



Anlin Li

Assistant Artistic Director

TBT TEXAS BALLET
THEATER



Mr. Li was born in Nanjing, China. At the age of 13, he went to Beijing to study at the Beijing Dance Academy and graduated to the Young Dancers Company. He first met and worked with Ben Stevenson while he was a student at the Academy. In 1982, he joined the National Ballet of China as a soloist and danced in many cities in China, Thailand and Hong Kong. In 1985, Mr. Li was invited by Ivan Nagy to join Ballet de Santiago in Chile as a soloist and was soon promoted to principal dancer. In 1989, Mr. Stevenson invited Mr. Li to join Houston Ballet as a soloist.

During his 21-year career as a dancer, Mr. Li was featured in many of Mr. Stevenson's ballets including *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Coppélia*, *Cinderella*, *The Nutcracker*, *Dracula*, *Three Preludes*, *Four Last Songs*, "L," *Swan Lake*, *Peer Gynt*, *Cleopatra*, and *Don Quixote* among others. He also danced in ballets by many other choreographers including Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Elite Syncopations*, *Manon*, and *Gloria*; Ronald Hynd's *Papillon*, *The Merry Widow*, and *Rosalinda*, John Cranko's *Romeo & Juliet*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*; George Balanchine's *Serenade*, *Agon*, *Theme & Variations*, and *The Four Temperaments*; Vicente Nebrada's *Coppelia* and *Doble Corchea*, André

Prokovsky's *Anna Karenina* and *The Three Musketeers*, Jiri Kylian's *Sinfonietta*; and Christopher Bruce's *Cruel Garden* and *Journey* among others. In 2000, Mr. Li was named Ballet Master for Houston Ballet, and helped set and rehearse many of Mr. Stevenson's ballets. In 2003, Mr. Stevenson invited Mr. Li to be the Assistant Artistic Director of Texas Ballet Theater. He now stages and rehearses Mr. Stevenson's ballets on Texas Ballet Theater and many other ballet companies around the world including Ballet West, Tulsa Ballet, Ballet de Santiago, Kansas City Ballet, Alberta Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet and National Ballet of China.

Laura Alonso

Renowned Ballet Teacher / Director of
Centro-Prodanza of Cuba



Dance Open America Lifetime Achievement Award 2024

Laura Alonso, born in New York and is the daughter of world famous ballerina Alicia Alonso and renowned teacher and founder of the Cuban Ballet School Fernando Alonso. She herself is known as a teacher, coach and an expert at staging the well-known classics. For several years she served as the personal coach and teacher for international prima ballerina assoluta, Alicia Alonso. *Dance Theatre of Harlem* artistic

director, former prima ballerina and former editor of Pointe magazine, Virginia Johnson, calls her an "international master teacher extraordinaire."

Ms. Alonso was honored with an award as the best coach at the Jackson International Ballet Competition in 1990. Her student, Jose Manuel Carreno, won the Grand Prix de Ville, the highest award possible. Ms. Alonso has served as coach, jury member and teacher at the Jackson IBC and as jury member of the Concours International de Danse de Paris, France, the Alicia Alonso International Ballet Competition and other competitions around the world. A teacher of world class experience, Ms. Alonso has taught for professional ballet companies all over the world.

Ms. Alonso's 25 year performing career with Ballet National de Cuba included soloist work in all of the traditional classics. Today she travels around the world teaching and staging the classics for pre-professional as well as professional companies such as London's Royal Ballet School and The Royal Danish Ballet.

Ms. Alonso has been guest teacher and artistic advisor of Canton Ballet since 1990 and has helped train many of our dancers through her frequent visits. Ms. Alonso founded CUBALLET Summer Intensive in 1984. She founded and is now the current director of Centre ProDanza in Habana, Cuba.

Vladimir Malakhov

Artistic Award 2024 for Excellence and Extraordinary career



Vladimir Malakhov (born 7 January 1968, Kryvyi Rih, Soviet Ukraine)[1] is a Ukrainian ballet dancer who was the artistic director of the Staatsballett Berlin (Berlin State Ballet) from its founding in 2004 until 2014. He is a former principal dancer with American Ballet Theatre and Vienna State Opera Ballet.

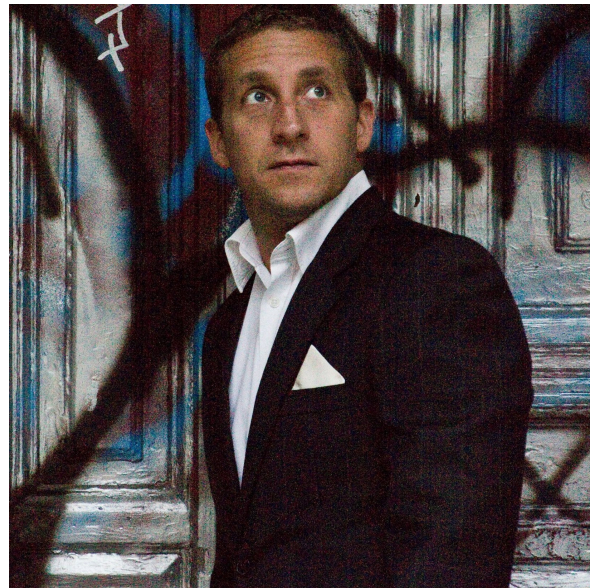
Malakhov began his dance training at the age of four at a small ballet school in his hometown and remained there until continuing his training at the school of the Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow. From age ten on, he was under the tutelage of Peter Pestov and upon graduation from Moscow State Academy of Choreography in 1986 joined the Moscow Classical Ballet as that company's youngest principal dancer. In 1992, Malakhov joined the Vienna State Opera Ballet as a principal artist, and then the National Ballet of Canada in 1994. In the spring of 1995 he had his debut with the American Ballet Theatre at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City. Since that time, he has remained a principal dancer with ABT and has continued to dance principal roles in Vienna as well as with the Stuttgart Ballet. He appeared as a guest in Berlin where he has recently become artistic director. His repertory encompasses a wide range of styles from classical ballets to the works of today's contemporary choreographers.

Along with performing at the world's major dance venues, Malakhov has staged *La Bayadere* for Vienna State Ballet in 1999, *Cinderella* in 2004 and *The Sleeping Beauty* in 2005 for Staatsballett Berlin. In 2010, he choreographed *La Péri* for Staatsballett Berlin. He has won awards in his field from competitions in Varna, Moscow and Paris. Japan's *Dance Magazine* named him the "best male dancer in the world" from 1992 to 1994.

Together with his lifetime manager Paul Seaquist, they created the Grand Prix Malakhov in Cuba, a philanthropic work in which they support art and dance in the island of Cuba. They are in their 6th edition.

Paul Seaquist

Ballet Entrepreneur. Manager Vladimir Malakhov



Paul Seaquist is one of the most important ballet impresarios in Europe. Executive Director of Seaquist Dance Marketing, one of the first dancer and choreographer management companies in the World.

During his career he has worked with, developed, and directed the careers of stars as Aurélie Dupont, Vladimir Malakhov, Polina Semionova, Paloma Herrera, Carlos Acosta, Robert Tewsley, Daniil Simkin Shoko Nakamura, Roberta Marquez, Rolando Sarabia, Jose Manuel Carreño, Johan Kobborg, and Iana Salenko just to mention a few.

His stars, together with Seaquist Dance Marketing, have traveled the World performing in its most important theaters: NYC, Miami, London, Paris, Vienna, Berlin, Tokyo, Taipei, Sydney, and Dubai.

Seaquist has been the brainchild and producer of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, editions of the "Ballet Star Gala" in Taipei, Taiwan; of "Aurélie Carte Blanche" with Aurélie Dupont in Tokyo; of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th "Gala de Estrellas de la Danza Mundial" in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; He has co-directed the International Ballet Festival of Miami for 10 years, the "Gala of Stars" at Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, "A gift from Malakhov" in Holguin, Cuba and more recently he created the "Grand Prix Vladimir Malakhov", the first ballet competition in the history of Cuba. He has extensively produced Malakhov's work all over the world, more recently the super production of La Bajadere ballet in Hong Kong with the Hong Kong Ballet. Paul has also created the "Premio Quisqueya" a competition of dance in Dominican Republic. And has produced and directed many tours through Russia and Belorussia during the years.

In his creative activity, Paul has published two books which have been acclaimed by the critics: "Silencios" Editorial Universitaria, Stgo, Chile 1997; "Cartagena" Editorial Universitaria, Stgo, Chile 2000. In the year 2003 some of his writings were published in the anthology "Chile después del once de Septiembre" Editorial Ficticia, Ciudad de México, México. In the year 2021 he published "Vuelo de rapiña" book that was a top seller in the Amazon lists, and one of the most sold Spanish books in the same marketplace. During the year 2023 Paul published OINK his most recent book to very favorable reviews. He has also written the ballet librettos, "7 Days", "Alsino's Death" and "Le Cirque" for Vladimir Malakhov.

The year 2006 he is awarded the "Time Person of the Year" by Time Magazine.

The year 2008 he was awarded the prize "Ballet Impresario of the year" by Tanz Magazine. And the same year the prestigious magazine "Dance for You" writes a profile of Paul and his career. In the year 2009, he is profiled in the book "Arabesque through

time" written by Adam Darius, Harlequinade Books, Helsinki, Finland. In the year 2012 Dance for You Magazine profiles his work again and the most important newspapers in Santiago, Chile El Mercurio and La Tercera did an extensive report on his achievements. Between the years 2012 to the present, he is the Executive Director of the Grand Prix Vladimir Malakhov in Cuba, the only private International Ballet Festival in Cuba. During the same time frame, he founded SP Records a multi-gold and multi-platinum selling record label with many Grammys awarded and nominated artists.

Cervilio Amador

Artistic Director



A skilled artist, entrepreneur, and change agent for the world of dance, Cervilio Miguel Amador received his education and training from the Vocational Ballet School in Camagüey, Cuba and the National Ballet School of Cuba. He danced with the National Ballet of Cuba as a corps de ballet dancer and then as a Corifeo (demi-soloist) before joining Cincinnati Ballet in 2004 as a Soloist. He was promoted to Principal Dancer in 2006 becoming one of the youngest Principals in the history of the company.

During his professional career he has performed as a guest artist in galas all over the world as well as a guest teacher for numerous schools, he has represented Cincinnati Ballet dancers as a Union delegate for over 10 years and after retiring from dance, he became the Ballet Master for Cincinnati Ballet. He is currently the Ballet Master for Cincinnati Ballet and Co-Artistic Director/Founder of Moving Arts. Amador is also a member of the Cincinnati Ballet Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Task Force leading sustainable change for Dancers now and future artists.

Cameron Basden

Managing Director Miami City Ballet School



Cameron Basden brings passion and spirit to her art as well as a keen sense of organization and integrity to the projects she undertakes. As a répétiteur for The Arpino Foundation she stages Arpino works throughout the U.S.

At home, Basden is co-founder and Artistic/Executive Director of Miami Dance Hub, an organization created to unify the South Florida dance commonwealth, grow audiences, promote dance, and provide resources for dance-related endeavors. After a performing career with the Joffrey Ballet, Basden served as rehearsal director and co-associate director of that company and then director of dance at Interlochen Arts Academy. Basden was a muse for Gerald Arpino in the creation of his ballets and danced in a variety of styles by many noted choreographers. She participated in historical reconstructions as well as in new choreographic creations. Basden worked on the PBS filming for their Dance in America series of Billboards, and oversaw the filming and staging of the ballets in Save the Last Dance. Basden's television credits include the Dance in America series *Homage to Diaghilev* and *The Search for the Rite of Spring*. She portrayed herself in Robert Altman's movie, *The Company*. While continuing her role as instructor, director and répétiteur, Basden serves on the board of The Arpino Foundation, the advisory board for DanceNow! Miami. She is the dance writer for *miamiartzine* and *Artburst Miami*.

Etienne Bechard

International Acclaim Choreographer



Born in France in 1987, Etienne BÉCHARD is a contemporary choreographer who mixes different styles with a strong classical base. Keen on a physical and dynamic approach, his shows combine aesthetics, acrobatics, and explosive movements, as well as poetry, with a commitment to bringing light to various social causes and a generous slice of humor. He was ten years old when he started to dance in the south of France. His professors taught him various choreographic styles, and this diversified education would bring him later to develop his own creativity. At 16, he started at the workshop-school Rudra-Béjart, after which he then joined the Béjart Ballet Lausanne 2 years later, where he learned discipline and precision. Two skills that still affect his works today. One thing becomes clear to him : he wants to create choreographies. So much, that he leaves the Béjart Ballet Lausanne to fully dedicate himself to his new calling.

Thus, in 2010, answering a desire of emancipation, he settled down in Bruxelles and started his own company : Opinion Public Dance Company. Since then, his creations have drawn their raw materials in modern day neurosis, always with humor and poetry, touching on the issues and stakes of our time. In 2016, he was invited to the Ballet de Opéra national du Rhin, under the direction of Ivan Cavallari. This was an experience with a big company of 30 dancers and the creation of the shows « ...Cupidon s'en fou » . In 2016 again, under the direction of Estefania Miranda, he put back on once again his "Post Anima" (created originally in 2014), the 15 dancers of the Tanz Konzert Theater with him, and the next season also, after that his "Bolero".

The trade press named *Tanz Magazin*, named Etienne B  chard in 2017, as one of the most promising choreographers of the international stage. In 2018, he was invited to create a "The Rite of Spring" for Les Grands Ballets Canadiens. After the great success of the reinterpretation of Stravinsky's work, the director of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens entrusted him to envision his own version of "Carmen" for the Ballet. In 2022, Etienne presented "Carmen" to Montr  al.

Daryl Gray

International Acclaimed Choreographer



Daryl Gray studied acting and music as a child and was also trained in a full dance curriculum at the Harkness, ABT, and

SAB schools in New York City. He was a prot  g   of Ballet Master David Howard a soloist with the Brussels-based Bejart Company and a principal guest artist with dance companies in Classical and contemporary roles in the US, UK, and abroad. In addition, he made his professional debut as an actor at age 14 and went on to perform as a Broadway cast member in Bob Fosse's *Dancin'* and appeared in *On Your Toes* and in other shows, touring internationally.

He began choreographing for the concert stage at a young age and has choreographed over 70 works on 5 continents for such companies as Joffrey, Bejart, Les Ballet Jazz de Montreal, Batsheva Dance Company of Israel, Royal Ballet of Belgium, Northern Ballet Theater UK, Atlanta Ballet, North Carolina Dance Theater, Ballet San Jose and Australia's Queensland Ballet. His many musical stagings have been seen at such theaters as; The Koch Theater and Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center, Coconut Grove Playhouse, California Musical Theatre, Playhouse 91 in Manhattan, Santa Fe Festival

Theater, Playwrights Horizons, Brooklyn Academy of Music, St. Louis Muny Opera, Chicago Civic Theater, the Palladium as well as on CBS and PBS television. In addition, Mr. Gray has directed and staged works for the New York G & S Players, "Carmen" at the New York City Opera, ice dancing, video, high fashion, a Disney extravaganza featuring the music of Alan Menken, industrial shows and television, including A Celebration of the American Musical, which was televised "Live from Lincoln Center". He was chosen for the prestigious Dancebreak, creating concert work at the Ailey Theater which led to the creation of two original Off-Broadway musicals "Andy Warhol Was Right" and "All About Harry" (Best Choreography Award) for the New York Musical Theater Festival. His unique theatrical Australian QB ballet production "Pirates of Penzance!" was voted "Best of the Bay" (San Francisco) and was subsequently presented internationally in 26 cities by Columbia Artists. Gray recreated two new updated productions in Orlando and for Ballet San Jose.

Recent credits: choreography and musical staging for The Merry Widow, The Tales of Hoffman and Jekyll & Hyde for the St. Petersburg Opera, Director/choreographer Kiss Me Kate at the Palladium theater. Pre-COVID: Pirates! the New Dance Musical directed and choreographed by Gray was slated for London's West End 2020, produced by Tony Award-winning producers Bruce Robert Harris and Jack W Batman. Upcoming: Handel's Semele for The St. Petersburg Opera and Rudra Bejart. His many teaching credits include: ABT Intensive, The Metropolitan Opera, The United Nations, Harvard University, Washington University, University of Missouri at St. Louis, Vassar, University of South Florida, and numerous Dance organizations and schools. He is a member of The Council of the Dance (Paris), a Fulbright Fellow, and a popular teacher worldwide.