

**CONTEMPORARY**

**HECTOR PLAZA** was born in Valladolid, Spain. His connection with movement began at a very young age, through sports and martial arts. Later on he immersed himself in breakdancing, making a name for himself on a national and European level. He has been invited to events such as Red Bull Bc Be One Spain Cypher, Les Units de la Frottiere (Lyon) and Brea-x-mas Jam (Bremen). In 2012 he began his dance education with a focus on contemporary dance at the Varium school. He had a scholarship for his two years of study there. Since then he has continued to explore movement and to develop his craft in dance classes. He has worked with choreographers such as Rafael Amargo, Ramón Oller and Nadine Gerspacher. He's currently working as a performer with the company Physical Momentum Project directed by Francisco Córdoba Azuela, as well as with Roberto Oliván and also as a creative member of Iron Skulls with whom he has developed multiple artistic projects and productions.

**NARENDRA PATIL** received training in various dance forms from teachers world wide, and has shown his mettle under the likes of David Zambrano, Susanne Linke, Jozef Linda, Peter Jasko, Laura Aris, Anton Lachky, Nakula Somana and Marin Legat among others. Narendra is the first Indian contemporary dancer who has studied with David Zambrano as part of a 30 day intensive workshop of the *Flying Low and Passing Through* technique in Berlin (2014). He was selected among 489 dancers from around the world. He was selected again for the second edition which took place in Madrid (2016). Having explored numerous movement possibilities and finding inspiration and knowledge at various dance festivals, intensive workshops and creations with renowned teachers, he was inspired to create his own dance vocabulary. Narendra was a principal performer, teacher and assistant choreographer at Terrance Lewis Contemporary Dance Company for 10 years. He is currently working as an independent artist. He has been invited to teach in many professional dance schools, profitrainings and companies in Europe, Russia and India. He performed in an improvisation trio with David Zambrano and Lamprini Gkolia in Athens (2015). Narendra has collaborated with Lamprini, who is Greek, in other projects as well. They performed their duet *Camouflage* in Athens and at Deltebre Dansa Festival in Spain (2015) and gave partnering workshops in Europe and India. Narendra has also collaborated and performed with Axismundi Jaipur and Geneva Project 2016 with Mohamed Toukabri, Rakesh Suresh, Bolari Da Costa and art director Pol Sinus. This piece was created during a Pro Helvetia residency in India in 2015. The premiere took place at Théâtre du Galpon in Geneva as part of Artigel Festival in February of 2016. He performed his solo *RESTLESS* at Deltebre Dansa (2016). In 2017 he performed an improvisation duet with Francisco Cordova in St. Petersburg as well as solo improvisations in Moscow, Crimea and Tyumen, Russia.

**EVE NEERACHER** was born in 1971 in Switzerland. Her home base is now in Berlin. She received her BA in dance at Codarts/ Rotterdam, Netherlands and CH-Tanztheater in Zürich and continued her studies in dance therapy, somatic- and bodywork and yoga. She danced in the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland and Spain in various theaters and companies including Nederlandse Opera, Cloud Chamber Dance Theater, Shusaku Dormu Company, Toulou Limnaios Company, Ventura Dance Company, Open Air Project of Young Netherlands Dance Theater choreographer Dylan Newcomb, Frederik Flammand, Staatstheater Braunschweig with Henning Paar and National Theater Mannheim with Reinhild Hoffman, as well as having taken part in diverse freelance dance productions. Since 1998 she has choreographed various dance performances among which are *Frauenzimmer*, *swiss maid*, *wordless*, *H2O*, *RGB* and *a liquid self*. As co-founder and artistic director of the dance company *Across the Divide* (Basel & Berlin) she creates interdisciplinary dance performances in collaboration with mature dance- and performing artists. [www.acrossthedivide.org](http://www.acrossthedivide.org)

**ANDREA BOLL** is artistic director and choreographer of bollwerk. She also works internationally as a guest choreographer and guest teacher. She has danced with various other companies and in productions in the Netherlands, Belgium, France and Germany, among others with Cie. Nadine Ganase, The Meekers, Ted Stoffer and Ives Thuwis. From 1996 to 2008 she was artistic director, choreographer and dancer with Hans Hof Ensemble in the Netherlands. With HHE she created numerous internationally acclaimed pieces and dance movies and was awarded several prizes. From 2011 to 2014 she was artistic director of Tanzhaus Zürich where she founded Tanzhaus Young, the department for a young audience. Andrea has been creating for bollwerk since 2008 in Amsterdam and since 2014 in Zürich. Her latest creation *bones* premiered at Fabriktheater/ Rote Fabrik in Zürich in December 2017. Her dance movie *downhill* premiered at Cinedance Festival in Amsterdam in March 2018. Her site-specific trilogy *downhill downriver downtown* plays in public spaces and in nature. [bollwerk-andreaboll.com](http://bollwerk-andreaboll.com)

**BENJAMIN LINDH** has a background in many disciplines and art forms. He is a self-taught chef who is trained in Ayurvedic Yoga and Thai Massage and also has a degree in Contemporary Dance. Throughout his life, dance and other movement forms have always been his main focus of interest. He started out with hip hop, rhythm, ballet and contemporary dance and then moved on to study eastern practices like Tai Chi and yoga, as well as more subtle techniques connected to the mind. As a child and teenager he studied at the Royal Ballet and City Theatre School of Stockholm, Sweden, where he learned musical, dance and theater arts. He grew up in the performing arts and the musical world through his parents. This has influenced him a great deal. In 2009 he graduated with a Bachelors degree in Contemporary Dance and Pedagogy at the Norwegian College of Dance in Oslo, Norway. Benjamin has performance experience in musicals, singing events and dance, as well as in films and performance art. Some of the people he has worked with throughout the years include Angelo Dello Iacono, Myriam Lefkowitz, Katrine Kireborn, Bibi Winberg, Andreas Bjørnboe, Linda Hedberg, Isse Omari and Maggie Aulin. During the past five years he has worked less in the field of performance and has focused more on an integrative practice of movement and martial arts. Nowadays Benjamin lives in Switzerland and is investing a greater amount of his time in performance and creative work.

## **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 Compañía 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 Jirí Kylián, 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.

**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.

**PAMELA MONREALE** is a ballet teacher and freelance dancer based in Bern. She was born in 1986 in Palermo, Italy where she began her dance studies at Massimo Theater. After graduating in 2008 from Codarts University of Arts in Rotterdam with a BA of Dance, she started her professional career with Cathy Sharp Dance Ensemble in Basel. In 2010 she began freelancing in Switzerland with, among others, T42 Dance Project, Königsfelder Festspiele, Konzert Theater Bern (Cut cinema unleashes dance) and Cie. Dysoundbo with Linda Magnifico in Luzern. She combines her performing with teaching ballet classes for professional dancers, at private schools and for the University in Basel and in Bern. Since April 2015 she teaches for the Tanzwerk 101 Grundausbildung ZTTS in Zürich.

**PATRICIA ROTONDARO** lives in Basel. She has Italian roots and was born in Buenos Aires. She began with classical dance training at a young age and later studied Graham and Müller Techniques, clowning, drama and singing. In 1996 she moved to Europe and studied for one year at Folkwang University in Essen. She completed her studies at the SNDO in Amsterdam. While still working on her BA, she already had begun performing with the Meekers company in Rotterdam. In 2005 she moved to Switzerland for an engagement at the Lucerne Theater, where she worked until 2007. Subsequently, she worked as a freelance dancer with Company Mafalda, Cie. Dysoundbo and Jochen Heckmann, among others. She took part in the coaching project for choreographers SiWiC in Zürich: 2007 under the direction of Susanne Linke, 2008 under Jochen Heckmann and 2009 under Philippe Saire. In 2009/10 she worked as a choreographic assistant for Company Mafalda at Stadttheater Saarbrücken and Stadttheater Freiburg. From 2012 to 2014 she worked with Cathy Sharp Dance Ensemble. During this time she was also working as a guest at Stadttheater St. Gallen, performing in pieces by Marco Santi and Anton Lachky/ Cie. Les Slowaks. From 2015 to 2017 Patricia worked as a guest dancer and performer at Konzert Theater Bern in *Das Schloss* by Kafka under the direction of Estefania Miranda. In the same theater she performed with director Claudia Meyer in Elfriede Jelinek's play *Die Schutzbefohlenen* and in *Die Reise von Klaus und Edith durch den Schacht zum Mittelpunkt der Erde* by Lukas Barfuß. Since 2015 Patricia has been collaborating with the Anton Lachky Dance Company in Belgium. They have created the piece *Side Effects*, which is touring internationally. In February 2019 they will begin the new creation, *LODUM*, to be premiered in Brussels. Patricia is a guest contemporary and ballet teacher for the Bachelor in Contemporary Dance at ZhdK in Zürich. In addition to the development of her own choreographic work, she teaches contemporary dance and ballet for the professional training in Basel, Zürich and Winterthur and has her own groups in Basel.

**JOAQUIN CRESPO LOPES** was born into a Portuguese family in Buenos Aires, Argentina. At the age of eight he began to study at the Teatro Colon Ballet School. He graduated with the Elena Smirnov award for outstanding student of the institution. At 16 he began his professional career as a soloist at Teatro Argentina de La Plata. The next year he joined the Teatro Colon Company. In 2002 he won awards at the Arabesque International Ballet Competition in Perm, Russia and Prague, Czech Republic. In 2003 he joined John Neumeier's Hamburg Ballet. From 2005 to 2012 he danced with CND" and then CND (Compañía Nacional de Danza) under the direction of Nacho Duato in Madrid, Spain. In 2012 he joined Basel Ballet as a soloist. Since 2016 he has been dancing at Staatsballett Berlin which is co-directed by Johannes Öhman and Sasha Waltz. He has worked with choreographers such as Nacho Duato, William Forsythe, Jirí Kylián, Johan Inger, Alexander Ekman, Stijn Celis, Richard Wherlock, John Neumeier, Tony Fabre, Gentian Doda, Chevi Muraday, Gustavo Ramírez, Philippe Blanchard, Angelin Preljocaj, Alejandro Cerrudo and Stephan Thoss among others. He has taught ballet and modern dance at various movement centers and at the University of Basel. He founded Ballett Workshop, a series of monthly classes given in Basel and Zürich. In June of 2018 he received a certification in dance pedagogy. He has also begun to choreograph. One of his first self-developed choreographies was presented in March 2017 at the Tischlerei of Deutsche Oper (Berlin) in the context of DANCE /// RUPTION. He is artistic director, along with Stephan Ehrlich, of *IMAGES- Szenenwechsel neuer Choreografen* which is a platform based on dialogue and new choreographies developed between institutional and freelance dancers from Berlin.