DIMENSIONS DANCE THEATRE OF MIAMI
Jennifer Kronenberg & Carlos Guerra
Artistic Directors
FALL PERFORMANCE
The Moss Center
Saturday, November 16 @ 8:00pm
CHOPIN VARIATIONS (Samuel Kurkjian)
SURRENDER (Jerry Opdenaker)

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER YOU BY *(Stephanie Martinez)*

IMAGINED NOTIONS *(Yanis Pikieris)*

ABOUT DIMENSIONS DANCE THEATRE OF MIAMI

Founded by former Miami City Ballet starring Principal couple, Carlos Guerra and Jennifer Kronenberg, Dimensions Dance Theatre of Miami debuted to critical acclaim in November 2016 as a brand new, cutting edge ballet company. The troupe continues to garner recognition for their profound energy and electricity, offering audiences a fresh, innovative, and diverse ballet experience. The company, its cultural programming, and its collaborative pursuits are especially unique in their distinct reflection of Miami and South Florida, earning them a 2017 Knight Arts Challenge Grant award from The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, funding "the best ideas in the arts", and providing in part major the financial resources for DDTM's current residency at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center.

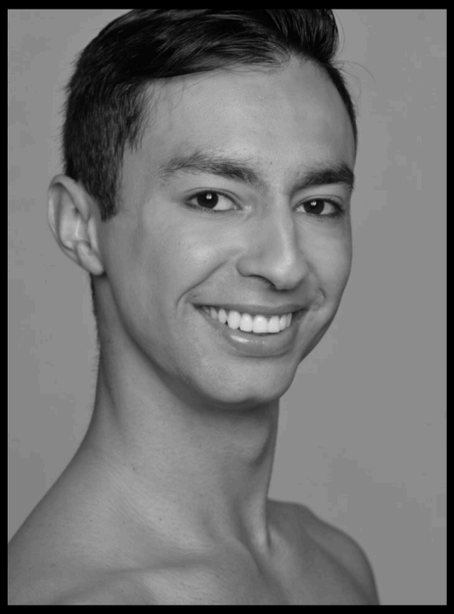
Founding Artistic Directors

Company Dancers

Jessica Arechavaleta

Emily Bromberg

Chloe Freytag



Taylor Garcez

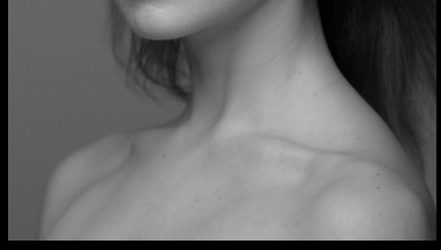
**Guest Artist*

Maikel Hernandez

Meisy Laffitte

Mayrel Martinez

Ariel Morilla



Selah Oliver

Eric Paz

Amelia Rouff

Rafael Ruiz-del-Vizo

Anette Sanchez

Melissa Verdecia

Guest Artist

Paulina Zambrana

**Courtesy of Sanctuary of the Arts Choreographic Ensemble*

Artists in Residence

Yanis Pikieris & Yanis Eric Pikieris

Company Manager

Yanis Eric Pikieris

Production Manager
Celso Peruyera

Marketing Manager
Rebecca King Ferraro

Lighting Designer
Joshua Gumbinner

Administrative Consultant & Tour Manager
Anne-Camille Hersh

PROGRAM NOTES

CHOPIN VARIATIONS

Choreography Samuel Kurkjian
Staging Adam Schnell
Music Frédéric Chopin
Lighting Design Joshua Gumbinner
Costume Design Travis Halsey

Dancers
Emily Bromberg & Maikel Hernandez
with Jessica Arechavaleta, Selah Jane Oliver, Amelia Rouff, Paulina Zambrana

- PAUSE -

SURRENDER

(Company Premiere)

Choreography Jerry Opdenaker

Music Mark O'Connor
Lighting Design Joshua Gumbinner
Projection Design Nigel Van Wieck

Dancers
Melissa Fernandez & Rafael Ruiz-del-Vizo

- PAUSE -

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER YOU BY
(Company Premiere)

Choreography Stephanie Martinez
Staging James La Russa
Music Johann Sebastian Bach, Frédéric Chopin, Felix Mendelssohn, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Lighting Design Joshua Gumbinner
Costume Design Haydee Morales after Anaya Cullen

Dancers
Jessica Arechavaleta, Emily Bromberg, *Taylor Garcez, Maikel Hernandez, Meisy Laffitte, Ariel Morilla, Selah Jane Oliver, Eric Paz, Amelia Rouff, Rafael Ruiz-del-Rizo, Anette Sanchez, Paulina Zambrana

**Courtesy of Sanctuary of the Arts Choreographic Ensemble*

"This is my personal portrayal of hope for an everlasting love and for the person who passed to be remembered always." - Stephanie Martinez

- INTERMISSION -

IMAGINED NOTIONS

Choreography Yanis Pikieris
Music Karl Jenkins
Lighting Design Joshua Gumbinner
Costume Design Haydee Morales after Anaya Cullen

Dancers
Chloe Freytag, Maikel Hernandez, Meisy Laffitte, Ariel Morilla, Eric Paz, Rafael Ruiz-del-Rizo, Paulina Zambrana

Our 2024-25 season is sponsored in major part through the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners, as well as The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY culturalaffairs

KNIGHT FOUNDATION

CHOREOGRAPHERS

Samuel Kurkjian

The late Samuel Kurkjian was a former principal dancer and resident choreographer during the early seasons of Boston Ballet, Kurkjian went on to form his own company, Boston Repertory Ballet, serve as ballet master at the Basel Ballet, Switzerland, and teach for 34 years in the dance department at Walnut Hill School for the Arts in Natick, MA.

Kurkjian attracted the attention of E. Virginia Williams when he entered the first Vestris Prize competition for choreography, winning one of the awards for his ballet, 'Arietta.' She invited him to join Boston Ballet in its 4th season, 1967, and soon promoted him to principal dancer, resident choreographer and ballet master. Among the roles he performed were the Third Campaign in Balanchine's Stars and Stripes and corps in Allegro Brillante, a junior cadet in Graduation Ball, and the character roles of Dr. Drosselmeyer in The Nutcracker and Dr. Coppelius in Coppelia. He also appeared in Pearl Lang's Persephone. Kurkjian choreographed at least nine ballets for Boston Ballet before 1974. Among his most successful and frequently performed works were Speed Zone (set to "Kammermusik No. 1 by Paul Hindemith), Peter and The Wolf (music by Sergei Prokofiev) Lousadzak (music by Alan Hovhaness) and Carl Orff's Carmina Burana. Peter and The Wolf, conducted by Arthur Fiedler and narrated by Joan Kennedy, was broadcast nation-wide by PBS-TV in 1970. Following his career with Boston Ballet, Kurkjian founded his own studio and company in Boston and later moved to Switzerland where he became ballet master for the Basel Ballet. Kurkjian also taught at Dance Theatre of Harlem and staged works for many organizations including Tufts University, The Opera Company of Boston, The Chicago Lyric Opera and The Handel and Haydn Society. During his years at Walnut Hill, he created new ballets and revived works from his repertory for the students, including an annual production of The Nutcracker which he maintained was modeled after E. Virginia Williams' early productions for the Boston Ballet.

Stephanie Martinez

Over eleven years of award-winning works, Chicago-based choreographer Stephanie Martinez moves her audiences along a journey guided by the kinetic momentum of her work. With original creations for Joffrey Ballet, Ballet Hispanico, Luna Negra Dance Theater, Charlotte Ballet, Sacramento Ballet, Eugene Ballet, Nashville Ballet, Ballet Memphis, Kansas City Ballet, and National Choreographers Initiative among others, Martinez's versatility expands the boundaries of contemporary ballet movement. Martinez has created over 60 ballets on companies and collegiate programs across the country.

In 2010, Martinez assisted Broadway legend Ann Reinking in setting the Fosse Trilogy, and in 2015 was awarded Joffrey Ballet's "Winning Works: Choreographers of Color" commission and the Chicago 3Arts Award in recognition for her work as a female artist of color. More recently, Martinez was awarded an NEA grant for her premiere Bliss! at Joffrey Ballet.

Dubbed "a chameleon" of choreography by the Chicago Tribune, Martinez's psychologically revelatory works challenge the viewer's notion of what's possible. Stephanie was also lauded as the subject of "Fearlessly Inspired, 2020" and acknowledged as a "shining example of resilience, adaptability and artistry in an extraordinary year."

Jerry Opdenaker

Jerry Opdenaker, MFA comes from Philadelphia Pa. and is a graduate from the University of the Arts. During his 22-year dancing career, he worked as a principal company member for ballet companies such as Pennsylvania Ballet, Kansas City Ballet and Ballet Florida. During the years spent in these companies, he worked with some of the world's greatest choreographers working in the field of dance. At Ballet Florida he was instrumental in the development, creativity and educational components of STEP Ahead, Ballet Florida's choreographic workshop. Serving as the Director, he propelled the program into the eyes of the National Endowment for the Arts, which awarded the Access to Artistic Excellence Grant twice and was declared a "Jewel of the Palm Beaches" in 2004. That workshop afforded him the opportunity to express and discover his true passion, choreography.

His award winning "Coeur de Basque" began its life there. Since then he has been commissioned for new works such as, "Idyllic Realm" and "Bliss" for Ballet Florida and "From a Distant Wind" and "Bailame" for Ballet Gamonet. Jerry had the incredible privilege to participate in the Ballet builders 2003, New York City Ballet's 2005 Choreographic Institute and the National Choreographic Initiative 2007, in California. He has also choreographed for the Milwaukee Ballet,

McKnight Foundation in Minnesota, Seanik Arts in Miami, Infinite Movement Ever Evolving in California, and the Florida Grand Opera's production of Lakme. He is very proud to be the Discipline Coordinator of Dance for the National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts, YoungArts program. He has also developed a new company in Palm Beach County called O DANCE, which had its inaugural first performance at the Duncan Theatre in February 2010. With his dedication to dance and his long-term commitment to education on all levels -- from dancer to audience -- in 2013, Mr. Opdenaker graduated from Jacksonville University with his MFA in Choreography!

Yanis Pikieris

Dancer, Director, Choreographer, was the recipient of the silver medal at the first Jackson International Ballet Competition in 1979. In 1981 he was the first dancer from the western hemisphere to win the prestigious gold medal at Moscow's International Ballet Competition, launching an international career that would take him to over 50 countries around the world as one of his generations' premier dancers. He has been a principal dancer with the International Ballet of Caracas, Bavarian National Ballet-Munich, Deutsche Oper am Rhein-Dusseldorf, Miami City Ballet and Ballet du Nord-France. In 1986 Artistic Director Edward Villella invited him to join a new company; Miami City Ballet. As a founding member he astounded with his power and passion on stage and was instrumental in the initial success of the company. As a choreographer he has created works for several companies which include the Bavarian National Ballet, Ballet Centrum Berlin, Ballet du Nord, Ballet Metropolitano de Medellin, Juegos del Arte Dance Ensemble, Maximum Dance Company, Ballet de Monterrey, Incolballet, and Ballet Clásico y Contemporáneo de Asunción-Paraguay. In 1996 together with his wife Marielena Mencia he founded the Mencia-Pikieris School of Dance. Pikieris founded and directed Maximum Dance Company in Miami from 1996 to 2005, with David Palmer. During the 2006 and 2007 seasons, he served as Program Director for Miami City Ballet's Contemporary Dance Series and Young People's Programming. Also, in 2006 he founded the Miami Youth Ballet with the mission of providing opportunities for local young artists

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

THE NUTCRACKER

PRESENTED BY MIAMI YOUTH BALLET

Saturday, December 7 @ 7:00 pm
Sunday, December 8 @ 3:00 pm
Dennis C. Moss Cultural Arts Center

Kick off the Holiday season with the enchanting story of Clara, her Nutcracker Prince & their journey to the fantastical Land of Sweets!

SANCTUARY SERIES

DDTM @ SANCTUARY OF THE ARTS

Saturday, January 25 @ 8:00 pm

Sanctuary of the Arts

DDTM makes its exciting debut at Coral Gable's Sanctuary of the Arts with a captivating, uniquely curated program of 21st century ballet featuring the return of Ryan Jolicoeur-Nye's 'Resilience.'

LAB SERIES 2024

Friday, March 14 @ 7:30 pm
Saturday, March 15 @ 7:30 pm
Sunday, March 16 @ 3:30 pm
Dennis C. Moss Cultural Arts Center Lab Theater

Bringing the audience up close and personal with Dimensions Dance Theatre of Miami's vibrant dancers and choreographers, this popular performance series offers an inside look at the fascinating creative process.

MAJOR GIFT SUPPORTERS

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING US ON OUR TOES!

Annual Gifts of $500 - $10,000

Charles & Deborah Adleman
The Alfred & Rose Miniaci Charitable Foundation
Denise Altman & David Greene
Norman & Stephanie Altman
American Endowment Foundation (Francis C. Armstrong III)
*Anonymous
*Anonymous
Sharon & Elliot Asbel and Family
Susan Bannon
Sabine Bittel
Cristina Caraballo
Nicolette Codeso
Edward David Colina
Judy Colina
Lucette Comer
Sui Chung & Michael Vastine
Dr. Kathleen Davenport & Andrew Cobble
Ezekiel Delgado & Migdalia Figueredo
Dennis Edwards & Mark Steinberg
Freytag Family Fund
Friedman & Friedman, PA
Marvin Ross Friedman & Adrienne bon Haes
Grant Gravitt
Ronald & Joanne Goldfarb
Alfred G. Jonas
The Joselow Foundation
Gerald & Tyby Klein
Elena Lodoño
Margie & Pablo Luis
Henry & Harriet Pownall
Alex Tachmes
Luis Ramirez & Dr. Kimberly Thompson
Frances & Charles Rodgers
Sarah Steinbaum
Carmen Tagle & Alan Rose
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Troner
Christopher Vastine
Michael Vastine & Sui Chung
Shana Willinsky & Cesar Molina
Robert Warren
Don & Jackie Wolfe
Dr. Michael & Denise Zeide Charitable Foundation

Our 2024-25 season is sponsored in major part through the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners, as well as The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

BALLET VERO BEACH
Dance is a universal language

Florida ARTS & CULTURE

CULTURE SHOCK MIAMI.COM
access to the arts

Duvin Collaborative

Friedman & Friedman
TRIAL ATTORNEYS

HISPANIC-AMERICAN LYRIC THEATRE

ICI

INVESTOR SOLUTIONS
REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISOR

KNIGHT FOUNDATION

mandelstamdance

MAEC
Miami Arts & Entertainment Council

FAN
FUNDING ARTS NETWORK

SoDanca

MiamiDanceHub
See, hear and share DANCE

Miami Youth Ballet

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Nebrada Foundation

The Miami Foundation
For A Greater Miami

The Gerald Arpino Foundation

SOUTH ARTS

REBECCA KING FERRARO
DIGITAL MARKETING MANAGEMENT

ONESPAWORLD
AT SEA. ON LAND.

DANCE PLUS
THE COMPLETE DANCER'S SHOP

THE ANDREW W. MELLON FOUNDATION

Dancing Supplies Depot

ROSE & ALFRED MINIACI PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

THE MOSS CENTER
DENNIS C. MOSS CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

Westside AUTO PARTS

OCCIDENTAL INSURANCE

CASIN TRAVEL