

The New 42nd Street and The New Victory Theater Announce
2018 Victory Dance



**Free Award-winning Dance for
New York City Summer Schools
July 11 - 27, 2018**

Public Performances Only \$10

New York, NY (April 26, 2018) – This July, The New Victory Theater will present its fifth season of **Victory Dance**, the Theater's initiative to provide free dance and dance education for kids in New York City day camps, schools and youth programs over the summer. From July 11 - 27, 2018, **Victory Dance** features three weeks of compelling contemporary dance performances carefully curated for kids ages eight and older.

Sharing the New Victory stage in a mixed bill of the City's most acclaimed dance companies and soloists, this year's **Victory Dance** artists include **A Palo Seco Flamenco Company, Ayodele Casel, Calpulli Mexican Dance Company, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Davalois Fearon Dance, Ephrat Asherie Dance, Eva Dean Dance, Parul Shah, Paul Taylor's Company B, Pilobolus, Seán Curran Company** and **Stephen Petronio Company**.

Between each piece, New Victory Teaching Artists and Education staff will provide insight into each work, sharing more about the company, choreographer or the dance in activities designed to engage minds and bodies in explorations of the work. At the end of the program, these moderators will return to the stage to lead a post-show Talk-Back. In this format, New York City

kids have a unique opportunity to engage with **Victory Dance** choreographers and dancers, and the creators, in turn, learn more about how their work affects young people.

Designed to serve New York City students enrolled in NYC Department of Education summer school enrichment programs, such as Summer Arts Institute, subsidized day camps and social service agencies, **Victory Dance** offers:

- FREE tickets to daytime dance performances in a historic jewel box theater
- FREE Talk-Backs with Victory Dance choreographers and companies
- FREE dance-related workshops, held at the school or camp facility before or after students' visit to the theater, to deepen students' viewing experiences
- FREE New Victory School Tool® Resource Guides to support further exploration of the art form in the students' day-to-day curriculum

Since its inception, **Victory Dance** has partnered with 47 dance companies who share the Theater's mission to celebrate the art form and inspire young people to embrace live performing arts. This summertime series, which reaches more than 4,000 NYC kids, mirrors the education programs The New Victory Theater provides to 35,000 students throughout each school year. The New Victory Theater looks forward to sharing live dance performance on stage, exploring the art form in classrooms and building relationships that will have an impact on NYC kids from summer to summer.

[Click here](#) for an overview of **Victory Dance Summer Education Partnerships**.

Performance Schedule

In addition to the free daytime performances for Victory Dance Summer Education Partnership students, one evening performance per week will be made available to the general public at \$10 per ticket.

Each 90-minute Victory Dance performance includes a Talk-Back led by a New Victory Teaching Artist. The below programs are subject to change.

Program A:

School/Day Camp Performances: July 11 - 13 at 11am

Public Performance: July 12 at 7pm

- **Pilobolus** *All Is Not Lost*
- **Ayodele Casel** *While I Have the Floor*
- **Stephen Petronio Company** *Bud Suite*
- **Eva Dean Dance** *BOUNCE Surfing* (Excerpts)

Program B:

School/Day Camp Performances: July 18 - 20 at 11am

Public Performances: July 19 at 7pm

- **Paul Taylor's Company B** (Excerpts)
- **Seán Curran Company** *Social Discourse* (Excerpts)
- **Davalois Fearon Dance** *Time to Talk* (Excerpts)
- **A Palo Seco Flamenco Company** *El Martinete*

Program C:

School/Day Camp Performances: July 25 - 27 at 11am

Public Performances: July 26 at 7pm

- **Ephrat Asherie Dance** *Odeon* (Excerpts)
- **Parul Shah** *Enduring Silence* (Excerpts)
- **Calpulli Mexican Dance Company** *Mexika Tiawi! (Mexicans Onward!)*
- **Dance Theatre of Harlem** *Harlem on My Mind* (Excerpts)

Victory Dance is supported, in part, by the Jerome Robbins Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, Jody and John Arnhold, public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and the Harkness Foundation for Dance.

Ticket Information

All performances of Victory Dance will take place at The New Victory Theater (209 West 42nd Street). Victory Dance Education Partnerships are available free of charge to New York City day camps and school programs. For more information, please contact

Education_Tickets@NewVictory.org. Tickets for public performances of Victory Dance are \$10 and are available online (**NewVictory.org**) and by telephone (**646.223.3010**) beginning April 26.

About The New Victory Theater

The New Victory Theater brings kids to the arts and the arts to kids. Created in 1995 on iconic 42nd Street, this nonprofit theater has become a standard-bearer of quality performing arts for young audiences in the United States. Reflecting and serving the diverse city it calls home, The New Victory is committed to arts access for all students, teachers, kids, families and communities of New York to experience and engage with the exemplary international programming of theater, dance, circus, puppetry and more on its stages. A leader in arts education, youth employment and audience engagement, The New Victory Theater has been honored by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities with the 2014 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, by Americans for the Arts with a National Arts Education Award, and by the Drama Desk for "providing enchanting, sophisticated children's theater that appeals to the child in all of us, and for nurturing a love of theater in young people."

About The New 42nd Street

Founded in 1990, The New 42nd Street is an independent nonprofit organization charged with the continuous cultural revival of 42nd Street between 7th and 8th Avenues, building on the foundation of seven historic theaters to make extraordinary performing arts and cultural engagement part of everyone's life. The New 42nd Street fulfills this purpose by ensuring the ongoing vibrancy of 42nd Street's historic theaters; supporting performing artists in the creation of their work at the New 42nd Street Studios and The Duke on 42nd Street; creating arts access and education at The New Victory Theater, New York's premier theater for kids and families; and through the New 42nd Street Youth Corps, its model youth development initiative, which pairs life skills workshops and mentorship with paid employment in the arts for NYC youth. Inspired by the city it serves, The New 42nd Street is committed to the transformational power of the arts.

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Victory Dance
Program A: July 11 - 13

Pilobolus

All Is Not Lost

Pilobolus joined forces with the rock band OK Go, tango master Trish Sie, and Google to create a video, online app and dance for the stage. The Grammy® Award-nominated music video for the band's song "All Is Not Lost" plays with multiple perspectives, gravity and dimensionality, challenging the audience to look at dance through a kaleidoscopic view of human connection.

Created by OK Go, Pilobolus and Trish Sie, this live adaption of *All Is Not Lost*, one of the company's most popular touring works, was developed in collaboration with Pilobolus dancers Shawn Fitzgerald Ahern, Winston Dynamite Brown, Matt Del Rosario, Andy Herro, Eriko Jimbo, Jordan Kriston, Jun Kuribayashi and Nile Russell. Pilobolus has been recognized with many prestigious honors, including a TED Fellowship, a 2012 Grammy Award Nomination, an Emmy® Award Nomination, and several Cannes Lion Awards at the International Festival of Creativity.

Ayodele Casel

While I Have the Floor

A journey to reclaiming identity, culture, language and expression, *While I Have The Floor* offers a window into one Casel's experience with cultural displacement, the loss of language and the determination to find her voice.

The 2017 recipient of the "Hooper Award," Casel is a native New Yorker with professional training from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and The William Esper Studio in NYC, having studied directly with the masterful William Esper. She has worked and performed with the greatest tap dancers and companies including the late great Gregory Hines, Jazz Tap Ensemble, American Tap Dance Orchestra and Savion Glover as the only female in his company N.Y.O.T.s. (Not Your Ordinary Tappers). Casel is one of the founders of Operation: Tap and Co-Director of Original Tap House located in the South Bronx.

Stephen Petronio Company

Bud Suite (2006)

A performance of high-octane and sensuous movement set to music by Rufus Wainwright, Petronio's dancers deftly embody his choreography as they delve into the intricacies of human connection in *Bud Suite*.

For 34 years, Stephen Petronio has honed a unique language of movement that speaks to the intuitive and complex possibilities of the body within our current time. Founded in 1984, Stephen Petronio Company has performed throughout the world, including 24 seasons at The Joyce Theater in New York City, and has been commissioned by some of the world's most prestigious modern and ballet companies. Since 2015, in addition to supporting Petronio's new works, the Company has been honoring a lineage of American postmodern dance masters through Bloodlines. To date, the Company has restaged eight works, by Merce Cunningham, Trisha Brown, Anna Halprin, Yvonne Rainer, and Steve Paxton, with plans to incorporate others in the coming seasons. In 2016, Stephen Petronio Company established the Petronio Residency

Center (PRC) in the Catskills as a retreat area where paid artist residencies will provide dedicated space and resources to artists for the development of new work in an environment unfettered by market constraints and the pressures of urban life. PRC will become part of a growing ecosystem in the U.S. dedicated to fostering a model for the future of contemporary dance, and welcomes its inaugural residents—Nora Chipaumire, Will Rawls, and Kathy Westwater—in the summer and fall of 2018.

Eva Dean Dance

BOUNCE Surfing (Excerpts)

An excerpt from the full-length show *BOUNCE, Surfing* features agile and athletic performers moving with a kaleidoscope of colorful balls. Aquatic vignettes come to life as dancers use an array of balls as dancing partners to create a beach party, dolphins playing and surfing on top of rolling waves.

Eva Dean founded Eva Dean Dance in 1985. Dean is known for inventive use of props, incorporating site-specific and architectural elements, experiential lighting and ambient sound scores. Collaboration is an integral part of Dean's process. She works closely with guest artists, such as musicians, puppet masters, lighting, set and costume designers, to create a visually rich body of work. A graduate of Hampshire College, Dean carries the legacy of using an experimental approach instilled in her formative years.

Victory Dance

Program B: July 18 - 20

Paul Taylor's *Company B* (Excerpts)

First performed in 1991 with songs that expressed typical sentiments of Americans during World War II, *Company B* is one of Paul Taylor's most beloved and well-known works. It captures both the optimism of the country and the grim shadow of war in the mid-20th century. This performance is an excerpted version of the original work.

Paul Taylor established his Company in 1954 and is one of the world's most highly-respected and recognized ensembles. First presenting his choreography with five other dancers in Manhattan on May 30, 1954, Paul Taylor embarked on over 60 years of unrivaled creativity resulting in 147 original dances which have been performed worldwide for more than six decades.

Seán Curran Company

Social Discourse (Excerpts)

A contemporary urban folk dance for six dancers, *Social Discourse* attempts to solve the formal compositional problem of trying to move like the letter "S" turning itself inside out. A series of invigorating partnering duets is followed by a fluid use of spatial counterpoint. A soloist uses accumulated material to solve an elegant math problem. Finally, we see a resolution to this abstract painterly dance with a double trio in an explosion of color energy.

Founded in 1997, Seán Curran Company has toured to nearly 100 venues in the U.S., Europe and Asia, and has been presented in New York City seasons at Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Joyce Theater, Dance Theater Workshop, Danspace Project, and The New Victory Theater,

among others. Recent recognition for artistic excellence includes awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, New England Foundation for the Arts, New Music USA, O'Donnell-Green Music & Dance Foundation and Harkness Foundation for Dance. Artistic Director Seán Curran is known for collaborating with composers, dancers, musicians and visual designers, and the company frequently performs with live music. In 2012, the company was chosen by the U.S. State Department's DanceMotion USA program to perform and teach throughout Central Asia as cultural ambassadors.

Davalois Fearon Dance

Time to Talk (Excerpts)

An excerpt from the show of the same title, *Time to Talk* is a multimedia solo dance piece rooted in research on American history, dance history and systemic racism. It is inspired by Fearon's own experience of oppression and racial bias within academia. Dynamic fluid dance, poetry and visual art are used as tools to bring attention to inequalities within the dance field and society at large.

Davalois Fearon Dance was founded by Bessie award-winning Artistic Director Davalois Fearon in November 2016 with a mission to collaboratively create, perform and teach a versatile body of work that draws from Fearon's diverse movement vocabulary and pushes both artistic and social boundaries. Her choreography is often driven by the aim to confront difficult issues and prompt contemplation. Fearon's work has been presented nationally and internationally, including by the Joyce Theater and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She has been commissioned to create new work by organizations such as Harlem Stage and The Bronx Museum.

A Palo Seco Flamenco Company

El Martinete

Donning high waisted pants, jackets and vests, three female dancers take on the strength and stature of the masculine dance style El Martinete, a form of Flamenco known as Cante Jondo, or "deep song," noted for its emotional rawness and power. While holding true to the most traditional essence of the Spanish Art's live music and song, this choreography is contemporary, fluctuating between sleek canonized movements and powerful footwork.

After years of performing and touring with such companies as Noche Flamenca and Flamenco Vivo Carlota Santana, Rebeca Tomás founded A Palo Seco Flamenco Company in 2009, for which she directs and choreographs original productions. Acknowledged as an up-and-coming voice in the U.S. Flamenco community for an artistic vision deeply rooted in Flamenco tradition, yet relevant in a modern urban context, her productions have been proclaimed "a feast for the eyes and the ears" by Theatre Online.

Victory Dance

Program C: July 25 - 27

Ephrat Asherie Dance

Odeon (Excerpts)

Odeon, Asherie's second collaboration with her brother and internationally acclaimed pianist, Ehud Asherie, is a high-energy, hybrid hip-hop work. *Odeon* layers breaking, hip-hop, house

and vogue to a buoyant mix of classical romantic music with popular Afro-Brazilian rhythms, and is inspired by the music of early 20th century composer Ernesto Nazareth, played live.

Ephrat “Bounce” Asherie, a 2016 Bessie Award Winner for Innovative Achievement in Dance, is a NYC-based B-girl, dancer and choreographer. As Artistic Director of Ephrat Asherie Dance, a dance company rooted in street and social dance, Asherie has presented work at the Apollo Theater, FiraTarrega, Jacob’s Pillow, New York Live Arts, Summerstage and the Yard, among others. Asherie is a regular guest artist with Dorrance Dance and has worked and collaborated with Doug Elkins, Rennie Harris, Bill Irwin, David Parsons, Gus Solomons Jr and Buddha Stretch, among others.

Parul Shah

Enduring Silence (Excerpts)

An ode to those who toil in arid fields while caring for their children, *Enduring Silence* takes its inspiration from women and their ignored sorrows, resiliency and desperate strength. This solo work recognizes the beautiful gaits and gestures found in all Indian classical dance repertoire that have evolved from various ways of life and culturally specific work. Drawing from Kathak, one of the ten major forms of Indian classical dance, *Enduring Silence* pays tribute to the dignity, courage and grace of these women amidst harsh realities.

Parul Shah is a NYC-based, internationally acclaimed Kathak dancer and choreographer whose work is expanding the classical medium beyond cultural boundaries. Shah’s repertoire illustrates the soulfulness of the Kathak form while establishing new ways of movement drawn from the classical style. Her work builds on the dance form’s mythological storytelling roots to explore universal narratives, using a rich movement vocabulary that communicates the dynamic and often paradoxical nature of modern life through compelling solo and group choreographies. While preserving the emotive quality unique to Indian classical dance, Shah tells her own stories that foster understanding, empathy and relationships between audience and performer.

Calpulli Mexican Dance Company

Mexika Tiawi! (Mexicans Onward)

Mexika Tiawi!, roughly translated to “Mexicans Onward!,” is based on the Aztec tradition known as the Tezkatlipoka, carrying symbolism associated with natural elements and the life force of the dancers to achieve self-knowledge and harmony. Aztec-inspired dance became highly religious with the Spanish conquest, and Calpulli’s suite aims to capture a pre-Hispanic interpretation of the dances. In this iteration, the central Priestess character leads the clan of dancers in their ritual.

Calpulli Mexican Dance celebrates the rich diversity of Mexican cultural heritage through dance including live music. Founded in 2003, Calpulli’s repertoire is largely based on folkloric traditions as interpreted through the unique perspective of Artistic Director and Co-founder, Alberto Lopez Herrera with Music Direction by George Saenz. In addition, the company tells stories through its folk dances, songs and with the use of contemporary dance, ballet, original music, animation and dance theater to capture the diverse aspects of the culture and people we love.

Dance Theatre of Harlem

Harlem on My Mind (Excerpts)

Choreographed by Darrell Grand Moultrie, *Harlem on My Mind* reflects on the persistent and

evolving mystique that is Harlem. With music by Fats Waller, Duke Ellington and Wynton Marsalis, among others, Moultrie's joyous and soulful choreography draws on a rich continuum of jazz to burst from the stage.

Dance Theatre of Harlem is a leading dance institution of unparalleled global acclaim, encompassing a performing ensemble, a leading arts education center and Dancing Through Barriers®, a national and international education and community outreach program. Founded in 1969 by Arthur Mitchell and Karel Shook, Dance Theatre of Harlem was considered "one of ballet's most exciting undertakings" (*The New York Times*, 1971). Each component of Dance Theatre of Harlem carries a solid commitment towards enriching the lives of young people and adults around the world through the arts.

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