

COMPLEXIONS

CONTEMPORARY BALLET

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Dwight Rhoden & Desmond Richardson

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Meg Paul

PRINCIPAL CHOREOGRAPHER

Dwight Rhoden

INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Michael Korsch

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PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Nicole Walters

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Christina Dooling, Gary W. Jeter II, Christina Johnson, Jae Man Joo,
Natiya Kezevadze, Terk Lewis, Clifford Williams

THE COMPANY

Bilgude Ariunbold (leave of absence), Christian Burse, Jacopo Calvo, Kobe Atwood Courtney, Jasmine Heart Cruz, Jillian Davis, Vincenzo Di Primo, Thomas Dillely, Joe González, Harrison Knostman, MaryAnn Massa, Marissa Mattingly, Tatiana Melendez, Zion Pradier, Keith Reeves, Miguel Solano, Lucy Stewart, Candy Tong (leave of absence), April Watson

Apprentices: Angelo De Serra, Elijah Mack

HISSY FITS

(excerpt)

2006

Choreography: Dwight Rhoden
Music: Johann Sebastian Bach
Lighting Design: Michael Korsch
Costume Design: Christine Darch
Staged by: Clifford Williams
Performed by: The Company

MUSIC CREDITS

Toccata & Fugue in D Minor, BWV 565, Composed by Johann Sebastian Bach, Performed by Gabriela Montero, EMI CLASSICS, Chromatic Fantasy in D Minor, BWV 903a, Performed by Glenn Gould, Composed by Johann Sebastian Bach, Domenico Scarlatti, Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach and Johann Bernard Bach, Performed by Glen Gould, SONY CLASSICS, Chaconne from Partita in D Minor, Composed by Johann Sebastian Bach, Performed by Dietrich Buxtehude, T. Albioni, Antonio Lotti & Jean Baptiste Loeillet, EMI Classic

HISSY FITS was commissioned by NJPAC Alternate routes

STAR DUST

(HEROES excerpt)

2016

A Ballet Tribute to David Bowie

Choreography by: Dwight Rhoden
Music: David Bowie (Heroes album 1977) sung by Peter Gabriel
Lighting Design: Michael Korsch
Costumes Design: Christine Darch
Performed by: The Company

PROGRAM NOTE

STAR DUST is the first installment of a full evening length Ballet tribute to the genre bending innovation of one of the prolific Rock Stars of our time - DAVID BOWIE. This Ballet takes an array of his hits and lays a visual imprint, inspired by his unique personas and his restless invention artistically - to create a Rock Opera style production in his honor. With Bowie's 40+ year career and 25 albums that stretch across musical borders - STAR DUST pays homage to the iconic and Chameleonic spirit of what can only be described as... BOWIE.

* STAR DUST was generously commissioned by Detroit's Music Hall.
Special Thanks to Vince Paul

MUSIC CREDITS

"Heroes", Written by David Bowie & Brian Eno, Published by Tintoretto Music (BMI) administered by RZO Music, Inc.

ELEGY

2020

Choreography: Dwight Rhoden
Music: Ludwig van Beethoven
Lighting Design: Michael Korsch
Costume Design: Christine Darch
Performed by: Jillian Davis

In loving memory of Dolores Rhoden and Yvonne Richardson.
Unconditional Love. Believer. Matriarch. Fighter. Forever In Our Hearts.

MUSIC CREDITS

"Sonata No. 14 in C-Sharp Minor, Op 27 No. 2 "Moonlight": I: sostenuto (Redbook Stereo)
Performed by Arthur Rubinstein; Published by Sony Music

SNATCHED BACK FROM THE EDGES

(WORK IT OUT excerpt)

2021

Choreography: Dwight Rhoden

Music: Martin Gore, Sanada Maitreya, Shirley Caesar, Terrell Lewis, Tye Tribbett,
Jon Batiste, Frederic Chopin, Aloe Blacc, Benjamin Clementine

Lighting Design: Michael Korsch

Costume Design: Christine Darch

Sound Design: Corey Folta

Performed by: The Company

PROGRAM NOTE

SNATCHED BACK FROM THE EDGES is meant to be a chronicle of the indelible human spirit, in the eye of a storm. Much of this work was conceived & created at the height of the pandemic, with the additional challenges of gun violence, racial inequity, and social struggles at the forefront of our daily lives. It is inspired by the pain, tenacity, and advocacy for change - that inner strength that continues to propel the world forward - through it all.

MUSIC CREDITS

"Work It Out (Live)" by Tye Tribbett used with permission of Kobalt Music Publishing.

– INTERMISSION –

LOVE ROCKS

2020

Choreography: Dwight Rhoden

Music: Lenny Kravitz

Lighting Design: Michael Korsch

Costume Design: Christine Darch

Sound Design: Corey Folta

Performed by: The Company

"We've got to dance and be in love." - Lenny Kravitz
Special thanks to Lenny Kravitz.

MUSIC CREDITS

"We Can Get It All Together", "I Belong to You", "Take Time", "Fly Away", "Calling All Angels",
"Riding On the Wings of My Lord", "It's Enough", "Here to Love"
All written by Leonard A. Kravitz with permission of BMG Gold Songs.

"Are You Gonna Go My Way"

Written by Leonard A. Kravitz and Craig David Ross with permission of BMG Gold Songs and Wiggled Music

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COMPLEXIONS CONTEMPORARY BALLET

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Accompanists: Adrià Barbosa, Ai Isshiki, Ray Leslee, Sorin Frisan Videographer: Jacob Hiss

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ABOUT THE COMPANY

Hailed as a “matchless American dance company” by the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Complexions Contemporary Ballet transcends dance tradition through a groundbreaking approach to the art. Founded in 1994 by master choreographer Dwight Rhoden and the legendary Desmond Richardson, Complexions’ foremost innovation is to remove boundaries, not reinforce them. The company blends methods, styles and cultures from across the globe, and the result is a continually evolving form of dance that reflects the movement of our world — and all its cultures — as an interrelated whole. Complexions’ artistic directors and company members teach master classes around the world to dancers of all levels, bringing the company’s inventive vision of human movement to five continents, over 20 countries and over 20 million television viewers. The company has also performed at major dance festivals throughout Europe. These include Italy’s Festival of Dance; France’s Isle De Dance Festival and Maison De La Dance Festival; the Holland Dance Festival; Switzerland’s Steps International Dance Festival; Poland’s kóń Biennale, Warsaw Ballet Festival and Kraków Spring Ballet Festival; and Spain’s Dance Festival of Canary Islands. Complexions has toured extensively throughout the Baltic Regions, Korea, Brazil, Japan, Egypt, Germany, Italy, Israel, Russia, New Zealand, Bermuda, Serbia, Jamaica and Australia.

Complexions Contemporary Ballet has received *The New York Times* Critics' Choice Award, among numerous other awards. It has appeared in theaters across the U.S., including the Joyce Theater, Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, New Victory Theater (New York City), the Mahalia Jackson Theater for the Performing Arts (New Orleans), Paramount Theatre (Seattle), The Music Center (Los Angeles), Winspear Opera House (Dallas), Cutler Majestic Theatre (Boston), the Music Hall (Detroit), and the Kennedy Center (Washington, D.C.) as part of the 2017 Ballet Across America. Prominent theaters abroad that have hosted Complexions include the Bolshoi Theatre, the Kremlin Theatre (Moscow), The Mikhailovsky Theater (St. Petersburg) and the Melbourne Arts Center.

In the 28 years since its inception, the company has born witness to a world that is becoming more fluid, more changeable and more culturally interconnected than ever before. Today, Complexions Contemporary Ballet represents one of the most recognized and respected performing arts brands in the world. It is poised to continue its mission of bringing unity to the world, one dance at a time.

WHO'S WHO IN THE COMPANY

DWIGHT RHODEN (*Co-Founder, Co-Artistic Director, Principal Choreographer*) has established a remarkably wide-ranging career, earning distinction from *The New York Times* as "one of the most sought out choreographers of the day." A native of Dayton, Ohio, Rhoden began dancing at age seventeen. Rhoden has performed with Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, Les Ballet Jazz De Montreal, and as a principal dancer with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. In 1994, Rhoden and Desmond Richardson founded COMPLEXIONS Contemporary Ballet. They have brought their unique brand of contemporary dance to the world for over two decades. Under Rhoden's direction, COMPLEXIONS has become a dance institution high in demand, as a center for innovation and cutting-edge programming. Rhoden's choreography has been the lynchpin of the development of COMPLEXIONS repertory. "Musicality, innovation, purpose, consistency, a brilliant use of stage space and the ability to tell a story—all these qualities make [Rhoden] one of today's elect choreographers" (*Los Angeles Times*). Since 1994, Rhoden has created over 80 ballets for COMPLEXIONS, as well as for numerous other companies, including the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Arizona Ballet, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, BalletMet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Colorado Ballet, Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, Joffrey Ballet, Miami City Ballet, New York City Ballet, North Carolina Dance Theater, Pennsylvania Ballet, PHILADANCO!, Mariinsky Ballet, Minneapolis Dance Theater, Phoenix Dance Company, Sacramento Ballet, Oakland Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, The Washington Ballet, and Zenon Dance Company, The San Francisco Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, among others.

Rhoden has also directed and choreographed performances for shows across a range of media, including *So You Think You Can Dance*, E! Entertainment's *Tribute to Style*, *Amici*, and Cirque Du Soleil's *Zumanity*, and he appeared in the feature film *One Last Dance*. He has collaborated with, or created work for a number of celebrated artists, including Prince, Lenny Kravitz, Kelly Clarkson, ELEW, David Rozenblatt, Nicholas Payton, The Drifters, Paul Simon, Billy Strayhorn, Nina Simone, Marvin Gaye, U2, The Turtle Creek Chorus, and Patrick Swayze. Rhoden is a recipient of various honors and awards including The New York Foundation for the Arts Award, The Choo San Goh Award for Choreography, and The Ailey School's Apex Award. Rhoden received an honorary doctorate degree from the Boston Conservatory in recognition of his extensive contributions to the field of dance.

DESMOND RICHARDSON (*Co-Founder, Co-Artistic Director*) was the first African-American principal dancer of American Ballet Theatre, and is hailed by *The New York Times* as one of the greatest dancers of his time. Nominated for a Tony Award for his role in the original Broadway cast of *Fosse* and deemed a standout in the Tony Award winning production *After Midnight*, Richardson is highly esteemed by the concert dance and Broadway community. Richardson has appeared on celebrated stages across the world, namely The Metropolitan Opera, The Kennedy Center, Paris Opera, The Bolshoi Theatre, The Mariinsky Theatre, The State Kremlin Palace, Teatro Massimo, and Teatro alla Scala. He has been a member and invited guest of prestigious companies including Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Frankfurt Ballet, Royal Swedish Opera Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Washington Ballet, and San Francisco Ballet, to name a few. Richardson, a Young Arts Finalist and Presidential Scholar, has received numerous awards including the *Dance Magazine* Award, Capezio Award, Ailey Apex Award, L.A. Ovation Award, "Bessie" Award, YoungArts Alumni Award, and most recently the Roosevelt "Rosey" Thompson Award presented by the Presidential Scholars Foundation. In the spring of 2019, Richardson received an honorary doctorate degree from The University of North Carolina School of the Arts in recognition of his extensive contributions to the field of dance.

Richardson has been a celebrity guest performer and choreographer for productions across media such as the American Music Awards, the Academy Awards, City Center's *Encores!* series, Italy's *Amici*, and international franchises of *So You Think You Can Dance*. Richardson has been featured by famed artists such as Michael Jackson, Prince, Madonna, Elton John, and Aretha Franklin, and he appears in celebrated films such as the Oscar-Award winning *Chicago*, Julie Taymor's *Across the Universe*, and the recent independent film, *Fall to Rise*. He has worked with fashion icon, Tom Ford, Chic's Nile Rodgers, and recently contributed to Grammy-Award winning Jill Scott's video *Back Together*, which features dancers from COMPLEXIONS. Richardson has also been a featured performer in various operas such as: Julie Taymor's *Grendel* as Beowulf and as the Pharaoh in Teatro La Scala's *Moïse et Pharaone* opposite Roberto Bolle conducted by famed Maestro Riccardo Muti. Internationally and domestically, he is a master teacher for dance programs such as the New York's All Stars Project, YoungArts Miami, United Way, NYCDA, and multiple dance conventions. He served as co-creative director and choreographer with David Monn for the Park Avenue Armory Gala Masquerade. Richardson is currently a guest artist-in-residence at USC's Gloria Kaufman School of Dance. Richardson can be seen in the current feature film *High Strung Free Dance* as the character Sammy.

MEG PAUL (*Associate Artistic Director, Rehearsal Director, Director Complexions Academy*) brings a wealth of significant professional experience in ballet and Broadway performance and teaching artistry. She has worked closely with important dance pioneers and choreographers in the field: from the repertoire and artistic direction of Gerald Arpino and Robert Joffrey to works by Sir Frederick Ashton, George Balanchine, William Forsythe, Dwight Rhoden, and Alonzo King.

Her thirty-year career encompasses a wide range of national and international experience in performance, choreography, directing, teaching, program development, community engagement, and arts management. Ms. Paul was a ballerina with the Joffrey Ballet, COMPLEXIONS Contemporary Ballet, and Ron De Jesus Dance. She was dance captain, lead understudy and full swing for Twyla Tharp's Tony award-winning Broadway musical *Movin' Out* during the Broadway run. Her awards include The Princess Grace Award, winner of The International Dance Competition of the Americas, and the Copperfoot Award. Ms. Paul has curated and directed several dance concerts and benefits including National City Stars of Ballet and Broadway and Detroit Music Hall's annual 313 Choreography Expo. She was honored as a Detroit Renaissance Hero by the *Detroit Free Press* for her work on National City Stars of Ballet and Broadway.

From 2010-2022, Paul served in many roles at Wayne State University's Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance, including Associate Professor of Teaching, Recruitment Coordinator for Dance, and Director of Dance (2018-2022). Paul curated and directed the Complexions Detroit Summer Intensive at Wayne State University for nine seasons.

Paul is honored to begin her newly appointed role as Associate Artistic Director with Complexions Contemporary Ballet. She continues as Academy Director for Complexions Contemporary Ballet Academy, and ballet faculty for Adrenaline, Revive and National Dance Conventions.

JAE MAN JOO (*Rehearsal Director*) was born and raised in Kwang-Ju, Korea, where he trained in classical ballet, modern, and traditional Korean Dances. He is a graduate of Dankook University in Seoul, Korea, and a 1996 recipient of the Bagnolet International Dance Festival's Best Individual Artist Award. Jae was a Principal Dancer for Ballet Hispanico for many years before joining Complexions Contemporary Ballet. In 2009, he received The Princess Grace Award for Excellence in Choreography. He has worked with Shen Wei, Zvi Gotheiner, Igal Perry, Jessica Lang. For the past 20 years, He Worked with Complexions Contemporary Ballet in various capacities, including Associate Artistic Director, Ballet Master, Artist in Residence, and Resident Choreographer. He created many ballets for the company, including Tears' (Rachmaninoff), "Surface" (Debussy), "Atmosphere" (Bach) , " Flight" (Bach)" Recur" (Richter, Silverstrov) and "Goodnight" (Arvo Pärt). His outside commissions include works created for Marymount Manhattan College Dance, Alvin Ailey/ Fordham BFA, Ailey II, Jacob's Pillow, Point Park Univ Dance in Pittsburgh, and Wise Ballet Theater in Korea.

MICHAEL KORSCH (*Lighting Designer*) is a lighting, projection and scenic designer based in Philadelphia, PA, where he earned his BA in theater from Temple University. He has worked with numerous directors and choreographers, creating hundreds of visual designs for dance, theater and other live performances throughout North and South America, Europe, Australia, and Asia. Michael has been the resident lighting designer for COMPLEXIONS Contemporary Ballet since 1998, Ballet Arizona since 2001, and the Gloria Kaufman International Dance Center since its inception at the University of Southern California. He has also been the lighting/technical director for the Laguna Dance Festival since it began in 2005. In addition, Michael has created designs for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, American Ballet Theatre, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, Backhousedance, BalletMet, Ballet Nice Méditerranée, Ballet West, BalletX, Carolina Ballet, Cleveland Play House, DanceBrazil, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, Disney Creative Entertainment, English National Ballet, *FELA! The Concert*,

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, MOMIX, Oakland Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Royal Danish Ballet, Sacramento Ballet, StaatsballettBerlin, and Washington Ballet among others.

CHRISTINE DARCH (*Resident Costume Designer*) has designed for COMPLEXIONS since 2006. She designs and builds costumes and sets for choreographers Julia Adam, Val Caniparoli, Alison Cook Beatty, Robert Dekkers, Jorma Elo, Nicolo Fonte, Adam Hougland, Jae Man Joo, James Kudelka, Gabrielle Lamb, Edwaard Liang, Matthew Neenan, Amy Seiwert, Merián Soto, Septime Webre and Yin Yue. Ms. Darch has been commissioned by Alvin Ailey, Astana Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, Ballet Arizona, Ballet Hawaii, Ballet Memphis, Charlotte Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Colorado Ballet, Dayton Ballet, Houston Ballet, Imagery, Israel Ballet, Kansas City Ballet, Madco, Marin Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet, Le Ballet Nice Méditerranée, Oregon Ballet Theatre, Pennsylvania Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, Post:ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Tulsa Ballet, Washington Ballet, and BalletX. She lives in East Northport, NY with acclaimed classical American ballet composer Matthew Pierce.

DANCER BIOS

BILGUDE ARIUNBOLD (*Dancer*) is originally from Mongolia. He joined the Mongolian Conservatory in 2005 and graduated in 2012. In 2009, while still a student at the Conservatory, he was invited to dance as a Soloist at the State Academic Theater of Opera and Dance, where he performed until 2015. Bilgude joined Wise Ballet Theatre in South Korea as Principal Dancer, where he danced from 2015 until 2021. He is looking forward to performing alongside the other Complexions artists in his first season with the company.

CHRISTIAN BURSE (*Dancer*) was born in Austin, Texas where she began her dance journey at the age of two years old. She completed her early dance training at RISE Dance Company where she received a diverse dance education. She continued her dance training at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Dallas, Texas, and Dance Industry Performing Arts Center. She attended multiple summer intensives with COMPLEXIONS Contemporary Ballet and The Juilliard School. She has received awards from The National YoungArts Foundation and was named a 2020/2021 Texas Young Master. This is Christian's second season with COMPLEXIONS.

JACOPO CALVO (*Dancer*) was born in Asti, Italy. He began his dance training at the age of eleven at his hometown school, Ritmo Danza. At eighteen, he moved to NYC where he attended The Ailey School on scholarship. He has worked with choreographers such as Marcus Jarrell Willis, Brice Mousset, Ray Mercer, Earl Mosley, Francesca Harper, and artist Nick Cave in *The Let Go* at the Park Avenue Armory. He has attended summer intensives with American Ballet Theater and COMPLEXIONS Contemporary Ballet, and RESET 2021 with Studio Wayne McGregor. Jacopo has performed with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for their 60th Anniversary Season *in Memoria* at New York City Center and for the Ailey Spirit Gala. This is Jacopo's first season with COMPLEXIONS.

KOBE ATWOOD COURTNEY (*Dancer*) was introduced to dance through Richmond Ballet's Outreach program Minds in Motion. They trained with Richmond Ballet, under the encouragement of Jasmine Grace. They finished their training at San Francisco Ballet School. There, they were fortunate to perform pieces such as Balanchine's "Stars and Stripes" and an excerpt from Jiri Kylian's "Sarabande". They then spent two years working with Orlando Ballet. They were able to learn from many different works such as "Lyric Pieces" by Jessica Lang and "Lambarena" by Val Caniparoli. They continued their career with Festival Ballet Providence, where they were able to dance leading roles in pieces choreographed by artists like Yury Yanowsky, Ja' Malik, and Lia Cirio. They also recently started their choreographic career, setting work for Rhode Island Women's Choreography Project. They look forward to the next chapter of their career, joining Complexions Contemporary Ballet for this season.

JASMINE HEART CRUZ (*Dancer*) Jasmine Heart Cruz was born and raised in San Francisco, California. She received her dance training at Westlake School for the Performing Arts where she focused in ballet, contemporary, jazz, and modern. She also attended programs such as Hubbard Street Dance Intensive, NYCDA Winter Dance Intensive, and English National Ballet School's fall and summer courses. After graduating high school, she spent one year at the University of Southern California's Glorya Kaufman School of Dance. In 2020, Jasmine was a Dance Spirit Magazine Cover Model Search Winner. She has received awards from competitions such as ADCIBC, YAGP, NYCDA, and most recently received the bronze medal at Tanzolymp International Dance Festival in Berlin.

ANGELO DE SERRA (*Apprentice*) grew up in Sassari, Sardinia, Italy. He began his professional training at the age of 14 with Sharon Podesva, his private ABT ballet teacher. He attended summer intensives with The Royal Ballet School, American Ballet Theatre, Academie Princesse Grace. At the age of 17 he was awarded Senior Man Classical

Top Six of Youth America Grand Prix Italy and at the age of 18 he won the Expression International Dance Competition in Florence (first place Classical Soloist) and he received a scholarship to the Alvin Ailey School. He then moved to Cannes, France, graduated PNSD-Rosella Hightower and joined Cannes Jeune Ballet. He then moved to New York City to attend The Ailey School under full scholarship and attended Complexions Academy intensive programs. This is Angelo's first season with Complexions.

VINCENZO DI PRIMO (*Dancer*) grew up in Adrano, Sicily, Italy and graduated from the Vienna State Opera Ballet Academy. Vincenzo performed with some of the world's most reputable dance companies including The Royal Ballet of London and received several awards including Outstanding Artistry Prize and Contemporary Prize from the Prix de Lausanne, Grand Prix de Paris, Youth America Grand Prix New York, and the Beijing International Ballet Competition. In 2019, he was a contestant and finalist on the Italian TV show *Amici*. In 2021, Vincenzo was included in *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch." This is Vincenzo's 4th season with COMPLEXIONS.

JILLIAN DAVIS (*Dancer*) from Kutztown, PA and began her ballet training at the age of three. She studied with Risa Kaplowitz and Susan Jaffe at Princeton Dance and Theater Studio in Princeton, NJ. Jillian attended San Francisco Ballet, School of American Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet and LINES Ballet programs. Jillian has been a company member with COMPLEXIONS since 2014. She has been part of Dwight Rhoden world premieres including *Headspace*, *Strum*, *Gutter Glitter*, *Star Dust*, *Bach 25*, *Woke*, *Love Rocks*, and a world-premiere solo, *Elegy*. She has also performed installation works by Desmond Richardson and an excerpt of *Approximate Sonata* by William Forsthye. Along with being a dancer with COMPLEXIONS, Jillian is part of the core faculty for Complexions Dance Academy. This is Jillian's seventh season with COMPLEXIONS. IG: @Jillange93

THOMAS DILLEY (*Dancer*) began training at age twelve at Premiere Studios in Sydney, Australia. He was a Top 7 Junior Men's Finalist at Youth America Grand Prix and a prize winner at the Prix de Lausanne, receiving admission to Summer Intensives with Academie Princess Grace, American Ballet Theatre, Bolshoi Ballet Academy, The Royal Ballet School, and The Australian Ballet School. Thomas danced for Queensland Ballet's Professional Year Program where he performed works including *Strictly Gershwin*, *Flames of Paris*, *Scotch on the Rocks*, and *Muscle Memory*. In 2017, he joined the Atlanta Ballet 2 where he performed works such as *Beauty and the Beast* and *Eclipse*. Thomas joined CCB to perform the world premiere of *Woke*. This is Thomas' 5th season with COMPLEXIONS.

JOE GONZÁLEZ (*Dancer*) is from Boston Massachusetts, where he trained at Roxbury Center Performing Arts and the Boston Arts Academy. Joe has participated in Boston Conservatory's summer intensive, American Dance Festival, Bates Dance Festival and twice at Springboard Danse Montreal. He received his BFA from Boston Conservatory and premiered works in their choreography showcases and commissioned works for Bryn Mawr College, Rowan University and Boston Conservatory at Berklee WinterWorks. Joe toured nationally and internationally as performing artist with Philadanco, Anna Myer & Dancers, Prometheus Dance, #DBdanceProject and was Director of Philadanco's 3rd Company (D/3), the 2020/21 DanceVisions Artist in Resident at Performance Garage. He is currently found and Artistic Director of Jo-Mé Dance and is on faculty at Temple University, Georgian Court University and Boston Arts Academy. This is Joe's first season with Complexions. IG @j.gonzalez.dance

HARRISON KNOTSMAN (*Dancer*) a Colorado native, is a recent graduate of The Juilliard School and is an aspiring professional dancer and educator. He began training at Studio West Dance Center in Fort Collins, Colorado. This school allowed him to perform works by Crystal Pite, Barak Marshall, and Ida Saki--among many other accomplished choreographers. Also, Harrison is proud to say he was a YoungArts finalist in modern dance and is a college scholarship recipient from the NYCDA Foundation. Harrison is now thrilled to begin his professional dance career with COMPLEXIONS. After making his professional debut with COMPLEXIONS this past summer in Israel, he is grateful to continue working and growing with the company throughout its 28th season. In the future, Harrison hopes to pursue his passion for dance with professional companies worldwide and continue to educate young minds in this beautiful art form he loves dearly.

ELIJAH MACK (*Apprentice*) is from San Diego, CA. His love and passion for dance began at a very early age. He began training as a Hip-Hop Dancer with Studio FX in San Diego at the age of 9. He studied dance at Creative Performing and Media Arts Middle School and San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts High School where he trained in Jazz, Modern, Tap, Contemporary and Ballet. He began his formal ballet training at the age of 14 with Golden State Ballet Academy's Pre-Professional Program before attending San Francisco Ballet School. He has attended various dance intensives, competitions, and dance festivals across the country and enjoys traveling the world participating in dance workshops. He was invited to participate in Complexions Contemporary Ballet's inaugural Trainee Program in 2022 and is thrilled to be living out his dream in New York City as an apprentice with Complexions

MARYANN MASSA (*Dancer*) was born and raised in Old Bridge, New Jersey, which is where she began her training at Dance Stop Dance Educational Center. Mary Ann graduated from The Conservatory of Dance at Purchase College in 2019 with a BFA in dance and a concentration in Ballet. During her time at Purchase, she had the opportunity to perform works by George Balanchine, Norbert De La Cruz III, Gregory Dawson, Michelle Thompson Ulerich, and Stuart Loungway. Additionally, she got to perform a duet at the Kuan Du Arts Festival in Taiwan in 2017 choreographed by Norbert De La Cruz III. She attended workshops and programs at Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Ballet X, San Francisco Conservatory Forsythe Program, The Rock School, and more. Before joining Complexions, she was a dancer with New Jersey Ballet for 3 years under Maria Kowroski. This is her first season with Complexions Contemporary Ballet.

MARISSA MATTINGLY (*Dancer*) grew up in Tampa, Florida where she was trained in several different styles of dance since the age of three. She started to take ballet and contemporary more seriously at the age of 13 when she began training at All American Dance Factory and Classical Ballet School under the direction of Terri Howell and Julio Montano. With this training she took part in many ballet competitions. She is a 4 time YAGP finalist, and performed in the UBC 2022 finals gala as a Legacy Award winner. She has been offered acceptances and scholarships to programs at Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Joffrey Chicago, BalletMet, Colorado Ballet Academy, Kansas City Ballet, Oklahoma City Ballet, Texas Ballet Theatre, Philadelphia Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Atlanta Ballet, and Houston Ballet Academy. She attended her first Complexions summer intensive in 2021, and was invited to take part in their two week Trainee Program in the spring of 2022. This is her first season with the company.

TATIANA MELENDEZ (*Dancer*) grew up in Tampa, FL. She studied at All American Dance Factory & Classical Ballet under Julio Montano and Terri Howell. At 15, she joined Houston Ballet Academy's Professional Division on scholarship. Tatiana performed with Houston Ballet in Stanton Welch's Cinderella and The Nutcracker, and with Texas Ballet Theater as Clara in Ben Stevenson's The Nutcracker and Matinü Pieces. She was a part of the world premiere of Dwight Rhoden's WOKE, Love Rocks & SBFTE. Tatiana has guested around the world including dancing the Snow and Sugar Plum pas for Roma City Ballet Company. Tatiana appeared on the cover of Pointe's magazine 2020 Fall edition and danced for the 2021 Kennedy Center Honors. This is Tatiana's 4th season with Complexions.

ZION PRADIER (*Dancer*) began his dance training at the age of sixteen in Lafayette High School Performing Arts Academy. Zion graduated from The Ailey School in the Certificate Program in New York City in 2016 and immediately started working with Dallas Black Dance Theatre in Dallas, Texas where he spent five seasons. While training at The Ailey School, he spent his summers at Dance Theatre of Harlem, and The Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at American Ballet Theatre. While in Dallas, Zion has performed works by choreographers such as Twyla Tharp, Elisa Monte, Darrell Moultrie, and Milton Myers. This is Zion's second season with COMPLEXIONS. IG @the_zion_king

KEITH JUSTIN REEVES, (*Dancer*) a native of Augusta, began his training at age 15 with the Jessye Norman School of the Arts. Shortly after he joined the Augusta Ballet School now known as Colton Ballet under the direction of Zanne and Ron Colton. He has received scholarships to summer programs at Nashville Ballet, Joffrey ballet School, and The School at Jacob's Pillow. In 2015, Keith received the Audrey B. Morgan Scholarship for the Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education Conservatory program and later joined the company. He has performed works by Jiri Kylian, Salvatore Aiello, George Balanchine, Dwight Rhoden, Mark Morris, Kiyon Ross, Annabelle Lopez Ochooa, Ricardo Armante, Tara Lee, Yuri Possokhov, Ohad Naharin, among others. Last season he worked with Atlanta Ballet's resident choreographer, Claudia Shrieier, on a solo for The Guggenheim WPA Virtual commission called "Force of Habit." Keith was also featured in the 2021 March edition of InStyle Magazines "Black Trailblazers of Atlanta". He started his choreographic journey with the Atlanta ballet from 2016 - 2021 he choreographed on The Atlanta Ballet's 2nd Company & Main company. This is his first season with Complexions contemporary ballet.

MIGUEL SOLANO (*Dancer*) is from Medellin, Colombia. He started dancing at age seventeen at the District University of Bogotá and continued his training at BalletStudio Bogotá under the direction of Patricia Niño. In 2013, he moved to NYC to complete his studies at the Gelsey Kirkland Academy of Classical Ballet on full scholarship, performing with Kirkland's studio company. He has participated in summer programs including Hubbard Street Dance, Oklahoma City Ballet, and Batsheva Dance Company in Israel. Miguel has worked with Awaken Dance Theater, Thomas/Ortiz Dance, RudduR Dance and Connecticut Ballet. He has worked with choreographers Earl Mosley, Christopher Rudd, Darrell Moultrie, Larry Keigwin, Nadege Hottier, Larissa Calero, Eve Chan, and Ted Thomas. This is Miguel's fourth season with COMPLEXIONS. IG @miguellsolano

LUCY STEWART (*Dancer*) grew up in a suburb of Denver, Colorado, where she spent her early years dancing at a small studio in the mountains and then at Colorado Ballet. Originally training in all forms of dance, her primary areas of study included ballet, contemporary and jazz. She spent her summers training with American Ballet Theatre, The Joffrey Ballet, COMPLEXIONS, and Colorado Ballet. Lucy has studied the last two years at The Juilliard School in the dance division where she had the opportunity to study with various leading artists in the dance world, including Ohad Naharin, Tiler Peck, Rena Butler, and James Whiteside, as well as the opportunity to perform *Set and Reset* by Trisha Brown. For the last several years, Lucy studied regularly with John Gardner and Amanda McKerrow from

ABT. Lucy was introduced to COMPLEXIONS by Meg Paul at ten years old and found her true passion. This is Lucy's first season with Complexions.

CANDY TONG (*Dancer*) was born in San Francisco, California. She trained at San Francisco Ballet School under full scholarship and is a BFA graduate in Dance Performance from University of California, Irvine -- completing the program in just 2.5 years. Candy received a diploma in Dance from the English National Ballet School, where she performed and toured with the company. Alongside her dance career, Candy is a signed model with Stetts Model Management and has been in several global campaigns such as Reebok. Her work has been showcased at the Galleries Lafayette in Paris, the Huffington Post, and on Nikon Europe's ad campaigns. As an entrepreneur, Candy is a fashion designer specifically for dancewear. This is Candy's fourth season with Complexions. .

APRIL WATSON (*Dancer*) began her dance training at age eight at University of North Carolina School of the Arts Preparatory Program. In 2016, April graduated from University of North Carolina School of the Arts High School Program. She spent her summers with School of American Ballet, Houston Ballet, Debbie Allen Dance Academy, Charlotte Ballet, Indiana Ballet Conservatory, Dance Theatre of Harlem, and Joffrey of Chicago all on scholarship. After graduating from UNCSCA, she spent two years in Los Angeles, CA studying under the direction of Debbie Allen as an Artist in Residence on scholarship. April joined the COMPLEXIONS in 2019 as an apprentice. This is her second season with COMPLEXIONS as a full company member. IG @wca