

ARC DANCE

Marie Chong, Artistic Director

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AYDC SPRING REPERTORY CONCERT

March 21, 4:00pm & March 22, 2:00pm

SEATTLE, WA – Arc Youth Dance Company (AYDC) presents its *Spring Repertory Concert* at the ARC Dance Space. Choreographers Gérard Théorêt, Lucie Baker, Olivia Sabee, and Lara McIntosh created new dances for the thirteen-member ensemble. AYDC members train, rehearse, and perform approximately nine months a year, similar to a professional dance company. This season, the youth company presented roughly 20 performances, including programs at Shorewood Performing Arts Center and Benaroya Hall (with the Seattle Symphony), as well as community sharing events at Ballard Seafood Fest and “Mom & Me” (at Woodland Park Zoo). The *Spring Repertory Concert* wraps up the youth company's performance season by presenting a mixed bill of dance works created by nationally recognized and emerging choreographers.

ARC Dance Productions, in association with Arc School of Ballet, launched the Arc Youth Dance Company in March 2013. AYDC offers artistic and personal growth to dancers ages 11-19 who have the desire to further develop their artistic excellence in dance performance.

ARC Dance Productions and Arc School of Ballet share a 9,000 square foot facility, including four studios, office space, and wardrobe and changing rooms, located in the former Crown Hill School in the Ballard/Crown Hill neighborhood of Seattle.

ARC Dance Productions, Arc School of Ballet, and Arc Youth Dance Company - 9250 14th Ave NW, Seattle, WA, 98117 206.352.0798 Tickets \$20 Adult, \$10 Children (10 years and younger) www.arcdance.org

Lucie Baker, Choreographer is a dance artist based in Seattle, Washington. She began her studies from a young age at Pacific Northwest Ballet and later at Cornish College of the Arts Preparatory Dance Division. Baker moved to New York to study dance at the Juilliard School earning her BFA in 2008. She has performed with a number of companies including Jane Comfort and Company, Tamar Rogoff Performance Projects, Erica Essner Performance Co-Op, Phantom Limb Company, Tiffany Mills Company, Bennyroyce Dance Productions, Yara Travieso, Sidra Bell Dance New York, Adam Barruch Dance, CreativeOtis and ARC Dance. Her choreography has been performed both domestically in New York, Seattle and New Orleans and internationally in Spain, Peru and Germany. She has produced, administrated and managed many performance events. Ms. Baker is also committed to community building and educational outreach through the arts as a volunteer with Artists Striving To End Poverty (A.S.T.E.P.) and teacher at many dance schools.

Lara McIntosh, Choreographer has danced all her life. She explores rhythm, spirit, craft, and community to unlock the movement potential in each person. As performer, teacher, choreographer and life long student, McIntosh is an active member of Seattle dance, public art and drum communities. Her use of Afro-infused dance styles is greatly inspired by travels to Brazil and Mali, West Africa.

McIntosh's movement studies range from tap and ballet and acrobatics to modern/contemporary modes to the improvisatory work of Deborah Hay and Eiko & Koma along with many seasons and styles in between. Her favorite performance & production experiences have been with her long time collaborators in THREAD DANCE. These works are site specific, self produced, largely improvised and always designed as a gift for the viewers. She believes that as we breathe, we are already dancing.

Olivia Sabee, Choreographer grew up in Seattle, where she received her early dance training at Pacific Northwest Ballet School and Cornish College Prep Dance. In 2008 she received her BA in French Literature from the University of Chicago, where she wrote her thesis on Nijinsky's adaptation of Mallarmé's *L'après-midi d'un faune*. Her current research focuses broadly on the relationship between narrative and pure dance in 18th and 19th century ballet and she is currently finishing her dissertation, entitled "Ballet d'action to Ballet-Pantomime: Dance, Text, and Narrative in French Ballet, 1734-1841" at Johns Hopkins University for which she has received a Mellon-Council for European Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship. Most recently, Sabee served as Associate Director of MOVEIUS Contemporary Ballet. Her choreography, called "thought-provoking and moving" by Washington City Paper, has been performed by MOVEIUS Contemporary Ballet and presented by Baltimore's Artscape Festival, Atlas INTERSECTIONS Festival, Johns Hopkins University, and others. She resides in Washington, D.C.

Gérard Théorêt, Choreographer Following a successful career as a Soloist with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet in Canada, Théorêt transitioned to acting. He is a graduate of The Drama Studio in London and has performed extensively as an actor, singer and dancer for film and stage, including the Stratford Festival, Canada. Théorêt was resident Artistic Director for Livent's production of *Phantom of the Opera* for seven years and in 1996 accepted a position as an Assistant professor of Drama at the University of Alberta. There he directed modern and classical plays and was the movement coach for all mainstage productions. He was a full Professor at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle, WA prior to accepting the Artistic Director position of Cirque du Soleil's show *Corteo* in 2008. In 2010 he transitioned to being an Artist in Cirque du Soleil's show *Saltimbanco*.