



Charlotte Ballet has a reputation for producing artists of great agility and versatility, who excel in classic favorites like *Nutcracker* and *Sleeping Beauty*, and vanguard performances like the *Innovative Works* series. The professional dancers of Charlotte Ballet live in Charlotte and rehearse at the Center for Dance in Uptown. The dancers and artistic team spend the summers engaging, educating and performing at The Chautauqua Institution in N.Y., and regularly perform at the Gaillard Center in S.C.



Hope Muir, Artistic Director

Hope Muir became artistic director of Charlotte Ballet in 2017. Born in Toronto, Hope was a founding member of Peter Schaufuss's London Festival Ballet School. Upon graduation she joined the company (now English National Ballet), and in 1994 Hope joined Rambert Dance Company with the appointment of Christopher Bruce CBE and danced a wide variety of repertoire from prolific choreographers, including Ek, Kylian, Naharin, Tharp, Tetley, De Frutos, Kylian, Naharin, Tharp, Tetley, De Frutos,

Cunningham and over a dozen Bruce works. After ten years with the award winning RDC, she moved to Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and expanded her repertoire to include Forsythe, Duato and Lubovitch. After a 20-year performance career, Hope became a sought after guest teacher and rehearsal director, coaching both classical and contemporary technique. She has worked with The National Ballet of Canada, English National Ballet, Rambert Dance Company and Matthew Bourne's New Adventures Company. Hope has assisted numerous choreographers on setting their works internationally including Christopher Bruce CBE, Javier De Frutos and Helen Pickett. She helped Crystal Pite on her creation *Emergence* for the National Ballet of Canada in 2009, was invited by Emily Molnar to be guest rehearsal director for Ballet BC and worked as rehearsal assistant for Hofesh Shechter's creation *Untouchable* at the Royal Ballet, Covent Garden. Hope joined Scottish Ballet in 2009 and was promoted to assistant artistic director in 2015. Hope's first season as artistic director for Charlotte Ballet includes the introduction of eight new choreographers to the company, the creation of five new ballets, two ballets making American premieres and the newly established Choreographic Lab.

ARTISTIC CONTRIBUTORS



Original Concept, Music & Lyrics by Pet Shop Boys Tennant / Lowe

Pet Shop Boys, Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe, are the most successful duo in UK music history. Since 1985 they have achieved 40 Top 20 singles in the UK including four number ones and in the USA six Top 20 singles including the number one, "West End girls". They have released 13 studio albums and collaborated with artists including Dusty Springfield, David Bowie and Liza Minnelli.

Aside from *The Most Incredible Thing* which won an Evening Standard Theatre Award in 2011, Pet Shop Boys have also written a West End musical *Closer to Heaven* with playwright Jonathan Harvey and a soundtrack to the classic silent film, *Battleship Potemkin*, which was premiered in 2004 in Trafalgar Square, London. In 2012 they appeared before a worldwide television audience during the London Olympics' closing ceremony. Two years later, their electronics/orchestral piece, *A Man From The Future*, received its world premiere as a Late Night Prom concert at the Royal Albert Hall in London with the BBC Concert Orchestra.

In their live shows over the last 20 years, Pet Shop Boys have created an original and influential style of pop musical theatre, collaborating with directors, designers and artists including Derek Jarman, David Alden and David Fielding, Zaha Hadid, Sam Taylor-Wood and Es Devlin.

Pet Shop Boys' most recent album, *Super*, was produced by Stuart Price and released worldwide in 2016, entering the UK chart at No 3. In July that year they played a four-date residency at London's Royal Opera House and will return there for four more concerts this summer. The concerts were staged by designer Es Devlin and choreographer Lynne Page and received ecstatic reviews with *The Independent* stating that "their career has perpetually shown that pop music and high art cannot only co-exist but surpass supposedly superior musical forms."

Direction & Choreography by Javier De Frutos

Javier De Frutos was named by the *Evening Standard* as one of the most influential people of 2016. He is one of only three artists in the history of the Olivier Awards to have received nominations in all of the dance categories – Best New Dance Production, Outstanding Achievement in Dance and Best Theatre Choreographer. In addition to his Chita Rivera Award for Best Choreography in Film (Theatrical Release) for *London Road*, his previous awards include the Olivier Award for Best Theatre Choreographer for *Cabaret*; an *Evening Standard* Award and Critics Circle National Dance Award for *The Most Incredible Thing* in collaboration with Pet Shop Boys; Critics' Circle National Dance Awards for *Milagros* with Royal New Zealand Ballet and *Elsa Canasta* with Rambert; a Time Out Award for *Sour Milk* with Candoco Dance Company; and a South Bank Show Award for *Grass*. The numerous other accolades for his work include *Fiction* for BalletBoyz being named Best of Dance by The Arts Desk and Top 10 by *The Guardian* for 2016. His choreography for *From Here to Eternity*, staged on the West End, was nominated for the WhatsOnStage award for Best Choreography; and *The Anatomy of a Passing Cloud* for Royal New Zealand Ballet was nominated for both an Olivier Award and a National Dance Award. Javier was born in Caracas. He trained at the London School of Contemporary Dance and the Merce Cunningham Studio in New York. He has been a resident of Britain since 1993. In 2000 he became one of the first Fellowship recipients The Arts Council of England, through which he studied extensively the works of American playwright Tennessee Williams for more than two years. He also represented Britain at the Venice Biennale in 2006. In January, he joined the McColl Center for Art + Innovation's Artists-In-Residence program as the first choreographer to be appointed.



Original Story by Hans Christian Andersen

Hans Christian Andersen, (1805-1875), was a Danish master of the literary fairy tale whose stories have achieved wide renown. He is also the author of plays, novels, poems, travel books and several autobiographies. While many of these works are almost unknown outside Denmark, his fairy tales are among the most frequently translated works in all of literary history. Many of his stories, including "The Ugly Duckling", "The Princess and the Pea", *Thumbelina*, "The Emperor's New Clothes" and "The Little Mermaid" remain classics of the genre. Only three pages in length, he wrote "The Most Incredible Thing" in 1870.



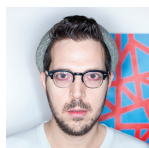
Set & Costume Design by Katrina Lindsay

Katrina designs in theatre, dance, opera and film. She won an Olivier Award for her costumes for *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, which comes to Broadway in Spring 2018, and the Tony, Outer Critics Circle and Drama Desk Awards for her costume designs of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* on Broadway. She is an Associate of the National Theatre in London. Recent Set and Costume designs: *Mosquitoes*, *My Country: a work in progress*, *Lost Without Words*, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*, *Dara*, *London Road* (National Theatre); *See Me Now* (Young Vic); *Porgy and Bess* (Open Air Theatre); *All's Well That Ends Well* (Royal Shakespeare Company); *Cabaret* (West End/UK Tour). Costume designs: *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* and *Bend It Like Beckham* (Olivier Award Nomination) (West End); *wonder. land* (National Theatre/Manchester International Festival); *Hamlet* (Barbican); *American Psycho* (Almeida/Broadway); *The Damnation of Faust* (English National Opera/Palermo/Vlaamse Opera/Staatsooper Berlin); *Eugene Onegin* (Royal Opera House); *Die Tote Stadt* (Finnish National Opera/New National Theatre, Tokyo); *Benvenuto Cellini* (English National Opera/Teatro dell'Opera di



ARTISTIC CONTRIBUTORS *cont'd*

Roma/Paris Opera); *Dr Dee* (English National Opera/Manchester International Festival). Set & Costume designs in *Dance: The days run away like wild horses* (Rambert Dance Company); *The King Dances* (Birmingham Royal Ballet); *The Most Incredible Thing* (Sadler's Wells); *Eternal Damnation to Sancho and Sanchez* (Sadler's Wells); *Blue Roses* (Phoenix Dance/Sadler's Wells); *Cattle Call* (Phoenix Dance/UK Tour). Film: *London Road* (BBC/Cuba Pictures).



Film & Animation by Tal Rosner

Video designer and director Tal Rosner works closely with musicians and theatre makers, combining multiple layers of sound and visuals to create a new language of classical/contemporary video installations and live performances. Most recently, Rosner was commissioned to create new visual interpretations for Steve Reich's 1981 minimalist masterpiece *Tehillim* (Psalms) by London's Barbican Centre and for Olga Neuwirth's *Disenchanted Island* by IRCAM and Centre Pompidou. Rosner's other work includes Britten's *Four Sea Interludes and Passacaglia* (2013-16), commissioned by the New World Symphony, San Francisco Symphony Los Angeles Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, and BBC Symphony Orchestra; and *Chronograph* (2011), a site-specific digital art mural in collaboration with fellow artist Casey Reas, which inaugurated the New World Symphony building designed by Frank Gehry and has been screened daily on its 7,000-square-foot exterior projection wall ever since. Theatre and dance credits include: *Everyman* (dir. Rufus Norris) and *Husbands and Sons* (dir. Marianne Elliott) at the National Theatre; *You For Me For You* (dir. Richard Twyman) and *X* (dir. Vicky Featherstone) at the Royal Court; and *Les Enfants Terribles* (Philip Glass, dir. Javier De Frutos) at the Royal Ballet. Rosner co-designed *Shopping and F'ing* (dir. Sean Holmes) with long-term collaborator Jon Bausor for the Lyric Hammersmith, where he is also an associate artist, and co-created *8 Minutes* (2017), an hour-long multimedia dance piece, with choreographer Alexander Whitley and composer Daniel Wohl for Sadler's Wells. He is currently working on a semi-staged concert performance of Ligeti's Violin Concerto with violinist Jennifer Koh. In 2008 Rosner won the BAFTA for Best Title Sequence for the Channel 4 television series *Skins*. He was born in Jerusalem and now lives and works in London.



Lighting Design by Lucy Carter

Lucy Carter is the winner of the Knight of Illumination Award for Dance in 2008 for *Chroma* and 2015 *Woolf Works* (The Royal Ballet). She is a close creative collaborator of Wayne McGregor; they have worked together for many years across a multitude of works for both Company Wayne McGregor and The Royal Ballet, where McGregor serves as Resident Choreographer. Her credits for work with McGregor include +/- *Human* (Company Wayne McGregor & The Royal Ballet); *Tree of Codes* (Manchester International Festival, Company Wayne McGregor & Paris Opera Ballet); *Atomos*, *UNDANCE*, *FAR*, *Dyad 1909*, *Entity*, *Amu*, *AtaXia*, *Nemesis*, *Digit01* (Company Wayne McGregor); *Multiverse*, *Obsidian Tear*, *Woolf Works*, *Tetractys: The Art of the Fugue*, *Raven Girl*, *Machina*, *Carbon Life*, *Live Fire Exercise*, *Limen*, *Infra*, *Chroma*, *Qualia*, *Nimbus* (Royal Ballet, London); *Borderlands* (San Francisco Ballet); *Dido and Aeneas* and *Acis and Galatea* (Royal Opera/Royal Ballet, London); *Outlier* (New York City Ballet); *Dyad 1929* (Australian Ballet); *Kirikou and Karaba* (musical); *Alea Sands*, *L'Anatomie de la Sensation*, *Genus* (Paris Opera Ballet); *Skindex and Renature* (Nederlands Dans Theater 1); *2Human* (English National Ballet); *Yantra and Nautilus* (Stuttgart Ballet). Lucy's work extends to Theatre and Opera including; *The End of Longing* (Playhouse Theatre) *Medea*, *Blurred Lines* and *Emil and the Detectives* (National Theatre), *Husbands and Sons* (National Theatre and Royal Exchange Manchester); *La finta giardiniera* (Glyndebourne) and *Lohengrin* (Welsh National Opera and Polish National Opera). Other credits include: *No Body* (Installation at Sadler's Wells), *FLUX* (Schlossmediale Werderberg) and the lighting design for Paloma Faith's performance at the Brit Awards 2015.



Sound Design by Paul Arditti

Recent designs include: *Young Marx* (London Theatre Company); *Labour Of Love* (West End, London); *Hamlet* (Kenneth Branagh Company at RADA, London); *Caroline Or Change* (Chichester Festival Theatre & Hampstead Theatre, London); *Beginning*, *Mosquitoes*, *Amadeus* (Olivier nomination for Best Sound Design 2017), *The Hard*

Problem, The Threepenny Opera, wonder.land, Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, Everyman, Behind The Beautiful Forevers, King Lear, London Road, Collaborators (all National Theatre, London); *Great Britain* (NT & West End); *Mary Stuart, Bacchae, Little Revolution, American Psycho* (Almeida, London); *King Charles III* (Almeida, West End, UK Tour & Broadway); *The Audience* (West End & Broadway); *Skylight* (West End & Broadway); *The Glass Menagerie* (Edinburgh International Festival & West End); *The Emperor* (Young Vic London & HOME Manchester); *A Midsummer Night's Dream, If You Kiss Me Kiss Me, Measure for Measure, Feast, Three Sisters* (Young Vic, London); *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Young Vic & St Ann's New York); *The Scottsboro Boys* (Young Vic & West End); *Red Velvet* (Tricycle London & West End); *Charlie And The Chocolate Factory* (West End). *The Emperor* (Young Vic London & HOME Manchester); *A Midsummer Night's Dream, If You Kiss Me Kiss Me, Measure for Measure, Feast, Three Sisters* (Young Vic, London); *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Young Vic & St Ann's New York); *The Scottsboro Boys* (Young Vic & West End); *Red Velvet* (Tricycle London & West End); *Charlie And The Chocolate Factory* (West End). Awards include: Olivier Award, Tony Award and Drama Desk Award for *Billy Elliot The Musical*; Olivier Award for *St Joan*; Evening Standard award for *Festen*; Drama Desk Awards for *The Pillowman* and *Four Baboons Adoring The Sun*; Tony nominations for *Mary Stuart* (Donmar & Broadway) and *One Man Two Guvnors* (NT, West End & Broadway). Paul is an associate director of the National Theatre and a founder member of the Association of Sound Designers in the UK. paularditti.com

Associate to Director & Choreographer Edd Mitton

Edd trained at London Studio Centre. His performing experience includes Matthew Bourne's *Swan Lake* (Sadler's Wells, UK and International tour), *Cabaret* (Savoy Theatre, London), Javier De Frutos/Pet Shop Boys' *The Most Incredible Thing* (Sadler's Wells), and a number of seasons with Yorke Dance Project, dancing in works by Robert Cohan, Kenneth MacMillan and Yolande Yorke-Edgell, as well as projects with companies including Darren Ellis Dance, Lynne Page, SmallPetitKlein, Clod Ensemble, Arthur Pita, Bare Bones, The Generating Company, The Royal Opera House and Opera de Lille. Edd is also a choreographer, movement director and teacher, regularly working with UK theatre company Dumbshow as well as on his own projects. He is rehearsal director for Yorke Dance Project and is a contemporary dance faculty member at London Studio Centre.



Special Choreographic Consultant Renée Jaworski, co-Artistic Director of Pilobolus

Renée Jaworski received her BFA from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Upon graduating she began work with MOMIX, performing and teaching throughout the world as well as creating her own work in Philadelphia. She began performing with Pilobolus in 2000. Renée has served as choreographer and creator for exciting projects and collaborations such as the 79th Annual Academy Awards, *Shadowland*, the Grammy nominated video for OKGo's *All is Not Lost*, *RadioLab Live: In the Dark*, and has worked with many outside artists through the International Collaborator's Project. In 2010, her alma mater honored her with the University's Silver Star Alumni Award for work as an artist in the field of dance. Renée lives in Connecticut with her husband and daughter.



Pilobolus Art Direction by Gregory Laffey

Gregory Laffey is a designer, maker and technician from Pittsburgh. Now based in NYC, he works primarily in theater and film creating sets, props and the occasional costume. He has been working as an art director and shadow maker with Pilobolus Dance Theater since 2009. Favorite Pilobolus projects include: *Shadowland 2*, *Wednesday Morning 11:45*, *Radiolab Live: In the Dark*, and *The Inconsistent Pedaler*. Film art department: *Montana*, *Little Boxes*, *Billy & Billie*, *Some Velvet Morning*, *It's Harassment* (PSA's) et al. Company member of harunalee, a multidisciplinary theater group. Credits include: *Memory Retrograde* (BAX), *Plum de Force* (Bushwick Starr), and creating the immersive "memory palace" around to the left of the pantry and under the sugar shack (LaMama).



ARTISTIC CONTRIBUTORS *cont'd*

PILBOLOLUS

About Pilobolus

Pilobolus is a rebellious dance company. For 45 years, Pilobolus has tested the limits of human physicality to explore the beauty and the power of connected bodies. They continue to bring this tradition to global audiences through their post-disciplinary collaborations with some of the greatest influencers, thinkers and creators in the world. Now, in our digitally driven and increasingly mediated landscape, they also reach beyond performance to teach people how to connect through designed live experiences. They bring their decades of expertise telling stories with the human form to show diverse communities, brands and organizations how to maximize group creativity, solve problems, create surprise and generate joy through the power of nonverbal communication.

Pilobolus has created and toured over 120 pieces of repertory to more than 65 countries. They currently perform their work for over 300,000 people across the U.S. and around the world each year. In the last year, Pilobolus was featured on *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, NBC's *TODAY Show*, MTV's *Video Music Awards*, *The Harry Connick Show*, ABC's *The Chew* and the CW Network's *Penn & Teller: Fool Us*. Pilobolus has been recognized with many prestigious honors, including a TED Fellowship, a 2012 Grammy® Award Nomination, a Primetime Emmy® Award for Outstanding Achievement in Cultural Programming and several Cannes Lion Awards at the International Festival of Creativity. In 2015, Pilobolus was named one of Dance Heritage Coalition's "Irreplaceable Dance Treasures". Pilobolus has collaborated with more than 75 brands and organizations in finance, retail, media, fashion, sports and more to create bespoke performances for television, film and live events.

Find them on social media...
facebook.com/PilobolusDance
instagram: @Pilobolus
twitter: @Pilobolus

ORIGINAL COLLABORATORS

Orchestrations by Sven Helbig

Sven Helbig studied music in Dresden and New York. As a composer and arranger, he has contributed to a wide variety of musical genres ranging from classical music to jazz, electro and hip hop, as well as rock and pop. He has worked with numerous artists including German metal band Rammstein, Pet Shop Boys, the Dresden Kreuzchor, Snoop Dogg, the Fauré Quartet, opera singer René Pape, Polarkreis 18 and many others. He has also composed for the world-renowned Leipzig Thomanerchor. Sven received two Echo awards for his productions for the Deutsche Grammophon label. He also works as a director for music videos, short films and multimedia crossover productions. Several hundred solar movers of Europe's largest solar power plant "danced" a ballet to his music. Pet Shop Boys performed under his direction on the roof of a high-rise building to celebrate Dresden's 800th anniversary, while an orchestra played on the balconies. Sven is co-founder of the Dresden Symphony Orchestra. Founded in 1996, it was the first European orchestra to exclusively play contemporary music. Sven also tours as a drummer with his own jazz trio.

Film Actors

Pop Star, Michael Camp
Jury Member, Isaac Deayton
Older Leo, Richard Franklin
Jury Member, Diana Payne-Myers
Older Princess, Jenny Sveaas
Conductor/ Musical Director, Dominic Wheeler
Associate Director & Jury Member, Phil Wilmott

The Most Incredible Thing was originally commissioned by Sadler's Wells and had its premiere at Sadler's Wells, London on March 22, 2011.