ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts
Virginia G. Piper Theater
Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts
Presents

ALONZO KING LINES BALLET
Alonzo King, Founder, Artistic Director & Principal Choreographer
Robert Rosenwasser, Founder & Executive Director

Saturday, June 19, 2021
2:00 and 8:00 p.m.

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts
Virginia G. Piper Theater

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Signature Sponsor
Westaf
Choreography by Alonzo King
Music composed and recorded by Jason Moran, Edgar Meyer, Pharoah Sanders, Gabriel Fauré, Zakir Hussain, and Kala Ramnath
Lighting design by Danielle Colburn with original design by Jim French, Axel Morgenthaler, and Alain Lortie
Costume design by Robert Rosenwasser
Sound design by Philip Perkins

THE COMPANY
Adji Cissoko
Madeline DeVries
Lorris Eichinger
Shuaib Elhassan
James Gowan
Ilaria Guerra
Maya Harr
Ashley Mayeux
Alvaro Montelongo
Michael Montgomery

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Ballet Master, Meredith Webster
Director of Production, Danielle Colburn
Production Stage Manager, TBD

Company Manager, Alanna Swovelin
Costume Construction, Joan Raymond
PROGRAM
The Personal Element
World Premiere August 3, 2019

Originally created with dancers from Alonzo King LINES Ballet and New York City Ballet for the Vail Dance Festival. Commissioned by Vail Dance Festival, Artistic Director Damian Woetzel.

Choreography by Alonzo King
Music composed and performed by Jason Moran
Lighting design by Danielle Colburn with original design by Jim French
Costume design by Robert Rosenwasser

Performed by Adji Cissoko, Madeline DeVries, Lorris Eichinger, Shuaib Elhassan, James Gowan, Ilaria Guerra, Maya Harr, and Michael Montgomery

Solo
World Premiere June 12, 2021

Choreography by Alonzo King
Music traditional, Over My Head; performed by Kathleen Battle
Lighting design by Danielle Colburn
Costume design by Robert Rosenwasser
Performed by Ashley Mayeux

The Radius of Convergence
Excerpt
World Premiere October 17, 2008

Choreography by Alonzo King
Music by Edgar Meyer with Pharoah Sanders
Lighting design by Danielle Colburn
with original design by Alain Lortie
Costume design by Robert Rosenwasser

Performed by Lorris Eichinger, Shuaib Elhassan, James Gowan, Alvaro Montelongo, and Michael Montgomery
Grace
Excerpt, *Pie Jesu*
World Premiere February 7, 2020

Choreography by Alonzo King
Music by Gabriel Fauré, *Pie Jesu*
Lighting design by Danielle Colburn
Costume design by Robert Rosenwasser

Performed by Adji Cissoko, Ilaria Guerra, Shuaib Elhassan, and Michael Montgomery

Grace
*Solo, Tantum Ergo Sacramentum*
World Premiere February 7, 2020

Choreography by Alonzo King
Music by Thomas Aquinas, *Tantum Ergo Sacramentum*
Lighting design by Danielle Colburn
Costume design by Robert Rosenwasser

Performed by Lorris Eichinger

RASA
Excerpt
World Premiere November 7, 2007

Choreography by Alonzo King
Music composed by Zakir Hussain
Music performed and recorded by Zakir Hussain and Kala Ramnath
Lighting design by Danielle Colburn
with original design by Axel Morgenthaler
Costume design by Robert Rosenwasser

Performed by the Company
Epilogue Pas

World Premiere June 12, 2021

Choreography by Alonzo King
Music composed and performed by Jason Moran
Lighting design by Danielle Colburn
Costume design by Robert Rosenwasser

Performed by Ilaria Guerra and Lorris Eichinger (matinee)
Performed by Adji Cissoko and Shuaib Elhassan (evening)

Epilogue Pas is made possible through the generous support of
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and The Del E. Webb Center for the Performing Arts.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

Thirty-nine years of outstanding, multi-disciplinary collaborations for the stage place Alonzo King LINES Ballet at the forefront of artistic innovation in ballet. With each collaboration, LINES Ballet investigates deeply rooted affinities between Western and Eastern classical forms, elemental materials, the natural world, and the human spirit. At LINES Ballet, the artistic investigation is infinite and essential, for it leads to what unites us as human beings: empathy, joy, and the ability to transcend.

LINES Ballet’s spring and fall home seasons and global tours share this vision of transformative, revelatory dance with 40,000-plus audience members worldwide every year. The Company has been featured at venues such as the Venice Biennale, Monaco Dance Forum, Maison de la Dance de Lyon, the Edinburgh International Festival, Montpellier Danse, the Wolfsburg Festival, the Holland Dance Festival, and the Théâtre National de Chailliot in Paris.

LINES Ballet is proud of its continuing commitment to dance education and community—serving and impacting lives through LINES Community Programs, the LINES Ballet Training Program and Summer Program, the joint BFA Program in Dance with Dominican University of California, and the LINES Dance Center, one of the largest dance facilities on the West Coast.

“The term LINES alludes to all that is visible in the phenomenal world. There is nothing that is made or formed without a line. Straight and Circle encompass all that we see. Whatever can be seen is formed by a line. In mathematics it is a straight or curved continuous extent of length without breadth. Lines are in our fingerprints, the shapes of our bodies, constellations, geometry. It implies genealogical connection, progeny and spoken word. It marks the starting point and finish. It addresses direction, communication, and design.

A line of thought. A boundary or eternity. A melodic line. The equator.
From vibration or dot to dot it is the visible organization of what we see.”

— Alonzo King
EXECUTIVE BIOS

ALONZO KING (Founder, Artistic Director, and Principal Choreographer) has been called a visionary choreographer who is altering the way we look and think about movement. King calls his works “thought structures,” created by the manipulation of energies that exist in matter through laws, which govern the shapes and movement directions of everything that exists. Named as a choreographer with “astonishing originality” by The New York Times, Alonzo King LINES Ballet has been guided by his unique artistic vision since 1982.

King has works in the repertoires of the Royal Swedish Ballet, Frankfurt Ballet, Ballet Bejart, Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo, Alvin Ailey, Hong Kong Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Hubbard Street, and many others. He has collaborated with distinguished visual artists, musicians, and composers across the globe. His work has been recognized for its impact on the cultural fabric of the company’s home in San Francisco, as well as internationally by the dance world’s most prestigious institutions. Named a Master of Choreography by the Kennedy Center in 2005, King is the recipient of the NEA Choreographer’s Fellowship, the Jacob’s Pillow Creativity Award, the US Artist Award in Dance, NY Bessie Award, and the National Dance Project’s Residency and Touring Awards. In 2015, he received the Doris Duke Artist Award in recognition of his ongoing contributions to the advancement of contemporary dance. Joining historic icons in the field, King was named one of America’s “Irreplaceable Dance Treasures” by the Dance Heritage Coalition. He is a former San Francisco commissioner and a writer and lecturer on humanity and art. He holds honorary doctorates from Dominican University, California Institute of the Arts, and The Juilliard School.

ROBERT ROSENWASSER (Founder and Executive Director) shapes the aesthetic and artistic direction of each project at the Company, including conceptual design and production. In addition to his work with LINES Ballet, he has designed for Ballet de Monte Carlo, Ballet Bejart, the Royal Swedish Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Frankfurt Ballet, and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Rosenwasser has also collaborated with artists and poets Richard Tuttle, Kiki Smith, Cecilia Vicuna, Mei-mei Berssenbrugge, and Barbara Guest, designing fine press books. His work can be found at the New York Museum of Modern Art in the Department of Books and Illustrated Prints, at the Whitney Museum, and at the Spencer Collection of the New York Public Library.

ADJI CISSOKO was born and grew up in Munich, Germany, where she trained at Ballet Academy Munich and graduated with a diploma in dance. Cissoko attended the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at American Ballet Theatre in New York City on full scholarship before joining the National Ballet of Canada in 2010. In 2012, she was awarded the Patron Award of Merit by the Patrons’ Council Committee of The National Ballet of Canada. Cissoko joined LINES Ballet in 2014. Since then she’s originated many central roles and guested for galas worldwide. Cissoko has given multiple masterclasses and taught classes around the world as part of LINES’ outreach programs. In 2020, she became a certified life coach, as well as teacher in ABT’s National Training Curriculum.

MADELINE DEVRIES grew up in Southern California studying at the Santa Clarita Ballet Academy. She continued her training at the Pacific Northwest Ballet School and PNBS Professional Division program on full scholarship, spending summers with the Houston Ballet, The Rock School, PNB, and National Ballet of Canada. DeVries apprenticed with the Semperoper Ballet in Dresden, Germany, in 2012, and in 2013 she danced with the Seattle-based contemporary companies Whim W’Him and Coriolis. DeVries joined LINES Ballet in 2014.

LORRIS EICHINGER started training in Grenoble at the National Conservatory and continued at the Ecole Nationale Superieure de Danse de Marseille. After training at The School of American Ballet in New York from 2010 to 2013, he joined the Professional Division program of the Pacific Northwest Ballet in Seattle. He then moved back to France to dance with the Jeune Ballet de Lyon. He danced with De Dutch Don’t Dance in the Netherlands in 2015 and then moved to Israel to join Kamea Dance Company in 2016. Eichinger joined LINES Ballet in 2019.

SHUAIB ELHASSAN from Manhattan’s Lower East Side, began his formal dance training at The Alley School under the co-direction of Tracy Inman and Melanie Person on a full scholarship. Elhassan has also trained at intensives such as Earl Mosley’s Institute of the Arts, Jacob’s Pillow, and Complexions Contemporary Ballet. Elhassan was a member of Complexions Contemporary Ballet during its 2012–2013 season. Additionally, Elhassan has performed with Life Dance Company, Zest Collective, Dance Iquail, and the Von Howard Project. Elhassan joined LINES Ballet in 2014.

JAMES GOWAN, from Phoenix, Arizona, began dancing at the age of 16 at Tempe Dance Academy. Gowan graduated with a bachelor of fine arts in dance from Point Park University, where he worked under teachers and choreographers Kyle Abraham, Doug Benz, Randy Duncan, Christopher Huggins, Keisha Lalama, Emery LeCrone, Garfield Lemonious, and Peter Merz. Gowan has danced as a company member with Texture Contemporary Ballet, River North Dance Chicago, and DanceWorks Chicago. He has performed works by George Balanchine, Robert Battle, Frank Chavez, Christopher Gattelli, Dwight Rhoden, and Ashley Roland. Gowan joined LINES Ballet in 2016.

ILARIA GUERRA was born in Torino, Italy. At the age of 5, she moved to Palos Verdes Estates, California, where she trained in classical ballet at Lauridsen Ballet Center, performing with their pre-professional company, South Bay Ballet. Guerra graduated Summa Cum Laude from the Alonzo King LINES Ballet bachelor of fine arts program at Dominican University with a bachelor of fine arts in dance and a minor in arts management in 2013. She joined dawsondancesf under the direction of Gregory Dawson in 2013. With dawsondancesf, she had the opportunity to perform in New York, Denver, Southern California, and all over the San Francisco Bay Area. In 2016, Guerra received an Isadora Duncan Dance Award for Ensemble Performance. Guerra joined LINES Ballet in 2018.
MAYA HARR grew up in Alexandria, Virginia, where she studied ballet at The Washington School of Ballet under the tutelage of former LINES Ballet company dancer Kristina Windom and award-winning choreographer Mimmo Miccolis. As a student, Harr was the recipient of the Mary Day Scholarship and was selected to participate in the Kennedy Center Master Class Series. Harr spent her summers with San Francisco Ballet, PNB, Ballet West, ABT and the Kirov Academy. After graduating from high school, Harr moved to the Bay Area to attend the LINES Ballet Summer Program and began her training in the LINES Ballet Training Program. Harr joined LINES Ballet in 2016.

ASHLEY MAYEUX was born in Houston, Texas. She began her dance training at the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts and graduated cum laude with a bachelor of fine arts from SUNY Purchase. Mayeux continued her studies at the Dance Theatre of Harlem and went on to perform in the tour of the Broadway musical Aida. She has been featured in publications, including The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, Essence magazine, and Pointe magazine. Mayeux danced with Complexions Contemporary Ballet from 2012 to 2016 before becoming a company member of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre from 2016 to 2018. Mayeux joined LINES Ballet in 2018.

ALVARO MONTELONGO was raised in Guadalajara, Mexico. He started his dance training at Academia de Danza Doris Topete and went on to train at Fomento Artístico Cordobés, Sarasota Cuban Ballet School, and The Ailey School. He most recently graduated cum laude from the University of Southern California Glorya Kaufman School of Dance. Aside from performing, Alvaro choreographs and performs dance evening works in his hometown. Montelongo joined LINES in 2019.

MICHAEL MONTGOMERY of Long Beach, California, trained at the Orange County High School of the Arts and studied at the Alvin Ailey School in the certificate program. In 2011, Montgomery graduated from the Alonzo King LINES Ballet bachelor of fine arts program at Dominican University of California. Montgomery was awarded the American College Dance Festival Association’s best student performer award for the Southwest Region in 2008. In 2010, Montgomery joined LINES Ballet and was named a Shenson Performing Arts Fellow that same year. Montgomery was named to the list of “25 to Watch” by Dance Magazine in 2013. Montgomery joined LINES Ballet in 2010.

MEREDITH WEBSTER (Ballet Master) grew up in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, studying under Jean Wolfmeyer. She worked with Sonia Dawkins and Donald Byrd in Seattle and earned a bachelor of science in environmental science from the University of Wisconsin before moving to San Francisco to work with LINES. In her nine seasons as a dancer with the company, Webster originated many central roles and received a Princess Grace Award. From 2014–2020, Webster served as LINES’ Ballet Master. Since then, she has performed with Ledoh/Salt Farm, worked with the Maureen Whiting Company, and co-created Empress Archer, an evening-length duet produced by The Cambrians of Chicago. Webster has served as a faculty member for all of the LINES programs and as a guest teacher around the world. She has contributed as a writer to Dance Spirit and Conversations.
ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

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