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The New 42nd Street and The New Victory Theater Announce



Free Dance Series for New York City Kids To Feature Nine New York Companies July 13 – 29, 2016

New York, NY (May 5, 2016) – This July, The New Victory Theater will present its third season of **VICTORY DANCE**, the theater's initiative to provide FREE dance performances to kids in New York City day camps, school and youth programs over the summer. A three-week-long series presented from July 13 - 29, 2016, **VICTORY DANCE** features a cross-section of highly accomplished and internationally recognized New York companies who perform a range of movement styles from lyrical, to tap, to animé-inspired dance, and share in the theater's goal of inspiring young people to embrace the art form.

VICTORY DANCE consists of three unique programs, which this year will include **doug elkins choreography, etc.; David Neumann / Advanced Beginner Group; Big Dance Theater; Limón Dance Company; Lar Lubovitch Dance Company; Jiva Dance; Camille A. Brown & Dancers; Nadine Bommer Dance Company; and American Tap Dance Foundation**. Every performance will feature a 90-minute program of three dance pieces and conclude with a Talk-Back led by a New Victory teaching artist. Between each dance, the teaching artist will share more about the company, choreographer or the dance, providing some insight into each work. Through the post-show discussions, New York City kids will have the opportunity to engage with choreographers and dancers, and the creators will also learn more about how their work affects young kids.

VICTORY DANCE serves New York City students enrolled in NYC Department of Education summer school enrichment programs, such as Summer Arts Institute, subsidized day camps and social service agencies. Students attend daytime performances free of charge and also receive free dance-related workshops led by professional dance teaching artists before and after their visit to the theater. Summer school instructors also receive free **NEW VICTORY SCHOOL TOOL® Resource Guides**, which encourage further exploration of the art form in the students' day-to-day curriculum. This summertime program, which reaches more than 4,000 NYC kids,

mirrors the education programs The New Victory Theater provides to nearly 36,000 students throughout each school year. The New Victory Theater looks forward to sharing live performances on stage, exploring the art form in classrooms and building relationships that will have an impact on NYC kids from summer to summer.

Performance Schedule

Each week, **VICTORY DANCE** will feature three daytime performances free of charge for **VICTORY DANCE** Summer Education Partnership students. Additionally, one evening performance per week will be made available to the general public at \$10 per ticket.

Program A: July 13-15

School/Day Camp Performances: July 13-15 at 11am

Public Performance: July 14 at 7pm

doug elkins choreography, etc. Excerpt from *Hapless Bizarre* by Doug Elkins

Big Dance Theater *Short Ride Out (3)* by Annie-B Parson

David Neumann / Advanced Beginner Group *Tough the Tough (Redux: Steve)* by David Neumann (with text by Will Eno)

Program B: July 20-22

School/Day Camp Performances: July 20-22 at 11am

Public Performance: July 21 at 7pm

Limón Dance Company Suite from *The Winged* by José Limón

Lar Lubovitch Dance Company *Little Rhapsodies* by Lar Lubovitch

Jiva Dance *Mayil Virutham, Andal, Rain* (Excerpts from *Mayura: Blue Peacock*) by Sonali Skandan

Program C: July 27-29

School/Day Camp Performances: July 27-29 at 11am

Public Performance: July 28 at 7pm

American Tap Dance Foundation *Tap Treasures* curated by Tony Waag; choreographed by Rokafella, Lynn Schwab, Karen Callaway Williams, Caleb Teicher, The Copasetics, Christina “Cocomotion” James, Richard James, Leonardo Sandoval, Leonard Reed; with ensemble choreography inspired by Charles “Honi” Coles

Camille A. Brown & Dancers *New Second Line* by Camille A. Brown

Nadine Bommer Dance Company Excerpt from *Invisi'BALL* by Nadine Bommer

Each 90-minute program will conclude with a Talk-Back led by a New Victory teaching artist. All programs are subject to change.

[Click here](#) for an overview of the program.

VICTORY DANCE is made possible, in part, with support from the Ford Foundation, the Jerome Robbins Foundation, the Harkness Foundation for Dance and Jody & John Arnhold.

Ticket Information

VICTORY DANCE Education Partnerships are available free of charge to New York City day camps and school programs. For more information, please contact education@new42.org. The July 14, 21 & 28 public performances of VICTORY DANCE at 7pm at The New Victory Theater (209 West 42nd Street) are \$10. Tickets for VICTORY DANCE are available online (NewVictory.org) and by telephone (646.223.3010) beginning May 3.

About The New Victory Theater

This year, The New Victory celebrated its 20th Anniversary season of bringing kids to the arts and the arts to kids as New York City's premier theater devoted to the highest quality performing arts for kids and families. Serving the community in all its diversity, The New Victory Theater on 42nd Street presents theater, dance, circus, opera and music from around the world at affordable ticket prices. In addition to its public performances, the New Vic is also the largest provider of live performance to NYC school kids, serving 40,000 youth through more than 200 schools, after school programs and day camps each year. The New Victory has been recognized for its contributions to the cultural landscape of the city. Awards include a National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award presented by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities for the NEW VICTORY Usher Corps, which provides paid employment to approximately 50 NYC teens each year, the national Arts Education Award from Americans for the Arts and a Special Award from The Drama Desk for "providing enchanting, sophisticated children's theater that appeals to the child in all of us, and for nurturing a love of theater in young people."

About The New 42nd Street

Founded in 1990, The New 42nd Street is an independent nonprofit organization charged with the continuous cultural revival of 42nd Street between 7th and 8th Avenues. Committed to the transformational power of the arts, The New 42nd Street builds on the foundation of seven historic theaters to make extraordinary performing arts and cultural engagement part of everyone's life. The New 42nd Street fulfills this purpose by ensuring the ongoing vibrancy of 42nd Street's historic theaters; maintaining and fully using the NEW 42ND STREET Studios and The Duke on 42nd Street to support performing artists in the creation of their work; and through The New Victory Theater, New York's premier theater for kids and families.

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Victory Dance
Program A: July 13-15

doug elkins choreography, etc.

Excerpts from *Hapless Bizarre*

A company of six dancers, actors and clowns come together to explore the intersections between physical comedy, choreography, flirtation and romance. A National Dance Project selection, *Hapless Bizarre* is “the alchemy of Elkins’ intelligence, cheekiness and stagecraft” (*The Boston Globe*).

Doug Elkins, Choreographer and Artistic Director of doug elkins choreography, etc., is a two-time New York Dance and Performance (Bessie) Award-winning choreographer and 2012 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Creative Arts Fellow. He began his dance career as a B-Boy, touring the world with breakdance groups New York Dance Express and Magnificent Force, among others. Elkins is a recipient of significant choreographic commissions and awards from the NEA, National Performance Network, Jerome Foundation, Choo-San Goh & H. Robert Magee Foundation, Dance Magazine Foundation, Metropolitan Life/American Dance Festival, Hartford Foundation, Arts International, The Greenwall Foundation and The Foundation for Contemporary Performance Arts. In 1994, he received a Brandeis University Creative Arts Medal, sharing the stage with author Philip Roth and photographer Nan Goldin. In 2006, Elkins was honored in New York City by the Martha Hill Award for Career Achievement; in 2010, he was honored in Boston with an Elliot Norton Award for Choreography (for Doug Elkins & Friends’ *Fräulein Maria*, a loving deconstruction of *The Sound of Music*). Doug has taught and choreographed extensively in the US and Europe; his tenure at The Beacon School on the Upper West Side of Manhattan is the subject of *Where the Dance Is*, a short film by Marta Renzi. In fall 2013, he became a full-time faculty member at Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University, the State University of New Jersey. For the 2016 season at Lincoln Center, Elkins was commissioned to create *The Weight of Smoke*, a new work performed by Paul Taylor’s American Modern Dance.

David Neumann / Advanced Beginner Group

Tough the Tough (Redux: Steve)

Hailed by *The New York Times* as “an astute, sensitive observer of the human condition in all its funny and desperate and beautiful frailty,” David Neumann is a wily everyman set upon by a humdrum fate in this witty and ambitious work, with text by celebrated playwright Will Eno and featuring a Bunraku style puppet.

David Neumann was a featured dancer in the works of Susan Marshall, Jane Comfort, Sally Silvers, Irene Hultman, Cathy Weiss, Big Dance Theater and the late club legend Willi Ninja. He was a member of Doug Varone and Dancers and an eight-year original member and collaborator with doug elkins choreography, etc., with whom he toured nationally and internationally. He continues to perform and choreograph for theater, opera and film working with such directors as Hal Hartley, Laurie Anderson, Robert Woodruff, Lee Breuer, Peter Sellars, JoAnn Akalaitis, Chris Bayes, Mark Wing-Davey, Daniel Sullivan, Les Waters, Molly Smith, Tina Landau and Sarah Benson. David Neumann / Advanced Beginner Group, a two time Bessie Award-winner, believes in making multi-disciplinary dances from scratch. Neumann utilizes experimental dance-making approaches with a humorous outlook and an inclusive layering of disciplines to create complex, thought-provoking dance works that push the form. These approaches are born of the belief that there is always something more to think and feel, always another mind to engage in surprising ways, always a valuable effort in trying to bend the habitual gestures around new shapes.

Big Dance Theater

Short Ride Out (3)

This “deeply brilliant” (*The New York Times*) OBIE Award-winning company is known for its inspired use of dance, music, text and visual design. Two short works showcase the ingenuity and wit of co-artistic directors Annie-B Parson and Paul Lazar.

Founded in 1991, Big Dance Theater is known for its inspired use of dance, music, text and visual design. The company, which received New York Dance and Performance Bessie Awards in 2002 and 2010, and won the first ever Jacob’s Pillow Dance Award in 2007, often works with wildly incongruent source material, weaving and braiding disparate strands into multi-dimensional performance. Led by co-artistic directors Annie-B Parson and Paul Lazar, Big Dance has delved into the literary works of such authors as Twain, Tanizaki, Wellman, Euripides and Flaubert, and dance is used as both frame and metaphor to theatricalize these writings.

Program B: July 20-22

Limón Dance Company

Suite from The Winged

Now in its 70th year, the Limón Dance Company is internationally renowned for its technical mastery and dramatic expression, and demonstrates the timelessness of founder José Limón’s work. *The Winged* is “a joyous exploration of flight” (*Dance Enthusiast*).

Founded by José Limón in 1946, Limón Dance Company is now led by Carla Maxwell, who worked closely with Limón before becoming Artistic Director in 1978. The Company has been committed to producing and presenting programs that balance classic works of American modern dance with commissions and acquisitions from contemporary choreographers, resulting in a repertory of unparalleled breadth. In its first half-century, the Company achieved many important milestones: it was the first group to tour under the auspices of the American Cultural Exchange Program (1954), the first dance troupe to perform at Lincoln Center (1963), and has had the honor of appearing twice at The White House (1967 and 1995). More recently, the José Limón Dance Foundation, which works to carry on the Limón legacy and its humanistic approach to movement and theater, and to extend the vitality of that vision into the future, through performance, creation, preservation and education, was awarded a 2008 National Medal of Arts, the nation’s highest honor for artistic excellence. Hailed as one of the world’s greatest dance companies, the Limón Dance Company has been at the vanguard of American modern dance since its inception. Now in its 70th year, the Company is renowned for its technical mastery and dramatic expression, and demonstrates both the timelessness of José Limón’s works and the humanistic vision that guides the repertory choices.

Lar Lubovitch Dance Company

Little Rhapsodies

Founded in 1968, the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company is known around the world as one of America’s top dance companies. It is renowned for dances that are highly sophisticated, wonderfully musical, and always deeply humanist. The company is often called a “national treasure” (*Variety*), while Lubovitch himself has been named one of America’s “irreplaceable dance treasures” (*Dance Heritage Coalition*). In *Little Rhapsodies*, a trio of men showcases fierce athleticism and glistening solos, brimming with both competitive spirit and camaraderie.

Celebrated for its choreographic excellence and its unsurpassed dancing, over the past 48 years the New York based company has created more than 100 new dances, and performed before millions throughout the United States and in more than 40 foreign countries. On television the company has been seen by millions more. In recognition of its work, the company and its founder have received many awards including a Juilliard Honorary Doctorate, Tony nomination, and the Astaire, Benois, Dance/USA, Emmy and Scripps/ADF awards, among many others.

Jiva Dance

Excerpts from *Mayura: Blue Peacock*

Jiva Dance pays homage to the stunning grace and beauty of India's national bird in a "compelling interplay of sculptural and rhythmic Indian dance" (*The New York Times*). This colorful production features the art of Bharatanatyam, the most renowned of the Indian classical dance forms.

Jiva Dance is the professional dance company of Jiva Performing Arts, an organization based in NYC, which seeks to educate and present the classical music and dance of India. Jiva Dance began in 2008 under the artistic direction of Sonali Skandan. The company creates and presents compelling and dynamic works based on the timeless idiom of Bharatanatyam, the classical dance form of South India. Jiva Dance holds the belief that tradition is a continuum of evolution and hopes to invigorate classical works with a freshness and unique voice through creative and innovative approaches. The company comprises exceptionally talented dancers under the guidance of Sonali Skandan, an accomplished dancer and student of some of the greatest masters of classical dance. The dancers are all rigorously trained in the tradition and are also versatile in their approach. Jiva Dance is devoted to the legacy of the art as passed on by traditional Gurus and Masters and share in the desire to pass a love of the form on to world audiences.

Program C: July 27-29

Camille A. Brown & Dancers

New Second Line

Known for high theatricality, gutsy moves and virtuosic musicality, Camille A. Brown makes a personal claim on history through the lens of a modern Black female perspective. Inspired by the events of Hurricane Katrina, this work celebrates the spirit and culture of the people of New Orleans. Brown is this year's winner of the Jacob's Pillow Dance Award.

Recognized for its introspective approach to cultural themes through visceral movement and socio-political dialogues, Camille A. Brown & Dancers soar through history like a whirlwind.

Embodying a strong sense of storytelling, the company uses theatricality and the aesthetics of modern, hip hop, African, ballet, and tap, to tell stories that connect history with contemporary culture. Making a personal claim on history through the lens of a modern Black female perspective, Camille A. Brown leads her dancers through excavations of ancestral stories, both timeless and traditional. The work is strongly character based, expressing each choreographic topic by building from little moments to model a filmic sensibility. Theater, poetry, visual art and music of all genres merge to inject each performance with energy and urgency. Camille A. Brown recently received a Guggenheim Fellowship and the Princess Grace Statue Award. The Company has performed in venues both nationally and internationally, including The Joyce Theater, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, The Yard, American Dance Festival, Bates Dance Festival, New York City Center's Fall for Dance Festival, The Egg, The Kravis Center, White Bird and Belfast Festival at Queen's (Belfast, Ireland).

Nadine Bommer Dance Company

Excerpts from *Invisi'BALL*

New York-born, Israeli-bred choreographer Nadine Bommer transforms the stage into a surprising, hilarious soccer field as ten dancers play to a soundtrack of sports anthems and roaring crowds. Combining the worlds of dance, theater and pantomime, *Invisi'BALL* showcases unique anime-dance language with unique rhythms, angles and humor.

The Nadine Bommer Dance Company is the US based company of award-winning Israeli choreographer Nadine Bommer. She also founded the Nadine Animato Dance Company of Tel Aviv, Israel and in 2003 opened the Nadine Academy of Dance in Rishon Lezion, Israel. Since 2007, Nadine Bommer has received support and recognition from the ministry of science, culture and sports. Her unique movement language, "Kinetica," has been taught and adapted throughout Europe and Asia. In 2015, Bommer established the New York City ensemble, allowing her to expand her company while returning to the city of her birth. Both US and Israeli companies perform locally and abroad.

American Tap Dance Foundation

Tap Treasures

This musical review of classic and contemporary dance is curated by tap master Tony Waag and features some of today's brightest and boldest tap soloists. Waag founded the American Tap Dance Foundation in 2001 with the mission of establishing Tap Dance as a vital component of American Dance.

The American Tap Dance Foundation (ATDF) is a non-profit organization committed to establishing and legitimizing tap dance as a vital component of American dance through creation, presentation, education and preservation. From 1986-1999 the American Tap Dance Foundation was known as the American Tap Dance Orchestra. It was created, choreographed and directed by master tap dancer Brenda Bufalino and co-founded by Ms. Bufalino along with Tony Waag and the late Charles "Honi" Coles in 1986 as a non-profit organization. During that time the Orchestra performed in hundreds of concert, stage, and film projects and thrilled audiences around the world. From 1989 to 1995, the company also operated Woodpeckers Tap Dance Center in New York City, and presented ongoing classes, performances and related activities. In 2001, with a new generation of tap dancers and enthusiasts, the Orchestra was renamed under the artistic direction and leadership of Tony Waag.

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