



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 9, 2025

**NEW YORK CITY BALLET
ANNOUNCES SIX PROMOTIONS**

Victor Abreu, Dominika Afanasenkov, India Bradley, Naomi Corti,
Mary Thomas MacKinnon, and Andres Zuniga Promoted to Soloist

New York City Ballet announced today that six corps de ballet members—Victor Abreu, Dominika Afanasenkov, India Bradley, Naomi Corti, Mary Thomas MacKinnon, and Andres Zuniga—have been promoted to Soloist.

The promotions were made by NYCB Artistic Director Jonathan Stafford and Associate Artistic Director Wendy Whelan, during a meeting with the dancers that took place on Thursday, October 9, as the Company prepared for the final weekend of performances for its 2025 Fall Season, which concludes on Sunday, October 12.

During the 2025 Spring and Fall Seasons, these dancers have made debuts in a number of featured roles in the Company's extensive repertory, including: **Abreu** – George Balanchine's *Western Symphony* (second movement) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Demetrius), and Jamar Roberts' *Foreseeable Future*; **Afanasenkov** – George Balanchine's *Episodes* (Concerto), *Apollo* (Calliope), and *Errante*, Jerome Robbins' *The Goldberg Variations*, Gianna Reisen's *Signs*, and Justin Peck's *Heatscape*; **Bradley** – George Balanchine's *Episodes* (Symphony), *Tschaikovsky Suite No. 3* (Scherzo), and *La Valse*, and Kyle Abraham's *When We Fell*; **Corti** – George Balanchine's *Swan Lake* (Valse Blurette), Justin Peck's *Heatscape*, Jamar Roberts' *Foreseeable Future*, and Alexei Ratmansky's *Voices* (scheduled for Thursday, October 9); **MacKinnon** – George Balanchine's *Swan Lake* (Valse Blurette) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hippolyta), and Alexei Ratmansky's *Paquita* (soloist); **Zuniga** – Jerome Robbins' *The Goldberg Variations* and George Balanchine's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lysander) and *La Valse* (first waltz).

With her promotion, Bradley becomes the first African American female Soloist in New York City Ballet's history.

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VICTOR ABREU

Victor Abreu was born in New York City and began his training at the age of 10 at New York Theatre Ballet under Diana Byer. He attended the summer course at the School of American Ballet, NYCB's official school, in 2014 and 2015 before entering SAB full-time for the 2015 winter term. In January 2019, Abreu was named an apprentice with NYCB and in May 2019 he joined the Company as a member of the corps de ballet.

Since joining NYCB, Abreu has performed leading roles in George Balanchine's *Bourrée Fantasque*, *Chaconne*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Demetrius, Bottom), *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker* (Candy Cane, Hot Chocolate, Mother Ginger, Soldier), *Scotch Symphony*, *Slaughter on Tenth Avenue*, and *Western Symphony*; Peter Martins' *The Sleeping Beauty* (Jesters, Wolf) and *Swan Lake* (Hungarian Dance, Spanish Dance); Justin Peck's *Belles-Lettres*, *In Creases*, *Partita*, *Rotunda*, and *The Times Are Racing*; Alexei Ratmansky's *Concerto DSCH*; Gianna Reisen's *Signs* (in the NYCB premiere); Jerome Robbins' *The Cage*, *Dances at a Gathering*, and *Interplay*; Jamar Roberts' *Emanon – In Two Movements*; and Pam Tanowitz's *Law of Mosaics*. He also originated leading roles in Amy Hall Garner's *Underneath*, *There Is Light*; Ratmansky's *Solitude*; and Roberts' *Foreseeable Future* and *Water Rite*; and corps de ballet roles in Justin Peck's *Copland Dance Episodes*, Tiler Peck's *Concerto for Two Pianos*, and Alysya Pires' *Standard Deviation*.

Abreu is the 2025 Janice Levin Award honoree at NYCB and was the recipient of the 2022 Clive Barnes Award in Dance. Abreu is featured in the award-winning documentary film *LIFT* (2022), directed by David Petersen, as a student at New York Theatre Ballet.

DOMINIKA AFANASENKOV

Dominika Afanasekov was born in Tampa, Florida, and began her ballet training at age two locally. She continued her studies in Russia and Switzerland before entering the Academy of Ballet Arts in St. Petersburg, Florida under Suzanne Pomerantzeff at age 10. She received additional training at Next Generation Ballet under Philip Neal and Ivonne Lemus in Tampa. Afanasekov attended the summer course at the School of American Ballet in 2018, before enrolling full-time at SAB for the 2018 winter term. Afanasekov became an apprentice with NYCB in January 2022, and joined the corps de ballet in November 2022.

Since joining NYCB, Afanasev has performed leading roles in George Balanchine's *Apollo* (Calliope), *Episodes*, *Errante*, and *Movements for Piano and Orchestra*; Albert Evans' *In a Landscape*; Ulysses Dove's *Red Angels*; Peter Martins' *The Sleeping Beauty* (Fairy of Generosity) and *Swan Lake* (Pas de Trois, Princess); Justin Peck's *Heatscape* and *In Creases*; Alexei Ratmanský's *Paquita* and *Solitude*; Gianna Reisen's *Signs*; and Jerome Robbins' *Afternoon of a Faun*, *Dances at a Gathering*, *Glass Pieces*, and *The Goldberg Variations*. She originated a leading role in Christopher Wheeldon's *From You Within Me*, and corps de ballet roles in Justin Peck's *Copland Dance Episodes* and Tiler Peck's *Concerto for Two Pianos*.

As a student at SAB, Afanasev was featured in the 2020 Imagine Entertainment docuseries *On Pointe* on Disney+.

INDIA BRADLEY

India Bradley was born in Detroit, Michigan and began her dance training at the age of four at The Link School of the Arts in Troy, Michigan. At the age of 11, she continued her studies at the Academy of Russian Classical Ballet in Novi, Michigan, under the direction of Sergey Rayevitskey. Bradley attended the summer program at Dance Theatre of Harlem in 2012, and entered DTH's Professional Training Program under the direction of Andrea Long that fall. Bradley attended the 2014 summer course at the School of American Ballet and enrolled as a full-time student at SAB later that year. She was named an apprentice with NYCB in August 2017, and as an apprentice, Bradley performed a featured role in George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker* (Dolls). She joined the Company as a member of the corps de ballet in August 2018.

Since joining NYCB, Bradley has performed featured roles in George Balanchine's *Agon*, *Ballo della Regina*, *Chaconne*, *Coppélia* (Waltz), *Emeralds from Jewels*, *Episodes*, George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker* (Dewdrop, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Lead Flowers, Marzipan), *La Source*, *Raymonda Variations*, *Tschaikovsky Piano Concerto No.2*, *Tschaikovsky Suite No. 3*, *La Valse*, and *Walpurgisnacht Ballet*; Ulysses Dove's *Red Angels*; Peter Martins' *Swan Lake* (Pas de Trois, Princess); Justin Peck's *Pulcinella Variations*; Alexei Ratmanský's *Solitude*; and Pam Tanowitz's *Bartók Ballet*. She has originated leading roles in Kyle Abraham's *When We Fell*, Silas Farley's *Architects of Time*, Andrea Miller's *sky to hold*, Justin Peck's *Mystic Familiar* and *Partita*, Tiler Peck's *Concerto for Two Pianos*, and Gianna Reisen's *Play Time*, as well as a corps de ballet role in Lauren Lovette's *The Shaded Line*.

Bradley was a 2021-22 Janice Levin Award honoree at NYCB.

NAOMI CORTI

Naomi Corti was born in Luxembourg and began her dance training at the age of three at L'école de danse Marie-France Ceschel in Menton, France. In 2009, she began training at the California Dance Theater in Agoura Hills, California under Kim Maselli. She attended the 2014 summer course at the School of American Ballet and joined SAB full-time for the winter term that year. Corti became an apprentice with NYCB in August 2018, and as an apprentice, Corti performed a featured role in William Forsythe's *Herman Schmerman* and originated a corps role in Gianna Reisen's *Judah*. She joined the Company as a member of the corps de ballet in August 2019.

Since joining the Company, Corti has performed featured roles in George Balanchine's *Coppélia* (War & Discord), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hippolyta), *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker* (Dewdrop, Coffee, Lead Flowers), and *Swan Lake*; Silas Farley's *Architects of Time*; Peter Martins' *The Sleeping Beauty* (The Queen) and *Swan Lake* (Spanish Dance); Justin Peck's *Copland Dance Episodes*, *Heatscape*, *Partita*, and *Solo*; Gianna Reisen's *Play Time*; Jerome Robbins' *The Cage* and *The Four Seasons*; and Pam Tanowitz's *Bartók Ballet* and *Gustave Le Gray No. 1* (in the NYCB Premiere). She also originated featured roles in Kyle Abraham's *Love Letter (on shuffle)*; Amy Hall Garner's *Underneath, There Is Light*; Peck's *Mystic Familiar*; Jamar Roberts' *Foreseeable Future*; and Tanowitz's *Law of Mosaics*, and a corps de ballet role in Alysa Pires' *Standard Deviation*.

Corti was the 2024 Janice Levin Award honoree at NYCB and the recipient of SAB's Mae L. Wien Award in 2018.

MARY THOMAS MACKINNON

Mary Thomas MacKinnon was born in Mobile, Alabama and began her dance training at the age of three at the Mobile Ballet. MacKinnon enrolled as a full-time student at the School of American Ballet in 2014. She became an apprentice with NYCB in August 2017 and joined the Company as a member of the corps de ballet in August 2018.

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Since joining NYCB, MacKinnon has performed featured roles in George Balanchine's *Agon*, *Ballo della Regina*, *Chaconne*, *Coppélia* (Dawn), *Emeralds from Jewels*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hippolyta), *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker* (Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Lead Flowers), *Raymonda Variations*, *Swan Lake*, and *Symphony in Three Movements*; Peter Martins' *The Sleeping Beauty* (Fairy of Vivacity) and *Swan Lake* (Pas de Trois, Princess); Justin Peck's *In Creases*, *Pulcinella Variations*, and *The Times Are Racing*; Alexei Ratmansky's *Paquita*, *Pictures at an Exhibition*, *Solitude*, and *Voices*; Gianna Reisen's *Play Time* and *Signs*; Jerome Robbins' *The Concert* and *Fancy Free*; and Jamar Roberts' *Emanon – In Two Movements*. She has also originated featured roles in Amy Hall Garner's *Underneath*, *There Is Light*; Lauren Lovette's *The Shaded Line*; and Justin Peck's *Mystic Familiar*; and corps de ballet roles in Justin Peck's *Copland Dance Episodes*, Tiler Peck's *Concerto for Two Pianos*, Alysa Pires' *Standard Deviation*, and Reisen's *Judah*.

ANDRES ZUNIGA

Andres Zuniga was born in Mexico City, Mexico and began his dance training at the age of 13 at Danza Tellez in Los Cabos, Mexico under the direction of Lourdes Tellez. In 2014, he began training at The Rock School for Dance Education. He attended the 2015 summer course at the School of American Ballet before entering SAB full-time the following winter term. In August 2017, he became an apprentice with NYCB, and as an apprentice, he performed a featured role in Jerome Robbins' *Les Noces* and originated a corps de ballet role in Gianna Reisen's *Composer's Holiday*. Zuniga joined NYCB as a member of the corps de ballet in August 2018.

Since joining the Company, Zuniga has performed featured roles in George Balanchine's *Agon*, *Bourrée Fantasque*, *Brahms-Schoenberg Quartet*, *Chaconne*, *Divertimento No.15*, *The Four Temperaments*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lysander), *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker* (Candy Cane, Soldier), and *La Valse*; Silas Farley's *Architects of Time*; Peter Martins' *Fearful Symmetries*, *The Sleeping Beauty* (Court Jester), and *Swan Lake* (Neapolitan Dance); Justin Peck's *Copland Dance Episodes*, *Partita*, and *Pulcinella Variations*; Alexei Ratmansky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, *Russian Seasons*, and *Solitude*; Reisen's *Play Time* and *Signs* (in the NYCB Premiere); and Robbins' *Dances at a Gathering*, *The Four Seasons*, *The Goldberg Variations*, and *Interplay*.

Zuniga has also originated featured roles in Amy Hall Garner's *Underneath, There Is Light* and Christopher Wheeldon's *From You Within Me*, and a corps de ballet role in Peck's *Copland Dance Episodes*.

In 2017, as a student at SAB, Zuniga received the Mae L. Wien Award and the Lincoln Center Award for Emerging Artists.

Following the close of NYCB's 2025 Fall Season on Sunday, October 12, the Company will next perform its annual holiday engagement of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker* from November 28, 2025 through January 4, 2026; followed by the annual Winter Season (January 20 through March 1, 2026) and Spring Season (April 21 through May 31, 2026).

All performances will take place at the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center, located at West 63rd Street and Columbus Avenue, and tickets are available online at www.nycballet.com, by phone at 212-496-0600, or at the David H. Koch Theater box office.

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