

SWING OUT

I. The Show

Braintrust (Creative Team): Evita Arce, LaTasha Barnes, Nathan Bugh, Macy Sullivan, Caleb Teicher, Eyal Vilner

Choreography and Improvisation by Caleb Teicher and the Braintrust in collaboration with the Dancers, except:

“Big Apple Contest” - choreography by Frankie Manning, as first seen in “Keep Punching”

Director: Caleb Teicher

Assistant Director: Macy Sullivan

Music: All arrangements and orchestrations by Eyal Vilner, performed by the Eyal Vilner Big Band; Downhill, The Rabbit, Ain't Got Nobody, Chabichou, The Jam, Tap Tap Tap, and Belleville - all composed by Eyal Vilner. My Baby Just Cares For Me - by Donaldson & Kahn, Saint Louis Blues - by W.C. Handy, The Big Apple Contest - by L. Norman, Shiny Stockings - by F. Foster, Jumpin' At The Woodside - by C. Basie

Original Lighting Design: serena wong

Lighting Supervisor/Assistant Lighting Design: Kelly Martin

Sound Design: Joseph Wolfslau

Costume Design: Márion Talán

Bandstand & Logo Design: Michelle Stokes

Choreographic Advisor: Melanie George

Dancers: Brandon Barker, LaTasha Barnes, Nathan Bugh, Gaby Cook, AJ Howard, Jennifer Jones, Brian Lawton, Dee Daniels Locke, Joshua Mclean, Rachel Pitner, Macy Sullivan, Caleb Teicher

Understudy: Sean Vitale

Band: Erán Fink (drums), Ian Hutchison (bass), Brian Pareschi (trumpet), Brandon Lee (trumpet), Josh Lee (baritone saxophone), Julieta Eugenio (tenor saxophone), Sean Mason (piano), Eyal Vilner (alto saxophone, flute, clarinet), Imani Rousselle (vocals), Ron Wilkins (trombone)

Producer: Ross LeClair, Joyce Theater Productions

Production Manager: Meghan Rose Murphy

Company Manager: Aria Roach

II. The Jam

Improvised social dancing is integral to the tradition and modern-day expression of Lindy Hop and Jazz Dance. Now that you've seen our show, we invite you to dance: find some space and join us while the Eyal Vilner Big Band plays a 30-minute set!

About Lindy Hop

Lindy Hop is the preeminent, swing-jazz, partnered dance. In the late 1920's, movement elements, including those of The Charleston, The Collegiate, and The Texas Tommy, were swirling together in African-American communities to form a new style, and they coalesced around a musical groove called "swing." Dance champion George Snowden supplied the name, "Lindy Hop," in reference to Charles Lindberg — whose recent transatlantic flight was the phenomenon of the moment. The name stuck, and the dance was popularized by early masters at the Savoy Ballroom, in Harlem.

Frankie Manning, and other exponents of the 1930's and 1940's, incorporated choreography and high-flying "air steps." Frequently presented by Savoy bouncer Herbert White as "Whitey's Lindy Hoppers," these champions dominated clubs, contests, stages, and film. Manning had a phasic career, retiring after the swing era, but reengaging with the dance industry in the 1980's. In the intervening years, visionaries such as Norma Miller and Mama Lu Parks sustained Lindy Hop and even adapted to new music genres.

At the end of the 20th century, a surge of popularity sowed modern, swing-dance scenes all around the world. There are now plenty of non-US hotspots, like Stockholm and Seoul, with robust dance communities. Lindy Hop also continues to thrive in the US, and in Harlem, where the dance never stopped.

A Note From The Braintrust

SWING OUT presents social Lindy Hop and vernacular dance as a jazz, concert experience. It is a blend of prearrangement and improvisation, where only some of the steps are choreographed; only some of the music is on the page. Performers and spectators are invited to interpret the material in real time, to share in the exhilaration of creation.

Even though Lindy Hop and vernacular jazz have been used in other productions for nostalgia or novelty, there has not been a touring, evening-length program celebrating what these dances have become. By assembling genuine, swing-dance superstars in an improvisatory space, this show offers a unique glimpse into their universe: the modern, Lindy Hop scene.

For us, Lindy Hop tackles the issues of society-at-large, but in an arena of exaggerated humanity. Touch, trust, gender, history, intimacy, and partnership get ground together there, in the crucible of jazz, and they are reified as art. Our mission with *SWING OUT* is to search for perspective on these complexities, while embracing the joy of jazz dance and music.

Thank you for joining us.

- *The Braintrust: Evita Arce, LaTasha Barnes, Nathan Bugh, Macy Sullivan, Caleb Teicher, and Eyal Vilner*

Funding Credits

SWING OUT was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; and was commissioned and created, in part, with the support of The Joyce Theater's Artist Residency Center, made possible by lead funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust, and Doris Duke Charitable Foundation; Works & Process at the Guggenheim; the Center for the Arts at George Mason University; Northrop at The University of Minnesota; and additional commissioning funds provided by The O'Donnell-Green Music and Dance Foundation.

Additional creation support was provided by Deborah and Charles Adelman, Alpern Family Foundation, Sarah Arison, Michèle and Steve Pesner, Anh-Tuyet Nguyen and Robert Pollock, and Karen Roth.

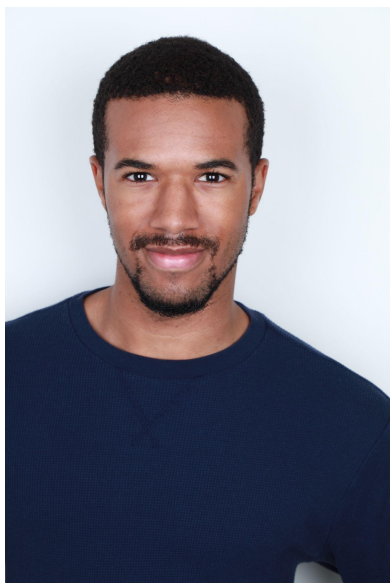
Music commissioned by the Charles and Joan Gross Family Foundation.

Lead tour support for this tour of *SWING OUT* was generously provided by Mr. Stephen Kroll Reidy. Additional tour support provided by Stephanie Gittleman, Karen Roth, and Dorry Segev.

Headshots & Bios



Evita Arce (Braintrust), an internationally renowned Lindy Hop dancer and teacher, began her jazz journey in Austin, Texas (1998). Career highlights include representing Lindy Hop and competing on *So You Think You Can Dance* (2007), *Let Freedom Swing* with Jazz at Lincoln Center at the Kennedy Center (2009), performing in *SWING!* the musical (2008-2009), and her Broadway debut with Caleb Teicher for Regina Spektor's run at the Lunt-Fontanne Theater (2019). Evita was also featured in the Swing documentary *Alive and Kicking* (2016) which follows her path in the international Lindy Hop community. Co-directing with Michael Jagger, *Syncopated City*, debuted as the first Lindy Hop dance company to present at Jacob's Pillow Inside/Out Stage (2012-2013). Evita has danced for Caleb Teicher & Company since 2017, having performed in *Meet Ella* and *More Forever*. Over the course of the pandemic Evita has continued to teach Lindy Hop, Charleston and solo Jazz dance online at syncopatedcity.com. Thanks to her family, especially Simon, her mentors Ryan Francois and Jenny Thomas, the Vanaver Caravan, support from Mirra Bank and Richard Brockman, Elena Iannucci and Teddy Kern of *Dance Manhattan* - Evita's home for 10 years and the extraordinary cast of *SWING OUT* who are all an inspiration.



Brandon Barker (Dancer) is a performing artist who began his journey of dancing at the age of three at the Dance Theatre Harlem with the style of ballet. Following this he dove deeper into movement with modern dance and contemporary styles through grade school. He found a unique release from rigid structure and a freedom of creativity with Lindy Hop. Following this he allowed for this to become his main focus and passion guiding him through his studies to obtain a Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance. He continued to study styles of ballet and modern along with West African, Hip Hop, and House. He is currently exploring the connections between all dances of the african diaspora and their lineage to each other. While having a physical connection of growth to the performing arts he also has an economic connection as well through working to ensure there is financial stability to the arts through his studies to obtain a Bachelor's Degree in Arts Public Policy.



LaTasha "Tasha" Barnes (Braintrust, Dancer) is an internationally acclaimed and awarded dancer, educator, coach and ambassador of culture from Richmond, VA. Globally celebrated for her musicality, athleticism, and joyful presence throughout the cultural traditions she bears, which include: House, Hip-Hop, Waacking, Vernacular Jazz, and Lindy Hop. Her expansive artistic, competitive and performative skills have made her a frequent collaborator to Dorrance Dance, Singapore based Timbre Arts Group, Caleb Teicher & Company, Ephrat Asherie Dance and many international Urban Arts and Jazz/ Lindy Hop festivals like Summer Dance Forever and Paris Jazz Roots Festival. Accolades and accomplishments aside, Tasha's forever purpose is to inspire fellow artists and art enthusiasts to cultivate an authentic sense of self in their creative expressions and daily lives.



Nathan Bugh (Braintrust, Dancer) is known worldwide for his intimately rhythmic style of Lindy Hop and vernacular jazz. He "rocked the stage" at Carnegie Hall, dancing Lindy Hop with the New York Pops Orchestra; he performed in Harlem's famous Apollo Theater in *Swingin' Frankie's Way*; and he danced in the CT&Co's *More Forever*, at Jacob's Pillow. His on-film appearances include: *My Fair Wedding S.3 E.3 - Great Gatsby Bride*, *Fox and Friends Christmas*, *Rebel In The Rye*, and *The Weepies - Be My Honey Pie*. As a national jazz-dance competitor, Nathan has taken 1st place in Lindy, Slow Dancing, Solo Charleston, Team, Jill&Jack, Luck/Draw, and Cabaret divisions. He is one of the most eminent solo-jazz contestants in the world, having won both the Ultimate Lindy Hop Showdown (2012) and International Lindy Hop Championships (2014), as well as achieving 3rd place in the ILHC invitational (2018). He was also the director and choreographer of Yeah Man, the 2015 ILHC Team champions.



Gaby Cook (Dancer) is a veteran lindy hopper of all stripes. For the last 15 years, she has been an active professional in the global lindy hop scene — teaching and performing for events such as Herräng Dance Camp, Lindy Focus, Paris Jazz Roots, Rock That Swing Festival, and the IG hop Dance Residency in Vienna among others. In addition to her career as a teacher, she is also a choreographer and performer. She is Artistic Director for two New York dance companies based in the language of Swing and Vernacular Jazz: **Wild Rhythm Dance Company** and **Gatsby Entertainment**. These two companies have presented feature performances on stages like *Jacob's Pillow Inside/Out Series*, *Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra*, *92nd St Y*, *Midsummer Night Swing at Lincoln Center*, *The Great Gatsby Party* and many appearances at the Rainbow Room at Rockefeller Center. Wild Rhythm is a current dance company in residence at Brooklyn College through the CUNY Dance Initiative program for the 2019-2020 season.



Julieta Eugenio (Tenor Saxophone), is an Argentinian Saxophonist based in New York City. Julieta embedded herself into the Argentinian jazz scene and performed in renowned jazz venues in Buenos Aires alongside master musicians. In 2013, Julieta was accepted to study at Queens College for a Jazz Master degree in New York city. After her Master Graduation, nowadays, Julieta is playing alongside the finest jazz musicians from the worldwide and New York city jazz scene, such as Johnny O'Neal, Eric Reed, Leon Parker and more. Julieta had the opportunity to perform on one of the most prestigious jazz broadcast radios in the US - WBGO As well as being featured on a piece of ABC7 News nationwide alongside Master Philip Harper. In April 2017, Julieta Eugenio won the International Women in Jazz Competition as a member of the SIJ trio and will perform at the Saint Peter's Church for the IWJ Festival in NYC. Julieta has shared the stage multiple times with the Jazz Legend Johnny O'Neal, where she was featured on his residencies at Smoke Jazz club, Ginny's Super Club, Smalls Jazz club, Mezzrow and more. Over the last years Julieta had the opportunity to record with prestigious musicians such as David Kikoski, Leon Parker, to name a few. In 2021 Julieta recorded her debut album (to be released soon) with her own compositions featuring Jonathan Barber and Matt Dwonszyk.



Erán Fink (Drums) is originally from Israel, where he attended the Thelma Yellin High School of the Arts. His passion for music and jazz in particular then led him to Berklee College of Music in Boston, where he studied with jazz masters Ralph Peterson Jr., Hal Crook, Bob Gulotti, and Jamie Haddad, among others. Since moving to New York City in 2011, Fink has been active in the jazz, R&B, Ethiopian, and Afro-Cuban music scenes. He is a sought-after accompanist at the city's top dance schools, including the Alvin Ailey School and Martha Graham School.



Melanie George (Choreographic Advisor) is the founder and director of Jazz Is... Dance Project and Associate Curator and Director of Artist Initiatives at Jacob's Pillow. As a dramaturg, she has contributed to projects by Raja Feather Kelly, Ephrat Asherie, Susan Marshall & Company, Kimberly Bartosik/daela, LaTasha Barnes, and Urban Bush Women, among others. Melanie is featured in the documentary *UpRooted: The Journey of Jazz Dance* and founded the global advocacy website jazzdancedirect.com. She is the former Dance Program Director at American University, and has guest lectured at Harvard University, the Yale School of Drama, and The Juilliard School.



As a California-based dancer with influences from Sacramento, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, **AJ Howard (Dancer)** brings a unique style and energy to the Lindy Hop community. Getting introduced to the world of Lindy Hop at the age of 19, AJ quickly took an appreciation to dance which lead to him running home, getting changed, and heading out to dance almost every day of the week after working his job at a car dealership. He burst into the scene in 2016, winning competitions throughout the US with his partner Jennifer, showing the dance world what Sacramento really had to offer! Competing at international events such as Camp Hollywood and the International Lindy Hop Championships, AJ became well known for his generous use of aerals paired with his energetic dancing. AJ has also had the honor of performing with dance groups such as HellaBlackLindyHop, San Francisco Jitterbugs, and the Midtown Stompers, and the privilege to spread his love of dance through teaching at Lindy Hop events in the US, on a Carnival Cruise ship, and overseas in countries such as Denmark and Sweden.



Playing swing music for swing dancers is **Ian Hutchison's (Bass)** passion - he's done it all over the world. His big sound and bouncing pulse make Ian one of the busiest swing and trad jazz bass players in New York City. Ian has played with a virtual who's who in the swing dance world, including Glenn Crytzer, Jonathan Stout, Naomi Uyama, and Gordon Webster. As a skilled social dancer, Ian is in a unique position to teach in-depth yet practical music classes to swing dancers. Ian has taught in NYC, Colorado, and Israel. Ian leads his own swing band Slap Happy; they've played at dance events in Florida, Colorado, NYC, and Canada. Originally from Colorado, Ian enjoys hiking and rock climbing whenever he can make room in his gig schedule. Ian studied jazz bass at the University of Denver.



Jennifer Nicole Jones (Dancer) is a New York City based Dancer. Originally from Akron, Ohio she received a BFA in Dance Performance from Wright State University while performing with Dayton Contemporary Dance Company. Jennifer has performed in many regional and Off Broadway productions.



Brian Lawton (Dancer) is a New York City-based dancer, instructor, choreographer, and director. He has an eclectic background in ballet, jazz, and modern as well as Latin and Ballroom dances with a specialty in the vernacular jazz dances of the 1920s-1940s. Brian has performed in Shakespeare in the Park's Comedy of Errors, with the Red Hot Chili Peppers at Madison Square Garden and in their recent music video "Go Robot", and Swing! at Gateway Playhouse. He has traveled around the world with his wife, Samantha Lawton (samanthaandbrian.com), teaching vernacular jazz, Charleston, and Lindy Hop. He was the Assistant Director/Choreographer of the new musical Part of the Plan (TPAC) as well as Assistant Director of Distant Thunder (A.R.T. /New York Theaters) both alongside Lynne Taylor-Corbett, and the Choreographer and Resident Director of the A Charlie Brown Christmas National Tour. He most recently performed in an episode of The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel and The Tonight Show.



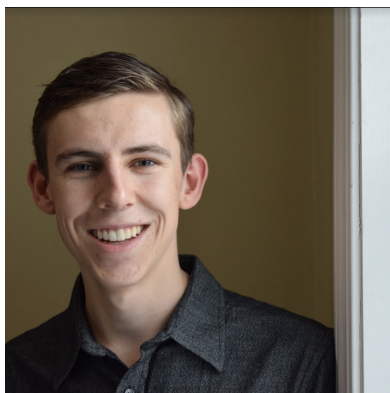
Brandon Lee (Trumpet) was born and raised in Houston, TX. Growing up in a musical family, Lee started on piano at age 5 and switched to trumpet at age 9. He found his love for jazz at the early age of 11 years old and never looked back. In 2001, Brandon moved to New York City to further pursue his jazz studies at The Juilliard School, where he received a Bachelor of Music, Masters and Music and Artist Diploma. After studying, Brandon taught at Juilliard as one of the youngest to ever teach on faculty in the jazz studies department, from 2008-12. Brandon then moved to North Carolina from 2013-2018 to pursue a college teaching position for the Miles Davis Studies program at University of North Carolina, Greensboro (UNCG). As a sideman, Brandon is a member of the Christian McBride Big Band, Birdland Big Band, David Berger Big Band and recently joined the Count Basie Orchestra. He also plays frequently with the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, Maria Schneider Orchestra, Fat Cat Big Band, Eyal Vilner Big Band and many others. Over the years, Brandon has played with notable artists and groups including Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Aaron Diehl and Cecil McLorin Salvant, Kurt Elling, and Kenny Barron Quintet, and many more. He has recorded on over a dozen albums as a sideman. In February 2018, Brandon was awarded his first Grammy as a sideman on Christian McBride's big band album, "Bringin' It". As a leader, Brandon has recorded three albums: "From Within" (2007), "Absolute-Lee" (2010), and his latest, "Common Thread" (2017). Brandon also co-leads a 10-piece ensemble, Uptown Jazz Tentet (UJT). UJT released its first album, "There It Is" in March of 2017 and second album, "What's Next" in October of 2020. Currently, Brandon resides in New York City where he is continuing to pursue more performance-based opportunities in the city and abroad.



Saxophonist, composer, arranger, and Managing and Co-Artistic Director of Jazz Lives Philadelphia, **Joshua Lee (Baritone)** is fully dedicated to the advancement of the Philadelphia jazz community. Joshua graduated from Temple University in 2016 and 2019 with both a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Jazz Performance. Joshua brings performance experience gained in the trenches of the Philly and New York scene that has been fostered by mentors like Barry Harris, Terell Stafford, Tim Warfield, Dick Oatts, and Gary Smulyan. In June of 2018, Joshua joined the Legendary Count Basie Orchestra and currently performs with them around the world. He also is a regular substitute with groups like Terell Stafford's Jazz Orchestra of Philadelphia, The Mingus Big Band, and Memo Acevedo's Manhattan Bridges Orchestra and has had the privilege to travel around the country with the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, Delfeayo Marsalis, and the Upton Jazz Orchestra, and Orquestra Akokan. He, along with classmate Sarah Leonard, founded Jazz Lives Philadelphia in 2015-its mission being to celebrate Jazz in Philadelphia through Performance, Education, and Community outreach. Since its existence, Jazz Lives Philadelphia has presented music in unconventional venues and given free jazz education master classes for thousands of Philadelphia school children. Joshua has taught Jazz at his high school alma mater Pennsbury since 2017 and joined the Jazz Faculty at Temple University in the fall of 2019.



Dee Daniels Locke (Dancer) started Swing Dancing at the age of four with her dad in the basement at her grandma's dance parties, wearing her mom's heels and her favorite plaid skirt. After a hiatus into hip-hop performance during her school years, she was called back to Lindy Hop, and co-founded her college swing dance club. She has become an influential member of the Minneapolis scene, teaching and mentoring. For two decades she has shared her love of Lindy Hop and Jazz with dancers young and old. Dee loves feeling free on the dance floor and advocates for self-expression and individual creativity as the true spirit of Lindy Hop and Vernacular Jazz. Weaving music and movement allow her the expression. She dances for joy both in partnered or solo dancing and searches for presence in each moment. She loves responding to the music and partner, priding herself on making each dance unique to the musical experience and partner, creating an authentic dance conversation. She has taught, performed, and choreographed nationally and internationally, but mostly she wants to have a good dance, and she wants you to have a good dance.



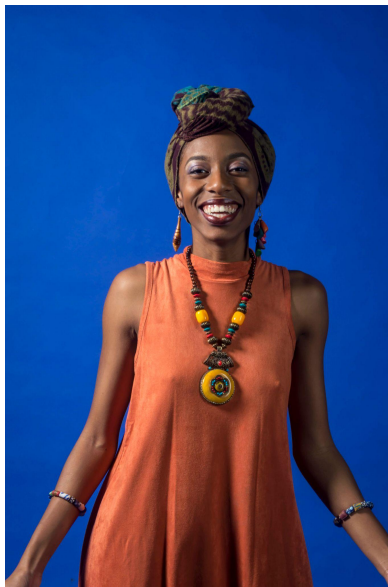
Kelly Martin (Assistant Lighting Designer) is a lighting designer and associate based in New York. Mr. Martin is the lighting director for New York Theatre Ballet, and writer/director/actor Ain Gordon. Design collaborations include performances by choreographers Richard Alston, Duncan Lyle, Kyle Marshall, Clove Galilee, Nicolo Fonte, Catherine Tharin, Julia Gleich, Tiffany Rea-Fisher, Garnet Henderson, Amanda Treiber, and Julian Donahue. He has lit numerous productions for The Bang Group, Co•Lab Dance, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and Boston Early Music Festival.



Born and raised in Charlotte, NC, **Sean Mason (Piano)** taught himself by ear how to play the piano at the age of 13. His beginning musical roots included Gospel, Hip-Hop, and R&B music, but then he discovered jazz and decided to make a career of it. After his studies at both The University of North Carolina at Greensboro and The Juilliard School, Sean quickly made a name for himself in New York City, performing and touring with many jazz legends, including Branford Marsalis, Wynton Marsalis, and Herlin Riley, among many others – while also venturing outside of the genre working with artists such as Masego, Roy Blair, and Kenneth Whalum. He is most noted for his ability to fluently play many different styles of music, spanning across multiple genres and generations of artists – and while continuing to be an in-demand sideman, Sean also leads his own band, the “Sean Mason Trio”, which exclusively performs his original music. Aside from his performing career, Sean also works in the film and theater space: in film, as the pianist for Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom (Netflix) and Tulsa Burning: The 1921 Race Massacre (The History Channel). In theater, Sean has worked on both Hadestown (Broadway) and Phantom of the Opera (Broadway), and is also a composer, orchestrator, and music director in the off-broadway theater space.



Joshua Mclean (Dancer) is a Lindy Hopper, Educator, and Tradition bearer specializing in Lindy Hop, Charleston, and other Swing-Era Dances. He launched his professional career in 2015, appearing at events across nine countries and five continents to teach and perform. Notable appearances include Paris Jazz Roots, Lindy Focus, Jacob’s Pillow, and The Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain. As an educator, Joshua enjoys providing fun and challenging classes for all ages and backgrounds. He recognizes Lindy Hop as part of the moving history of African American Social Dances, and seeks to connect dancers and audiences with both the art and movement traditions that Jazz music and dance have contributed to the world. Joshua is the Founder of HellaBlackLindyHop, and co-directs the company alongside Latasha Barnes. HBLH is a collective group of black dancers worldwide. We gather to support and learn from each other, to be a community, and uplift each other through performance, education, and fellowship.



Imani Rousselle (Vocals) is a Texas-born vocalist with a love for interpreting and delivering the message of lyric. Whether jazz standards or contemporary compositions, her voice invites you to follow along as she fills the spaces between the silence with carefully crafted sound. She currently resides in New York City, having graduated the Manhattan School of Music in the spring of 2021. Prior to moving to NYC, Imani studied at Columbia College Chicago where she obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Voice as well as a double minor in environmental science and management. While in Chicago, she performed on many stages around the city including the legendary Jazz Showcase and The Green Mill, and since moving to New York just before the global shutdown, Imani was able to sing on stages such as the world famous Dizzy's Jazz Club, Clements Place, the Schomburg Center in Harlem, and more. She is excited to be joining the world's audiences again, *safely*.



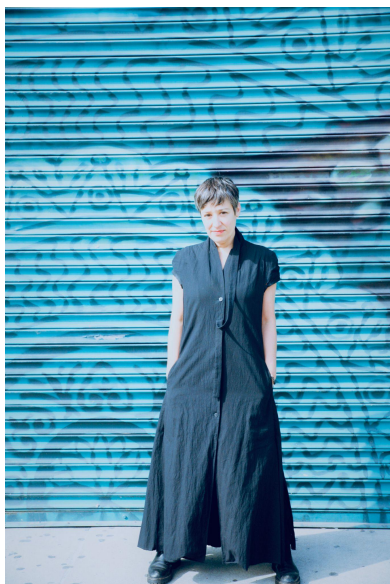
Originally from Rochester, NY, trumpeter/composer/arranger **Brian Pareschi (Trumpet)** is one of the most in-demand trumpeters on Broadway and in jazz and commercial music. He can be heard on jazz recordings, film and television soundtracks and commercials, in Broadway shows, and at festivals worldwide. Brian has performed and recorded with artists including Barbra Streisand, Bruce Springsteen, Phil Collins, Aretha Franklin, Nancy Wilson, James Ingram, Patti Austin, Chaka Khan, Rufus Wainwright, Seth MacFarlane, Kurt Elling, Paul Anka, Bobby Caldwell, Wynton Marsalis, Jon Hendricks, Michel Legrand and with New York City Ballet. He has worked in the orchestras of Quincy Jones, Count Basie, Duke Ellington, the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, Bob Mintzer, Louis Bellson, the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra and in the Tony Awards Orchestra. Brian is currently on Broadway in the orchestra for MJ The Musical.



Rachel Pitner (Dancer) has been dancing all her life. From dancing down the aisles at the grocery store to performing on stage and everything in between, Rachel is thrilled to join the cast of *SWING OUT* after finishing filming a dance sequence for the Disney movie *The Haunted Mansion*. Rachel has a degree in dance with a focus in Graham-style modern from Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia. Rachel loves dancing, and she loves nurturing her dance community. You can often find her organizing or supporting fellow organizers throughout the Southeast and at various events, but especially at Hot Jam and Atlanta Varsity Showdown (the hometown events that she runs). Rachel loves the personal growth and the exchange of ideas that occurs with partner dancing and the freedom and energy of Lindy Hop and the flow of solo dancing. You'll often see her dancing to the music in her head.



Originally from Camas, WA, **Macy Sullivan (Assistant Director, Braintrust, Dancer)** is a NYC-based dancer, collaborator, and teaching artist. She's worked extensively with Caleb Teicher & Company and has also enjoyed performing with Dance Heginbotham, Merce Cunningham Trust, The Bang Group, and The Chase Brock Experience. Her own work has been performed through Works & Process Artists Virtual Commissions, Center for Innovation in the Arts, and Judson Memorial Church, and she's been on creative teams as a movement specialist for theatre works by Tyne Rafaeli and Helen Cespedes. Passionate about teaching, she recently joined the inaugural faculty of 92Y's *Gotta Swing!* Young Leaders Series (offering in-school and virtual residencies to schools nationwide) and is guiding her colleagues' professional development. Sullivan is also working on multiple education initiatives at New York City Center and continues to teach for both Together in Dance, which facilitates creative movement residencies in public schools, and Dance for PD®, which offers free dance classes to people with Parkinson's Disease. Sullivan holds a BFA in Dance from The Juilliard School (Martha Hill Prize, John Erskine Prize, Choreographic Honors). In recent years, she's fallen in love with Lindy Hop and is eagerly exploring both lead and follow roles.



Born in Mexico City, Mexico, costume designer **Márion Talán de la Rosa (Costume Designer)** has nurtured her work by collaborating with artists and innovators of dance, drama, and opera for over the last two decades. She has been the wardrobe supervisor and designer at the Juilliard School for 15 years, and has designed at NYU Steinhardt School for approximately 13 years in collaboration with Joe Salvatore on plays and research-based performances including the Verbatim Performance Lab (VPL). Her most recent project of note is the GRAMMY nominated *Fire in My Mouth* composed by Julia Wolfe and performed by The New York Philharmonic, The Crossing and the Young People's Choir of NY. This highly acclaimed piece was inspired by the New York Triangle Shirtwaist Fire that took place on March 25, 1911 and was performed with a symbolic 146 women's choir. Other works include collaborations with choreographers Caleb Teicher, Sonya Tayeh and Bryan Arias and has had work featured in Fall for Dance at City Center, BAM Next Wave Festival, Jacob's Pillow, American Dance Festival, The Joyce, The Gibney, The New Victory Theater, the DUMBO Light Festival, and WHITE WAVE Festival among others. Márion is a proud member of United Scenic Artists Local 829.



Caleb Teicher (Director, Braintrust, Dancer) is a NYC-based dancer and choreographer specializing in musically-driven dance traditions and interdisciplinary collaboration. Teicher began their career as a founding member of Michelle Dorrance's critically acclaimed tap dance company, Dorrance Dance, while also freelancing in contemporary dance (The Chase Brock Experience, The Bang Group), Lindy Hop (Syncopated City Dance Company), and musical theater (West Side Story International Tour and London). As a solo performer and collaborator, Teicher is known for choreographic collaborations with diverse musical talents: world-champion beatboxer Chris Celiz, composer/pianist Conrad Tao; the National Symphony Orchestra, and indie rock legends Ben Folds and Regina Spektor. In 2015, Caleb shifted their creative focus towards Caleb Teicher & Company (CT&Co), a creative home for incubating new concert dance works from Teicher's unique perspective. CT&Co's engagements and commissions expand across the US and abroad including The Joyce Theater, New York City Center, the Guggenheim Museum (NYC and Bilbao), Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, and Lincoln Center Out of Doors. Caleb is the recipient of a 2019 New York City Center Choreographic Fellowship, two Bessie Awards, a 2019 Harkness Promise Award, the 2020 Gross Family Prize, and a 2019 NEFA National Dance Project Production Grant. Their work has been featured by The New York Times, NPR, Forbes, Vogue, Interview Magazine, on the cover of Dance Magazine and, most recently, on *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert* alongside Regina Spektor. Caleb continues to engage with dance communities as a teacher for international tap, swing, and jazz dance festivals. // www.CalebTeicher.net // Instagram: @CalebTeicher



Sean Vitale (Understudy) is a dynamic dancer with a love for jazz music and movement. Sean has been Lindy hopping since 2018 and is a prominent member of the Big Apple Lindy Hoppers, a principal dancer for the project connect dance company, and the latest addition to the Harvest Moon Hoppers dance company. Sean has witnessed the power of dance to both grow community and heal hearts and minds and he wishes to spread that joy for as long as he is able. Sean is also a trained physical therapist who trains dancers, athletes, and those affected by neurologic conditions such as stroke and Parkinson's disease.



Eyal Vilner (Braintrust, Band Leader, Alto Saxophone, Flute, Clarinet) is one of the leading voices in the New York Swing and Big Band Scene. Born in Tel Aviv, saxophonist, composer and bandleader Eyal Vilner moved to New York in 2007 and started his big band the following year. **The Eyal Vilner Big Band** has been performing widely at some of New York's landmarks such as Jazz at Lincoln Center Midsummer Night Swing, Birdland, Smalls Jazz Club, Dizzy's, Works & Process at the Guggenheim, Jazzmobile SummerFest, Swing 46, Battle of the Big Bands on the Intrepid, The Django, Minton's Playhouse, and Central Park SummerStage. The band performs Eyal's original compositions as well as his new arrangements of jazz and swing tunes. Their music, which derives from the tradition of jazz, swing and the blues, strives to bring a unique voice to this beautiful art form. The band's first five albums: *Introducing the Eyal Vilner Big Band*, *Almost Sunrise*, *Hanukkah*, *Swing Out!*, and *Live in Washington Square Park!* received rave reviews and made it to the Top Jazz Radio Charts of the US and Canada.



NYC/ATX based musician **Ron Wilkins (Trombone)** has been performing on tenor and bass trombones, euphonium, tuba, bass trumpet and vocals for over forty years. He has performed at the highest levels touring around the world with his own groups as well as premiere artists, including Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin, Lena Horne, Dizzy Gillespie, Jimmy Heath, Jon Faddis, Eddie Daniels, Randy Brecker, Wycliffe Gordon, and groups such as The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, The Dizzy Gillespie All-Star Big Band, The Mingus Big Band, and The Count Basie Orchestra. Ron is a Shires trombone artist and has released his latest album, "Ron Wilkins-Trombocalist" (Jazz Legacy Productions). For more listings to purchase Ron's latest album, along with upcoming performances, videos, and educational tips, go to ronwilkins.net



Joseph Wolfslau (Sound Designer) is a set, sound, and costume designer based in Brooklyn. Recent designs include production design for La Sonnambula (Promenade Opera), production design for Magnum Opus: A Retrospective: (The People Movers), sound for The Emperor's Nightingale (Pan Asian Rep.), sound for The Peanut Butter Show (Little Lord), production design for Cendrillon (Promenade Opera), sound for Romulus the Great (Yangtze Rep.), sound for Brideshead Obliterated (Dixon Place), set, sound, and costumes for 410 [Gone] (Yangtze Rep), sound for Colncident (JACK), sound for Ski End (New Ohio), sound for CoVenture (Baryshnikov), and set and costumes for Poor Sailor (Tugboat Collective).



serena wong (Lighting Designer) is a Brooklyn-based freelance lighting designer for theater and dance, whose work has been seen in the US and Europe. Most recently she has designed for choreographers Gemma Bond, Caleb Teicher, Jaamil Olawale Kosoko, and Shamel Pitts. She enjoys biking, bread baking, and pottery.

Joyce Theater Productions (JTP) is the in-house producing entity for The Joyce Theater Foundation, Inc., formed to create original work for The Joyce's stage and for worldwide touring. This initiative provides dance artists who have little or no formal management or infrastructure the means to create productions of the highest standards of excellence. The program also includes the Associate Company model, offering sustained producing, fiscal, and/or administrative management to companies that may require short or longer term support.