
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

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**Dallas Black Dance Theatre's DBDT: *Encore!*
Rising Excellence Performance Features
Japanese, Polish, and African American Choreographers**

In-Person + Live Streaming + On-Demand

Dallas, TX - **Dallas Black Dance Theatre's (DBDT)** professional training company **DBDT: *Encore!*** Rising Excellence performance draws on the heritage and memories of Japanese, Polish, and African American choreographers. **PNC Bank** is the Presenting Sponsor for the performance scheduled on Friday and Saturday, April 21-22, 2023, at the Moody Performance Hall, 2520 Flora Street, Dallas, TX. **The Kaleta A. Doolin Foundation** is the Choreography Sponsor.

Takehiro Ueyama shares his Japanese heritage through his work *Heroes*, which combines powerful athleticism and delicate gestures. Ueyama choreographed the piece that honors the dedication and perseverance of citizens who played a crucial role in Japan's recovery after World War II and are driving its success today.

Snow Playground is an abstract work by **Katarzyna Skarpetowska** who grew up in Warsaw, Poland. The work takes its inspiration from a peaceful image of swirling snow in a gentle wind as it moves across the surface of a children's playground. At times it gathers speed and brings more of itself into the fold; at other times, it settles in repose just to be picked up again soon after by another gust in a different cluster. Similarly, the dancers form and break relationships, rearranging themselves into various groupings as they coil, swivel, and surge in relentless pursuit. The work evokes the peacefulness of this simple natural occurrence that is both mesmerizing and meditative.

When **Tyrone C. Walker** choreographed *Prototype*, he had robots in mind to demonstrate the internal struggle of breaking loose from factory-made minds while searching for self-discovery to find your true self. In conceptualizing *Prototype*, he tried to answer the question, "What would you do if no one was watching with judgmental eyes or closed minds?" Walker, an African American, grew up in Washington, DC, and is a former DBDT dancer.

In celebration of Dallas Arts Month, Dallas Black Dance Theatre is showcasing the works of Dallas teenager **Madison D. Smith** at the Rising Excellence series. Patrons can enjoy an art gallery exhibit by the high school senior in the Moody Performance Hall lobby. Madison taught herself to paint at home during COVID in 2020 and has created over 150 works. Madison maintains a 4.0 GPA at Dallas Christian High School in Mesquite, TX. To view her collection, visit www.MDSARTWORX.com.

DBDT | RISING EXCELLENCE SERIES

April 21-22, 2023 - 7:30 pm

Moody Performance Hall

2520 Flora St.

Dallas, TX. 75201

In-person + Live streaming + On-demand

NO GROUP DISCOUNTS FOR THE 46TH SEASON

Dallas Black Dance Theatre limits seating capacity to allow for social distancing in all performance venues. Because of the limited in-person ticket availability, DBDT will not offer discounts to groups.

DBDT encourages the use of masks at its performances.

In-person tickets, \$45

Live streaming tickets, \$25 per household.

VIRTUAL OPTIONS

Watch a live stream of the Rising Excellence performance at 7:30 PM CDT on Saturday, April 22, 2023, or on-demand from 10:30 PM CDT Saturday - Monday, April 24, 2023, at 11:59 PM CDT.

For more performance details, visit www.DBDT.com.

STUDENT MATINEE

Katherine Carmody Trust, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee and the **Alice E. Joseph C. Blewett Foundation** are the sponsors for the Student Matinee on Friday morning, April 21, 2023. You can find out more details about bringing students to the matinee by contacting academy@dbdt.com.

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City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture, NBC 5, The Dallas Morning News, Texas Metro News, American Airlines, Oversee My IT, Shubert Foundation, Inc., DART, TACA, Dallas Weekly, and Texas Commission on the Arts

2022- 2023 | DBDT Season Supporters

The Rea Charitable Trust, Lexus, fyi50+, The Dallas Examiner, The Dallas Post Tribune, Elite News, Trendy Africa, and Arts+Culture

ABOUT DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE

Ann Williams founded Dallas Black Dance Theatre in 1976. The dance company is now under the direction of Artistic Director **Melissa M. Young**. Dallas Black Dance Theatre's mission is to create and produce contemporary modern dance at the highest level of artistic excellence through performances and educational programs that bridge cultures and reach diverse communities. As the largest and oldest professional dance company in Dallas, DBDT is the fourth-largest Black dance company in the nation, the ninth-largest contemporary modern dance company, and ranked 40th among the nation's leading ballet companies. Located in the thriving downtown **Dallas Arts District**, DBDT has performed worldwide for over 4.5 million arts patrons and 2.7 million students in 32 states and 16 countries on five continents. The performances include two Olympics (1996 & 2012), the nation's most prestigious venues (**Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, Broadway, Jacob's Pillow**), and for such luminaries as **Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II** and **South African President Nelson Mandela**. Since the pandemic began in 2020, DBDT performances have also been viewed virtually in 34 countries and 38 states. The Company has been recognized by the **National Endowment for the Arts** as an **American Masterpiece Touring Artist** (2008) and received the **Texas Medal of the Arts Award** for Arts Education (2017). For details on Dallas Black Dance Theatre, visit www.DBDT.com.



Photograph by Steven Ray.



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