

**BALLET**

**ANA LOPEZ** began her dance studies at Kindertanztheater Claudia Corti and at the Zürich Opera House Ballet School. She absolved all exams of the Royal Academy of Dancing and received a Migros Stipendium to continue her studies at the Hamburg Opera House Ballet School. In 1989 she was given the chance as a young dancer to perform with the ballet company at Zürich Opera House under the direction of Uwe Scholz. Then she performed as a guest in Bern and in Milan. In 1993 she was a soloist at Braunschweig Theater. In 1998 she was first soloist in the Compañia Nacional de Danza in Madrid. She toured with the company world-wide over the course of 14 years and danced at many international dance festivals, from Lincoln Center in New York to the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow. She worked with renowned choreographers such as Jiri Kylian, Mats Ek, William Forsythe, Wim Vandekeybus, Ohad Naharin, Oscar Araiz, Johan Inger, Uwe Scholz and many more. In 2012 she joined the Basel Ballet. Since 2015 she enjoys working as a dance teacher, choreographer and bodywork practitioner.

**AZUSA NISHIMURA** is from Hiroshima, Japan. Her repertoire ranges from classical ballet to contemporary dance. She began her professional career in Europe in 2000. Since then she has been living in Zürich and works throughout Switzerland as a dancer, teacher and choreography assistant. Collaborating with artists from other fields as well, she has performed in operas, dance films, theater performances, music videos, commercial events and photo shoots. <http://www.azusa.ch>

**PAMELA MONREALE** was born in Palermo in 1986. After finishing her studies in private ballet schools she joined the youth company of Massimo's Theater in Palermo. She continued her studies in Codarts, Rotterdam, where she graduated in 2008. She started her career as a professional dancer with Cathy Sharp Dance Ensemble in Basel and then began freelancing with several dance companies in Switzerland, including Konzert Theater Bern, T42 Dance Project and Dysoundbo. In 2010 she started teaching ballet classes for dance companies - and open professional classes for Joshua Monten Dance Company, Marcel Leemann Physical Dance Theater, Profitraining Basel, Profitraining Winterthur, open professional classes at Tanzwerk101 and many others. Since 2015 she teaches basic level training for Tanzwerk101 and amateur classes for HF-Bühnentanz. Since 2017 she is a Basi Pilates instructor for mat work. She teaches Pilates for the Physiotherapy center Physio Med in Fribourg and for the Health center Circles in Bern, as part of rehabilitation and injury prevention program. She combines the work of Pilates with ballet in order to go deeper into the understanding of a healthy and functional approach to the technique.

**CLARISSA ROCHA** began her dance studies in Brazil at the age of eleven. Seven years later she started to work as a teacher and as a dancer. Throughout her career she has always tried to balance those two professions that she loves, teaching and performing, as she considers them as complementary. In 2005 she moved to Madrid where she carried on with her studies and where she graduated in choreography and interpretation at the Maria de Avila Conservatory. At the same time she was performing with different dance companies of various styles, from aerial dance and outdoor performance to contemporary dance. During the 8 years she lived in Madrid she also worked as ballet, contemporary dance and Pilates teacher. In 2013 Clarissa moved abroad again, this time to London, where she continued with her career as dancer and teacher. There she collaborated in a post graduate dance project at the London Contemporary Dance School and had a permanent role as a teacher at Ballet4life, focusing on ballet for adults and elderly people. In collaboration with Ballet4life's director, she developed a programme especially conceived for people with dementia.

**SOL BILBAO** studied dance and choreography in Spain. She has danced professionally since 2003 in different companies in Europe, where she has worked with choreographers such as Jiri Kylian, Nacho Duato, Ohad Naharin, Mats Ek, Imbal Pinto, Angelin Preljocaj, Richard Werlock, Alexander Ekman, Stijn Celis, Johan Inger and Sharon Fridman, among others. Since 2007 she has created various dance performances, starting at Introdans in Holland. This first contact with dance creation motivated her to study choreography and Interpretation in Madrid. There Sol discovered her passion for creating, researching and developing her own choreographic language. Sol choreographed for the production "Dancelab", an annual laboratory of dance, soon after arriving at Ballet Basel in 2009. Besides this, she has created her own pieces in the freelance scene of Switzerland and has collaborated with other artists in different interdisciplinary projects. Together with two other choreographers, she co-founded a collective called Loop Tanz in 2016. At the moment she is absolving a Masters Degree at Hochschule der Künste Bern. She also teaches classical ballet, contemporary dance and guided improvisation in Basel. According to Sol's philosophical view, movement can reveal new critical aspects of social and cultural themes. Starting out with conceptual concepts originating from current impulses, she employs a research strategy that crosses many disciplinary boundaries in order to create a holistic approach to her work.

**JULIAN NICOSIA** is a choreographer and dancer, born in Saint-Etienne, France in 1989. He studied at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et Danse de Lyon from 2006 to 2010. As a dancer he began his career at the Ballet de l'Opéra de Lyon in 2010 under the artistic direction of Yorgos Loukos. During five years in the company, Julian performed in and co-created works with notable choreographers including William Forsythe, Jiri Kylian, Mats EK, Trisha Brown, Merce Cunningham, Ohad Naharin, Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker, Maguy Marin and Benjamin Millepied among others. In 2015 he began to dance for renowned choreographer Jacopo Godani in Frankfurt am Main. Two years later he began working as his choreographic assistant and has reset his pieces in prestigious companies. As a choreographer, Julian created « How long is now » for the Dresden Frankfurt Dance Company in 2017. Julian was also invited to film his work "LESLI" at the Fondation BEYELER in Basel, Switzerland. In 2020 / 2021 Julian will create multiple works such as: a « pas de deux » for Maria Kochetkova and Sebastian Kloborg as well as a new creation for the Ensemble Chorégraphique du Conservatoire de Paris, a full evening creation in Mexico and a « pas de deux » for Ines McIntosh and Gasztowtt from Paris Opera Ballet.

**CONTEMPORARY**

**DIEGO DE LA ROSA** discovered Bboying on the streets of Valladolid. In his formative years as a dancer he travelled throughout Europe and participated in diverse competitions and events. In 2012 he moved to Berlin, where he and other dancers founded Frantics Dance Company. His role within the company is that of a dancer and choreographer. Apart from his personal artistic endeavors as a dancer, he has been working on various projects since 2014 in Spain, Greece and Germany. Additionally, Diego has gained extensive knowledge in teaching through his work at, among others, Marameo in Berlin, Johannes Wieland's Company in Kassel, Profitraining in Basel, A Space in Taipei and also in Barcelona and Athens. On top of that, while touring with his solo piece, he also toured with Frantics Dance Company in Denmark, Germany, Greece, Spain, Italy and Taiwan. Together with the dancer Young-Won Song and the choreographer Juan Tirado, Diego created the duet *One's*. This duet won the prestigious 31st Annual Choreography Competition in Hanover in 2017 and resulted in the award of a residency in Hellerau, DE. In 2018 they developed the piece you.IT.me. at the European Centre of Arts in Hellerau. In 2017/2018 Diego worked with the Austrian company **Hungry Sharks** and was a guest dancer at Theater Bonn. Since the start of the 2018/2019 season, he has been engaged as an ensemble member at Theater Bremen.

**ANNA HEINIMANN** works as a dancer, dance pedagogue and choreographer in the independent scene in Bern, Basel and Berlin. She completed her dance studies at the Danceacademy balance 1 in Berlin. She has worked with various choreographers and companies (YET Company in Berlin, Nunzio Impellizzeri, Brigitta Schrepfer and others) and created many short pieces and performances. In 2012 she founded the Bern-based group "Kollektiv F", in collaboration with Luzius Engel. The collective is associated artist of Dampfzentrale Bern during the seasons 17/18 and 18/19. It mainly creates pieces for a young audience. In addition to this, she performs in art houses, music videos and street actions for Amnesty International. She teaches professional trainings in Zürich, Basel and St. Gallen. From 2007 to 2017 Anna taught contemporary dance for children, adolescents and adults at tanzplatz vorbern on a regular basis, as well as having directed numerous dance projects in schools with the company „d'Schwyz tanzt...". Together with Pascale Altenburger, she has been directing a youth company since 2015. They create pieces collectively with the youths and search for an artistic language between contemporary and urban dance.

**MARION SPARBER** Originally from South Tyrol in Italy, Marion is a professional dancer/instructor based in Berlin, Germany. She received her professional dance training at Varium in Barcelona and Iwanson Contemporary Dance School in Munich. As a teacher she has been working in several schools and festivals in Italy, Spain, Costa Rica, Russia, Portugal and Germany. Marion has collaborated as a dancer with choreographers and companies such as Francisco Córdova, Stella Zannou, Sonia Rodriguez, ADN-Dialect, Eldon Pulak and the Weedance Company. Her solo-work "The Ripe and ruin" and her group-pieces "Shell Shock" and "Impromptu" have been performed at several theaters and festivals in Costa Rica, Greece, Spain, Switzerland, Italy and Germany. She is co-founder of the KpiqA-Collective and CuerpOCollectivo. In 2014 Marion was part of "EX-IN", a one month intensive workshop with David Zambrano learning Flying Low and Passing Through Technique and took seminars practicing and teaching this technique for many years.