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# **8 in Show**

**April 27, 2022**

**Featuring:**

**American Swiss Ballet Co.**

**DoubleTake Dance Co.**

**Fang-Ting Yeh**

**Garet & Company**

**Neville Dance Theatre**

**Nicole Colbert Dance/Theatre**

**Rebecca Pappas**

**Shivani Badgi**

***Curated by Sangeeta Yesley***  
*Creative Performances*

## Neville Dance Theatre

*'Finale Vivace' - section excerpt from 'Beethoven Suite'.*

An energetic and uplifting contemporary ballet piece for five dancers, it is the final section of "Beethoven Suite", a stylistic and technical progression of ballet over the last two centuries, created throughout the pandemic, it is set to and celebrates the musical works of Ludwig Van Beethoven.

Dancers: Kayla Armgardt, Laura Dearman, Kylie Fox, Agustin Gomes, Lauren Settembrino

Choreographer: Brenda R. Neville

Brenda Neville, Artistic Director of Neville Dance Theatre, has been choreographing and presenting dance for over 15 years throughout New York City and beyond. Hailed as "compelling" and "imaginative", her theatrical and universal works are a colorful tapestry of movement drawing on classical to contemporary ballet. Brenda performed in over 18 countries with the Milwaukee Ballet, Indianapolis Dance Company, AllNations, and Covenant Ballet Theatre for over two decades. Trained at the Lee Strasburg Actor's Studio, she performed lead roles in productions of "Footloose", "My Fair Lady", "La Cage aux Folles", "Crazy for You" and has appeared in several films.

Music: Symphony No.1 in C, Opus 21: Mvt. 4

W: [NevilleDance.org](http://NevilleDance.org); FB: [neville.dance.theatre](https://www.facebook.com/neville.dance.theatre) IG: [nevilledancetheatre/](https://www.instagram.com/nevilledancetheatre/)

## Rebecca Pappas

My Body as the Topic Coming Around Again//Vol 1. (Land)  
This is an excerpt from My Body as the Topic Coming Around Again, an evening-length dance work that attempts to unravel the tangled threads of white womanhood and American Modern Dance. The work will premiere in March 2023.

## Fang-Ting Yeh

*Chaos*

It's about the physical and mental changes after the epidemic. The distance between people has been redefined, making us rethink the possibilities of survival. Leading us to observe the changes, break with silence, and settle with the situation.

Dancers: Julia Heller, Aurora Vaughan, Lorenzo Guerrini, Evelyn Ifiegbu, Ana Sofía Reynoso, MaryBeth Rodgers

Choreographer: Fang-Ting Yeh

Fang-Ting Yeh, a freelance dancer, choreographer based in New York. She had worked with well-known multimedia artist, composer Yuval Avital and JCHEN Project in 2021, 2022. Fang-Ting's dance film was the winner of Open Vision Film Fest First Session 2021 and the Best Direction of Black & White Film Festival in 2021.

Music: Music by Jiexi Zhao

W: <https://yvonne811024.wixsite.com/fangtingnyc>, FB: FangTing Yeh, IG: @fangting\_nyc

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American Swiss Ballet Co. Founder/Director - Sônia Melo

Music: Composer: Egberto Gismonti; Album: Ano Zero

W:americanswissballet.com, FB: ASBCOMPANY, IG: ASBALLETCOMPANY

### **DoubleTake Dance**

#### *Pando (excerpt)*

An intricate kaleidoscope, using the dancers' bodies and timing as a never ending thread based on the quaking aspen forest being a single living organism connected by one massive underground root system.

Dancers: Ashley Carter, Vanessa Martínez de Baños, Jenna McNeill, Sydney Lastorino. Understudy: Aubrey Lipson

Choreographers: Vanessa Martínez de Baños and Ashley Carter  
Co-Directors of DoubleTake Dance Co, Ashley Carter and Vanessa Martínez de Baños are dancers, teachers and choreographers. They've performed worldwide and have achieved international recognition for their choreography. The NYC MET, Battery Dance Festival, Webster Hall... Pilobolus, Justin Timberlake, Sia, El País newspaper, Nicki Minaj, and Broadway Asia, etc. They've choreographed several shows ("Tick, Tick, Boom!"; "I Love You, You're Perfect.. Now Change"), events (SummerStage, Tap City, Battery Dance Festival, Higher Ground), films, commercials, music videos, etc; worked with Daniel Gwirtzman, Germaul Barnes, Derek Mitchell, and many more. Faculty at several studios in NYC (PMT, Ellison Ballet, Ballet Academy East)

Music: Alexander Desplat and M83

W: doubletakedanceco.com, FB: DoubleTakeDance/, IG: @doubletakedanceco

### **Shivani Badgi**

#### *The Disruption of the Circle of Life*

Do our actions as humans have consequences on the world around us? The beautiful tree enjoys her life in nature. She dances with the animals, flowers, and all living things. However, peace is disrupted when humans come in. Forest fires and pollution ravage nature's balance. Nothing remains. Will life continue?

#### Dancer & Choreographer: Shivani Badgi

Shivani Badgi is a New Jersey/New York based dancer who has trained in Kathak, Lavani, Kuchipudi, Contemporary, and Jazz. In 2017 she opened her dance school, The Gurukul Performing Arts, where she teaches Kathak and Bollywood. She aspires to use traditional techniques and modern perspectives to tell unique stories.

Music: Original music by Rushi Vakil

W: shivanibadgi.com, FB: shivani.badgi, IG: shivanidanceofficial/

### **Garet & Company**

#### *and sometimes i wish*

"and sometimes i wish" is a whispered cry for help from the inside of someone with many sides of themselves; all fighting for dominance and simultaneously destroying the whole. This piece is a depiction of the strength required to continuously search for freedom despite the inevitable truth of captivity: where no matter how far you run, you can never truly escape yourself.

Dancers: Madelynn Brown, Tatum DeSouza, Layla Foley and Garet Wierdsma

#### Choreographer: Garet Wierdsma

Garet Wierdsma is a multidisciplinary artist from a small town in CT. She graduated from NYU Tisch with a BFA in Dance in May 2021. Garet was selected as the Choreography Fellowship Recipient for Sacred Heart University in January 2022. Garet's work has been

showcased in the Emerging Artist Theatre's "New Work Series," Queens Theatre's "Turning in Place," Ku-Yang Lin & Dancers "Inhale Series," The Bell House's "EXCHANGE Choreography Festival," and Governors Island's "The Craft NYC." Garett believes that art changes the world and is passionately and actively working to be a generator of light.

Music: "Predator or Prey" by Darren Curtis, "It's a Fine Day" by Billie Marten, "Uncertainty" by Arthur Vyncke, "Hush Little Baby (Mockingbird Song)" by Unknown Artist, other sounds made and edited by Garett & Company

W: garetwierdsma.com, FB: @GarettWierdsma, IG: @garett.co

### **Nicole Colbert Dance/Theatre**

#### *In the Blue Room*

"In The Blue Room" is a dance/theatre work with 4 dancers and an actor. Dancers move away and together as they explore the constant push pull in romantic relationships. Text by Jeanette Winterson underscores both the tenderness and brutality of these persistent power struggles in love.

Dancers: Rachel Baird, Trevor Cook, Ariel Polanco, Cosette Richardson, & Efrén Olson-Sanchez (actor)

#### Choreographer: Nicole Colbert

Nicole Colbert is a director/choreographer, writer & educator. She is committed to creating a platform for multicultural and intergenerational performers to explore the intersection of dance and theatre. She has shown her work extensively in NYC & New Orleans as well in festivals in the US and internationally.

Music: "Blue Moon" by Elvis Presley, "Alabama Song" by Kurt Weill sung by Ute Lemper "My Funny Valentine" by Chet Baker

W: nicolecolbertdance.com/, FB: colbertdances, IG: @ncdances

Dancers: Alexis Robbins, Taylor Zappone

#### Choreographer: Rebecca Pappas with Ensemble

Rebecca Pappas makes dances that excavate the body as an archive for personal and social memory. Her work has toured nationally and internationally and she has received residencies from Yaddo and Djerassi, and funding from the New England Foundation for the Arts, the Indiana Arts Commission, and the Mellon Foundation. She is an Assistant Professor of Dance at Trinity College in Hartford, CT.

Music: Asuna

W: rebeccapappas.com, IG: rkpdance

### **American Swiss Ballet Co.**

#### *Con Todo Mi Corazon*

This piece was created right after the lockdown and describes exactly the happiness of being free, being able to be back in an empty space, willing to create, willing to share dance and movement.

Dancers: Barbara Lins, Blake Brown, Claire P, Kara Cooper, Madisen Nilsen, Malcolm Jones, Natalia Sheptalova, Violetta Komyshan

#### Choreographer: Paulo Gutierrez

Paulo Gutierrez originally from Ecuador. He studied at the National Ballet of Ecuador and Graduated from the Joffrey Ballet School at the Jazz and Contemporary program. Later he joined Ballet Hispanico where he worked alongside renowned choreographers such as Anabel Lopez Ochoa, Nacho Duato, Andrea Miller, Gustavo Ramirez Sansano, Ramon Oller, Pedro Ruiz, Tania Perez Salas, among others. He joined the cast of West Side Story for the Abeline Opera Theater in Texas. He has performed for their online season with Syracuse City Ballet as a guest artist and recently as a company member with Connecticut City Ballet. Currently, he is choreographing for American Swiss Ballet Co.