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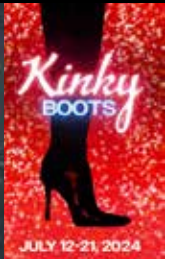
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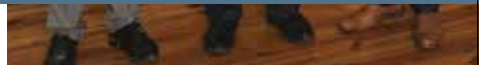
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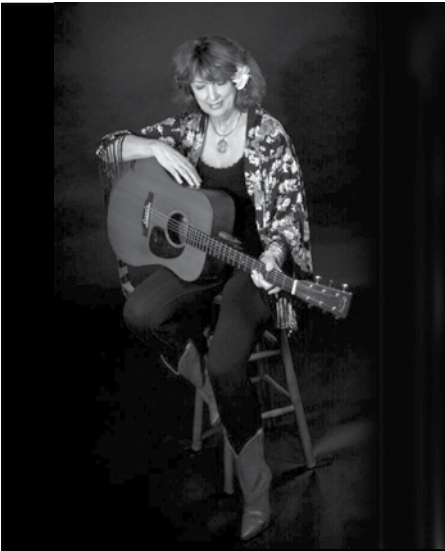


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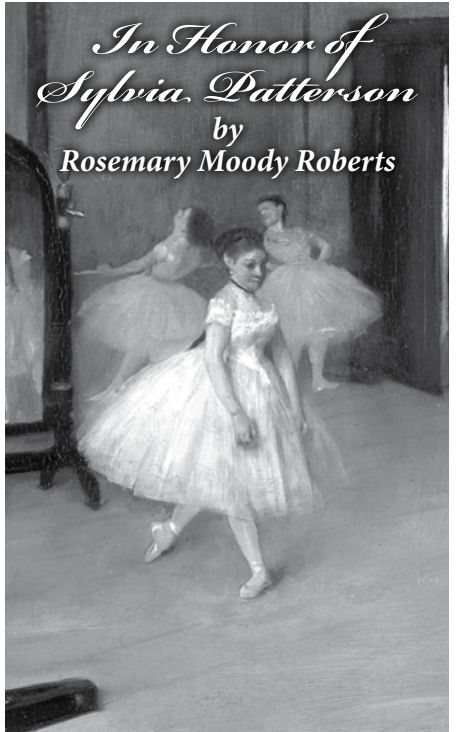
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BALLET SPARTANBURG 2023-2024 COMPANY DANCERS



MAIA BLAKE was born and raised in Andover, Massachusetts. She began dancing at Andover School of Ballet and New England Civic Ballet/Northeast Dance Center. Upon entering high school, Maia continued her training at Bossov Ballet Theatre under the direction of Natalya Getman from 2016-2019. There, she had the opportunity to perform in many full-length ballets in soloist and corps roles. Ms. Blake attended the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music where she completed her Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts. During her time at CCM, Maia had the privilege of performing a wide range of repertoire such as *Giselle*, *Paquita*, *La Bayadere*, *Napoli Pas de Six*, and more. She has had the pleasure of working with professors Tricia Sundbeck, Isabelle Elefson, Deirdre Carberry, Shauna Steele, Qi Jiang, as well as, with guests Amy Seiwert and Jennie Creer-King. Ms. Blake has also had the opportunity to attend Cincinnati Ballet, Bossov Ballet, and Boston Ballet's summer programs. During her first season with Ballet Spartanburg, Maia performed in *Cinderella* as an Ugly Stepsister. She has performed in Carlos Agudelo's *The Nutcracker*, *Intertwine*, and *The Great Gatsby*. Maia also choreographed for the Professional Company's performance of *The Studio Series* and *The Great Gatsby*. Ms. Blake is excited for her second season with Ballet Spartanburg!



CHARLIE CARROUTH is from Spartanburg SC. Charlie began her training as a young student at Ballet Spartanburg's Center for Dance Education where she studied ballet, contemporary and jazz. Ms. Carrouth attended summer intensives including Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Charlotte Ballet and Alonzo King LINES Ballet. Having danced with the Company as a Trainee during her high school years, Charlie has danced many soloist roles in various Ballet Spartanburg productions throughout the years. Recently, Charlie completed her Bachelor of Science in Psychology at the University of South Carolina, graduating summa cum laude. Charlie is looking forward to Ballet Spartanburg's 2023-2024 season.



MIGUEL DEULOFEU graduated from the Escuela Nacional de Ballet Fernando Alonso (Cuba) School and joined the National Ballet of Cuba in 2021. He was quickly promoted to soloist. He toured Spain dancing soloist roles in *Swan Lake*, *Le Corsaire* and *The Nutcracker*. In Cuba, Miguel performed The Prince in Act 2 of *Swan Lake*, and in the ballets *Coppelia*, and *Paquita*. He is excited to begin his dance career in the United States with Ballet Spartanburg.



JONHAL FERNANDEZ attended the Escuela Nacional de Ballet (Cuba) and joined Ballet Nacional de Cuba in 2010. The same year he was promoted as Soloist with Ballet ProDanza (Cuba). In 2011, Jonhal started working as a Principal Guest Artist with Santo Domingo Ballet (Dominican Republic), Ballet Municipal de Lima (Peru), and others. Mr. Fernandez joined Ballet de Monterrey (Mexico) as Soloist in 2012, and the following two years he danced with Joburg Classical Ballet Company (South Africa). In 2015, he was promoted to Principal Dancer with Ballet de Monterrey. Jonhal has taught with Escuela Superior de Musica y Danza de Monterrey (Mexico) and with many other schools and studios as a guest teacher in Mexico and in the US. As a choreographer, he has staged his version of *Paquita Grand Pas*, *Majissimo*, excerpts of *The Nutcracker*, and *La Esmeralda* (Diana and Acteon scene). Mr. Fernandez was awarded a gold medal in the Cuban Ballet Contest (Pas de Deux category), a gold medal in Calabria (Italy), a gold medal in the South Africa International Contest, and a silver medal in the Dominican Republic. Jonhal was the Artistic Director of US International Ballet prior to joining Ballet Spartanburg.



KATHARINE HUNTER is originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. At the age of five she began her training with The Pittsburgh Youth Ballet. After graduating high school, she joined The Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre's Graduate Program to further her ballet career. She performance opportunities with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre's company productions include, *Giselle*, *Beauty and The Beast*, George Balanchine's *Diamonds*, Susan Jaffe's original *Swan Lake*, and Terence S. Orr's *The Nutcracker* and *The Sleeping Beauty*. Kara has attended summer programs with Chautauqua Institute, School of American Ballet, Ballet Met, and Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre. Her repertoire also consists

of George Balanchine's *Who Care's*, *Serenade*, *Valse Fantasy*, *Stars and Stripes*, the principal role in *Walpurgisnacht*, the soloist role in excerpts from *Paquita*, and Terrance S. Orr's *Grand Pas de Deux*. In 2021 and 2022, Kara was invited to be a guest dancer with Texture Contemporary Ballet for their summer season where she performed original works by Alan Obuzor and other company works. She is very grateful to begin her professional career with Ballet Spartanburg's 2023-2024 season.



ABBY INGLETT is originally from Wisconsin and grew up taking ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, and contemporary for 13 years in La Crosse. She was a member of the pre-professional ballet program where she studied with her late mentor and teacher, Kennet Oberly (Stuttgart Ballet) and Larissa Oberly (Estonia National Ballet). Abby spent her summers dancing with the Classical Ballet Academy of Minnesota, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, The Nutmeg Conservatory for the Arts, and the University of Utah, her alma mater. In the spring of 2021, she graduated magna cum laude with her BFA in Ballet and minor in Disability Studies. After

graduating, Abby left Salt Lake City and moved to South Carolina to join Ballet Spartanburg for their 2021-2022 season. Some of her favorite performances with the Company include Lona Gomez's *Passages*, the Snow Queen in *The Nutcracker* and the Fairy Godmother in *Cinderella*. Abby is very excited for her 3rd season with Ballet Spartanburg!



CHARLOTTE LANNING began her ballet training at the age of ten at the Washington School of Ballet under the direction of Mary Day and Rebecca Wright. She continued her studies at the American Dance Institute on scholarship with Michael Bjerknæs. Ms. Lanning continued her ballet education with Dawei Zhang, former Ballet Master of the Shanghai Ballet, and with Elizabeth Shipiatsky of the Mariinsky Theatre. Her professional career started with the Colorado Ballet, performing in such ballets as *Swan Lake* (Petipa), *The Sleeping Beauty* (Petipa), *Theme and Variations* (Balanchine), and *The Nutcracker* (Fredmann). Charlotte then moved to Madrid, Spain, to dance with the Víctor Ullate Ballet before

joining Ballet Spartanburg in 2015. After a summer season with American Contemporary Ballet, she joined the Sibiu Ballet Theatre in Romania, dancing a wide range of classical and neoclassical ballets throughout Europe. Charlotte is looking forward to another season with Ballet Spartanburg.



YING-CHI LU began dancing at the age of three. She was born and raised in New Taipei City, Taiwan. When Ms. Lu was 11, she attended her first ballet competition and was awarded first place, and was later accepted into the prestigious Taipei National University of Arts for their seven-year dance training program. While in school, Ying-Chi performed a variation from *Le Corsaire* at the Taiwan National Ballet Competition, and was awarded a scholarship to attend the University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music. Throughout her four years at CCM, Lu was given the opportunity to perform numerous outstanding roles such as

the Blue Variation from Joffrey's *Birthdays Variations*, Medora from *Le Corsaire*, the First Shade from *La Bayadere*, and the lead role of *Enigma Station*, choreographed by Amy Seiwert. She joined Ballet Spartanburg in 2021. Ms. Lu has been cast in numerous roles including the Wicked Witch in *The Wizard of Oz*, the Autumn Fairy in *Cinderella*, and the Snow Queen and Dewdrop in *The Nutcracker*.



ANATTO MCMILLAN began dancing at the age of seven at The Ithaca Ballet in upstate New York. In 2015, he moved to New York City where he continued his training at Joffrey Ballet School under full scholarship. While at Joffrey, Anatto performed in several roles and ballets such as Sugar Plum Cavalier ' in *The Nutcracker*, *Diana and Acteon*, and *Esmeralda Grand Pas*. He also performed original works by Fredrick Earl Mosley, who has choreographed for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Mr. McMillan has attended summer intensives with Ballet Academy East, The Joffrey Ballet School, and Oklahoma

City Ballet, under full scholarship. He became a trainee with Cincinnati Ballet for their 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 seasons. During his time at Cincinnati Ballet, he performed alongside the Professional Company, and he had the opportunity to dance the lead male role in George Balanchine's *Serenade*, staged by Zippora Karz. This is Anatto's third season with Ballet Spartanburg.



COLIBRI MCMILLAN started his formal training in 2007 with The Ithaca Ballet, where he trained and performed. At age 15, he chose to pursue a professional dancing career, and moved to New York City to begin training at The Joffrey Ballet School on full scholarship. During his time at The Joffrey Ballet School, Colibri performed notable roles such as Sugar Plum Cavalier and Snow King from *The Nutcracker*, and Basilio from *Don Quixote*. He honed his contemporary skills which allowed him to perform in an original piece by choreographer Earl Mosley. Mr. McMillan then transitioned to Cincinnati Ballet's Professional Trainee Division, where he performed various lead roles including Waltz Man and Elegy

Man in George Balanchine's *Serenade*, *Grand Pas Classique Pas de Deux*, and Puss in Boots from *The Sleeping Beauty*. Colibri is very excited to start his third season with Ballet Spartanburg.



EMILIE MULLANEY is originally from Columbia SC. She started dancing at age four and decided to pursue ballet more seriously. Emilie joined Ann Brodie's Carolina Ballet in Columbia, SC, where she trained under the tutelage of Mimi Worrell. She had the privilege of performing many lead roles with Ann Brodie's including, Spring Fairy in *Cinderella*, Snow Queen, Dew Drop and Sugar Plum in *The Nutcracker*, and Swanhilda in *Coppelia*. She attended summer intensives with Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, American Ballet Theater in NY, Cincinnati Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, and Richmond Ballet. Upon graduating High School in 2019, Emilie became a trainee with Cincinnati Ballet. While at

Cincinnati Ballet, she had the opportunity to perform in many outreach projects and performances with the Company. She is excited to be starting her third season with Ballet Spartanburg!



AMY NOVAK trained at Edna Lee Dance Studio in Linthicum, Maryland, for fifteen years. While there, she studied ballet, tap, jazz, and contemporary styles under Ashley Canterna-Hardy, Mary Moran, Alicia Canterna, and Brandon Perry-Russell, among others. Ms. Novak's summer intensives include Gelsey Kirkland Academy, The Nutmeg Conservatory for the Arts, and The University of Utah International Ballet Summer Intensive. Amy attended the University of Utah and graduated with a BFA in Ballet and minors in Business Administration and Nutrition. While at The University of Utah, she performed in a variety of classical and contemporary roles, including choreography by Bruce Marks,

Alejandro Cerrudo, Melissa Bobick, and Penny Saunders. After graduation, she danced as a trainee with Ballet Idaho during their 2021-2022 season under the direction of Nicole Haskins and Garrett Anderson. At Ballet Idaho, Ms. Novak had the opportunity to perform in works by George Balanchine, Bruce Wells, FLOCK, and Anne Mueller. Amy is looking forward to her second season with Ballet Spartanburg!



CARRIE PREUS is originally from Augusta, GA. She began her formal dance training under Ron and Kathleen Jones, and continued her training at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts as a full-time high school ballet student. Upon graduation, Carrie became a trainee for Nashville Ballet. In May of 2015, she graduated summa cum laude from Kennesaw State University with a B.A. degree in Dance with a concentration in Ballet. While in school, Carrie also danced professionally with The Georgia Ballet and other Atlanta area dance companies and collectives. Upon graduation from college, Ms. Preus joined Bodigraphy Contemporary Ballet in Pittsburgh, PA. In 2017, Carrie joined Ballet Spartanburg. Carrie is thankful for the many roles she has had the opportunity to perform during her six seasons with the Professional Company. Some of her favorite roles include Dorothy from *The Wizard of Oz*, The Sugar Plum Fairy from Carlos Agudelo's *The Nutcracker*, Cinderella from *Cinderella*, and Daisy Buchanan from *The Great Gatsby*. In 2022, Ms. Preus completed her masters in Arts Administration and Cultural Leadership from Colorado State University. Carrie enjoys choreography and has choreographed The Spartanburg Little Theater's productions of *Bright Star*, *Footloose*, and *The Sound of Music*. Carrie is looking forward to dancing with Ballet Spartanburg's 2023/24 season.



LYDIA SANDERS was born and raised in Columbia, South Carolina. She began her serious ballet training at the USC Dance Conservatory under the guidance of Susan Anderson and Stacey Calvert. Lydia continued her formal training at Southeastern School of Ballet and at International Ballet Academy. Ms. Sanders has attended summer programs with Pacific Northwest Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Boston Ballet, Miami City Ballet, Carolina Ballet, Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, Charlotte Ballet, and Burklyn Ballet. Lydia graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of South Carolina in 2018 with a BA in Dance Performance and Choreography and a Psychology minor. In the USC Dance

Company, she performed in several works by George Balanchine, including the principal role in *Walpurgisnacht* and soloist roles in *Raymonda*, *Who Cares*, and *Stars and Stripes*. Post-graduation, Ms. Sanders joined Virginia National Ballet, where she danced a variety of soloist roles. Lydia joined Ballet Spartanburg in the fall of 2019. Some of her favorite roles include The Dewdrop Fairy in *The Nutcracker*, Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and The Fairy Godmother in *Cinderella*. She can't wait to see what is in store for the upcoming season!



WILL SCOTT began his dancing career in Woodstock Georgia at Dancentre South. After high school, he attended the University of Alabama and earned his Bachelors of Fine Arts in dance. While at the University of Alabama, Will performed lead roles in *Swan Lake*, *Flames of Paris*, *La Bayadere*, as well as, contemporary works choreographed by Sarah Barry, Cornelius Carter, Qianping Guo, and Rita Snyder. In 2013, Mr. Scott joined Ballet Spartanburg as a Company Dancer performing lead roles in multiple classical ballets such as *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella*, and *The Nutcracker*. He has performed many works choreographed by Carlos Agudelo, Nelson Reyes and Lona Gomez. In 2018, Will moved to Atlanta to

teach, choreograph, and continue his professional career before returning to Ballet Spartanburg for the 2021 season. Will is excited for another great season at Ballet Spartanburg.



ELIANA TOLENTINO was born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. At the age of five, she began studying at Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre's School. Her training culminated at the highest level at the BPTS Graduate Program. Eliana has attended summer programs with Saratoga Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Miami City Ballet, Tulas Ballet, Kaatsbaan Ballet, and Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre. Eliana has enjoyed numerous performance opportunities. Some of her repertoire includes the principal role in David Lichine's *Graduation Ballet*, principal role in excerpts from *Paquita*, Grand Pas de Deux in both Ballet Spartanburg's and Terrence Orr's productions of *The Nutcracker*, and Waltz Girl from George

Balanchine's *Serenade* set by Jerri Kumery. Other performances include varying roles in *Beauty and The Beast*, *The Nutcracker*, and *Giselle* with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre. During her first season with Ballet Spartanburg, Eliana also performed soloist roles including The Winter Fairy in *Cinderella* and Myrtle in *The Great Gatsby*, choreographed by Carlos Agudelo. Eliana is excited for her second season with Ballet Spartanburg.

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Center for Dance Education

EMPOWERING THROUGH EDUCATION

Analay Saiz, *Principal of Center for Dance Education*

The Center for Dance Education is an instructional center committed to providing the highest quality dance education in a non-competitive atmosphere. The mission is a collective effort creating a pleasant and supportive atmosphere for artistic excellence to thrive.

The Center for Dance Education has four Divisions: The Student Division, The Pre-Professional Division, The Trainee Program and The Open Adult Division. Each is intended to challenge students and support their physical, artistic, and emotional development consistent with their level.

The Student Division offers high quality dance instruction in diverse genres with flexible scheduling, focusing on personal enrichment and pure love of movement. The Pre-Professional Division offers a curriculum focusing on building strength and stamina with attention to rote. The Trainee Program is the highest level of training in the school. It is a bridge between The Pre-Professional Division and Professional Ballet. The Adult Open Division is for students ages 18 and above, who wish to start dancing, return to a passion of dancing or looking for a new form of exercise.

Ballet Spartanburg's former students have held positions at The National Ballet of Canada, Grand Rapids Ballet, Minnesota Ballet, San Antonio Ballet, Sarasota Ballet, Alabama Ballet, Saint Louis Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, American Repertory Ballet, Los Angeles Ballet, and the Radio City Rockettes. Students have studied, on scholarship, at national ballet schools such as American Ballet Theatre, Alonzo King LINES, Boston Ballet, Julliard, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and Pacific Northwest Ballet. Our students' journey through The Center for Dance Education not only encompasses dance education but the realization that the values of education and hard work are the underpinnings of success in higher learning education.



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Education and Community Outreach

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION AND ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

Ballet Spartanburg's outreach program is known throughout Spartanburg and beyond for accommodating needs of all ages and abilities. We believe we are a service organization and giving back to our community is integral to our mission. Your support is the foundation upon which we build our vision and our future. It is your personal involvement through contributions that allows us to impact over 22,000 children and adults annually through:

- An educational outreach series that partners with supportive and committed local businesses, corporations and individuals to provide free lecture/ demonstrations for Title One Schools in Spartanburg
- Ballet Spartanburg City Dance, a summer and after school program teaching dance for at-risk inner city youth in partnership with Boys and Girls Clubs of the Upstate, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Upstate and the City of Spartanburg
- Annual sensory sensitive performance of *The Nutcracker*
- School residencies
- In-school dance performances in partnership with the Chapman Cultural Center's Muse Machine program
- Performances at nursing homes, hospitals and retirement centers
- Performances at community events, festivals and other public events
- Annual free performances of *Peter & the Wolf* for all K-4th graders in Spartanburg County schools
- A scholarship program to ensure that talented, underserved students' desire to dance is fulfilled
- Dance classes in partnership with designated Spartanburg County Elementary schools
- Dance/movement classes on-site and other designated locations for individuals with Parkinson's Disease, early Alzheimer's and other neurological disorders
- Free community African American dance classes
- Project D.A.N.C.E. (Diversity supports Accepting and Nurturing Community Equality) scholarships

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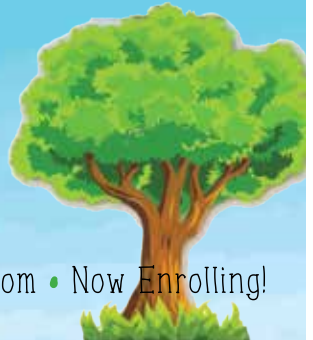
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Pictured: Jane Manello, Pre-Professional Division



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Pictured above, Danielle Reekers, former ballet student