



presents the 20th annual
Chattanooga Dances

A virtual performance available

April 24 - May 2, 2021

**Visit CCA's website at cca.hcde.org
for the link to the performance.**

Chattanooga Dances 2021

Ballet Tennessee Alumni/Anna & Barry Van Cura, Founding Artistic Directors

Baylor School's Verve'/ Margaret Harmon, Artistic Director

Elizabeth Roemer, Company Director

Center for Creative Arts Project Motion/Karen Wilson, Director of Dance

Jessica Laliberte Bowman, Associate Director & Resident Choreographer

Chattanooga Ballet/Brian McSween, Artistic Director

John Farrimond, Executive Director

GPS' Terpsichord/Laurel Zahrobsky, Director

Amanda Byars, Assistant Director

Directors' comments about the concert can be found at the end of this program document.

On this 20th anniversary concert, recognition and appreciation also go to Karen Smith, Cathie Kasch, Felicion McMillon, Bob Willie, Andrew Parker, Ann Law. These former participant directors helped lay the collaborative foundation and continue the momentum throughout the past 20 years.

Welcome to the 20th annual *Chattanooga Dances!*

This concert was conceived in 2001 when I joined CCA's Dance Department after two years as a social studies teacher. I knew that I wanted to develop an ongoing community collaboration with our local dance organizations as I had both taught and danced with Ballet Tennessee and Chattanooga Ballet. During my years at both organizations, I had also developed wonderful friendships with the directors of the Baylor and GPS Dance programs. So I picked up the phone and called my dance friends and proposed a collaboration.

That first community concert in November of 2001 was appropriately titled *Dancing With Friends* and featured dancers from Ballet Tennessee, Baylor, Chattanooga Ballet, and GPS alongside CCA dance majors. In 2002, the collaboration was named *Portraits in Dance*, and in the fall of 2003 officially was christened *Chattanooga Dances!* Every year since 2001, our original partners have participated. Additional organizations have included Chattanooga Dance Collective, Contrapasso, CoPac, independent artists, and Barger Academy of Fine Arts.

Chattanooga Dances continues to highlight the city's non-profit dance companies along with those schools that maintain a full time dance curriculum. It is also the only collaborative concert of its kind that I am aware of across the state of Tennessee. CCA is proud to sponsor this yearly collaborative event. I can't wait to see what the future holds.

--Karen Wilson, CCA Director of Dance

Special thanks to:

Debbie Smith, CCA Principal
Amy Medley, CCA Assistant Principal
Sally White, CCA Dean of Fine Arts
Richmond Terry, CCA Technical Director
Jerigray Eduave, Chattanooga Dances Film Editor

Order of Performance

Caged

Center for Creative Arts/Project Motion

Choreography: Jessica Laliberte Bowman with movement invention by the dancers

Inspired by Maya Angelou's poem "Caged Bird"

Music: Nadia Sirota

Lighting Design: Richmond Terry

Dancers: **Kylie Davis**, Eva Hairrell, Hunter Johnson, Essence McClure, Trinity Mease, Lovelei Pulliam, DeShuna Tremble, Gracie Willard, Shelby Williams

Understudies: Trinity Baxter, Jada Gladden, Eliza Henry, Avery Loyd

Excerpts from *Magical Mystery Tour*

'Imagine,' 'I Am a Walrus,' and reprise of 'Imagine'

Ballet Tennessee Alumni

Music: The Beatles

Choreography: Barry VanCura, co-founder of Ballet Tennessee

Director of BT alumni performance: Anna Baker-VanCura, Ballet Tennessee co-founder

Staging & new choreography: Jenison Owens, Ballet Tennessee alumni & ballet administrator

Dancers: Guest Artists and former CCA students: LaJeromeny Brown, currently New York City Ballet & Ballet TN alum; Brian Gephart, Joffrey Ballet, NY Metropolitan Ballet, Chattanooga Ballet, Ballet Tennessee

Dancers: Caroline Avery, Tarrisha Hicks, Lovest Hogstrom, Addison McMullin, Jenison Owens, Makenzie Smith

Film Director: Jerigray Eduave

Special thanks to The Pop-Up Project for studio space for rehearsals and filming.

This work is dedicated to Karen Wilson, Dance Department Chair of Center for Creative Arts, friend and colleague for many years and artist/administrator with both Chattanooga Ballet and Ballet Tennessee, founded by the VanCuras. Ms. Wilson retires this year having developed a CCA dance department that has propelled many young artists forward with artistic and critical thinking skills to embark on their life journeys. She leaves a legacy, well built, that will continue to flourish because of her tireless efforts to promote quality dance education. Thank you Karen, from the cast and crew of Ballet Tennessee, past and present!

Within

Baylor School/Vervé - Upper School Division

Choreography: Margaret Harman and Elizabeth Roemer

Music: Abloom

Dancers: Mary Margaret Bender, Frances Brantley, May Byrum, Ally Creswell, Lacy Creswell, Caroline Dart, Cate Fisher, Sidney Kiner, Maggie Smith, Evelyn Stein, Wesley Sumner, Ava Willingham

Sleeping Beauty Suites

Chattanooga Ballet School Ensemble

Choreography: Nina Widtfeldt

Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Dancers: Isabelle Alpers, Sadie Buhram, Lovest Hogstrom, Julia Rose Kyle, Kathryn Grace Kyle, Elizabeth Lewis, Owiin Merritt, Isabella Moore, Sophia Taylor

Marwar Maharanis

GPS/Terpsichord

Choreography: Astha Sinha

Music: Shreya Ghoshal

Dancers: Molly Hathorne, Suki Baker, Emma Dexter, AnnaKate Stipanov, Ellie Paty, Anya Parambath

Collective

Baylor School/Vervé - Middle School Division

Choreography: Margaret Harman and Elizabeth Roemer

Music: EVOE

Dancers: Caroline Curtis, Sarah Johnson, Mary Eliot Long, Petra Lund, Bruna Monteiro, Alison Noland, Aubrey Sewell, Ella Claire Stalvey, Madeline Claire Stefaniuk, Maggie Tansor, Mary Harper Warren

Humoresque

Chattanooga Ballet

Choreography: Brian McSween

Music: Agathe Backer Grondahl

Dancers: Megan McSween, Brian Gephart

A Moving Pause

GPS/Terpsichord

Choreography: Laurel Moore Zahrobsky

Music: Ludovico Einaudi

Dancers: Suki Baker, Kate Becksvoort, Mary Catherine Clelland, Julia Combs, Frances Crowe, Emma Dexter, Rowan Espy, Graci Felker, Lily Grace Greenwood, Molly Hathorne, Annsley Kelley, Merritt Kelley, Hannah Levin, Gabriella Meadows, Anya Parambath, Cara Paty, Ellie Paty, Kayla Rivers, Astha Sinha, AnnaKate Stipanov

First Date

Center for Creative Arts/Project Motion

Choreography: Jenison Owens

Music: Lincoln Chase

Videographer & film editor: Jerigray Eduave

Dancers: Kylie Davis, Eva Hairrell, Eliza Henry, Hunter Johnson, Essence McClure, Trinity Mease, Lovelei Pulliam, DeShuna Tremble, Gracie Willard

Understudies: Trinity Baxter, Jada Gladden, Avery Loyd, Shelby Williams

If you enjoyed the show, please consider a financial contribution to one or more of our city's dance organizations. The Covid pandemic has drastically affected all non-profit revenues. We need your assistance to keep our programs healthy and the art of dance thriving. For contribution information, contact the organization's director.

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

"Baylor is so grateful to be able to participate in Chattanooga Dances again this year. We are always honored to be a part of this show that brings together the dance community to celebrate the art of dance in our city. It is rare to find a concert that features so many different organizations on the same stage, which is what makes Chattanooga Dances such a special show."

--Elizabeth Roemer, Baylor School

"Chattanooga Ballet believes that it is vital, at this time almost more than any other, to be reminded of the beauty, strength and inspiration found in art. Chattanooga Dances is not only a celebration of dance, but also of all the artists that make it possible. We are excited to share in that celebration and highlight the perseverance, hard work and artistry of this incredible community. Whether live or virtual, the show must go on!"

--Brian McSween, Chattanooga Ballet

"Chattanooga Dances has been a wonderful enhancement to the GPS dance curriculum. It has opened an avenue of conversation about being a member of a small Chattanooga dance community enriching the lives of a larger community including Chattanooga, and surrounding counties. I value this performance so much because my students have made lifelong friendships with students from other schools while in tech rehearsals, taking the warm-up class together, and performing on the same bill -- not as competitors but as peers. I'm sad none of those events could happen in person this year but I am grateful that every person performing in this virtual concert was given a platform. Art is meant to be experienced, explored, and shared. I'm thankful that is still happening as a community and for the community when so many have felt isolated all year. I hope this performance is enjoyed by anyone and everyone!"

--Laurel Zahrobsky, GPS

"For 20 years CCA has through the efforts of Karen Wilson, Jessica Bowman and the CCA Dance Department, presented a public dance performance of 501.c3 organizations. This brought together dancers and dance audiences who might not have gotten to know one another were it not for this performance opportunity. Ballet Tennessee, and this year the alumni dancers from Ballet Tennessee, has always looked forward to this joint performance opportunity. Several of the organizations share dancers so it is always a joy to see the community of dancers on stage. It has been a highlight of the Ballet Tennessee performing seasons. Thank you so much to all the organizations."

--Anna Baker-VanCura, Ballet Tennessee

"The annual Chattanooga Dances Concert has become a pillar for collaboration in the Chattanooga dance community. We are grateful for Karen Wilson's vision and perseverance in building partnerships and strengthening relationships, providing an opportunity to celebrate our Scenic City's vibrant non-profit dance scene on one stage."

-- Jessica Laliberte Bowman, Center for Creative Arts