

# **BILL T. JONES/ARNIE**



ArtPower at UC San Diego and New York Live Arts

presents

### **BILL T. JONES/ARNIE ZANE COMPANY**

Bill T. Jones Co-Founder & Artistic Director

Janet Wong Associate Artistic Director

Featuring

The Company Antonio Brown, Rena Butler, Vinson Fraley, Jr., Talli Jackson, Shane Larson I-Ling Liu, Jenna Riegel, Christina Robson and Carlo Antonio Villanueva

in

## PLAY & PLAY: AN EVENING OF MOVEMENT AND MUSIC

"...take something and do something to it, and then do something else to it..." —Jasper Johns

**Production Staff** 

Hillery Makatura, Lauren Libretti, Veronica Falborn and Sam Crawford

The development of new works by the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company is made possible by the Company's Partners in Creation: Anne Delaney, Zoe Eskin, Eleanor Friedman and Carol Tolan.

The Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company is supported in part by the Joseph and Joan Cullman Foundation for the Arts, the Ford Foundation, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, the O'Donnell-Green Music and Dance Foundation, The Jerome Robbins Foundation, the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The Scherman Foundation, and The Shubert Foundation.

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#### About ArtPower at UC San Diego

ArtPower at UC San Diego builds creative experiences in music, dance, film, and food for our collective pleasure and inspiration. We engage diverse audiences through vibrant, challenging, multi-disciplinary performances by emerging and renowned international artists. Through extensive partnerships, ArtPower provides exciting opportunities for research, participation, and creation of new work, igniting powerful dialogue between artists, students, scholars, and the community.



## Ravel: Landscape or Portrait? (2012)

**Choreography** Bill T. Jones with Janet Wong and the Company

Music Maurice Ravel, String Quartet in F Major (1904)

Music performed by Quartet Nouveau

Décor Bjorn Amelan Lighting Design Robert Wierzel\* Costumes Liz Prince Projection Design Janet Wong

Danced by The Company

The third movement of Ravel was created after a study by Eric Bradley.

Intermission

Story/(2013)

**Choreography** Bill T. Jones with Janet Wong and the Company

Music

Franz Schubert, String Quartet No. 14 in D Minor (Death and the Maiden)

Music performed by Quartet Nouveau Décor Bjorn Amelan Lighting Design Robert Wierzel\* Costumes Liz Prince

Danced by The Company

 $Story/{\rm was}$  developed in residence at the Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College.

\*Denotes Member of the United Scenic Artist Union (USA).

# **Company History**

### Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company

Over the past 35 years the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company has shaped the evolution of contemporary dance through the creation and performance of over 140 works. Founded as a multicultural dance company in 1982, the company was born of an 11-year artistic collaboration between Bill T. Jones and Arnie Zane. Today, the company is recognized as one of the most innovative and powerful forces in the modern dance world. The company has performed its ever-enlarging repertoire worldwide in over 200 cities in 30 countries on every major continent. In 2011, the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company merged with Dance Theater Workshop to form New York Live Arts of which Bill T. Jones is the Artistic Director.

The repertory of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company is widely varied in its subject matter, visual imagery and stylistic approach to movement, voice and stagecraft and includes musically driven works as well as works using a variety of texts. Some of its most celebrated creations are evening length works including *Last Supper at Uncle Tom's Cabin/The Promised Land* (1990, Next Wave Festival at the Brooklyn Academy of Music); *Still/Here* (1994, Biennale de la Danse in Lyon, France); *We Set Out Early... Visibility Was Poor* (1996, Hancher Auditorium, Iowa City, IA); *You Walk?* (2000, European Capital of Culture 2000,Bolgna, Italy); *Blind Date* (2006, Peak Performances at Montclair State University); *Chapel/Chapter* (2006, Harlem Stage Gatehouse); *Fondly Do We Hope... Fervently Do We Pray* (2009, Ravinia Festival, Highland Park, IL); *Another Evening: Venice/Arsenale* (2010, La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy); *Story/Time* (2012, Peak Performances); and *A Rite* (2013, Carolina Performing Arts at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill). The Company is also currently touring *Body Against Body* an intimate and focused collection of duet works drawn from the Company's 34-year history.

**Bill T. Jones** Artistic Director/Co-Founder/Choreographer Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company; Artistic Director: New York Live Arts

Bill T. Jones is the recipient of the 2014 Doris Duke Performing Artist Award; the 2013 National Medal of Arts; the 2010 Kennedy Center Honors; a 2010 Tony Award for Best Choreography of the critically acclaimed FELA!; a 2007 Tony Award, 2007 Obie Award, and 2006 Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation CALLAWAY Award for his choreography for *Spring Awakening;* the 2010 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award; the 2007 USA Eileen Harris Norton Fellowship; the 2006 Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Choreography for*The Seven;* the 2005 Wexner Prize; the 2005 Samuel H. Scripps American Dance Festival Award for Lifetime Achievement; the 2005 Harlem Renaissance Award; the 2003 Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize; and the 1994 MacArthur "Genius" Award. In 2010, Mr. Jones was recognized as Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government, and in 2000, The Dance Heritage Coalition named Mr. Jones "An Irreplaceable Dance Treasure."

Mr. Jones choreographed and performed worldwide with his late partner, Arnie Zane, before forming the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company in 1982. He has created more than 140 works for his company. Mr. Jones is the Artistic Director of New York Live Arts, an organization that strives to create a robust framework in support of the nation's dance and movement-based artists through new approaches to producing, presenting and educating. For more information visit www.newyorklivearts.org.

#### Arnie Zane Cofounder/Choreographer (1948-88)

Arnie Zane was a native New Yorker born in the Bronx and educated at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Binghamton. In 1971, Arnie Zane and Bill T. Jones began their long collaboration in choreography and in 1973 formed the American Dance Asylum in Binghamton with Lois Welk. Zane's first recognition in the arts came as a photographer when he received a Creative Artists Public Service (CAPS) Fellowship in 1973. Mr. Zane was the recipient of a second CAPS Fellowship in 1981 for choreography, as well as two Choreographic Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts (1983 and 1984). In 1980, Mr. Zane was co-recipient, with Bill T. Jones, of the German Critics Award for his work, *Blauvelt Mountain. Rotary Action*, a duet with Mr. Jones, was filmed for television, co-produced by WGBH-TV Boston and Channel 4 in London.

# **Company Profiles**

#### Antonio Brown Dancer

Antonio Brown, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, began his dance training at the Cleveland School of the Arts and received his B.F.A. from The Juilliard School in 2007 under the direction of Lawrence Rhodes. While there, he performed works by Ohad Naharin, Jose Limon, Jiri Kylian, Eliot Feld, Aszure Barton, Jessica Lang, Susan Marshall and Larry Keigwin, among others. Mr. Brown has also worked with Malcolm Low/Formal Structure, Stephen Pier, Nilas Martins Dance Company, Sidra Bell Dance New York and Camille A. Brown & Dancers. In addition to working with the company, Mr. Brown also performs with Gregory Dolbashian's "The Dash Ensemble" and has choreographed on Verb Ballets, August Wilson Center Dance Ensemble, Perry Mansfield Performing Arts School and Camp and various other companies, schools and intensives across the United States. Mr. Brown's company, Antonio Brown Dance, has shown work at The Juilliard School, Center for Performance Research, NYC Summer Stage, Riverside Church and Hunter College among others. Antonio is also a founding member of Elephant Room, a collective of theater artists. Mr. Brown joined the company in 2007 and is grateful to share his gifts and talents with the world.

#### Rena Butler Dancer

Rena Butler of Chicago, IL. Rena has danced with Kyle Abraham/Abraham.In.Motion, David Dorfman Dance, Mettin Movement, as a guest with Luna Negra Dance Theater, Yara Travieso, Manuel Vignoulle, and The Kevin Wynn Collection. She was featured in Dance Magazine, Refinery29.com, The Dance Enthusiast, and Jordan Matter's Dancers Among Us. She studied at The Chicago Academy for the Arts, Taipei National University of the Arts in Taiwan, and received her B.F.A. from SUNY Purchase. Her choreography has been featured on the Alvin Ailey School, The Joffrey Ballet School, New Orleans Museum of Modern Art, and CHTV Stories in Switzerland. Rena joined the Company in 2013.

## Vinson Fraley, Jr. Dancer

Vinson Fraley, Jr. hails from Atlanta, Georgia. He began his training at the age of 14 under the direction of Lynise and Denise Heard. Vinson studied at Tisch School of the Arts at New York University and was most recently a company dancer for Abraham.In.Motion. Vinson has been fortunate enough to work with many choreographers and instructors including Rashaun Mitchell, Cora Bos Kroese, Gus Solomons Jr., Cindy Salgado, Sean Curran and many more. Vinson joined the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company in 2017.

#### Talli Jackson Dancer

Talli Jackson was born and raised in Liberty, NY. He received his first training with Livia Vanaver at the Vanaver Caravan Dance Institute in upstate New York. He has been a recipient of full scholarships from the American Dance Festival in '06 and '08, the Bates Dance Festival, and the Ailey School. In 2013, Mr. Jackson was honored with a Princess Grace Award in dance, and was nominated for a Clive Barnes Award. He has been a member of the Company since 2009.

#### Shane Larson Dancer

Shane Larson was born and raised in Minnesota, where he received his training at the St. Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists. He graduated from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, with a B.F.A. in Dance and a minor in Child and Adolescent Mental Health Studies. During his time in New York City, he has branched out to collaborate with punk musicians, filmmakers, improvisational music ensembles, and site-specific visual artists. He also had the opportunity to study at the Salzburg Experimental Academy of Dance in Austria, where he was exposed to the expanse of the European contemporary dance scene. With a new outlook on the limitless possibilities and pathways of the body, he hopes to continue the exploration of dance with a sense of newness and discovery. Shane joined the Company in 2015.

#### I-Ling Liu Dancer

I-Ling Liu, a native of Taiwan, received her B.F.A. from Taipei National University of the Arts in 2005. She has performed with Ku and Dancers, Taipei Crossover Dance Company, Image in Motion Theater Company, Neo-Classic Dance Company, and in works by Trisha Brown, Lin Hwai-Min and Yang Ming-Lung. Ms. Liu joined the Company as an apprentice in 2007 and became a member of the Company in 2008.

#### Jenna Riegel Dancer

Jenna Riegel, a native of Fairfield, IA, has been a New York-based dancer, performer and teacher since 2007. Ms. Riegel holds an M.F.A. in Dance Performance from the University of Iowa and a B.A. in Theatre Arts from Maharishi University of Management. She has performed and toured nationally and internationally as a company member of David Dorfman Dance, Alexandra/Beller Dances, Bill Young/Colleen Thomas & Dancers, johannes wieland and Tania Isaac Dance. Ms. Riegel began working with the Company as a guest artist in 2010 and was ecstatic to join the Company in 2011.

#### Christina Robson Dancer

Christina Robson, originally from Tewksbury, Massachusetts, received her early dance training from Tammy Ivers Aspell and graduated Summa Cum Laude from Roger Williams University in 2009 under the direction of mentor Kelli Wicke Davis. Since relocating to New York City, she has had the opportunity to perform with The Sean Curran Company, David Dorfman Dance, Monica Bill Barnes and Company, Alexandra Beller, Heidi Henderson, Third Rail Projects, and Deganit Shemy. Christina became a member of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company in 2015.

#### Carlo Antonio Villanueva Dancer

Carlo Antonio Villanueva was born and raised in Wallington, NJ. He received his primary movement training from Scott Chandler and TJ Doucette while touring with the Blue Devils Drum and Bugle Corps of Concord, CA. He received his BFA summa cum laude from Mason Gross School of the Arts, studied Dance abroad at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, and continued his training in classes and workshops provided by the Merce Cunningham Trust. Mr. Villanueva is roused by the work of Doug Elkins and Netta Yerushalmy, and collaborates continuously with Miriam Gabriel. This season, he is also working on projects with Abby Zbikowski and Ashley Yergens. Carlo Antonio joined the Company in 2015.

#### Bjorn G. Amelan Creative Director

Bjorn G. Amelan was the partner of the late fashion designer Patrick Kelly from 1983 until Mr. Kelly passed away on January 1, 1990. Mr. Amelan moved to the United States to begin his collaboration with Bill T. Jones in 1993. He has designed sets for the following works by Bill T. Jones: Green and Blue (1997) for the Lyon Opera Ballet; How! Do! We! Do! (1999) for Bill T. Jones and Jessye Norman, in conjunction with the Lincoln Center's Great Performers Show (1999), You Walk? (2000), The Table Project (2001), Another Evening (2002), Verbum (2002), World Without/In (2002), Black Suzanne (2002), Reading, Mercy and The Artificial Nigger (2003), Mercy 10 × 8 on a Circle (2003), Chaconne (2003), and Blind Date (2005) for the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. Mr. Amelan is the recipient of the 2001 New York Dance and Performance "Bessie" Award for his designs of The Breathing Show and The Table Project.

#### Sam Crawford Sound Engineer

Sam Crawford completed degrees in English and audio technology at Indiana University in 2003. A Move to New York City led him to Looking Glass Studios where he worked on film projects with Philip Glass and Björk. His recent sound designs and compositions have included works for the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company (Venice Biennale, 2010), Kyle Abraham (*Pavement*, 2012), Camille A. Brown and Dancers (*BLACK GIRL: Linguistic Play*, 2016), and David Dorfman Dance (BAM Next Wave, 2013). La Medea, Crawford's live multi-media collaboration with director Yara Travieso will premiere at PS122's Coil Festival in 2017.

#### Hannah Emerson Company Manager

Hannah Emerson completed her B.F.A. in contemporary dance from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in 2011. She moved to NYC shortly after being awarded the William R. Kenan, Jr. Fellowship at the Lincoln Center Institute. Choosing to remain in the northeast, she has held administrative positions at New York Live Arts and The Yard while continuing to be artistically involved in the dance community. Ms. Emerson joined the Company in 2014.

#### Veronica Falborn Production Stage Manager

Veronica Falborn is incredibly excited to be working with the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company. Other dance credits include The New York City Ballet, School of American Ballet, Trisha Brown Dance Company, Vail International Dance Festival, Dances Patrelle, and NJ Ballet. She is a proud graduate of SUNY Purchase.

#### Lauren Libretti Lighting Supervisor

Lauren Libretti's dance credits include working with Jody Oberfelder, Kate Weare Dance Company, Lori Belilove, Isadora Duncan Dance Company, Jose Limon Dance Company and Ailey II. Her designs have been seen DamageDance, The Umbrella Collective, The Staten Island Ballett, and Ann Liv Young's Elektra. She was lighting director with Martha Graham Dance Company, where she redesigned the classic, *Errand into the Maze*. Laurenlibretti.com

#### Hillery Makatura Production Manager

Hillery Makatura graduated from Stephen F. Austin State University with a B.F.A. in Theater. She has been touring both internationally and throughout the U.S. since 2006. She has worked as production manager for The Actors Studio, Big Art Group, Theater Mitu and Trisha Brown Dance Company.

#### Kyle Maude Producing Director

Kyle Maude graduated from Drake University with a B.F.A. in Theatre. She has worked with Ballet Tech/Feld Ballets New York, The Royal Ballet School of London, Buglisi-Foreman Dance, and Lesbian Pulp-o-Rama! Ms. Maude joined the Company in 2003.

#### Liz Prince Costume Designer

Liz Prince designs costumes for dance, theater and film and has had the great pleasure of designing for Bill T. Jones since 1991. Her work has been exhibited at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, 2011 Prague Quadrennial of Performance Space and Design, Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art, Rockland Center for the Arts and Snug Harbor Cultural Center. She received a 1990 New York Dance and Performance Award (BESSIE) and a 2008 Charles Flint Kellogg Arts and Letters Award from Bard College. She teaches costume design at SUNY Purchase College and Manhattanville College.

#### Robert Wierzel Lighting Designer

Robert Wierzel has worked with artists in theatre, dance, new music, opera and museums, on stages throughout the country and abroad. He has worked with choreographer Bill T. Jones and his company since 1985. Projects include *Blind Date, Another Evening/I Bow* 

Down, Still/Here, You Walk?, Last Supper at Uncle Tom's Cabin/The Promised Land, How To Walk An Elephant, and We Set Out Early, Visibility Was Poor. Other works with Bill T. Jones include projects at the Guthrie Theatre, Lyon Opera Ballet, Deutsche Opera Ballet (Berlin), Boston Ballet, Boston Lyric Opera, the Welsh dance company Diversions, and London's Contemporary Dance Trust. Robert has also worked with choreographers Trisha Brown, Doug Varone, Donna Uchizono, Larry Goldhuber, Heidi Latsky, Sean Curran, Molissa Fenley, Susan Marshall, Margo Sappington, Alonzo King and Joann Fregalette-Jansen. Additional credits include national and international opera companies, Broadway and regional theater. Mr. Wierzel is currently on the faculty of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and The Yale School of Drama.

#### Janet Wong Associate Artistic Director/Projection Designer

Janet Wong was born in Hong Kong and trained in Hong Kong and London. Upon graduation she joined the Berlin Ballet where she first met Bill when he was invited to choreograph on the company. In 1993, she moved to New York to pursue other interests. Ms. Wong became Rehearsal Director of the Company in 1996 and Associate Artistic Director in August 2006.

#### **New York Live Arts**

Located in the heart of Chelsea in New York City, New York Live Arts is an internationally recognized destination for innovative movement-based artistry offering audiences access to art and artists notable for their conceptual rigor, formal experimentation and active engagement with the social, political and cultural currents of our times.

At the center of its identity is Bill T. Jones, world-renowned choreographer, dancer, theater director and writer. New York Live Arts serves as the home base for the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company and is the company's sole producer, providing support and the environment to originate innovation and challenging new work for the company and the NYC creative community. New York Live Arts produces and presents dance, music and theater performances in its 20,000 square foot home, which includes a 184-seat theater and two 1,200 square foot studios that can be combined into one large studio. New York Live Arts offers an extensive range of participatory programs for adults and young people and supports the continuing professional development of artists and commissions.

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#### Quartet Nouveau

Quartet Nouveau has earned a reputation throughout San Diego as an exciting, emerging group known for their energizing and deeply emotional performances.

Since its formation in 2011, Quartet Nouveau has performed at numerous venues in the San Diego area including The Merc in Temecula, Hope United Methodist Church, University of San Diego, Christ Lutheran Church, First United Methodist, La Jolla Community Church, and the Encinitas Library. In February, Quartet Nouveau begins their 2015 Season which will include works by Bartok, Prokofiev, Beethoven, Haydn, and Copland.

In addition to more traditional venues, Quartet Nouveau has played at the restaurants The Merk Bistro and 98 Bottles through their "Revive" series. These events brought classical concerts into a relaxed environment where audience members could dine and converse during the breaks placed throughout the performance.

Quartet Nouveau has collaborated with pianist Daniel Pesca, singer/organist Paula Mowbray, and San Diego Symphony violinist Edmund Stein. As a group, they take great interest in their concert programming and have a wide range of composers in their repertoire including Vasks, Glass, Piazzola, Shostakovich, as well as Haydn, Beethoven and Schumann.

As well as being avid performers, Quartet Nouveau is committed to music education. All of the members of the group maintain private studios and the group runs "Quartet Lab," a program that gives student groups the chance to be coached by the members of Quartet Nouveau and perform in a formal recital.

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