

CONTEMPORARY

EROL ALEXANDROV was born in Plewen, Bulgaria. He studied classical ballet at the state-recognized Opera, where he then worked as a dancer for four years. After that he joined the experimental theater Gabrowo and then the dance theater 4xC in Sofia. Since 1990 Erol has worked in Germany and Austria at the theater of Altmarkt, Standal, dance theater Ikarus, Klagenfurt Theater and also in Magdeburg at Freie Kammerspiel. From 1998 to 1999 he returned to work with 4xC. He worked as a dancer and choreographer on international stages in Caen, Madrid, Sevilla, Cairo and Vienna, as well as in Mexico and in Berlin where he joined the team of the state-recognized Ballet School of Berlin. In 2011 he worked with the collective die Elektroschuhe. He has also appeared in various dance related and experimental videos and movies. Erol presently lives and works as a dance teacher and artist in Berlin.

ZOE GYSSLER was born in Basel and grew up in Spain. After a long period of gymnastic training, she studied contemporary dance in Barcelona, Spain. Later she studied at the Music and Dance Academy in Jerusalem. She danced with the Repertory Dance Ensemble JADE. With this group she performed pieces by Sharon Egal, Vertigo, Johan Enger and others. Then, in Switzerland, she worked as a freelance dancer with the Cathy Sharp Dance Ensemble, Marcel Leeman and Edan Gorlicki. She also created her own work and worked in the field of dance pedagogy. In 2013 she co-founded the dance collective Buffo Makmal. Shortly after finishing her BA in Anthropology of Cultures and Sport Science in 2015, she joined the Johannes Wieland Dance Company in Kassel. While being a full-time member at the Staatstheater Kassel in Germany, she worked with guest choreographers Maxine Doyle (co-choreographer of Punchdrunk,) Tom Weinberger and Helder Seabra. Simultaneously, she is creating and performing her own work. The short piece *Almost There* was shown in 2016, followed by *Silence is Red* in 2017 in Kassel. In 2018 she made *This is Erol* in collaboration with Victor Rottier.

NOEMI DI GREGORIO is Swiss/Italian. She studied dance at Zürich Dance Theater School and in New York, where she studied Limón Technique and other contemporary styles. Noemi has performed in Europe, Asia, Canada and in the U.S.A. with companies including Spark Movement Collective, Ayako Takahashi, Avir Dance Company/Enzo Celli and Azul Dance Theater, as well as in productions including Spectrum Arts Variety Showcase, The Voice and in the movies *Räuberinnen*, *Halbdichten* and *The Hell of it*. She also performed as a figure skater with Art on Ice, where she worked with internationally renowned choreographers Marvin A. Smith and Salome Brunner. Meanwhile, Noemi is choreographing her own work. Her pieces have been shown at venues in New York and abroad. Her solo *For Rosa* was premiered at New York Fringe Festival in 2010. Noemi joined Connie Procopio to teach and perform at Women's Correctional Institution in Connecticut. After eight years in New York City, Noemi moved back to Switzerland in the fall of 2017. Working as a dance teacher, she enjoys sharing her passion for dance with her fellow dancers, while letting them explore their authenticity in movement. noemidigregorio.com

MANEL SALAS began his artistic career as a teacher, dancer and choreographer of hip-hop in Barcelona, Spain after having studied physical education. He has worked in various fields including TV commercials, choreographing his own pieces and dancing with dance companies including Metros of Ramon Oller and the Flamenco company Color. He graduated from Codarts, Conservatory of the Rotterdam Dance Academy in Holland, in 2008. Before having graduated, he began to dance professionally and tour internationally with companies including that of Amy Raymond and Cobosmika Dance Company (Olga Coobs/Peter Mika.) Since then, he continues dancing and teaching in different countries. He also studied mime, theater, improvisation, Butoh and acrobatics. These studies helped him to work at several theaters and in several dance companies worldwide, among others with the Chinese theater company Paper Tiger, Julyen Hamilton, Angels Margarit, David Zambrano, Edith Braun Company, Arno Schuitmaker, Vloeistof, Jasmine Morand and Oliver Dähler. Since 2014 he is based in Spain, Switzerland and Holland. He teaches and presents his own work internationally in China, Russia, Holland, Spain, France and Switzerland. He co-creates pieces with European artists and takes part in international productions. Manuel enjoys sharing his knowledge while pursuing his interests and addressing his concerns, as part of a continual process of transformation.

BALLET

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 Prejlocaj, 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.

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>

PABLO SANSALVADOR is a creator, dance artist, movement designer and coach. He hails from New Zealand and from Spain. During his 12- year career he has performed with companies and in projects in Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, United Kingdom and South Africa. Having won a scholarship for dance, he graduated from Rambert School in London; then he completed a BA of Science in Design and Innovation with first-class honors from Open University in the UK. He got his Masters Degree in Product Design from the Superior Design School in Barcelona. His final thesis was an outdoor, interactive dance installation titled Step by Step Project. It was awarded funding for realization in Germany. Pablo's creations include commissions for site specific works, indoor and outdoor installations and dance pieces for theaters and museums. Using his eclectic knowledge in performance and in human centered design thinking, as well as with his proven track record of collaboration, he co-founded the non-profit artistic collective Moving Rhizomes e.V. which receives annual funding as a platform for socially creative projects. He is often invited to teach class for companies, professional centers and dance institutions.

OLIVER DAEHLER was trained as a dancer at the Royal Ballet School in London. He danced with the Royal Ballet London, the Royal Ballet of Flanders in Antwerp and from 1994 to 1999 for the Bern Ballett under the direction of Martin Schlöpfer. In the same theater he worked for three years as a ballet master and choreographer. Oliver has created more than 30 choreographies (comissions including the Mecklenburgisches Staatstheater Schwerin, the Stadttheater Bern and the Lucerne Festival). These include full-length ballets as well as site-specific performances. In 2001 he won a scholarship from the Canton of Bern which enabled him to complete a six-month advanced training course in Modern, Contemporary Dance and Ballett in New York (et al. with David Howard, Zvi Gotheiner, Risa Steinberg, Alan Danielson and Steve Paxton). Oliver is a Certified teacher of RAD and completed the NDS Tanzkultur at the University of Bern in 2007. In 2008 he attended Ohad Naharin's Gaga-Intensive course in Tel Aviv. From 2009 to 2011 Oliver worked as a ballet master and choreographer in residence at the Tanz Luzerner Theater. Since the season 2011/2012 he works as a freelance choreographer, dance teacher and coach. www.danceproductions.ch

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 dance with the Company Mafalda, Cie. Dysoundbo and Jochen Heckmann, among others. Patricia had the lead role in the experimental dance film *Das Blutzimmer*, which was directed by Sarah Derendinger and produced by Swiss Television. 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.