

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

New York City Center announces programming for 2022 – 2023 Season

Dance highlights include masterworks by Twyla Tharp and the return of new annual series: Artists at the Center and City Center Dance Festival

2023 Encores! Season

The Light in the Piazza, Dear World, and Lionel Bart's Oliver!

Mary-Mitchell Campbell announced as Encores! Music Director

**Tickets from \$35 or less on sale for most performances Sep 6 for members;
Sep 13 for general public**

**Annual Gala Presentation *Parade* starring Ben Platt and Micaela Diamond
on sale today to general public**

JUNE 14, 2022 (NEW YORK, NY) – Full programming for New York City Center's **2022 – 2023 Season** was announced today. Following last season's successful reopening for live in-person performances, the 2022 – 2023 Season includes marquee series **Fall for Dance Festival** and **Encores!**, and the return of new annual dance series: **Artists at the Center** and **City Center Dance Festival**. Manhattan's first performing arts center, New York City Center has presented the best in music, theater, and dance to generations of New Yorkers for nearly 80 years.

Fall 2022

The 2022 – 2023 Season opens with the 19th **Fall for Dance Festival**, September 21 – October 2. For the first time in three years, the Festival returns to presenting an international array of dance artists and companies in five unique programs, each featuring three different performances. Highlights include a City Center co-commission with Vail Dance Festival of **Pam Tanowitz's** world premiere work featuring **Melissa**



Toogood and **Herman Cornejo**; the live premiere of **Christopher Wheeldon**'s 2020 digital Fall for Dance commission *The Two of Us* featuring **Sara Mearns** and **Robbie Fairchild**; and performances by **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**, soloists from **Bavarian State Ballet** (Germany), **Compagnie Hervé Koubi** (France), **Dayton Contemporary Dance Company**, **Dutch National Ballet** (Netherlands), **Gibney Dance**, **Kyiv City Ballet** (Ukraine), **Nrityagram Dance Ensemble** (India), and **San Francisco Ballet**. This year all Fall for Dance tickets will be \$20, in keeping with City Center's mission of accessibility. Ticket prices for Fall for Dance are increasing for the first time in 10 years, which will offset increased fees provided to Festival artists. Tickets go on sale on Sunday, August 28 at 11am. Full programming details will be announced in August.

Following last fall's triumphant TWYLA NOW program, one of the world's most versatile choreographers **Twyla Tharp** returns to City Center October 19 – 23 with two of her most beloved works: *In the Upper Room* and *Nine Sinatra Songs*. Set to **Philip Glass**'s propulsive score with striking costumes by **Norma Kamali**, *In the Upper Room* (1986) is known for its full-throttle speed and broad spectrum of movement drawing from ballet, tap dance, boxing, and yoga. In contrast, *Nine Sinatra Songs* (1982) combines the charms of Tharp's suave, jazzy style with some of **Frank Sinatra**'s most beloved pop standards recounting the varying phases of love through time.

As previously announced, the **Annual Gala Presentation Parade**, directed by **Michael Arden** and starring **Micaela Diamond** and **Ben Platt**, opens November 1 with a benefit performance followed by a gala dinner at the Ziegfeld Ballroom. Performances of **Jason Robert Brown** and **Alfred Uhry**'s Tony Award-winning musical run through November 6. Funds raised by all seven performances allow City Center to continue to provide access to the performing arts by subsidizing education programs and affordable tickets throughout the year. **Tickets starting at \$35 go on sale to the general public at noon today.**

From November 15 – 27, a jazz-infused retelling of the classic holiday story *Sugar Hill: The Ellington/Strayhorn Nutcracker*, directed by **Joshua Bergasse**, celebrates the music and magic of the jazz heartbeat of Harlem in Sugar Hill. A tribute to the joy of collaboration, the beauty of diversity, and the power of individuality. Produced by David Garfinkle/Hello Entertainment, Willette Klausner, Dale Mott, Rob Quadrino, Brass Bull Productions, Billy Strayhorn Songs, Inc. and Schirmer Theatrical. Executive Producers A. Alyce Claerbaut, Robert Thompson, and Randall Buck.

The dancers of **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** will enliven the City Center stage for four weeks November 30 – December 24 with new works by **Kyle Abraham** and Resident Choreographer **Jamar Roberts**; Company premieres of **Paul Taylor**'s romantic *DUET* and **Twyla Tharp**'s carefree *Roy's Joys*; and a new production of **Alvin Ailey**'s stirring *Survivors*, an impassioned tribute to the profound courage and terrible anguish of Nelson and Winnie Mandela. The season will also include returning favorites by Artistic Director **Robert Battle**, **Aszure Barton**, **Rennie Harris**, and **Jawole Willa Jo Zollar**, plus classics by Mr. Ailey including the beloved *Revelations* that "becomes brighter, its brilliance more memorable, every year" (*The New York Times*).

Winter | Spring 2023

The beloved musical theater series Encores! eagerly welcomes **Mary-Mitchell Campbell** for her first season as the new Music Director. A consummate interpreter of the work of Stephen Sondheim and a host of other Broadway greats, Campbell is widely respected for her work as a conductor, music director, orchestrator, composer, and arranger on productions like *Road Show*, *The Prom*, *Some Like it Hot*, and the 2006 revival of *Company*. She now takes up the baton leading the acclaimed Encores! Orchestra. Campbell joins Artistic Director **Lear deBessonnet** and Producing Creative Director **Clint Ramos** for an exciting **2023 Encores! season** of musical theater revivals that continue to expand the Encores! family of artists and audiences.

Starting February 1 – 5, director **Chay Yew** explores **Craig Lucas** and **Adam Guettel**'s Tony Award-winning musical *The Light in the Piazza*. Tony winner **Ruthie Ann Miles** returns to the New York stage as Margaret Johnson, a 1950s American mother touring Florence with her daughter and struggling to embrace undreamt-of opportunities in the shadow of a tragic accident. Buoyed by Guettel's lush score, Yew's production transmutes the musical's drama of encounter across barriers of language, culture, and ability into something as essential as it is revelatory.

Next is a hidden gem of the Broadway canon: **Jerry Herman**'s 1969 musical *Dear World*, March 15 – 19. In this madcap musical fable, a motley band of outcasts must rally together to save their picturesque Chaillot neighborhood in Paris from a greedy cabal of oil-hungry bankers. Tony winner **Donna Murphy** takes on the musical's giddy, garish heroine, Countess Aurelia, performing some of Herman's sweetest and most sumptuous songs, including "I Don't Want to Know," "Kiss Her Now," and "Each Tomorrow

Morning.” This delightful romp, directed and choreographed by **Josh Rhodes**, blends Herman’s trademark optimism with a dash of social critique and a hint of ecological urgency: a perfect blend for our times.

Closing out the Encores! season is a special two-week run of **Lionel Bart’s *Oliver!*** (May 3 – 14), marking the musical’s first major New York production in nearly 40 years. Directed by Encores! Artistic Director **Lear deBessonnet**, this landmark revival revels in the brassy, boisterous sound of such classics as “I’d Do Anything,” “Oom Pah Pah!,” and “Consider Yourself.” The story of a child who dares to trust in others, search for love, and ask for more in London’s seedy underworld, the coming-of-age tale promises to inspire a new generation of musical theater lovers.

Sara Baras and her company of dancers and musicians return to the annual **Flamenco Festival** March 23 – 26 with *Alma*, a love letter to flamenco’s origins which blends traditional flamenco elements with *bolero* rhythms. Winner of the 2020 Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dance, Baras (2019 Flamenco Festival) has built an international career as a dancer, director, and choreographer known for infusing classic forms of flamenco (most famously the *farruca*) with a powerfully modern sensibility.

For the first time in 15 years, **The National Ballet of Canada** takes the City Center stage March 30 – April 1 for unforgettable performances featuring live music by **The National Ballet of Canada Orchestra**. The evening includes **Kenneth MacMillan’s** 1966 *Concerto*, a classically inventive interpretation of **Shostakovich’s** Piano Concerto No. 2, followed by **David Dawson’s *Anima Animus*** (2018), a ferocious interplay between light and dark. Anchoring the program is *Angels’ Atlas* by Canadian icon **Crystal Pite**, an astonishing piece for 36 performers that became an unwitting requiem for life as we knew it when it premiered to rapturous reviews in February 2020.

One the world’s greatest tap dance talents and a longtime City Center collaborator, **Ayodele Casel** is the second featured artist-curator in the new Artists at the Center series. Casel expands her 2021 Fall for Dance commission *Where We Dwell* for **Ayodele Casel | Artists at the Center** (April 13 – 15) to further explore personal, cultural, and musical approaches to the quintessentially American tap form. Each of the series’ three unique programs include world-premiere City Center commissions alongside *Where We Dwell*, and features tap legends and frequent Casel collaborators including: **Jared Alexander, Alexandra Bradley, Amanda Castro, Maurice Chestnut, Kurt Csolak, Naomi Funaki, Quynn Johnson, Ted Louis Levy, John Manzari, Anthony Morigerato, Caleb Teicher, Dre Torres**, and vocalist **Crystal Monee Hall**.

From Apr 19 – 23, **Dance Theatre of Harlem** (DTH) returns to New York City Center with two dynamic programs celebrating the 10 years following the Company’s triumphant return to the stage. The DTH dancers shine in New York premieres by **William Forsythe** and **Tiffany Rea-Fisher**, as well as the return of George Balanchine’s joyous *Allegro Brillante*, and several audience favorites including works by Resident Choreographer **Robert Garland**. Presented in cooperation with New York City Center.

Ballet Hispánico, the nation’s largest Latinx cultural organization and one of America’s Cultural Treasures, returns to City Center after its critically acclaimed run of *Doña Perón*. From June 1 – 3, the Company presents a mixed program curated by Artistic Director & CEO **Eduardo Vilaro**, including the world premiere by celebrated Latina choreographer **Michelle Manzanales** and such popular repertory pieces as *Club Havana* and *18+1*, among others. Presented in cooperation with New York City Center.

The City Center Dance Festival returns for its second year, this time in the form of a summer jam. For three exhilarating nights **From the Street | City Center Dance Festival** celebrates the propulsive diversity of rhythms and forms found in contemporary hip-hop. Creative Advisors **Ephrat “Bounce” Asherie** (artistic director of Ephrat Asherie Dance) and **Adesola Osakalumi** (co-creator of *Jam on the Groove*) assemble a high-octane program featuring a host of local, national, and international creators. Performance dates and programming details to be announced.

The **Studio 5** series of conversations and performances is an opportunity to hear from today’s great dance artists in the intimate setting of City Center’s historic studios. Events throughout the season will be presented in person and on demand featuring artists from the mainstage programs and beyond—**Fall for Dance Festival, Ayodele Casel | Artists at the Center, From the Street | City Center Dance Festival, George Balanchine’s The Nutcracker®** in partnership with New York City Ballet, and more.

Manhattan Theater Club

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Lynne Meadow and Executive Producer Barry Grove, **Manhattan Theatre Club** (MTC) has made enormous contributions to American theater, producing bold new American plays and musicals at its Off-Broadway home at New York City Center Stages I and II. From acclaimed writer **Jeff Augustin** (*The New Englanders* at MTC, “The Morning Show”) comes **Where**

the Mountain Meets the Sea, a timely story of a son's quest to connect with his father, directed by Princess Grace Award winner **Joshua Kahan Brody**. Reuniting with director **May Adrales**, **Qui Nguyen** (*Vietgone*) returns to MTC with the second play of his autobiographical trilogy. Told from the mother's perspective, *Poor Yella Rednecks* is the story of a young family's attempt to put down roots in Arkansas, a place as different from Vietnam as it gets. Tony and Pulitzer Prize-winning author **David Auburn** (*Proof*, *The Columnist*) returns to MTC with *Summer, 1976*, a deeply moving, tenderly insightful new play about friendship, memory, and the small moments that can change the course of our lives forever. Directing is Tony winner **Daniel Sullivan** (*Proof*, Lillian Hellman's *The Little Foxes*).

Tickets and General Information

Tickets start at \$35 and go on sale at noon on September 6 to members and September 13 to the general public for Artists at the Center | Ayodele Casel, Flamenco Festival, The National Ballet of Canada, From the Street | City Center Dance Festival, Studio 5, and Twyla Tharp. Fall for Dance Festival tickets go on sale Sunday, August 28 at 11am, with all tickets \$20. Tickets for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater go on sale October 11 to the general public.

Current subscribers may renew their Encores! subscriptions now through July 15. New Encores! subscriptions for members are available starting August 2 and for the general public starting August 9. Single tickets go on sale to members September 29 and to the general public on October 6.

Tickets can be purchased online at NYCityCenter.org, by calling 212.581.1212, or in person at the City Center Box Office. New York City Center is located at 131 W 55th St between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

NEW YORK CITY CENTER (Arlene Shuler, President & CEO) has played a defining role in the cultural life of the city since 1943. Manhattan's first performing arts center, City Center was founded by Mayor Fiorello La Guardia with the mission of making the best in the performing arts accessible to all audiences. This commitment continues today through celebrated dance and musical theater series like the Fall for Dance Festival and the Tony-honored Encores! series, as well as a continued dedication to a culture built on the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion. The distinctive neo-Moorish theater welcomes more than 300,000 annual visitors to experience internationally acclaimed artists on the same stage where legends like George Balanchine, Leonard Bernstein, Barbara Cook, José Ferrer, Martha Graham, and Paul Robeson made their mark. Home to a roster of renowned national and international

companies including Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (City Center’s Principal Dance Company) and Manhattan Theatre Club, City Center’s dynamic programming, art exhibitions, and studio events are complemented by education and community engagement programs that bring the performing arts to thousands of New York City students, teachers, and families every year, from all five boroughs.

NYCityCenter.org

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**NEW YORK CITY CENTER
2022 – 2023 SEASON CALENDAR**

Tickets from \$35 or less; On sale for most performances Sep 6 for members; Sep 13 for general public

FALL FOR DANCE FESTIVAL

Sep 21 – Oct 2, 2022

Week 1: Wed – Sat 8pm

Week 2: Tues – Sat 8pm; Sun 3pm

All tickets \$20

TWYLA THARP | *In the Upper Room & Nine Sinatra Songs*

Oct 19 – 23, 2022

Wed – Sat 8pm, Sun 2pm

In the Upper Room

Choreography by **Twyla Tharp** | Music by **Philip Glass**

Nine Sinatra Songs

Choreography by **Twyla Tharp** | Music by **Frank Sinatra**

Annual Gala Presentation

Parade

Nov 1 – 6, 2022

Tue 6pm (Gala), Wed – Fri 7:30pm, Sat 2 & 8pm, Sun 2pm

Tickets on sale now

Book by **Alfred Uhry**

Music and Lyrics by **Jason Robert Brown**

Co-Conceived and Directed on Broadway by **Harold Prince**

Based on the true story of the trial and lynching of Leo Frank

Directed by **Michael Arden**

Starring **Micaela Diamond** and **Ben Platt**

Sugar Hill: The Ellington/Strayhorn Nutcracker

Nov 15 – 27, 2022

Libretto and Concept by **Jessica Swan**

Orchestrations and arrangements by **John Clayton, Larry Blank, Duke Ellington, and Billy Strayhorn**

Music direction by **Rob Cookman**

Dance arrangements by **Mark Hummel**

Featured Choreography by **Graciela Daniele, Carmen de Lavallade, Caleb Teicher,**

Malaena Eagle, Jon Boogz and Joshua Bergasse

Choreography by **Jade Hale-Christofi**

Directed by **Joshua Bergasse**

Produced by David Garfinkle/Hello Entertainment, Willette Klausner, Dale Mott, Rob Quadrino, Brass Bull Productions, Billy Strayhorn Songs, Inc. and Schirmer Theatrical. Executive Producers A. Alyce Claerbaut, Robert Thompson, and Randall Buck.

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

Nov 30 – Dec 24, 2022

Tickets start at \$29

On sale Oct 11

Press contact: Christopher Zunner, CZunner@AlvinAiley.org or 212.405.9028

For photos, visit pressroom.alvinailey.org

Encores!

The Light in the Piazza

Feb 1 – 5, 2023

Wed – Fri 7:30pm, Sat 2pm & 8pm, Sun 2pm & 7pm

Book by **Craig Lucas**

Music and Lyrics by **Adam Guettel**

Produced by arrangement with Turner Entertainment Co.

Owner of the original motion picture *The Light In The Piazza*

Based on the Novel by **Elizabeth Spencer**

Directed by **Chay Yew**

Starring **Ruthie Ann Miles**

Encores!

Dear World

Mar 15 – 19, 2023

Wed – Fri 7:30pm, Sat 2pm & 8pm, Sun 2pm & 7pm

Music and Lyrics by **Jerry Herman**

Book by **Jerome Lawrence** and **Robert E. Lee**

Based on The Madwoman of Chaillot by **Jean Giraudoux** as adapted by **Maurice Valency**

Directed and choreographed by **Josh Rhodes**

Starring **Donna Murphy**

New York City Center and Flamenco Festival present

FLAMENCO FESTIVAL

Sara Baras

Alma

Mar 23 – 26, 2023

Thu – Sat 8pm, Sun 3pm

-more-

New York City Center and The National Ballet of Canada present

THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA

Mar 30 – Apr 1, 2023

Thu & Fri 7:30pm, Sat 2pm & 7:30pm

Featuring live music by The National Ballet of Canada Orchestra

Concerto

Choreography by **Kenneth MacMillan** | Music by **Dmitri Shostakovich**, Piano Concerto No. 2

Anima Animus

Choreography by **David Dawson** | Music by **Ezio Bosso**, Violin Concerto No. 1

Angels' Atlas

Choreography by **Crystal Pite** | Music by **Owen Belton, Morten Lauridsen, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

AYODELE CASEL | ARTISTS AT THE CENTER

Apr 13 – 15, 2023

Thu – Sat 8pm

DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM

Apr 19 – 23, 2023

Press Contact: Billy Zavelson, billy@kornbergpr.com

Encores!

Lionel Bart's

Oliver!

Special two-week run

May 3 – 14, 2023

Week 1: Wed – Fri 7pm, Sat 2 & 8pm, Sun 2 & 7pm

Week 2: Tue – Fri 7pm, Sat 2 & 8pm, Sun 2pm

Book, Music and Lyrics by **Lionel Bart**

By Special Arrangement with **Cameron Mackintosh**

Directed by **Lear deBessonet**

BALLET HISPÁNICO

Jun 1 – 3, 2023

Club Havana

Choreography by **Pedro Ruiz** | Music by **Israel Lopez, Rubén Gonzales, A.K. Salim, Pérez Prado,** and **Francisco Repilado**

18+1

Choreography by **Gustavo Ramírez Sansano** | Music by **Pérez Prado**

New work

Choreography by **Michelle Manzanales**

Press Contact: Michelle Tabnick, michelle@michelletabnickpr.com

FROM THE STREET | CITY CENTER DANCE FESTIVAL

July 2023

Ephrat Asherie and **Adesola Osakalumi**, Creative Advisors

Performance dates and programming details to be announced.

STUDIO 5

The Barbara and David Zalaznick Studio
Mondays at 6:30pm

In-person and on demand

FALL FOR DANCE FESTIVAL

Sep 12

Sara Mearns and **Robbie Fairchild** preview *The Two of Us*

With choreographer **Christopher Wheeldon**

Linda Murray, moderator

BOOK LAUNCH FOR *MR. B: GEORGE BALANCHINE'S 20TH CENTURY*

Nov 14

Featuring dancers from New York City Ballet

With **Jennifer Homans**

Alastair Macaulay, moderator

GEORGE BALANCHINE'S THE NUTCRACKER[®]

Dec 5

Featuring dancers from New York City Ballet

Alastair Macaulay, moderator

AYODELE CASEL | ARTISTS AT THE CENTER

Mar 6

Featuring **Naomi Funaki, Crystal Monee Hall, Dre Torres**

With **Torya Beard** and **Ayodele Casel**

Aaron Mattocks, moderator

FROM THE STREET | CITY CENTER DANCE FESTIVAL

May 22

Ephrat Asherie and **Adesola Osakalumi**, co-moderators

MANHATTAN THEATRE CLUB

NEW YORK CITY CENTER STAGE I

Where the Mountain Meets the Sea

By **Jeff Augustin**

Directed by **Joshua Kahan Brody**

Music by **The Bengsons**

Previews begin Fall 2022

From acclaimed writer **Jeff Augustin** (*The New Englanders* at MTC, *The Morning Show*) comes a timely story of a son's quest to connect with his father. Lyrical story-telling and live folk songs from **The Bengsons** weave a tale of searching and longing, family and legacy. A Haitian immigrant travels from Miami to California on a once-in-a-lifetime road trip. Years later, his son makes the same journey in reverse. Along the way, blurring the lines of time, these two finally discover common ground and make a connection that has eluded them for decades. Directing is Princess Grace Award winner **Joshua Kahan Brody**

Poor Yella Rednecks

By **Qui Nguyen**

Directed by **May Adrales**

Previews begin Spring 2023

The author of the acclaimed *Vietgone* returns to MTC with the second play of his autobiographical trilogy about an immigrant family's bumpy road to the American dream. Told from the mother's perspective, *Poor Yella Rednecks* is the story of a young family's attempt to put down roots in Arkansas, a place as different from Vietnam as it gets. The production, filled with infectious music and unexpected humor, will reunite **Qui Nguyen** with director **May Adrales** for the next chapter in this highly entertaining and moving tale.

NEW YORK CITY CENTER STAGE II

Summer, 1976

By **David Auburn**

Directed by **Daniel Sullivan**

2022 – 2023 Season

Tony and Pulitzer Prize-winning author **David Auburn** (*Proof, The Columnist*) returns to MTC with a deeply moving, tenderly insightful new play about friendship, memory, and the small moments that can change the course of our lives forever. Over one fateful summer, an unlikely friendship develops between Diana, a fiercely iconoclastic artist and single mom, and Alice, a free-spirited yet naive young housewife. As the Bicentennial is celebrated across the country, these two young women in Ohio navigate motherhood, ambition, and intimacy, and help each other discover their own independence. Directing is Tony winner **Daniel Sullivan** (*Proof, Lillian Hellman's The Little Foxes*).

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