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With Additional Support by:



Rhapsodic Dances

Choreography by Sasha Janes

Music: "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini" by Sergei Rachmaninoff

Lighting Design by John P. Woodey

Costume Design by Summer Collins

***Rhapsodic Dances* was commissioned for
North Carolina Dance Theatre by
Pat Bechdol, in honor of Liz Bechdol.
Premiere: October 13, 2011**

Jamie Dee Anna Gerberich Christina LaForgia

Emily Ramirez Sarah Hayes Watson

Naseeb Culpepper Jordan Leeper David Morse

Gregory Taylor Pete Walker

15-Minute Intermission

L'heure Bleue

Choreography by Jiri Bubenicek

Music: Johann Sebastian Bach's "Double violin concerto in D minor, BWV 1043," "Partita No. 2 in C minor, BWV 826," "Partita No. 1 in B flat Major, BWV 825," "Violin Concerto No. 2 in E, BWV 1042," "Keyboard Concerto in F Minor, BWV 1056." Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "String Quartet in E Op. 13, No. 5."

Lighting Design by John P. Woodey

Costume & Scenic Design by Otto Bubenicek

Melissa Anduiza Patricia Keleher Emily Ramirez

Gregory DeArmond Joshua Hall Jordan Leeper

Gregory Taylor Pete Walker

15-Minute Intermission

The Golden Section

Choreography by Twyla Tharp

Restaged by Shelley Washington

Music by David Byrne

Lighting Design by Jennifer Tipton

Costume Design by Santo Loquasto

**This work was underwritten by
M. Marie Mitchell
for North Carolina Dance Theatre.**

Five Golden Sections

What a Day That Was

Big Blue Plymouth

Light Bath

Melissa Anduiza Jamie Dee Patricia Keleher

Christina LaForgia Emily Ramirez Sarah Hayes Watson

Naseeb Culpepper Gregory DeArmond Joshua Hall Jordan Leeper

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Photo: Jeff Cravotta



Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux, President & Artistic Director

Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux became artistic director of North Carolina Dance Theatre and North Carolina Dance Theatre School of Dance in 1996. Bonnefoux danced with the Bolshoi, Kirov and Paris Opera Ballets and in 1970 became a principal dancer with the New York City Ballet. From 1977-1984 Bonnefoux taught at the School of American Ballet, the official school of the New York City Ballet.

His final performance was in 1980, after which he dedicated himself to work as an artistic director, choreographer and teacher. Bonnefoux has served as choreographer and ballet master for the Pittsburgh Ballet, as chairman and artistic director of the Ballet Department in the School of Music at Indiana University, and is currently the artistic director, choreographer and teacher for the ballet company and the school at the Chautauqua Institute in New York. Bonnefoux's choreographic repertoire includes *Carmina Burana*, *Cinderella*, *Nutcracker*, *Peter Pan* and *Romeo & Juliet*. In 2008, he and wife Patricia McBride won The Arts & Science Council of Charlotte's inaugural ASC Honors lifetime achievement award.



Patricia McBride, Associate Artistic Director

Patricia McBride has been celebrated as the outstanding American ballerina of our day and a star of international stature. Her remarkable virtuosity and artistic range have been demonstrated in more than 100 ballets during three decades with the New York City Ballet. In 1959, McBride joined the company of New York City Ballet and, in 1961, became its youngest principal dancer. George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins created many of their master works for her. McBride has

performed all over the world. She danced for five American presidents, performed with many of the great male dancers of our time and received awards for her contribution to dance. She joined North Carolina Dance Theatre in 1996 as associate artistic director and is a master teacher with the School of Dance. McBride is married to Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux and they have two children and three grandchildren. She and Bonnefoux won the ASC Honors lifetime achievement award in 2008.



Dwight Rhoden, Resident Choreographer

Dwight Rhoden has established a remarkably wide-ranging career, earning distinction from *The New York Times* as "one of the most sought out choreographers of the day." Currently the artistic director for Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Rhoden's work has earned critical acclaim for full evening presentations around the world, and he has created works for numerous companies including The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem,

The Joffrey Ballet, the Kirov Ballet, Miami City Ballet, New York City Ballet, The Pennsylvania Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Phoenix Dance Company, The Washington Ballet and many others. He has directed and choreographed for film, theater and live performances including E! Entertainment's "Tribute to Style," Cirque Du Soleil and Diana Vishneva's "Beauty In Motion" tour. He has also worked with such high-profile artists as Prince, Lenny Kravitz, Kelly Clarkson and Patrick Swayze. His choreography has been featured on the hit Fox television show "So You Think You Can Dance."



Sasha Janes, Associate Artistic Director

Sasha Janes was born in Perth, Australia, and received his formal dance training from the Australian Ballet School. He has danced professionally with The West Australian Ballet, The Australian Ballet, Hong Kong Ballet, Dayton Ballet and North Carolina Dance Theatre. In 2006, Janes was commissioned to choreograph his first ballet, *Lascia la Spina*, *Cogli la Rosa*, and since then he has choreographed several ballets for Chautauqua Festival Ballet and North Carolina Dance Theatre including

You're So Fine, *Breathe*, *Glass Houses*, *Le Temps*, *Battle Mind*, *Tree Hugger*, *Hungarian Rhapsody #6*, *Kinetic Energy*, *Resolution*, *Last Lost Chance*, *Rhapsodic Dances* and *Dangerous Liaisons*. Janes was invited to participate in the New York Choreographic Institute's spring session, where he created *Murmuration* on the students of the School of American Ballet. Janes was a dancer with North Carolina Dance Theatre for eight seasons and, in May 2012, was named associate artistic director.



Douglas Singleton, Executive Director

Douglas Singleton joined North Carolina Dance Theatre in 1996. Singleton attended the College of Charleston and after graduating traveled the world for more than five years with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. While in New York City he served as producing manager for the premiere performances of Complexions, led by Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson, as well as other luminaries of the dance world including Judith

Jamison, Masazumi Chaya and Garth Fagan. Singleton received the *Charlotte Business Journal's* 40 under 40 award and was selected to the 2008-2010 class of the William C. Friday Fellowship for Human Relations. He served on the NC Arts Council's Grants Panel and is currently a board member for Arts NC. He was also a member of the Board of Directors for the Choir School at St. Peters in Charlotte. Dance USA peers elected Singleton to serve as their Council Chair for the 2012-2013 membership year. He and his wife Viki live in Charlotte with their three children.

Choreographer and Contributor Bios



Jirí Bubeníček, L'Heure bleue Choreographer

Jirí Bubeníček, a Czech native who studied dance at the Prague Dance Conservatory, made his professional debut in 1993 with John Neumeier's Hamburg Ballet where he was promoted to Principal in 1997. He joined the Dresden Semperoper in 2006 as a Principal dancer. In 2009 Jirí and his twin brother Otto presented "Bubeníček and Friends" at the Prague National Theater. In January 2010 at Tokyo's Saitama Art Theater, they presented a collaborative

performance entitled "Jirí+Otto Bubeníček and Selected Dancers of the Semperoper Ballet," featuring Jirí's choreography and Otto's musical composition. As a choreographer, Bubeníček has created works for the Zurich, Hamburg and Dresden ballets, as well as for the Laterna Magika in Prague, Noverre Choreographic Institute in Stuttgart and New York City Ballet. North Carolina Dance Theatre presented Bubeníček's *Le soufflé de l'esprit (the breath of the spirit)* in March 2011. *L'Heure bleue* is the first ballet that Jirí has created for the NC Dance Theatre.



Otto Bubeníček, L'Heure bleue Costume & Set Designer

Otto Bubeníček spent most of his childhood, along with his twin brother Jirí, traveling around Europe with the circus where his parents worked as acrobats. He and Jirí won the Prix de Lausanne in dance in 1992 and graduated from the dance conservatory in Prague in 1993. He joined Hamburg Ballet in 1993, was promoted to soloist in 1995 and made Principal in 1997. His repertory includes leading classical and modern roles in the works of John Neumeier and other choreographers. He has guest-performed with companies in Munich, Dresden, Lyon, Copenhagen, London (Royal Ballet), Prague, Lausanne, St. Bart, Budapest, St. Petersburg and the World Ballet Festival in Japan (Tokyo - 2000). Aside from his role as a dancer, Otto has composed classical and electronic music for film and dance. He has written music for several of Jirí's ballets, including *Le soufflé de l'esprit*.

Sasha Janes (see page XXX)

Twyla Tharp, The Golden Section Choreographer



Twyla Tharp founded her dance company, Twyla Tharp Dance, in 1965. In addition to choreographing for her own company, she has choreographed for many other companies including: American Ballet Theatre, The Paris Opera Ballet, The Royal Ballet, New York City Ballet, The Boston Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance and The Martha Graham Dance Company. Tharp has choreographed more than 135 dances, five Hollywood movies, directed and choreographed four Broadway shows, written two books and received one Tony Award, two Emmy Awards, nineteen honorary doctorates, the Vietnam Veterans of America President's Award, the 2004 National Medal of the Arts and many grants including the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fellowship. She is a member of

the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and an Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Today, Tharp continues to create and lecture around the world.



Shelley Washington, The Golden Section Rehearsal Director

Shelley Washington studied with Twyla Tharp at Wolftrap Academy, American University, prior to being invited to join Twyla Tharp Dance Company in 1975. She had previously danced as a member of the Martha Graham Dance Company. A graduate of Interlochen Arts Academy, Washington furthered her training at the Juilliard School. She performed in the 1977 film *Hair* and served as dance captain for the 1985 Broadway production of *Singing in the Rain*. In 1987, she was honored with a New York Dance and Performance (Bessie) Award. From 1988 to 1992, Washington worked with American Ballet Theatre as soloist and rehearsal director in association with Tharp. In 1993, she was rehearsal director for Tharp's *Cutting Up* tour, starring Tharp and Mikhail Baryshnikov, Twyla Tharp and Dancers' City Center season in New York, and Tharp Dances' international tour. Washington continues to work with Tharp as rehearsal director by setting, staging, and directing Tharp's ballets for many companies internationally.

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North Carolina Dance Theatre Artists

Melissa Anduiza – Florida (3rd Season)

Melissa, a Miami native, received her BFA in Dance from the University of South Florida. In 2010, her choreography *Stained Glass* was selected by the American College of Dance Festival to be performed at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Melissa trained at New World School of the Arts and spent summers with Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Boston Ballet, Miami City Ballet, Joffrey Ballet and Chautauqua Ballet. In 2012, Melissa was nominated for a Princess Grace Award. Some of her favorite performances include Bill T. Jones' *Serenade/The Proposition*, William Forsythe's *In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated*, Dwight Rhoden's *Artifice*, Sasha Janes' *Last Lost Chance*, Mark Diamond's *Bolero*, Jacquelyn Buglisi's *Requiem 9. 11* and as the Lilac Fairy in Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux's *Sleeping Beauty*. Melissa has premiered two pieces, *Artificially Exposed* and *Yappos at Paalam*, with North Carolina Dance Theatre.



Sofia Arencibia – Florida (1st Season)

Sofia, a Miami native, received her training from Elizabeth Acuña-Nuevo and Lisette Salgado Lucas at Artistic Dance Center. She spent summers with The School of American Ballet, Orlando Ballet, Sarasota Ballet and Miami City Ballet on merit scholarships. She competed in The American Dance Competition where she placed 1st overall numerous times. She also competed in the Youth America Grand Prix where she was a finalist in the regionals, leading her to compete in the New York City finals.



Naseeb Culppepper – South Carolina (2nd Season)

After graduating high school from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Naseeb continued training intensely at Houston Ballet's Ben Stevenson Academy, where he studied under Claudio Muñoz and Andrew Murphy. From there, he was a member of Colorado Ballet's studio company for their 2010-2011 Season. Naseeb joined North Carolina Dance Theatre last season and has performed in Dwight Rhoden's *Alleged Dances*, Sasha Janes' *Dangerous Liaisons* and *Rhapsodic Dances*, and as Snow King in Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux's *Nutcracker*.



Gregory DeArmond – California (1st Season)

Gregory, from Lake Forest, CA, studied dance at Golden State Ballet, Saddleback Dance Center, Ballet Pacifica and the University of California, Irvine. Gregory was honored as a William J. Gillespie Scholar in ballet studies and as a Gregory Osborne Memorial Scholar. Gregory graduated from University of California, Irvine Cum Laude with a BA in Dance and a BS in Civil Engineering. Gregory participated in the 2010 National Choreographers Initiative and has performed works by Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux, Jiri Bubenicek, Mark Diamond, Sasha Janes, Dwight Rhoden, William Forsythe, Jodie Gates, Peter Quanz and David Allan.



Jamie Dee – California (4th Season)

Jamie, a California native, received her training at Orange County Regional Ballet. After receiving the California Alliance for Arts Education's 2000 Emerging Young Artist Award, she joined the American Repertory Ballet in New Jersey where she spent two seasons. Jamie accompanied Nai Ni Chen Dance Company on their 2002 China Tour and has been a guest artist with L.A. Chamber Dance. She danced for seven years with BalletMet Columbus where she received the 2008 Violetta Boff Award. Some of her favorite roles include Juliet in David Nixon's *Romeo and Juliet*, Odette in Nixon's *Swan Lake* and Daisy in Jimmy Orrante's world premiere of *The Great Gatsby*. She has had the pleasure of dancing works by such choreographers as George Balanchine, Dwight Rhoden, Twyla Tharp and Stanton Welch.



Anna Gerberich – Pennsylvania (8th Season)

Anna began her training at Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet with Marcia Dale Weary and was a featured performer in CPYB's performing company. In 2004, she was invited by Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux to apprentice with North Carolina Dance Theatre. The following year, at 16, she joined the Company. Anna received the Pointe Magazine NERDA Award of Promise in 2001 and was awarded the Barbara



Weisberger RDA Founders Award of Excellence in 2004. She competed in the Youth America Grand Prix, where she received first place at regionals and was a finalist at the international level. Her favorite roles include Little Mermaid in Mark Diamond's *Little Mermaid*, Dwight Rhoden's *Moody Boots Blues*, Sanguinic in George Balanchine's *The Four Temperaments* and The Liberty Bell in Balanchine's *Stars and Stripes*.



Josh Hall – New York (1st Season)

Josh started dancing at Lisa's Dance Academy in Syracuse, NY. At age 8, he moved to North Carolina and started training at Dance Productions under Denise Britz-Clarke and Ed Phelan, and at Piedmont Dance Conservatory under Rebecca Massey Wiley and Daniel Wiley. He attended high school at University of North Carolina School of the Arts where he studied under Warren Conover, Nina Danilova, Douglas Gawriljuk, Nigel Burley and Ethan Stiefel. Josh attended summer intensives under full scholarship with Miami City Ballet, North Carolina Dance Theatre and Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre.

Josh has performed as Siegfried in *Swan Lake* and as the Snow King and Cavalier in *Nutcracker*.



Patricia Keleher – California (1st Season)

Born in Huntington Beach, CA, Patricia began dance training at age 10, studying at Southland Ballet Academy. At age 12, she moved to continue her studies on scholarship at Kirov Academy of Ballet of Washington, DC, under the direction of Yelena Vinogradova. She moved to San Francisco at 15 and began training at the San Francisco Ballet School under the direction of Helgi Tomasson and Lola de Avila. In 2010, she was named an apprentice with the San Francisco Ballet and the following year she was promoted to the corps de ballet. Some of her favorite roles include Molly

in John Neumeier's *Yondering* and Lilac Fairy in Tomasson's *Sleeping Beauty* (performed in her graduating performance). She's also danced works by such choreographers as George Balanchine, William Forsythe, Jerome Robbins and John Cranko.



Christina LaForgia – South Carolina (1st Season)

Christina started dancing at age 11 in Summerville, SC, under the tutelage of Terry-Ellen Shields at the Classical Ballet Centre. After spending 3 years there, Christina went to the University of North Carolina School of the Arts where she studied under Nina Danilova, Warren Conover, Fanchon Cordell, Nigel Burley and Ethan Stiefel. Upon graduating, Christina spent a year in the graduate program and at the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre studying under Marjie Grundvig, Dennis Marshall and Janet Popeleski.

Christina attended summer intensives at Houston Ballet, American Ballet Theatre NYC, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and North Carolina Dance Theatre. Christina spent the 2011-2012 Season in NC Dance Theatre 2.



Jordan Leeper – New York (2nd Season)

Jordan began studying ballet in his hometown of Jamestown, NY, at the Chautauqua Regional Youth Ballet School from the age of 12 to 17. Jordan attended summer training intensives at the New York State Summer School of Arts and spent the summer of 2007 training in Chautauqua, NY. In 2008, Jordan attended San Francisco Ballet School's summer intensive, where he was invited to continue training during the school year under the direction of Parrish Maynard and Lola De Avila. In 2010, Jordan acquired professional experience as a guest artist with the Metropolitan Ballet Theatre

in Alpharetta, GA. Jordan was a member of NC Dance Theatre 2 for the 2010-2011 Season.



Addul Manzano – Cuba (7th Season)

Addul began his training at 11, attending the National Ballet School of Cuba in Havana. He was later selected to join The National Ballet of Cuba under the direction of Alicia Alonso. Since moving to the United States, he has danced with BALLETTY, Columbia City Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Sarasota Ballet of Florida, Terpsicorps and Washington Ballet. He has performed numerous principal roles including George Balanchine's *Agon*, *Apollo* and *The Four Temperaments*; Jonathan Harker in *Dracula*; Prince Charming in *Cinderella*; and Snow King and Sugar Plum Cavalier in *Nutcracker*.

Some of Addul's favorite performances include George Balanchine's *Rubies*, Alonzo King's *SALT* and Dwight Rhoden's *Artifice*.

David Morse – North Carolina (3rd Season)

A native Charlottean, David trained with North Carolina Dance Theatre School of Dance under Sabrina Berry, Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux, Mark Diamond, Kati Hanlon Mayo and Kathryn Moriarty. David's choreography won the Southeastern Regional Ballet Association/Habich-Corey Emerging Choreography Award in 2010, and he participated in the 2011 Winter Season of the New York Choreographic Institute. David spent his summers training at the Chautauqua Institute and danced with the North Carolina Dance Theatre 2 for two seasons. An accomplished pianist, David frequently accompanies ballet classes at NC Dance Theatre and has served as a guest pianist with The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre and The New York City Ballet.



Emily Ramirez – Texas (1st Season)

Originally from Houston, Texas, Emily studied at the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. She also received a full scholarship to both Adamson Ballet School and Houston Ballet. In 2004, she began her professional career at BalletMet in Columbus, Ohio. In 2008, Emily was a winner of the Columbus Choreography Project, and later she toured Europe with Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, performing Kitri from *Don Quixote*. She has also been a principal guest artist with the Moving People Dance's Santa Fe Dance Festival. Emily was excited to participate in the National Choreographer's Initiative for the 2010 and 2011 seasons. Her favorite roles include Odile in *Swan Lake*, Sugarplum Fairy in *Nutcracker* and the Marquise de Merteuil in David Nixon's *Dangerous Liaisons*.



Gregory Taylor – Georgia (1st Season)

Gregory began his dance training at age 7 at the Sawnee School of Ballet, under Joan Kall Stewart. In 2009, he was accepted to the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, where he danced for two years under Stanislav Issaev. He has performed many roles and ballets including Siegfried from *Swan Lake*, Bluebird from *Sleeping Beauty*, Raymonda, *Pequita*, *La Esmeralda*, *La Fille Mal Gardee*, and Balanchine's *Serenade*. In 2011, Gregory won 1st place in both Classical and Contemporary at Youth American Grand Prix Regionals. Gregory spent the 2011-2012 Season with North Carolina Dance Theatre 2.



Frederick (Pete) Leo Walker II – Florida (3rd Season)

From Jacksonville, FL, Pete began his training at Dansations Performing Arts Center and Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. During his sophomore year, Pete was accepted into Nutmeg Conservatory for the Arts on full scholarship. While at Nutmeg Conservatory he performed with MOMIX for Pope Benedict XVI. He also performed *Don Quixote* pas de deux and *Sleeping Beauty* pas de deux, both staged by Kirk Peterson, and *Diane and Actéon* pas de deux, staged by Eleanor D'Antuono. In 2010, Pete joined North Carolina Dance Theatre 2 and was quickly promoted to the first company. His first season with NC Dance Theatre included dancing in George Balanchine's *Stars and Stripes* pas de deux, Jiri Bubenicek's *Le Souffle de l'Esprit*, Sasha Janes' *Last Lost Chance*, Dwight Rhoden's *Reflections Of...* and Twyla Tharp's *The Golden Section*. Pete is a 2011 recipient of the Princess Grace Award.



Sarah Hayes Watson – North Carolina (5th Season)

Sarah's early training was in Asheville, NC, at the Asheville Center of Performing Arts, after which she attended University of North Carolina School of the Arts in the High School Program. She performed George Balanchine's *Serenade* for the Tribute to Melissa Hayden, and at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles. In 2005, she performed with Ballet Adriatico in Ascoli Piceno, Italy. Sarah attended summer intensives with Miami City Ballet and North Carolina Dance Theatre. Sarah has performed in four world premieres by choreographer Dwight Rhoden, and has also performed in works by Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux, Jiri Bubenicek, Mark Diamond, David Ingram, Sasha Janes, Twyla Tharp and William Forsythe.



Dancer headshots by Jeff Cravotta.

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