



Scott Suchman

OF MICE AND Modern

NY Fresh from tackling Stravinsky's *Le Sacre du Printemps* for the Metropolitan Opera, choreographer Doug Varone has gained inspiration from another Russian composer—Sergei Prokofiev. For his season at the Joyce Theater February 3-8, Varone will premiere *Castles*, a 28-minute work for eight dancers set to Prokofiev's "Waltz Suite for Orchestra" from 1947. Known for weaving dramatic threads throughout his fleet movement, Varone can nimbly extract the choreographic counterpoint from a score's rhythms, while staying true to the musical essence. Of the Prokofiev composition, Varone says, "I'm drawn to the lushness of the score, and plan to pay homage to the original source material—waltzes from *Cinderella* and *War and Peace*. There are hints of fairy tales—you might quickly glimpse four white mice—but all within a contemporary context." Also included on the two programs are revivals of Varone's *Rise*, *The Bottomland*, and *Of the Earth Far Below*. —JOSEPH CARMAN