

BODYTRAFFIC

TINA F. BERKETT ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: Tina Finkelman Berkett

THE COMPANY:

Katie García, Pedro Garcia, Joan Rodriguez, Jordyn Santiago

Chandler Davidson, Becky García, Brenan Gonzalez

Jahnell D. Boozer, Grecia Cruz, Kennedy Simon

CREATIVE PARTNER: Trey McIntyre

DIRECTOR of OPERATIONS: Dora Quintanilla

DIRECTOR of PROGRAMS & STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS: Julie Opiel

DIRECTOR of DEVELOPMENT: Megan Lane

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Michael Jarett

REHEARSAL DIRECTOR: Katie García

EDUCATION & CHOREOGRAPHY ASSOCIATE: Joan Rodriguez

MARKETING COORDINATOR: Drew Brown

CONSULTANT: Brian Colburn

COMPANY REPRESENTATION:

Margaret Selby, Selby/Artists Mgmt

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BODYTRAFFIC is deeply grateful for the support of Gillian Wynn, its Board of Directors (led by Board Chair Maia Wapnick), and the following individuals and organizations:

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BODYTRAFFIC honors the profound legacy of Elaine Wynn, Wallis Annenberg, and Glorya Kaufman, visionary philanthropists whose extraordinary generosity and devotion to dance transformed our company and our community. Their love for dance left an imprint that will resonate on our stages and in our hearts for many years to come.

BODYTRAFFIC is grateful to Robert van Leer, and the Board of Directors and staff of The Wallis for their steadfast support and advocacy for dance in Los Angeles.

***Schachmatt* (Company Premiere)**

CHOREOGRAPHY: Cayetano Soto

SET, COSTUME & LIGHTING DESIGN: Cayetano Soto

REHEARSAL ASSISTANT: Katie Bolanos

MUSIC: Rina Ketty, Michel Legrand, Henry Mancini and Jack Costanzo, Monna Bell, María Teresa Lara, Toña La Negra, and Los Panchos

PERFORMERS: Jahnell D. Boozer, Grecia Cruz, Chandler Davidson, Becky García, Katie García, Pedro Garcia, Brenan Gonzalez, Joan Rodriguez, Jordyn Santiago, Kennedy Simon

ABOUT THE WORK:

Cayetano Soto's *Schachmatt (Checkmate!)* turns a giant chessboard into a theatrical playground, drawing inspiration from Pedro Almodóvar's cinematic flair and Bob Fosse's choreographic swagger.

-PAUSE-***Coalescence***

CHOREOGRAPHY: Jordyn Santiago

MUSIC: Rafa Aslan

LIGHTING DESIGN: Michael Jarett

COSTUMES: UNNAMED design

PERFORMERS: Grecia Cruz, Katie García, Becky García, Jordyn Santiago, Jahnell D. Boozer, Kennedy Simon

PREMIERE: The Avalon Hollywood, Los Angeles, CA, 2025

ABOUT THE WORK:

Jordyn Santiago's *Coalescence* explores the deeply personal and yet universal journey from self-doubt and isolation to joy and self-love. Combining contemporary ballet, social dance, and movement inspired by house culture, this work is a vibrant, affirming love letter to femininity, queerness, and community. An original score combines high-energy house music with a new composition by New York City musician/composer Rafa Aslan.

Jordyn Santiago's position at BODYTRAFFIC is generously underwritten by Karen Hohman Almeida.

-INTERMISSION-

Flyland

CHOREOGRAPHY, LIGHTING, ANIMATIONS & VISUAL DESIGN: David Middendorp

MUSIC: Genevieve Murphy and Cinematic Orchestra

COSTUME DESIGN: Ben Voorhaar

PERFORMERS: Katie Garcia, Joan Rodriguez

PREMIERE: Den Haag, Netherlands, 2018

BODYTRAFFIC PREMIERE: Tina Finkelman Berkett and Guzmán Rosado, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival Gala, Becket, MA, 2025

Flyland is a duet that merges dance with immersive video projection on both the floor and the cyclorama. The piece tells a poetic story of emotion and the delicate boundary between fantasy and reality. It plays with perspective—what is up and what is down becomes a matter of viewpoint. By shifting the audience's orientation, *Flyland* challenges our sense of gravity, space, and emotional direction.

Flyland is a production of Another Kind of Blue.

Flyland was created in part through a residency at Théâtre Raymond Kabbaz.

- PAUSE -

Secret Goodbye (World Premiere)

CHOREOGRAPHY: Trey McIntyre

MUSIC: Sam Cooke; A Change Is Gonna Come, Tennessee Waltz, Frankie and Johnnie, Bring It on Home to Me, Cupid, Nothing Can Change This Love, A Change Is Gonna Come, I Wish You Love

LIGHTING DESIGN: Michael Jarett

COSTUMES DESIGN: Susan Roemer

PERFORMERS: Chandler Davidson, Pedro Garcia, Brenan Gonzalez, Jordyn Santiago

ABOUT THE WORK:

In *Secret Goodbye*, McIntyre reflects on the fleeting yet profound communities artists build throughout their careers. As he is experiencing returning to the stage for the first time in 25 years, he draws from the deep trust, vulnerability, and shared exploration that arise when people create together. The work considers the “little families” that form in rehearsal rooms and performance spaces. *Secret Goodbye* becomes a meditation on what it means to be connected, to move on, yet still carry the imprint of those shared experiences.

This work was generously underwritten by Hank and Gerry Alpert.

Trey McIntyre’s position at BODYTRAFFIC is generously underwritten by Virginia McGehee Friend.

ABOUT BODYTRAFFIC

BODYTRAFFIC, an internationally-renowned dance company from Los Angeles, has been a dynamic force in contemporary dance since its founding in 2007. Under the leadership of its Founding Artistic Director Tina Finkelman Berkett, BODYTRAFFIC is known for its technical prowess and versatility, and expertly masters a repertoire that spans ballet, contemporary, modern, Afro-Cuban, and hip hop. The company thrives on a collective of diverse perspectives and styles, bringing to life the innovative visions of accomplished choreographers like Kyle Abraham, Trey McIntyre, Ohad Naharin, and Micaela Taylor. By seamlessly blending local and global perspectives, BODYTRAFFIC reflects the rich diversity of its home city while pushing the boundaries of dance.

Bringing the spirit of Los Angeles to audiences worldwide, BODYTRAFFIC has performed across 30 states and 20 countries. The company proudly represented the U.S. on cultural diplomacy tours to Algeria, Indonesia, Israel, Jordan, and South Korea. Most recently, BODYTRAFFIC had the honor of performing Trey McIntyre’s *Ma Maison*, presented by the New Orleans Ballet Association with the legendary Preservation Hall Jazz Band to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, further affirming the company’s commitment to work that deeply engages with history and community.

This dedication is further demonstrated through a passion for education, as BODYTRAFFIC mentors and uplifts over 700 students annually, from its training programs for pre-professional dancers to youth-focused movement workshops. BODYTRAFFIC has long-standing partnerships with educational and community organizations throughout Los Angeles—including Everybody Dance LA!, L.A. County High School for the Arts, Boys & Girls Club of Metro LA, Loyola Marymount University, USC Kaufman, Milken Community School, Windward School, and Marlborough School—advancing artistic access and engagement across the city. It further extends to the company’s enduring work with The Wallis’s Creative Aging Program and its

partnership with the Pasadena Senior Center, celebrating the vitality and creative expression of people of all ages and abilities.

At the heart of everything BODYTRAFFIC does are the values of challenge, passion, empathy, inclusion, and growth. It aims to champion both established and emerging voices, serving as a home for a diverse range of styles and perspectives that tell vital stories. The goal is simple: get the world moving. After all, without movement, nothing changes.

Please visit www.BODYTRAFFIC.com to learn about upcoming performances and programs, and to join the company's mailing list.

BIOGRAPHIES

TINA FINKELMAN BERKETT is a visionary leader in contemporary dance, known for curating original, compelling repertoire and redefining the art form across the U.S. and internationally. Tina grew up in New York City, attending Stuyvesant High School of Math and Science and graduating summa cum laude from Barnard College, Columbia University, with a double major in Mathematics and Economics. Her love of dance was ignited by her teacher and mentor, Michele Cuccaro Cain. Tina's professional dance career began at Aszure Barton & Artists, a distinguished contemporary dance company, where she quickly became a featured dancer and then Barton's assistant, teaching both in the U.S. and abroad. A true highlight of Tina's career was being a founding member of Mikhail Baryshnikov's Hell's Kitchen Dance and touring internationally alongside Mr. Baryshnikov himself. Tina began her interest in arts administration when she served as the company's dancer liaison. In 2007, Tina relocated to Los Angeles and launched BODYTRAFFIC with Lillian Barbeito. In 2020 she became the company's sole Artistic Director. Under Tina's leadership, BODYTRAFFIC has become a beacon in the global dance community, known for its innovative choreography, world-class dancers, and powerful performances. Through her curation and vision, Tina continues to foster a vibrant artistic community that captivates and inspires audiences around the world. Tina would like to acknowledge her family for serving as her greatest sources of love and inspiration: her parents, Guzmán, Jack, and Sofia.

Tina Finkelman Berkett's position at BODYTRAFFIC is generously unwritten by Jennifer and Tony Smorgon.

TREY McINTYRE (Creative Partner, Choreographer) was born in Wichita, Kansas, and studied at the North Carolina School of the Arts and the Houston Ballet Academy. In 1989, he was appointed Choreographic Apprentice to Houston Ballet, a position created especially for him, and in 1995, he became the company's Choreographic Associate. He has worked for more than 30 years as a freelance choreographer, producing more than 100 pieces during the span of his career so far. He also did a bunch of other cool things, including working with a lot of amazing

companies such as The Stuttgart Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Queensland Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, New York City Ballet, Oregon Ballet Theatre, BalletX, The Washington Ballet, Ballet Memphis, and San Francisco Ballet. He has won numerous awards and honors, such as the Choo San Goh Award for Choreography, a Lifetime Achievement Award from The National Society of Arts and Letters, two personal grants for choreography from The National Endowment for the Arts, and is a United States Artists Fellow. In 2019, he won the Isadora Duncan Award for Outstanding Achievement in Choreography for his work *Your Flesh Shall be a Great Poem*, which he created for San Francisco Ballet for their Unbound Festival. He was named one of *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch" in 2001, one of *People Magazine's* "25 Hottest Bachelors" in 2003, and one of *Out Magazine's* 2008 "Tastemakers." In 2005, he founded his dance company, Trey McIntyre Project, achieving great audience and critical success. McIntyre created over 23 original works for the company, as well as numerous film projects, interactive site-specific works, and photography collections.

Trey McIntyre's position at BODYTRAFFIC is generously unwritten by Virginia McGehee Friend.

DAVID MIDDENDORP (Choreographer) is a Dutch choreographer and artistic director whose work explores the intersection of dance, technology, and imagination. After completing his training at the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague and Codarts, Middendorp began creating choreographies that defy conventional boundaries—merging contemporary dance with animation, projection mapping, robotics, VR drones, and artificial intelligence. In 2014, he founded Another Kind of Blue, a dance company based in The Hague that has become internationally recognized for its visionary approach to performance. Middendorp's works have been presented on stages across Europe, North America, and Asia, and his piece *Blue Journey* reached a global audience when it became a finalist act on America's Got Talent in 2014. In 2021, his choreography *Airman* was showcased at Expo 2020 in Dubai, where it captivated audiences with a duet between a dancer and twelve autonomous drones, exploring the concept of technological consciousness.

Central to Middendorp's artistic philosophy is a fascination with how human expression and digital systems can co-exist—and even cooperate—in meaningful, poetic ways. His productions often create layered visual landscapes in which technology is not merely a tool, but a performer in its own right. Pieces such as *Flyland* and *Airman*, investigate themes of agency, perception, and the role of free will in a data-driven world.

In recent years, he has explored how principles from contact improvisation—such as responsiveness, intention-reading, and mutual adaptation—can inform the design of AI-driven systems that dance. This research has resulted in performances and prototypes where motion-captured dancers engage with projected swarms or virtual agents in real-time.

Beyond the stage, Middendorp continues to develop immersive experiences in virtual reality and interactive environments, aiming to engage audiences not only as viewers but as participants in co-created digital-dance worlds. His company is also known for educational outreach and collaborations that bring together engineers, artists, and performers.

JORDYN SANTIAGO (Choreographer, Performer) is originally from North Carolina and is a dancer, teacher and choreographer. Jordyn grew up training at The Dance Theatre of Jacksonville, under the direction of Debra Baile. She has traveled and trained across the United States as well as abroad in Israel and Europe. Jordyn has studied with artists such as Danielle Agami, Jiri Pokorny, Medhi Walerski, Adi Salant, Bryan Arias, Diana Matos, and Melissa Jackson. Jordyn has toured as a backup dancer with Los Angeles-based band Half Alive. She had the opportunity to dance for the motion picture production of *In The Heights* with Warner Bros. Entertainment. Jordyn has performed at the Lincoln Center in Washington, D.C in an Opera titled *Prism* under the direction of Beth Morrison Projects. Jordyn has danced in music videos for Griffin Matthews, Zolita, and Buzz's newest single "Soul". She has also taught at several well-regarded institutions and collectives, including Peridance Capezio Center, Broadway Dance Center, Brick House NYC, Marymount Manhattan, The University of the Arts, and University of North Carolina Greensboro. Jordyn had the opportunity to present her first solo work, *All There Is* in Los Angeles for an all Queer Artist showcase. This year she also has the opportunity to set a work on her fellow company members of BODYTRAFFIC. This is Jordyn's fifth season with BODYTRAFFIC. She is incredibly grateful to get to travel the world alongside such a dynamic group of artists and is looking forward to sharing more of her personal work with audiences of all kinds.

Jordyn Santiago's position at BODYTRAFFIC is generously unwritten by Karen Hohman Almeida.

CAYETANO SOTO (Choreographer) began his dance education in Barcelona at the Institut del Teatre and then continued his studies at the Koninklijk Conservatorium in The Hague. Soto danced with IT Dansa Barcelona in 1997 before joining Ballet Theater Munich a year later. In 2000, he was awarded Best Young Choreographer to Watch by the German magazine Tanz Aktuell for his first choreography for Ballet Theater Munich, *Plenilunio*. While with that company he created several successful ballets and one of his first signature pieces, *Fugaz*. Since 2005, Soto has worked as a freelance choreographer and has received commissions from Ballet BC, BJM Montréal, Nederlands Dans Theater, Royal Ballet of Flanders, Ballett Zürich, Compañía Nacional de Danza, Le Ballet du Capitole, Balé da Cidade de São Paulo, Introdans, Gauthier Dance Company, Companhia Nacional de Bailado, Perm Opera Ballet Theatre, Národní divadlo Brno, Maggio Danza Opera di Firenze, Hessisches Staatsballett Wiesbaden and the Stuttgart Ballet. In 2015, Soto served as Resident Choreographer for Ballet BC for three seasons. He has received numerous awards for his creative work. In 2006 he was awarded first prize for his ballet 24FPS at the "Uncontainable" choreography competition at the Royal Ballet of Flanders. *Canela Fina*, commissioned by Balé da Cidade de São Paulo, was awarded Best Dance Production of 2008 by the Brazilian newspaper Folha de São Paulo. Soto's choreography *With Reason And Heart* was awarded Best Screen Choreography up to 5 Minutes at Dancescreen 2019 + TANZRAUSCHEN Festival in Wuppertal, Germany.

KATIE GARCÍA (Rehearsal Director, / Performer) is a dynamic force in the dance world, known for her expertise as both a performer and educator. A graduate of The Juilliard School, she has trained at premier institutions such as New World School of the Arts, Dance Town Studios

Miami, San Francisco Conservatory of Dance, and Springboard Danse Montréal. Following her graduation, she became a key member of Parsons Dance, where she performed for two and a half years while also expanding her portfolio with freelance and collaborative projects. After joining BODYTRAFFIC, she served as assistant choreographer to Joan Rodriguez's commissioned work *Bloquea'o*. Katie's influence extends into academia, where she has led master classes at elite colleges and universities. Her passion for community engagement is evident in her work with outreach programs like GLUCK, TAP for Life, and Dance for Parkinson's Disease, through which she has brought movement and healing to hospitals, wellness centers, and communities in both New York City and Miami. Internationally, Katie has made her mark by co-leading a project in Botswana, providing dance education and movement therapy to children with physical, cognitive and developmental disabilities. Her creative endeavors reach beyond live performance; she has co-produced dance films with Joan Rodriguez, featured at festivals such as the Blacktinx Dance Festival, Solo Duo Dance Festival, and Dumbo Dance Festival. Additionally, her work has been showcased in collaboration with mixed media artist Anna Khachatryan at a prominent NYC SOHO art gallery. Katie's career exemplifies her dedication to the transformative power of dance, both as an art form and as a tool for education and healing. This is Katie's fifth season dancing with BODYTRAFFIC, and her second season as Rehearsal Director.

PEDRO GARCIA (Senior Company Member, Performer) began his studies at the National Conservatory of Lisbon, working with teachers including Mikahall Zavialova, Irina Zavialova, Catarina Moreira, and José Luís Vieira, among others. In 2014, he won the 3^o prize at Tanzolymp Competition in Berlin. He received his diploma in 2015 and continued on to earn a degree from School Supérieure de Danse de Cannes Rosella Hightower. Pedro joined the junior ballet Rosella Hightower DNSP3 for one year and then went on to join the Ballet National de Marseille, where he worked with Emio Greco and Pieter C. Scholten until 2018. In 2019, he joined Companhia Portuguesa de Bailado Contemporaneo, under the direction of Vasco Wellenkamp. Pedro has worked with choreographers Nelia Pinheiro and André Mesquita, and joined Quórum Ballet for one season, where he worked with Daniel Cardoso and Lior Tavori. This is Pedro's fifth season with BODYTRAFFIC.

JOAN RODRIGUEZ (Education & Choreography Associate, / Performer) is a Cuban-born dancer, choreographer, and educator known for his dynamic versatility, seamlessly blending Afro-Latin, contemporary, and multimedia styles. He graduated from the prestigious Escuela Nacional de Arte, earning the "Best Graduate of the Year" award, and began his career with DanzAbierta and Malpaso Dance Company. In 2016, after relocating to the United States as a political refugee, Joan moved to Arizona, where he focused on creating, teaching, and producing multimedia projects in collaboration with museums and as Guest Faculty for Arizona State University. His journey continued in New York with Parsons Dance, where he choreographed an original work for the 2018 GenerationNow fellowship. He later created an original work for Connecticut Ballet, while serving as Guest Artist in Residence at various universities and arts centers across the U.S. Joan plays a pivotal role at BODYTRAFFIC as a

master teacher and lead content creator. His acclaimed commissioned work, *Bloquea'o*, has toured the U.S. extensively. Joan's passion lies in building community through dance, sharing movement across diverse settings, and pioneering innovative intersections between performance and media. This is Joan's fifth season with BODYTRAFFIC, and his second season as Education and Choreography Associate.

JAHNELL D. BOOZER (Performer) is a DC native based in Philadelphia, PA, who received her early dance education at the Washington School of Ballet and Duke Ellington School of the Arts. She pursued her BFA in Dance under the direction of Donna Faye Burchfield from University of the Arts, graduating in May 2024. Since her time at UArts, she has become a freelance dance artist whilst being a company member of BigKids Dance Company under the direction of Mark Caserta. Her artistic goals consist of pursuing a professional dance career, creating choreographic works, and creating professional social media content within dance media, fashion, and lifestyle. Jahnell's work is embedded in researching dance and how grand feelings can be visualized within and/or through emotions, time, and imagination. She is thrilled to join BODYTRAFFIC.

BODYTRAFFIC thanks Andrew Rhoda for sponsoring Jahnell D. Boozer.

GRECIA CRUZ (Performer) is a Mexican-American artist from Southern California. She studied dance at the Orange County School of the Arts and continued her training in the Conservatory of Dance at SUNY Purchase, where she Graduated with a BFA in 2024. Throughout her training at SUNY Purchase she performed works by Trisha Brown, Chen Agron, Jie-Hung Connie Shau and Norbert De La Cruz. Post college, Grecia danced professionally with Visceral Dance Chicago. She has worked in residency with Andrea Miller and participated in programs including NDT SI, GAGA Lab, GALLIM SI & Ate9. This is Grecia's second season with BODYTRAFFIC.

CHANDLER DAVIDSON (Performer) is from Greensboro, North Carolina and recently received his Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Contemporary Dance at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA), with the privilege of learning from an esteemed faculty, including Brenda Daniels, Dayna Fox, Laura Martin, Angelina Sansone, Sean Sullivan, Abigail Yager, Ming-Lung Yang, and Jenet Zerbe. Their mentorship has played a pivotal role in refining his technical proficiency and nurturing his artistry. This is Chandler's second season with the company, having spent his senior year of college both finishing his degree and performing with BODYTRAFFIC.

Chandler Davidson's position at BODYTRAFFIC is generously supported by Karen Hohman Almeida.

BECKY GARCÍA (Performer) was born and raised in Miami, FL, where she was submerged in culture and art all throughout her life. She received prestigious training growing up at the New World School of the Arts and Dance Town Miami. In 2017, she won a presidential award to perform at Art Basel. Becky attended Point Park University and graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts. Additionally, she studied at Conservatorio Superior de Danza María de Ávila, Alonzo

King Lines Ballet and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. Becky has an immense love and passion for dance and all the arts, which she hopes to share with the world. This is Becky's second season with the company.

BRENAN GONZALEZ (Performer) is a first-generation Cuban-American artist from Lake Worth, FL. He began his dance training at That's Dancing Dance Studio, igniting a passion and curiosity for Hip-Hop styles at age 4. He graduated from USC Glorya Kaufman School of Dance this past May. He is a two-time YoungArts awardee, receiving an Honorable Mention in 2020 and a Merit Award in 2021 for Modern/Contemporary dance. Recently, Brennan has explored site-specific choreography and interdisciplinary performance, merging movement with other mediums like film and fashion. Brennan also pursues his passion for teaching through community outreach programs like USC Kaufman Connections and at various dance studios and pre-professional programs across South Florida. This is Brennan's second season with BODYTRAFFIC.

KENNEDY SIMON (Performer), raised in New Orleans, began her pre-professional dance training with the New Orleans Ballet Association (NOBA) and continued her artistic development at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts, graduating in 2022. During her time with NOBA, she worked with choreographers such as Jae Man Joo, Trey McIntyre, Ronald K. Brown, Eduardo Vilaro, and many more. Kennedy is currently a senior in the Conservatory of Dance at SUNY Purchase, and studied abroad at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. She believes in dance as a tool for empowerment and hopes to use her training to create meaningful opportunities for people who haven't always had access to the arts. She is honored to be performing with BODYTRAFFIC.

Kennedy Simon's position at BODYTRAFFIC is generously supported by Jenny Hamilton and New Orleans Ballet Association.

BODYTRAFFIC thanks Andrew Rhoda for sponsoring Kennedy Simon.