For the conclusion of its five-week, 2020 digital fall season, New York City Ballet will present a festival of new choreography featuring five World Premiere films, one launching each night from Tuesday, October 27 through Saturday, October 31.

The first four premieres were choreographed by Sidra Bell, Andrea Miller, Jamar Roberts, and Pam Tanowitz and feature NYCB dancers performing on the campus of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, the home of New York City Ballet. The films have been directed by Ezra Hurwitz with cinematography by Jon Chema. Bell, Miller, and Roberts are working with NYCB for the first-time ever; and Tanowitz is making her second work for the Company. The works by Bell, Roberts, and Tanowitz will also feature music performed and recorded by members of the New York City Ballet Orchestra.

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The finale of the festival will be a film directed and choreographed by NYCB Resident Choreographer and Artistic Advisor Justin Peck, set to new version of songwriter and composer Chris Thile’s Thank You, New York, that has been created especially for the occasion. Peck’s work will feature four NYCB dancers filmed at several locations around New York City, with cinematography by Jody Lee Lipes, who directed Ballet 422, the 2014 documentary film about Peck and his work with NYCB.

The films will be released at 8pm each evening and will be available free-of-charge on NYCB’s YouTube channel (YouTube.com/nycballet), Facebook page (Facebook.com/nycballet), and website (nycballet.com). Each premiere will be followed by a discussion featuring the choreographers and some of the other artists who participated in the making of the pieces.

“We are extremely excited to present these new works during the digital fall season. Creating a new ballet repertory has been one of the hallmarks of NYCB since its inception in 1948, and with these five remarkable choreographers we will continue to build and expand that extraordinary body of work,” said NYCB Associate Artistic Director Wendy Whelan, who spearheads the Company’s artistic programming efforts.

During the creation of each new work, NYCB followed protocols developed by the American Guild of Musical Artists and New York State’s Media Production Master Guidelines to ensure the safety of the artists and production personnel working on the project during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

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NEW YORK CITY BALLET – 2020 Digital Fall Season – Page 3

Schedule

Tuesday, October 27 at 8pm

NEW WORK BY SIDRA BELL

pixelation in a wave (Within Wires)
Original score by Dennis Bell (pixelation in a wave (Within Wires))
(Commissioned by New York City Ballet)
Choreography by Sidra Bell
Directed by Ezra Hurwitz
Director of Photography Jon Chema
Costumes styled by Caitlin Taylor

"The exquisitely tenuous correspondence between structural and human forms."

Dancers Ghaleb Kayali, Emily Kikta, Mira Nadon, Peter Walker

Violin Michael Roth
Violin Lydia Hong
Viola Katharina Kang
Cello Eugene Moye

Wednesday, October 28 at 8pm

NEW WORK BY PAM TANOWITZ

Solo for Russell: Sites 1-5
Music by Alfred Schnittke (Klingende Buchstaben For Solo Cello)
Choreography by Pam Tanowitz with Russell Janzen
Directed by Ezra Hurwitz
Director of Photography Jon Chema
Costumes by Reid Bartelme and Harriet Jung

Dancer Russell Janzen

Cello Ann Kim

Thursday, October 29 at 8pm

NEW WORK BY ANDREA MILLER

new song
Music by Victor Jara ("Manifiesto")
Choreography by Andrea Miller
Directed by Ezra Hurwitz
Director of Photography Jon Chema

Dancers Harrison Coll, Unity Phelan, Indiana Woodward, Sebastian Villarini-Velez

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Friday, October 30 at 8pm

NEW WORK BY JAMAR ROBERTS

Water Rite
Music by Ambrose Akinmusire (“Inflatedbyspinning”)
Choreography by Jamar Roberts
Directed by Ezra Hurwitz
Director of Photography Jon Chema

Dancer Victor Abreu

Violin Michael Roth
Violin Lydia Hong
Viola Katharina Kang
Cello Eugene Moye
Bass Ron Wasserman
Flute Scott Kemsley

Saturday, October 31 at 8pm

NEW WORK BY JUSTIN PECK

Thank You, New York
Music by Chris Thile (“Thank You, New York”)
Directed and choreographed by Justin Peck
Director of Photography Jody Lee Lipes
Costumes styled by LaJeromeny Brown

Dancers Christopher Grant, Sara Mearns, Georgina Pazcoguin, Taylor Stanley

The Bell, Tanowitz, Miller, and Roberts films are co-produced by New York City Ballet and HunterPark Productions

The Peck film is produced by New York City Ballet

Major support for the New Works Festival is provided by Jeff and Susan Campbell with additional support from James and Jane Fraser, Patricia Malone Chin, and Stephen Kroll Reidy.

Support for new work by female choreographers is provided by the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation.

Support for new work is provided by J.P. Morgan, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, and donors to the New Combinations Fund.

Additional support for Pam Tanowitz’ new work is provided by the Fisher Center at Bard College’s Choreography Fellowship.