

# dorrance dance

november 18



PHOTO BY MATTHEW MURPHY



PEACE  
CENTER

# dorrance dance

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2018 • 3 PM

PEACE CONCERT HALL

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## **Artistic Director**

Michelle Dorrance

## **Dancers**

Ephrat "Bounce" Asherie, Christopher Broughton, Elizabeth Burke,  
Warren Craft, Michelle Dorrance, Claudia Rahardjanoto, Leonardo Sandoval,  
Byron Tittle, Matthew "Megawatt" West, Nicholas Van Young

## **Musicians**

Donovan Dorrance, Aaron Marcellus, Gregory Richardson,  
Nicholas Van Young, Warren Craft

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## **Jungle Blues (2012)**

Choreography by Michelle Dorrance with solo improvisation by Christopher Broughton

Lighting Design by Kathy Kaufmann

Costume Design by Amy Page

Music: "Jungle Blues"

Written By: Fred "Jelly Roll" Morton

Courtesy of Edwin H Morris & Company, A Division of MPL Music  
Publishing, INC. (ASCAP)

Dancers: Full Company

Soloists: Claudia Rahardjanoto, Elizabeth Burke & Nicholas Van Young,  
Michelle Dorrance & Warren Craft, Byron Tittle,  
Christopher Broughton

## **Three to One (2011)**

Choreography by Michelle Dorrance

Lighting Design by Kathy Kaufmann

Costume Design by Michelle Dorrance and Mishay Petronelli

Music: "Nannou"

Written By: Richard D James

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"A Rat's Nest"

Written By: Thom Yorke

Courtesy of Kobalt Music

Dancers: Michelle Dorrance, Byron Tittle, Matthew "Megawatt" West

*The creation of Three to One was made possible, in part, by the Danspace Project 2010-2011 Commissioning Initiative with support from the Jerome Foundation. Danspace's Commissioning Initiative is a core component of the Choreographic Center Without Walls (CW<sup>2</sup>).*

## **Myelination (2017)**

Choreography by Michelle Dorrance, in collaboration with and featuring improvisation by the dancers

Additional Choreography by Ephrat "Bounce" Asherie and Matthew "Megawatt" West  
Original Music by Prawn til Dante (Donovan Dorrance and Gregory Richardson) with Aaron Marcellus

Lighting Design by Kathy Kaufmann

Costume Design by Amy Page

Dance Captains: Elizabeth Burke and Byron Tittle

Dancers: Full Company

Musicians: Donovan Dorrance (piano/clarinet), Aaron Marcellus (vocals/keys), Gregory Richardson (bass/clarinet), Nicholas Van Young (percussion), Warren Craft (additional guitar)

*Myelination (2017 and 2015) has been commissioned by New York City Center for the Fall for Dance Festival with generous support from the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation. Music for Myelination (2015) commissioned by the Charles and Joan Gross Family Foundation. Myelination (2017) has also been commissioned, in part, by Cal Performances, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, California*

*Myelination (2017) was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.*

*Myelination (2017) was supported by New Music USA, made possible by annual program support and/or endowment gifts from Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, New York State Council on the Arts, Helen F. Whitaker Fund, and Aaron Copland Fund for Music.*

## **About Dorrance Dance**

Dorrance Dance is an award-winning tap dance company based out of New York City. The company's work aims to honor tap dance's uniquely beautiful history in a new, dynamic, and compelling context; not by stripping the form of its tradition, but by pushing it – rhythmically, technically, and conceptually. The company's inaugural performance garnered a Bessie Award for "blasting open our notions of tap" and the company continues its passionate commitment to expanding the audience of tap dance, America's original art form.

Founded in 2011 by artistic director and 2015 MacArthur Fellow Michelle Dorrance, the company has received countless accolades, rave reviews, and performed for packed houses at venues including The Joyce Theater, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, New York City Center, Vail Dance Festival, The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Carolina Performing Arts at UNC Chapel Hill, Works and Process at the Guggenheim, and Cal Performances at UC Berkeley, among many others, including

international venues in Canada, France, Germany, Spain, England, Hong Kong, and Singapore.

For more information, visit [www.dorrancedance.com](http://www.dorrancedance.com).

## Dorrance Dance Staff

Artistic Director	Michelle Dorrance
Executive Director	Donald Borrer
Production Manager/Sound Engineer	Christopher Marc
Company Manager	Tina Huang Abrams
Associate Artistic Director	Nicholas Van Young
Assistant to the Artistic Director	Olivia Maggi
Rehearsal Director	Elizabeth Burke
Music Director	Donovan Dorrance
Lighting Designer	Kathy Kaufmann
Lighting Supervisor	Serena Wong
Technical Director/Assistant Stage Manager	Diego Quintanar
Artist Representative	Margaret Selby, Selby/Artists Management

## Performer Bios

**Michelle Dorrance** (Artistic Director/Choreographer/Dancer) is a New York City based artist. Mentored by Gene Medler, she grew up performing with his North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble and was lucky to study under many of the last master hoofers. Career highlights include: *STOMP*, Derick Grant's *Imagine Tap*, Jason Samuels Smith's *Charlie's Angels/Chasing the Bird*, Ayodele Casel's *Diary of a Tap Dancer*, Mable Lee's *Dancing Ladies*, and Darwin Deez. Company work: Savion Glover's *ti dii*, Manhattan Tap, Barbara Duffy, JazzTap Ensemble, Rumba Tap, and solo work ranging from *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert* to Damian Woetzel's Vail Dance Festival Projects, and a commission for the Martha Graham Dance Company. A 2018 Doris Duke Artist, 2017 Ford Foundation Art of Change Fellow and 2015 MacArthur Fellow, Michelle is humbled to have been acknowledged/supported by United States Artists, The Joyce Theater, New York City Center, the Alpert Awards, Jacob's Pillow, Princess Grace Foundation, The Field, American Tap Dance Foundation, and the Bessie Awards. Michelle holds a B.A. from New York University and is a Capezio Athlete.

**Ephrat "Bounce" Asherie** (Dancer), a 2016 Bessie Award Winner for Innovative Achievement in Dance, is an NYC-based Bgirl, dancer, and choreographer. As artistic director of Ephrat Asherie Dance (EAD), she has presented work at Jacob's Pillow, FiraTarrega, and New York Live Arts, among others. Ephrat has received numerous awards to support her work, including a NDP Award from NEFA, a Mondo Cane! Commission from Dixon Place, and an Extended Life Residency from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. Ephrat has taught at Wesleyan University and is on faculty at Broadway Dance Center. For more information please visit [www.ephratasheriedance.com](http://www.ephratasheriedance.com).

**Christopher Broughton** (Dancer), born and raised in Los Angeles, CA, began dancing at the age of 11 and has never looked back. Under the instruction of Paul and Arlene Kennedy at Universal Dance, he became a member of The Kennedy Tap Company, receiving the national NAACP ACT-SO Award twice. He now travels worldwide both as a soloist and with Jason Samuels Smith's A.C.G.I., Rasta Thomas'

*Tap Stars*, and Dorrance Dance. Performances include New York City Center's *Cotton Club Parade*; *Juba! Master's of Tap & Percussive Dance* at the Kennedy Center; and Broadway's Tony & Astaire award-winning production *After Midnight*.

**Elizabeth Burke** (Rehearsal Director/Dancer) is a Chapel Hill, NC, native who spent 11 years under the direction of her mentor, Gene Medler, in the acclaimed North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble. Burke has been with Dorrance Dance since its inception in 2010. She pursues her own choreographic work, and teaches and performs as a soloist on occasion. She is an alumna of the School at Jacob's Pillow and Marymount Manhattan College (B.A. Political Science, B.A. Communication Arts, magna cum laude).

**Warren Craft** (Dancer/Musician) is a New York City tap dancer who has trained in ballet with both the American Ballet Theatre and the School of American Ballet. He has been a member of Brenda Bufalino's New American Tap Dance Orchestra, Max Pollak's RumbaTap, and Dorrance Dance. He moves with "bizarre physicality" and "unconventional eloquence." (*The New York Times*)

**Donovan Dorrance** (Music Director/Composer/Musician) hails from Chapel Hill, NC, where he studied piano, guitar, drums, and voice before attending The University of North Carolina for a B.A. in Philosophy. In 2014, Donovan moved to Brooklyn to assist his sister's company and pursue his passion for music. In addition to composing music with Gregory Richardson for Dorrance Dance, Donovan composes music for film and theater, collaborating with students from NYU and Columbia.

**Aaron Marcellus** (Co-Composer/Musician), a singer, vocal coach, writer, musician, dancer, and actor from Atlanta, started in gospel music and has performed around the world. He has recorded albums and was voted top 24 on *American Idol* in 2011. After a world tour, Aaron was featured in a Chapstick commercial, NBC's *Next Caller* and was a cast member of *STOMP*. Marcellus also hosts a Burlesque show at Duane Park. Most importantly, he founded both Surrender To Love, LLC, a foundation that supports arts programs and seeks to feed the hungry, and Adventure Voice, a training program offering vocal classes for groups and individuals.

**Claudia Rahardjanoto** (Dancer), born and raised in Berlin, Germany, started dancing professionally at the age of nine at the Deutsche Oper Berlin. Named one of "25 To Watch" by *Dance Magazine* in 2010 and featured on the cover of *Dance Teacher Magazine* in 2011, Claudia has danced with and learned from Andreas Dänel, Sven Göttlicher, Dianne Walker, Ted Levy, Dormeshia Sumbry-Edwards, Michelle Dorrance, Derick K. Grant, Brenda Bufalino, Roxane Butterfly, Andrew Nemr, Barbara Duffy, Jane Goldberg, Jared Grimes, Max Pollak, Michael Minery, the late Harold 'Stumpy' Cromer, and the legendary Mable Lee, amongst others. She is grateful to be able to share her passion and love for tap dance through her performances and teaching worldwide.

**Gregory Richardson** (Composer/Musician) is a composer, performer, and multi-instrumentalist and has been a member of Dorrance Dance since 2011. He learned rhythm and blues at an early age from a family of musicians where everyone could play at least a little piano and everyone was expected to sing. The Tucson native studied at Bard College and has been working as a professional musician in New York City for nearly two decades. Richardson is known for his winning combination of natural talent, hard work, and dedication and is fortunate to have traveled the world

several times over with various ensembles. He lives and works in Brooklyn, NY, where he has been a part of countless collaborations.

**Leonardo Sandoval** (Dancer), a Brazilian tap dancer, has become known in the tap world and beyond for his musicality and for adding his own Brazilian flavor to tap. An early member of Dorrance Dance, he is also in demand as a choreographer, solo dancer, and jazz musician. A true dancer-musician, Leo has had his work, including collaborations with composer Gregory Richardson, presented at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and the National Folk Festival.

**Byron Tittle** (Dancer) has been dancing since the age of 7 in his hometown of New York. Starting with tap and ballet, he soon grew to enjoy the different genres and aesthetics in the entire realm of dance. He began tap dancing with David Rider and then with the American Tap Dance Foundation's Tap City Youth Ensemble. There, he met Michelle Dorrance and continually took her master classes and workshops. He joined the company in 2014 and has been consistently involved since then. Commercially, he has danced for Janet Jackson and Nicki Minaj but feels most fulfilled on stage with Dorrance Dance.

**Matthew "Megawatt" West** (Dancer) started dancing at 16 on his church's dance team in Queens, NY, and with the company On Point Choreography, with whom he learned challenging choreography and mastered different styles within hip hop dance. He has competed in several Bboy competitions and strives to impart knowledge and wisdom on the next generation of dancers: he has taught at Coney Island's Shining Angels Studio and at after school programs in Queens. Mega is an avid listener of house music and a dedicated student of house dance, training with the NYC crew MAWU, Conrad Rochester, and James "Cricket" Colter.

**Nicholas Van Young** (Associate Artistic Director/Dancer/Musician) is a dancer, musician, choreographer, and a 2014 Bessie Award recipient. He began his professional career at age 16 under Acia Gray and Deidre Strand with Tapestry Dance Company in Austin, TX, eventually rising to principal dancer and resident choreographer. Since moving to New York, he has performed with Manhattan Tap, RumbaTap, Dorrance Dance, *Beat the Donkey*, has toured as a drummer for Darwin Deez, and spent almost a decade performing with *STOMP*, where he performed the lead role and acted as rehearsal director. Nicholas tours both nationally and internationally teaching and performing at various tap festivals, and founded Sound Movement dance company and IFTRA, Institute for The Rhythmic Arts. He is thrilled to have found a home with Dorrance Dance, co-creating and developing ETM: Double Down, and the Guggenheim Rotunda Project, both collaborative efforts with Michelle Dorrance.

## **Production Team Bios**

**Kathy Kaufmann** (Lighting Designer) a New York City native, has been happily designing for Dorrance Dance since its inception (SOUNDspace, The Blues Project, ETM, Myelination). A resident designer at Danspace Project whose work has been seen throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe and Asia, she also teaches at Sarah Lawrence. She is a two-time Bessie recipient and was nominated for her work on Rebecca Davis's *Bloomst Windku* in 2015. Recent projects include designs for Moriah Evans, Mariana Valencia, Jonathan Gonzales, David Parker, Tatyana Tennenbaum, Mina Nishimura, Morgan Bassichis, and Ephrat Asherie Dance.

**Christopher Marc** (Production Manager/Sound Designer) has been with Dorrance Dance since June of 2016. Christopher has worked as a sound engineer with several companies around the country including The Kennedy Center, Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Mills Entertainment, Aquila Theatre, and Harlem Stage. (Sound Design) CT & Co: *More Forever*. Pacific Symphony: *The Magic Flute*. Off-Broadway: *The Black Book*. Aquila Theatre National Tour: *Wuthering Heights*, *The Tempest*, *Fahrenheit 451*, *Twelfth Night*. Skylark Opera: *Berlin to Broadway*, *Candide*, *Putting it Together*, *La Rondine*. Artistry MN: *God of Carnage*, *Striking 12*, *Death of a Salesman*. Lyric Arts: *Becky's New Car*, *Sherlock Holmes*, *The Boxcar Children*, *Over the Tavern*, *Death of a Salesman*.

**Diego Quintanar** (Technical Director/Assistant Stage Manager), started working in theater production as a student at the College of the Holy Cross. He was introduced to Dorrance Dance through his work with the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum's Works & Process series as a project coordinator. Other credits include: Latino Cultural Center and Wily Theater, Dallas, TX, where he worked as a carpenter and electrician; off-Broadway musical *I Like It Like That* as production manager, NYC; Shen Wei Dance Arts, NYC and Dance Heginbotham, NYC as an assistant stage manager and scenic charge.

**Serena Wong** (Lighting Supervisor) is a Brooklyn-based freelance lighting designer for theater and dance. Her designs have been seen at New York Live Arts, Irondale Arts Center, the New Ohio, and Danspace. She enjoys biking, beekeeping, and bread baking.

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*Program content provided by Dorrance Dance*

***Stay in the theater after the show for a talkback with the artists.***