



ARTIST  
SERIES

# Jessica Lang Dance

Friday, Oct. 5, 2018

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**Artistic Director**

Jessica Lang

**Executive Director**

William Wagner

**Dancers**

Patrick Coker, Julie Fiorenza, John Harnage,  
Eve Jacobs, Kana Kimura, Thomas Ragland,  
Rachel Secrest, Milan Misko, Jammie Walker

**Production Stage Manager**

Daniel Diller

**Lighting Supervisor**

Brittany Spencer

**Company Manager**

Callen Gosselin

**Jessica Lang Dance Staff**

Jessica Lang, Artistic Director  
William Wagner, Executive Director  
Callen Gosselin, Company Manager  
Daniel Diller, Production and Stage Manager  
Laura Mead, Rehearsal Director  
Madeleine Kim, Outreach and Education Assistant  
Julie Fiorenza, Administrative Assistant  
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Tina Fehlandt, Charla Genn, Lauren Grant, David Leventhal, Therese Wendler, William Whitener  
and Megan Williams, Company Class Teachers

**For booking information, please contact:**

Margaret Selby, President, Selby/Artists Mgmt:  
212-382-3261 | mselby@selbyartistsmgmt.com | selbyartistsmgmt.com

# Program

## Lyric Pieces (2013)

**Choreography:** Jessica Lang

**Music:** Edvard Grieg

**Scenic Design:** Jessica Lang with molo products designed by Stephanie Forsythe and Todd MacAllen

**Lighting Design:** Nicole Pearce

**Costumes:** Amy Page

### Arietta

Patrick Coker, Julie Fiorenza, John Harnage, Eve Jacobs, Kana Kimura, Milan Misko, Rachel Secrest and Jammie Walker

### Elves' Dance

Patrick Coker, Julie Fiorenza and Rachel Secrest

### Peasant's Song

Eve Jacobs

### Norwegian Melody

Milan Misko and Jammie Walker

### Norwegian Dance

Patrick Coker, John Harnage, Milan Misko and Jammie Walker

### The Brook

Julie Fiorenza, Eve Jacobs, Kana Kimura and Rachel Secrest

### In Ballad Style

Jammie Walker With Patrick Coker, Julie Fiorenza, Eve Jacobs, John Harnage, Kana Kimura, Milan Misko and Rachel Secrest

### March Of The Trolls

Patrick Coker, Julie Fiorenza, Eve Jacobs, John Harnage and Rachel Secrest

### Phantom

Kana Kimura and Milan Misko

### Remembrances

Ensemble

This work was originally commissioned by Birmingham Royal Ballet and premiered in 2013.

## PAUSE

## The Calling (excerpt from Splendid Isolation II) (2006)

**Choreography:** Jessica Lang

**Music:** Trio Mediaeval

**Costume Concept:** Jessica Lang

**Costumes:** Elena Comendador

**Original Lighting:** Al Crawford, Recreated by Nicole Pearce

Julie Fiorenza

This work was originally premiered by Ailey II in 2006.

“O Maria, stella maris” performed by Trio Mediaeval (p) ECM Records 2005.

Used by arrangement with ECM Records, Munich.

### PAUSE

## glow (2017)

**Choreography:** Jessica Lang

**Music:** Owen Clayton Condon and Ivan Trevino

**Set Design:** Jessica Lang and Nicole Pearce

**Lighting Design:** Nicole Pearce

**Technical Director:** Greg Rowland

Patrick Coker, Kana Kimura, Milan Misko, Thomas Ragland and Jammie Walker

This piece was co-commissioned by Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival.

This piece was made possible with support from Charles and Deborah Adelman.

2+1 composed by Ivan Trevino, performed by Bryson Teel and Neal Schassler

Fractalia composed by Clay Condon, used by arrangement with Third Coast Percussion

### INTERMISSION

## Solo Bach (2008)

**Choreography:** Jessica Lang

**Music:** Johann Sebastian Bach

**Lighting Design:** Nicole Pearce

**Costume Design:** Bradon McDonald

Rachel Secrest

Works from Bach: The Six Sonatas and Partitas for Violin Solo;

Lara St. John, violin performed courtesy Ancalagon Records and Lara St. John.

Partita No. 3 in E Major, BWV 1006: Gavotte en Rondeau.

## Sweet Silent Thought (2016)

**Choreography:** Jessica Lang  
**Original Score:** Jakub Ciupinski  
**Lighting Design:** Nicole Pearce  
**Costume Design:** Bradon McDonald

Julie Fiorenza, John Harnage, Eve Jacobs and Thomas Ragland

This work has been made possible by a commissioning grant from the O'Donnell-Green Music and Dance Foundation.

This work inspired by Shakespeare's sonnets features readings from sonnets 30, 64, 40, 105 and 71. Vocals by Nilanjana Bose-Ciupinska, Chukwudi Iwuji and Chris Myers.

### PAUSE

## Thousand Yard Stare (2016)

**Choreography:** Jessica Lang  
**Music:** Ludwig van Beethoven  
**Lighting Design:** Nicole Pearce  
**Costume Design:** Bradon McDonald

Patrick Coker, Julie Fiorenza, John Harnage, Eve Jacobs, Kana Kimura, Milan Misko, Thomas Ragland, Rachel Secrest and Jammie Walker

This work was generously underwritten by Geoff Fallon and was co-commissioned by Des Moines Performing Arts.

Ludwig van Beethoven, String Quartet No. 15, Op. 132. Third movement: Adagio  
 "Heiliger Dankgesang eines Genesenen an die Gottheit, in der lydischen Tonart"  
 (Holy song of thanksgiving of a convalescent to the Deity, in the Lydian Mode).  
 Performed by Takács Quartet.

# About Jessica Lang Dance

Since the company's inception in 2011, Jessica Lang Dance (JLD) has been devoted to enriching and inspiring global audiences by immersing them in the beauty of movement and music. JLD's diverse repertoire of original works, created by Bessie Award-winning Artistic Director Jessica Lang, embodies a genre-bending contemporary movement style that resists categorical definition. Hailed as "a master of visual composition" by Dance Magazine, Lang seamlessly incorporates striking design elements and transforms classical ballet language into artfully crafted, emotionally engaging works that feature gifted, graceful and athletic performers. "Jessica Lang Dance is to movement what music is to sound," writes the Mesa Performing Arts Examiner.

The company has performed their repertoire of 25 unique works for audiences nationally and internationally in over 200 cities, 38 states and seven different countries. JLD's trajectory is strongly influenced by a commitment to artistic collaboration with such renowned artists as architect Steven Holl, costume designer Bradon McDonald, lighting designer Nicole Pearce and composer Jakub Ciupinski, as well as visual artist Shinichi Maruyama, among others.

In 2017, Lincoln Center's White Light Festival presented JLD in Lang's rendition of Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*—hailed as "one of the most extraordinary experiences an opera-goer is likely to see." Her choreographic genius spans the breadth between these classical works and the legendary music of singer Tony Bennett, with the recent 2018 premiere of *This Thing Called Love* commissioned by the Performing Arts Center at Purchase College. JLD's 2018-19 season began with two exceptional residencies to develop new work at White Oak and the coveted Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.

JLD has been presented at premier venues and festivals worldwide including Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, BAM's Next Wave Festival, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Harris Theater for Music and Dance, the Joyce Theater, the White Light Festival at Lincoln Center, Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center, Bolshoi's Inversion Festival of Contemporary Dance and Palacio de Bellas Artes, among many others.

## Biographies

**Jessica Lang** (Artistic Director) leads the creative vision of the organization which has garnered remarkable acclaim since the company's founding in 2011. Under her artistic leadership, the company now offers more than 50 performances annually at some of the world's most prestigious performing arts centers. Noted for her dedication to educational activities, Lang developed a unique curriculum for JLD called LANGuage, which is offered as part of the company's programming on tour and locally in New York City, focusing on the Queens community.

As one of the most celebrated choreographers of her generation, Lang choreographs and teaches throughout the world. She has created original works for companies including American Ballet Theatre, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet, the National Ballet of Japan and Joffrey, among many others. Lang has also worked in opera on the production *Aida*, directed by Francesca Zambello, for San Francisco Opera and Washington National Opera. She is the recipient of a 2014 Bessie Award and the 2017 Arison Award.

Lang grew up in Bucks County, Pennsylvania and has a diverse dance training background. She is a graduate of the Juilliard School under the direction of Benjamin Harkavy and a former member of Twyla Tharp's company *THARP!*

**Patrick Coker** (Dancer) grew up in Chester, Virginia. In May 2014, Coker graduated magna cum laude from the Ailey/Fordham BFA program, where he apprenticed with Ailey II in his final year. He has performed with Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet, Joshua Beamish's MOVE:the company, Earl Mosley's Diversity of Dance and the Mark Morris Dance Group (in *The Hard Nut* and *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*). Coker began working with Lang in 2015 and in January 2016 Coker became a member of JLD.

**Julie Fiorenza** (Dancer) was born in South Korea and grew up in Massachusetts, where she trained at the Academy of Dance Arts and the Boston Ballet School. She earned a BFA in dance from The Ailey School/Fordham University, graduating with honors, and has performed throughout the country as a member of Ailey II, Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company and Adams Company Dance. Fiorenza has danced at the Metropolitan Opera in its productions of *Turandot* and Mark Morris' *Orfeo ed Euridice*. She has performed with the Mark Morris Dance Group in *Romeo & Juliet: On Motifs of Shakespeare*; *The Hard Nut* and *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*; and she appeared with MMDG in the television debut of *L'Allegro*, which aired in March 2015 on *Great Performances*. In 2011, Fiorenza became a founding member of JLD. She has also worked with Lang in collaboration with visual artist Shinichi Maruyama appearing in the film *White*.

**John Harnage** (Dancer) is a native of Miami, Florida, who studied dance with the Miami City Ballet School and New World School of the Arts. In May 2014 he graduated from The Juilliard School under the direction of Lawrence Rhodes, where he performed works by choreographers such as Jose Limón, Alexander Ekman, Pina Bausch and Lar Lubovitch, among others. Harnage is also a modern dance finalist from the 2010 NFAA YoungArts competition. In 2014, he began working with JLD and in 2015 he became a member of the company. Harnage has also staged Lang's work on Booker T. Washington HSPVA.

**Eve Jacobs** (Dancer) is a New York City-based dance artist from Chicago. She trained in ballet at North Carolina School of the Arts and received her BFA in dance from The Juilliard School in 2014. At Juilliard, Jacobs performed in works by iconic choreographers such as Pina Bausch, Ohad Naharin and Lar Lubovitch and began to create her own work. A recipient of the Hector Zaraspe Prize for Choreography, Jacobs' work has been featured at the Peter Jay Sharp Theater, SUNY Purchase, in Juilliard's performing educational programs, and in Bridge Production Group's *Richard III* at Fourth Street Theater. In addition to performing, Jacobs has staged Lang's work for the Des Moines Dance Project and American Ballet Theater's *Make A Ballet* program. She joined JLD in 2015.

**Kana Kimura** (Dancer) was born in Hiroshima, Japan, where she began her ballet training at the age of 4. She continued with modern dance training under the direction of Takako Asakawa until the age of 18, when she entered The Juilliard School. After graduating from Juilliard, Kimura performed in several productions as a member of the Wally Cardona Quartet. She has also appeared in *Nixon in China* at The Metropolitan Opera, choreographed by Mark Morris, an experimental live dance video for Shanghai Expo and an off-Broadway show, *The Nutcracker Rouge*, with Company XIV. More recently, she performed in the opera *Aida* for the Washington National Opera at The Kennedy Center. Kimura is a founding member of JLD.

**Thomas Ragland** (Dancer) of Richmond, Virginia, began his dance training with Annette Holt and the Parks and Recreation City Dance Program. He then continued his training with The School of Richmond Ballet, eventually attending both its trainee and apprentice programs. Ragland attended the Juilliard Summer Intensive and danced with the City Dance Troupe. He was a member of Richmond Ballet for 10 seasons. Ragland joined JLD in 2017.

**Rachel Secrest** (Dancer) is originally from Carmel, Indiana, where she grew up training under Suzann DeLay. She graduated summa cum laude from the Ailey/Fordham BFA program with degrees in dance and political science. There, she had the opportunity to perform works by Alvin Ailey, Ronald K. Brown, Dwight Rhoden, Camille Brown and

Adam Barruch, among others. She has attended training programs at Hubbard Street, Joffrey Ballet, Northwest Dance Project and Springboard Danse Montreal. Secrest has been a company member with Abarukas and worked with Omar Roman de Jesus, River North Dance Chicago and Parsons Dance. In 2017, she began working with Jessica Lang Dance, where she is currently a company member.

**Milan Misko** (Dancer) was raised in Missouri, where he began his dance training with Jo Noth's White Oak Dance Academy and the Kansas City Ballet School. He holds a BFA from the Purchase College Conservatory of Dance. Misko has worked with Kansas City Ballet; Lar Lubovitch Dance Company; Merce Cunningham Dance Company RUG; Kazuko Hirabayashi Dance Theater; Adams Company Dance and Setsuko Kawaguchi Ballet, Japan. He has created dances for Take Dance and Bucknell University and directed his first short dance film, *Transportation*, which was selected for Lincoln Center's Dance on Camera Festival 2013. Misko became a member of JLD in 2012. In addition to performing the work of Lang, Misko has staged her work on Rutgers University.

**Jammie Walker** (Dancer) began his dance training at Western Arkansas Ballet under the direction of Melissa Schoenfeld. He earned his BFA from the University of Oklahoma School of Dance under the direction of Mary Margaret Holt. Walker has had the honor of touring in China and Austria with Oklahoma Festival Ballet. He danced with the Dayton Ballet for three seasons, performing works by choreographers such as Septime Webre, Amy Seiwart, Stuart Sebastian and Jessica Lang. He has performed with Dance Grand Moultrie as well as with Clawson Dances. Walker became a member of JLD in 2016. In addition to performing, Walker has staged Lang's work on Dayton Ballet and currently assists her for the American Ballet Theatre's *Make A Ballet* program.

**Jakub Ciupinski** (Composer), a Polish composer living in New York City has collaborated with Lang on her works i.n.k. and Within the Space I Hold for JLD, Eighty One for Ballet San Jose, Droplet for The NY Choreographic Institute and, most recently, WINK for Birmingham Royal Ballet, which premiered in May 2016. His concert music has been commissioned by the Metropolis Ensemble, The New Juilliard Ensemble and violinists Anne Akiko-Meyers and Philippe Quint, among others. His works have been performed at prestigious venues such as Tonhalle in Zurich and Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. Ciupinski studied composition at the Juilliard School, the Cracow Academy of Music and the Birmingham Conservatoire. ciupinski.pl

**Laura Mead** (Rehearsal Director) grew up in Austin, Texas and Berkeley, California. She received a BFA in Dance from The Juilliard School, where she performed works by Jessica Lang, Ronald K. Brown, Eliot Feld and Paul Taylor, among others. Mead originated the principal role of Betsy in Twyla Tharp's Broadway musical *Come Fly Away*, for which she received an Astaire Award nomination. Mead served as dance captain on a national tour of Tharp's *Movin' Out*. She has also performed with American Repertory Ballet, the Metropolitan Opera, Morphoses, Post:Ballet and Los Angeles Dance Project. In 2012, Mead became a company member for JLD and danced with the company for five years. She now helps stage Lang's works on schools and companies, and assists with rehearsal directing.

**Bradon McDonald** (Costume Designer) is a dancer turned designer and has had a diverse career in the performing and visual arts. A graduate of Juilliard, he performed with Mark Morris Dance Group for a decade and with the Limon Dance Company. Upon retiring from the stage, he returned to the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising Los Angeles, where he earned two fashion design degrees. After his success on the Emmy Award-winning *Project Runway* (Season 12), he has been creating custom garments for private clients, designing stage costumes for dance and opera productions, including ABT, PNB and LAOpera, and has a dancewear collection: BRADON X CAPEZIO.

**Nicole Pearce** (Lighting Designer) Previously with Jessica Lang: 20 works (Jessica Lang Dance, National Ballet of Japan, Pacific Northwest Ballet and American Ballet Theater). Selected dance with Mark Morris, Aszure Barton, Robert Battle, Sonya Tayeh, Andrea Miller, John Heginbotham, Brian Brooks, Alexander Ekman, Kyle Abraham, Annabelle Lopez-Ochoa and companies including Joffrey Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, Houston Ballet, Hubbard Street, Malpas, Finnish National Opera, Gallim, Mark Morris Dance Group, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Nederlands Dance Theater. Selected theatre credits include work with directors Edward Albee, Maria Mileaf, Amir Nazir Zuabi, Ed Sylvanus Iskandar and Jade King Carroll and with companies including The Cherry Lane, The Play Company, McCarter Theater, Long Wharf Theater, Hartford Stage, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Juilliard School Opera and Minnesota Opera. nicolepearcedesign.com

## Acknowledgements

JLD would like to thank its Board of Trustees and generous donors who made tonight's program possible. We are especially grateful to our Sponsors' Circle members for making our 2018-19 touring season and the new work we create and present possible:

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# Batsheva Dance Company

Venezuela

By Ohad Naharin

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