

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 Jiri 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.

STEFANIE FISCHER completed her education at Tanzakademie Zürich. Since the season of 2015/16 she is a member of the Tanzkompanie Theater St.Gallen. In 2005 she won first prize at Prix de Solothurn and she won the Migros Dance Studies prize three years consecutively. From 2007 to 2012 she danced with the Kiel Ballet. Since 2012 she performed in various productions in Switzerland, Austria and Germany. She was a guest at Theater Lüneburg and a member of the Cathy Sharp Dance Ensemble. She worked with the Passion RED Collective and is a co-founder of Bufo Makmal in Basel. Since 2018 she teaches occasionally at Profitraining St. Gallen, at the Theater Dance School, at the dance company of St. Gallen Theater and as a guest teacher at Ballett Graz.

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 program especially conceived for people with dementia.

LAETITIA KOHLER is a contemporary dancer, choreographer and dance teacher from Delémont, Switzerland. She began her dance education at the Basel Dance Academy with Galina Gladkova-Hoffmann. After graduating from the Zürcher Hochschule der Künste with a BA in contemporary dance, she started dancing with various choreographers and companies including Isabelle Beernaert's company in Belgium, T42 Dance Project, Sagi Gross dance company based in Amsterdam and Mainfranken Theater Würzburg with Anna Vita in Germany. She is currently doing research for her own projects, dancing and teaching in private schools and universities.

GERALDINE KLAEY-DUNKEL was born in 1980 in Basel. She studied dance at the School of American Ballet, in Switzerland with various teachers and at the John Neumaier Ballettschule in Hamburg. From 2006 to 2009 she was a member of ballettmainz under the direction of Martin Schläpfer. There she danced in pieces from choreographers such as Anthony Tudor, Twyla Tharp, Kurt Jooss, Eric Oberdorff, Philip Egli and Nick Hobbs. From 2009 to 2011 she danced with Balletts amRhein at the Deutschen Oper am Rhein in Düsseldorf. In 2011 Géraldine returned to Switzerland where she has been teaching ballet and performing. She has two children, lives in the canton of Jura and is presently in the process of creating new projects.

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.

JANYCE MICHELLOD is a Swiss dance maker who does research with movement involving improvisation and instant composition. Since 2005 she has been developing *Lastalaïca's strategies*, a method articulated around a wide range of improvisation and movement strategies. In 2010-2018 she has been directing *Lastalaïca Productions*, a company focusing on a multidisciplinary body of work. Her choreographic work has been presented Europe-wide and is supported by numerous institutions and organizations in Switzerland and abroad. Since 2012 Janyce has been working as a consultant in pedagogical curriculum and training's science for dancers. Since 2018 she works as an advisor in health and prevention in professional dance. Janyce teaches and does consulting Europe-wide. She has worked as a choreographic assistant, rehearsal director and company teacher for Michael Klien and Colette Sadler and has performed with the Zürcher Ballet, the National Ballet of Cuba, Daghda Dance Co. and Lastalaïca Productions. Janyce graduated from the 'Zürcher Hochschule der Künste - TAZ' (SBBS) and hold a Bachelor's degree in performing arts from 'Codarts Rotterdam' (Rotterdam Dance Academy).

CONTEMPORARY

NADINE FREISLEBEN, born 1989 in Berlin, has been dancing on a professional level since 2008. In Lagos and elsewhere in Nigeria, she danced in and choreographed for various Nigerian contemporary dance companies from 2008 to 2010. She choreographed for festivals of Goethe Institute and Alliance Francaise. During these exciting times she got acquainted with West African contemporary dance, which has had a significant influence on her dance and choreographic style. From 2012 till 2015 she studied at the school for performance arts 'die Etage Berlin'. Since then she worked with choreographers like Chaim Gebber, Jennifer Mann, Sarah Bleasdale and Saskia Assohoto/ Dancevertise. In 2013 she founded her own dance- theatre ensemble „GAU Company“. Her works have been shown in France, Portugal, Nigeria and Germany. Living in Berlin, Nadine constantly works on GAU Company, organises performance evenings and teaches dance for professionals or to-be s. Her interest lies in creating intimate performance-environments. She understands dance theatre as being a vehicle to deliver mindful messages that include every performer's understanding and support. She considers dance not only to be an aesthetic performance medium; it also connects to the soul of the performer and in ideal circumstances, to that of the spectator. Nadine uses the approach of Nigerian performance making to build the base for her pieces. She mixes West African with European contemporary dance styles to create a different experience. Her work is multidisciplinary, intercultural and socio-critical. She pursues the dream of bringing together performers of diverse artistic backgrounds and origins to address a common concern.

JOSHUA MONTEN was born near New York City and studied literature and cultural anthropology at Duke University before beginning his dance studies. As a dancer he has performed with Bern Ballett, Staatstheater Nürnberg, Theater Freiburg, öff öff productions and DA MOTUS! He has worked with choreographers such as Stijn Celis, Hofesh Shechter, Juha Marsalo, Doug Varone, Konstantinos Rigos und Tino Sehgal. Joshua Monten regularly choreographs for ballet, opera, theater and freelance dance productions. He has received numerous choreography commissions from Stadttheater Bern, Theater St. Gallen, Ballet National du Rhin, Staatstheater Nürnberg, ZHdK, The Yard (USA), Theaterhaus Gessnerallee (Zürich), Zentrum Paul Klee and Art Basel. In 2012 Joshua Monten founded his own dance company which has been invited to perform hundreds of times throughout Europe, Asia, Australia, the Middle East, and North and South America. www.joshuamonten.com

JASMINA KRIŽAJ is a choreographer and dancer from Slovenia. She graduated with a degree in choreography from De Theaterschool, Amsterdam (SNDO). Since 2015 she has been collaborating with the Swiss artist Simon Wehrli. She shows her work and teaches across Europe.

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.