

BALLET

CLAUDIA TOGGWEILER studied dance at the Swiss Professional Ballet School under the direction of Heinz Spoerli and at the Academy of Classical Dance in Monte Carlo. She then got her Masters degree at ZHdk and taught ballet at the Zürich Dance Academy. Since that time she has been teaching ballet to adults in groups and privately. In 2016 she founded enScène in Zürich. It is an agency which focuses on culture management and dance photography.

JORGE GARCÍA PÉREZ was born in Zaragosa. He studied at the prestigious dance School María de Ávila under the direction of María de Ávila and Lola de Ávila in Spain. He began his professional dance career in Sybaa Ballet, season 2003-2004 and Malandain Ballet Biartitz II for the season 2004-2005. He joined Junior Ballet at the Opera House in Zürich after winning the gold medal at Premio Roma International Dance Competition. The next year he was promoted to demi-soloist and thereafter became a soloist of Zürich Ballet. In 2008 he joined Ballett Basel as a soloist under the direction of Richard Wherlock. In 2011 he choreographed "Match[ing] Sounds" and won first prize at the Jugendförderpreis des Sperber Kollegiums in Switzerland. Since then he has been building his own repertory and has won several international prizes as a young choreographer at Cross Connection International Choreographic Competition, Hanover International Choreographic Competition, Bugos - New York International Choreographic Competition and Emergent Choreographers Contest. During those years he has also worked with, and created his own choreographic work for companies such as Staatstheater Mainz, Stephen Delatre Dance Company, San Francisco Ballet, Konzert Theater Bern, Ballet del Sur de Bahía Blanca, Elephant in the Black Box, Béjart Ballet Lausanne, Compañía Nacional de Danza de Madrid and Ballett Theater Basel. Since 2016 he is the Artistic Director at Carta Blanca Dance, a dance company which he founded together with Permi Jhooti in Basel, Switzerland. Due to the pandemic, he and Rubén Cabaleiro founded DanceLive Europe in March 2020. It is a live and online platform offering free online lessons worldwide for professional dancers. It also provides performances and events as the first online platform in the world offering live and online international gala performances.

ROBERTA CALIÒ studied dance at Scuola del Teatro dell Opera di Roma (2009-10), Staatliche Ballettschule Berlin (2012-14) and Pôle Supérieure de Danses de Cannes (2014-17). She danced as an ensemble member with Konzert Theater Bern (2018-19) and has vast experience in teaching contemporary dance and ballet.

CLARISSA ROCHA began her dance studies in Brazil at the age of eleven. Seven years later she started to work as a teacher and as a dancer. Throughout her career she has always tried to balance those two professions that she loves, teaching and performing, as she considers them as complementary. In 2005 she moved to Madrid where she carried on with her studies and where she graduated in choreography and interpretation at the Maria de Avila Conservatory. At the same time she was performing with different dance companies of various styles, from aerial dance and outdoor performance to contemporary dance. During the 8 years she lived in Madrid she also worked as ballet, contemporary dance and Pilates teacher. In 2013 Clarissa moved abroad again, this time to London, where she continued with her career as dancer and teacher. There she collaborated in a post graduate dance project at the London Contemporary Dance School and had a permanent role as a teacher at Ballet4life, focusing on ballet for adults and elderly people. In collaboration with Ballet4life's director, she developed a program especially conceived for people with dementia.

ALICE BERTSCHY started dancing in Geneva at the Académie de danse de Genève and then at Dance Area before attending the English National Ballet School in London. She then worked for three seasons with the Polish National Ballet in Warsaw. Following that she took a break to work as a volunteer with horses. She then came to Basel/Alsace and worked with Maria Guerrero. She also works as a massage therapist, Pilates instructor and freelance dance teacher.

LINDA MAGNIFICO completed her dance education in Italy and received her first engagement with the Croatian National Ballet in Zagreb, where she danced as a soloist from 1988 to 1991. From 1994 to 2003 she was a soloist with the Compagnia Zappalà Danza and assistant to Roberto Zappalà. In 2004 Linda Magnifico moved to Switzerland. She danced for cie. Anna Huber and was a dancer at the Lucern Theatre under the direction of Verena Weiss for three years. In 2007 she founded the company "dysoundbo" together with the composer Sasha Shlain. As a ballet mistress and choreographic assistant, she was engaged at St. Gallen Theater and Staatstheater Darmstadt. From 2014 to 2019 she worked as rehearsal director for the dance company Konzert Theater Bern. Since January 2020 she is co-president of the IG Tanz Zentralschweiz.

CONTEMPORARY

MARCINA DE ALMEIDA is a dancer, teacher and choreographer - since 2005 she has her own dance school "soulDance" in Basel. She studied dance at Alvin Ailey Dance School, NY and Cinevox Junior Dance Company. In her classes she draws upon her diverse dance experience in Modern, Jazz, Afro, Hip Hop, House, Ragga & Tap dance and mixes a variety of dance elements from different cultures into the common styles - soulDance. With her enthusiasm and open, yet structured way, she knows how to inspire her students and find new vocabulary and abilities.

ALEXANDER CYR BEZUIJEN completed his dance education in Zurich at the dance academy (TaZ) in 2015. From 2015-2018 he danced in several renowned companies such as Netherlands Dance Theatre, Scapino Ballet Rotterdam, or the State Theatre of Hessen as a soloist dancer, where he worked with choreographers such as Akram Khan, Wayne McGregor and Hofesh Schechter. He now creates his own performances and has collaborated with the university of Darmstadt, the Opera of Wiesbaden, Scapino Ballet Rotterdam, Laura Rae Bernasconi's company, and others. Led by his roots in ancient shamanistic teachings, he feels compelled to share and also organise retreats related to movement, health and spirituality themes. He is very passionate about the vision that life is a dance and therefore keeps delving further into the mechanics of the human body in order to share tools as a personal trainer for anatomical restructuring, energy field alignment and creating coherent life-postures for a healthy life-style. He is the creator of Bloom Infinity and the company manager of ONE MOVEMENT.

RAUL MARTINEZ graduated from the Taller Nacional de Danza – Conservatorio El Barco in Costa Rica in 2009. He is founder of the collectives Nana+na , Cla and Los INnato, VAYA as well as the festivals La Machine in Costa Rica and Nómada in El Salvador. He has worked in many projects as a dancer and performer like with the National Dance Company of Costa Rica and ADN Dialect in Switzerland amongst others. As a choreographer he has received residencies in Spain (L' Struch Le petit Mon de Sabadell), Brasil (Primera Residencia Nucleo Vila Dança, Salvador de Bahia) and Mexico. He has created pieces for the National Company of Dance in Costa Rica, the National Company of El Salvador, Núcleo Viladanca in Brasil and the University of Veracruz amongst others. Raul has been awarded various prizes such as the National Prize of Dance from the Costa Rican Government in the category Best Dancer Of The Year 2011. Currently he continues to develop his investigation of human movement through physical training and martial arts while he works at the management and production of projects.

MICHAEL LANGENECKERT works as a freelance choreographer, teacher and dancer. He lives in Freiburg, Germany. In the 18/19 season he is choreographing a work for his new label *moving orchestra* in Freiburg, as well as being a guest teacher for the students of SEAD in Salzburg, Austria. He also teaches at Maraméo and Danceworks in Berlin, Theaterballettschule Basel, Profitraining Zürich and PT Basel, K3 Hamburg, HJS Amsterdam, HZT Zürich, Codarts in Rotterdam, Bern Theater, Staatstheater Braunschweig and many other places. He was rehearsal director of tanz mainz (2015-2018) under the direction of Honne Dohrmann as well as at Staatstheater Kassel (2008-2012) under the artistic direction of Johannes Wieland. He has also worked as a freelance choreographer at several city theaters in Germany, Switzerland and Austria. Together with video artist Matthias Heipel, Michael co-directed his company rebound prod in Freiburg (2001-2007) for which he co-created several pieces. As a dancer he has had engagements at theaters in Lucern, St. Gallen, Oldenburg, Kiel, Kaiserslautern and also with Cathy Sharp Dance Ensemble in Basel. As a dancer and rehearsal director he has worked with Sharon Eyal, Guy Nader and Maria Campos, Guy Weizman and Roni Haver, Koen Augustijnen, Gary Stuart, Rui Horta, Johannes Wieland, Linda Kapatanea and Josef Fruzek, Jossy Berg and Martin Stieffermann, Cathy Sharp, Margaret Donlon and many others.

STEFANIE FISCHER is a dance teacher, assistant and rehearsal director, and is currently studying for a master's degree at the ZHdK, *University of Arts Zürich*, in teaching and coaching professional dancers. She received her diploma in dance from *Tanz Akademie Zürich* in 2006. During her education she won the *Migros Tanz Studien Preis* three years in a row. After graduating, she danced with *Ballet Kiel* in Germany, performed as a freelance dancer in various productions across Europe and co-founded the dance collectives *Bufo Makmal* and the *ConFusionArt Collective*. From 2015 to 2020 she was a solo dancer and training leader at *Tanzkompanie Theater St.Gallen*. As a guest she regularly teaches ballet and contemporary at *Ballett Graz* and at *Profitraining* St. Gallen and Basel. She is currently working as a rehearsal director for *SNOW Productions* in Basel.