



NEW AND ANEW
BALLET NY (FORMERLY DANCEGALAXY)
CELEBRATES NEW NAME AND NEW REPERTORY
WITH SEASON AT PETER NORTON
SYMPHONY SPACE, JANUARY 8–10
Season features company premieres by Balanchine,
Tudor, DeAngelo and world premiere by Thaddeus Davis

Once again asserting the ever-adventurous imagination of its artistic directors Judith Fugate and Medhi Bahiri, the six-year-old Fugate/Bahiri Ballet NY – formerly known as DanceGalaxy – will return to the Peter Norton Symphony Space, January 8–10, with four premieres, each uniquely different in style, subject and point of view. The new works include the world premiere of Thaddeus Davis’s “Vivaldian Chat,” as well as the first company performances of George Balanchine’s “Valse-Fantaisie,” Antony Tudor’s “Continuo” and Ann Marie DeAngelo’s “A Glimpse.” Also on the program is Peter Martins’s “Reflections.”

Balanchine’s “Valse-Fantaisie,” which premiered in 1967, is a romantic sextet for five women and a man. Marked by its sweeping neoclassical lyricism, the ballet is set to music by Mikhail Glinka. Tudor’s “Continuo” was originally created for the choreographer’s students at the Julliard School. While pure Tudor in style, the ballet differs in its abstract quality from his usually narrative ballets. The music is by Johann Pachelbel. Inspired by Theophile Gautier’s 1835 novel *Mademoiselle de Maupin*, “A Glimpse” explores the author’s worship of beauty for beauty’s sake, regardless of its moral or social conditions. The ballet, originally premiered by Ballet de Monterrey in 1992, is set to music by Franz Liszt and Enigma.

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The world premiere of Thaddeus Davis's "Vivaldian Chat," a duet, focuses on the ongoing conflict between affection and power in a relationship be it sexual or platonic. The score draws from Bach, Vivaldi and Thomas Newman's soundtrack from the film "In the Bedroom." The ballet marks Davis's second original work for the company. Last year the troupe presented the world premiere of his "Once before, Twice after," which also marked Davis's choreographic debut with a New York-based company.

And last, but not least, the troupe will present Peter Martins's "Reflections," which received its world premiere by DanceGalaxy during its 2001 Joyce Theater season. The contemporary *pas de deux* is set to an original score by New York City Ballet principal Nilas Martins.

Founded in 1997, Fugate/Bahiri Ballet NY is committed to reaching new dance audiences by bringing first-rate dancers and repertory to cities and communities unable to afford engagements by the larger troupes. The breadth of the repertory by major choreographers also offers the company's accomplished dancers broader performing opportunities. The company's New York City debut was at The Joyce Theater in March 1999, and was followed by seasons at The Joyce, Symphony Space and Marymount Manhattan Theatre. Fugate/Bahiri Ballet NY has also toured throughout North America, including performances at Montreal's prestigious Festival des Arts de St.-Sauveur.

Bringing their experience from a variety of companies such as New York City Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, American Ballet Theatre, Miami City Ballet, Compañía Nacional de Danza in Mexico City and the Joffrey Ballet, among others, the company's dancers include Carolina Capdevila, Cornel Crabtree, Prince Credell, Christina Fagundes, Todd Fox, Jenna Rae Lavin, Eliane Munier, Davis Robertson, Cheryl Sladkin, Chrissy Schultz, Tiffany Stadler, Ian Thatcher and Tanya Wideman Davis.

Upon entering the School of American Ballet at age eight, Judith Fugate was selected by George Balanchine to play Marie in the New York City Ballet

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production of “The Nutcracker,” eventually becoming the first Marie to go on to play the coveted role of the Sugar Plum Fairy in the NYCB production. During her career at City Ballet, where she danced as a principal for 10 years, Fugate performed major roles in almost every ballet in the repertory. She left NYCB in 1997 to work as a guest artist with other companies and to co-create Fugate/Bahiri Ballet NY with her husband, Medhi Bahiri.

Born in Marseilles, Medhi Bahiri began his professional dance studies at Rosella Hightower’s legendary ballet school Centre de Danse in Cannes. He was a member of Maurice Béjart’s Twentieth Century Ballet, and was a principal dancer with Ballet West and Boston Ballet, in addition to serving as principal guest artist with Ballet National de Mexico, Ballet de Santiago, Universal Ballet of Korea, Ballet du Louvre, Tulsa Ballet and Ballet Philippines, among others. As a young performer, he was awarded the First Prize in the Prix de Lausanne dance competition and recognized for artistic achievement at the International Ballet Competition in Varna, in addition to other honors.

The evening curtain for Fugate/Bahiri Ballet NY at Peter Jay Sharp Theatre at Peter Norton Symphony Space is at 7:30pm on all nights, January 8–10. Tickets are \$26 and \$19 for Symphony Space members, students and seniors. All tickets can be purchased by calling 212-864-5400 or at the Symphony Space box office, or online at www.symphonyspace.org or www.tickets.com. Symphony Space is located at 2537 Broadway at 95th Street.

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