Charles "Lil" Buck" Riley, New York City Ballet Principal and Broadway star Robert Fairchild, and modern dancer Melissa Toogood. She returned to Vail in August 2017 to reimagine, with Martha Graham veteran Janet Eilber, a Graham solo of 1932, *Satyric Festival Song*, in which Graham mocked her own serious reputation as a modern dancer. Also in 2017, Dorrance and co-collaborator Nicholas Van Young took over New York's Guggenheim Museum with a site-specific work especially for the museum's iconic Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Rotunda. The 40-minute work was endlessly entertaining and compositionally brilliant, placing the audience on the ramps spiraling up seven stories, and the performers (hoofers and break dancers) on the floor performing with rhythmically-complex patterns that took on new acoustical and spectatorial dimensions.

December of 2017 saw a two-week engagement at the Joyce Theater with *Until the Real Thing Comes Along*, a gleeful tribute to the music of Fats Waller performed by Dorrance and three singular, rhythmically brilliant dancers: Melinda Sullivan, a Los Angeles-based dancer and onetime finalist on *So You Think You Can Dance*; Josette Wiggan-Freund, who has performed with Cirque du Soleil; and Jillian Meyers, who danced for Janet Jackson and was assistant choreographer on the film musical *La La Land*. Dorrance expertly drew out each performer's individuality in vignettes that found them slipping into exaggerated costumes and characters and convincingly demonstrating their joy in dancing together. May of 2018 saw the commission of three works for American Ballet Theatre dancers, the first of which a thirteen-minute-long piece d'occasion for ABT's spring gala, *Praedicere*, set to a complex rhythmic score, "Dysnomia," by the avant-garde jazz trio Dawn of Midi. "I want to build an orchestra of dancers creating sounds together by layering patterns for different groups of dancers, one upon the other, creating a polyrhythmic symphony," she said of the work, adding the point was not to turn ballet dancers into tap dancers but rather "to plumb the rhythmic possibilities of their bodies, especially their feet."

For Jacob's Pillow this season, Dorrance presents the updated (from its 2015 premiere at New York's City Center) *Mylineation*, which takes its title from science and refers to the formation of myelin sheaths around neurons, a process that speeds up the transmission of nerve impulses, "an apt analogy for a dance brimming with electricity, with movement so swift it defies comprehension" (Siobhan Burke, *The New York Times*). *Mylineation's* rhythmic impulses travel among dancers with the efficiency and inevitability of a biological phenomenon. The cast includes twelve dancers with live music composed by Gregory Richardson and Donovan Dorrance and vocals by the eclectic soul vocalist Aaron Marcellus. Second on the program is the world premiere of *All Good Things Come to an End*, commissioned by Jacob's Pillow and Jim Chervenak, and choreographed in collaboration with longtime colleagues Melinda Sullivan, Josette Wiggan-Freund, and Hannah Heller. Both works glowingly demonstrate how Dorrance pushes the boundaries of tap while exposing its true nature; testaments to how rhythm, whether beaten, shaken, stomped, or scraped, is at once primal and mysterious in its complex and subtle variations, generating new ideas and reshaping old ones.

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Constance Valis Hill is a jazz tap dancer and performance studies scholar, the author of Tap Dancing America, A Cultural History, and Five College Professor Emerita of Dance at Hampshire College in Amherst, MA.