

Appalachian State University's
Performing Arts Series Presents

KORESH DANCE COMPANY

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2015 8PM

SCHAEFER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
BOONE, NC





KORESH
DANCE COMPANY

KORESH DANCE COMPANY

Come Together

Choreography: Ronen Koresh

Costume Design: Ronen Koresh

Lighting Design: Peter Jakubowski

Assistant Lighting Designer: Alyssandra Docherty

Dancers: Shannon Bramham, Joseph Cotler, Jessica Daley, Fang-Ju Chou Gant, Micah Geyer, Krista Montrone, Melissa Rector, Kevan Sullivan, Robert Tyler, Asya Zlatina

Home

Full Company / Music: The Tour' Raichel Collective

8th Ave.

Joe Cotler, Micah Geyer, Kevan Sullivan, Robert Tyler followed by Shannon Bramham, Fang-Ju Chou Gant, Jessica Daley, Krista Montrone, Melissa Rector, Asya Zlatina / Music: John Vosbikian

Gates

Full Company / Music: Gadi Seri

Moments

Full Company / Music: Pentaphobe

Duktus

Asya Zlatina and Kevan Sullivan / Music: Nils Frahm and Anne Muller

Inside Out

Jessica Daley and Robert Tyler / Music: Nils Frahm

Forever

Krista Montrone and Joe Cotler / Music: Samvel Yervinian and Asbarez

Joy

Shannon Bramham, Fang-Ju Chou Gant, Jessica Daley & Company / Music:
John Zorn

Round the Block

Joe Cotler, Micah Geyer, Kevan Sullivan, Robert Tyler / Music: Pentaphobe

Come Together

Full Company / Music: Mercan Dede

INTERMISSION

It's Like Love

Full Company / Music: Henry Purcell

Shiver Down my Spine

Full Company / Music: Nils Frahm

Hold Your Breath

Shannon Bramham and Robert Tyler / Music: Colleen

Falling Apart

Fang-Ju Chou Gant and Kevan Sullivan / Music: Nils Frahm

Promises

Melissa Rector and Micah Geyer / Music: Karl Mullen

La vie en rose

Full Company / Music: Edith Piaf

Bolero

Full Company / Music: Maurice Ravel

To learn more about Koresh Dance Company, visit our website at koreshdance.org or follow us [@koreshdance](#) on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Tumblr.



This performance is funded in part by a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

KORESH DANCE COMPANY

Ronen Koresh, Artistic Director & Founder

2002 Rittenhouse Street

Philadelphia, PA 19103

215-751-0959

www.koreshdance.org

ARTISTIC STAFF

Ronen Koresh, Artistic Director and Founder

Melissa Rector, Assistant Artistic Director

COLLABORATING ARTISTS

Peter Jakubowski, Lighting Designer

Alyssandra Docherty, Assistant Lighting Designer

MANAGEMENT

Alon Koresh, Executive Director

Nir Koresh, School Director

Dara Schmoyer, Company Manager

Rachael Glashan, Director of Development

Haley Bradstreet, Operations Manager

Kate Aid, Director of Marketing and Communications

Teresa VanDenend Sorge, Koresh Kids Dance Coordinator

Bella Pezzati, Graphic Designer

Sandy Mitchel, Videographer

DANCERS

Melissa Rector

Shannon Bramham

Fang-Ju Chou Gant

Joseph Cotler

Jessica Daley

Micah Geyer

Krista Montrone

Kevan Sullivan

Robert Tyler

Asya Zlatina

About Artistic Director Ronen Koresh

Ronen (Roni) Koresh was born and raised in Israel. He received early dance training from his mother, a folk dancer in the Yemenite tradition, and from teachers Alida Gera, Micha Deri, Nira Paz and Moshe Romano. Koresh joined Martha Graham's Batsheva 2 Dance Company before enlisting for 3 years in the Israeli army. In 1983, he moved to New York to study with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. He began performing with Shimon Braun's Waves Jazz Dance Company in Philadelphia, and in 1991, founded Koresh Dance Company in Philadelphia, followed by the Koresh School of Dance in 1993. Koresh has established a repertoire of over 60 works and develops 2 to 3 new works each year. These have included commissions for the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, Giordano Dane Chicago, GroundWorks Dance Theatre, Las Vegas Contemporary, Odyssey Dance Theatre, Spectrum Dance Theater, the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, and Dance Celebration. Koresh has been on the faculty at Philadelphia's University of the Arts since 1986, teaches master classes across the country, and participates in festivals including Jacob's Pillow and the Northwest National Dance Project. Recipient of a Philadelphia dance community Rocky Award from FringeArts and Dance/USA Philadelphia, Koresh is an avid collaborator and supporter of emerging artists. His interdisciplinary works have been supported by multi-year fellowships and grants from the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Philadelphia College of Performing Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Jerome Robbins Foundation, and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. In 2014, Koresh is currently setting new and repertory works on the dancers of MADCO (commissioned for St. Louis' New Dance Horizons series), Point Park University, Jacksonville University and East Carolina University, as well as mentoring students at performing arts high schools across the country.

About Koresh Dance Company

Koresh Dance Company was founded in Philadelphia in 1991, and is widely recognized for its superb technique and emotionally-compelling appeal. It presents bi-annual home seasons as the resident dance company of the Suzanne Roberts Theatre, and has toured in over 38 states and 7 countries. The Company's interdisciplinary foundation promotes high-speed attack and gestural diversity drawn from Graham technique, Luigi jazz, classical ballet, hip hop and Israeli folk dance. Guest choreographers including Donald Byrd (Spectrum Dance Theater), Ohad Naharin (Batsheva Dance Company), Robert Battle (Battleworks/Alvin Ailey), Itzik Galili (Galili Dance) and Paul Selwyn Norton have produced works for the company. The company currently consists of dancers Shannon Bramham, Fang-Ju Chou Gant, Joseph Cotler, Jessica Daley, Micah Geyer, Krista Montrone, Kevan Sullivan, Robert Tyler, Asya Zlatina, and Melissa Rector, who also serves as the

Company's Assistant Artistic Director. The company is supported in part by the Philadelphia Cultural Fund, Dance/USA Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the William Penn Foundation, Pew Charitable Trusts, and the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation.

About the Koresh School of Dance, Outreach, and Community Development

The Koresh School of Dance, established in 1993, welcomes over 20,000 students every year to classes at all levels and for all ages. In 2013, Koresh Dance Company reaffirmed its commitment to Philadelphia by purchasing a property in the heart of Center City. There, the school extends dance education and performance resources to its community by presenting emerging artists in bi-monthly Koresh Artist Showcases and providing professional training and performance opportunities to the exceptional dancers of the Koresh Youth Ensemble. In 2013, Koresh launched the now annual Come Together Festival, which in its first year presented 27 companies in 11 performances over 9 days. Koresh Dance Company is committed to community-building and outreach. While on tour, the company provides post-performance discussions, residencies, open rehearsals, lecture demonstrations, master classes and video discussions to its audiences. At home, Koresh Kids Dance brings arts education to economically disadvantaged elementary-school students by partnering with Philadelphia public schools to provide free weekly dance classes, promoting children's creativity as a conduit for non-violence and life goals.

Dancer Bios

Melissa Rector, Assistant Artistic Director and Dancer

Originally from West Virginia, Melissa started dancing at a young age with Monica Folio. She graduated from The University of the Arts in 1993. Melissa has been dancing with Koresh Dance Company since its inception in 1991 and is the company's Assistant Artistic Director. She is also an instructor at the Koresh School of Dance where she teaches her unique style that blends modern jazz and Luigi. Her work has been performed locally at the Philadelphia Fringe Festival, the Annenberg Center, Drexel University, the Grier School and Brandywine Ballet. She frequently travels around the country to perform, teach master classes and set choreography on students. In 2008, Melissa helped to establish the Koresh Youth Ensemble and serves as their artistic director, setting both original choreography and company repertory on them.

Shannon Bramham, Dancer

Originally from Virginia, Shannon graduated with her BFA in Dance Performance from East Carolina University. She had the chance to set her work on the South Dayton Dance Theatre, Wright State University and We Are Artists. Her work has also been showcased at ACDFA and RDA. Shannon currently teaches adults at the Koresh School of Dance. She joined Koresh Dance Company in 2008.

Fang-Ju Chou Gant, Dancer

Fang-Ju, born and raised in Taiwan, came to the United States to further her study of dance. She earned an Associate Degree of Dance in Australia from Queensland University of Technology, Academy of the Arts/Dance, and received her BFA in Dance Education from The University of the Arts. Fang-Ju is trained in a wide range of dance styles and stagecraft. In addition to performing, she has taught ballet for many years throughout the Philadelphia area. Fang-Ju has been dancing with Koresh since 1998.

Joseph Cotler, Dancer

Joe Cotler grew up in Batavia, NY and trained at his mother Robin Cotler's dance studio, Images in Dance. He graduated from The University of the Arts in May 2009. While at school, he had the opportunity to work with numerous choreographers including Scott Jovovich, Ronen Koresh and Paul Selwyn-Norton. He currently teaches and choreographs for numerous studios in the area. Joe joined Koresh as an apprentice in 2009 and has been a company dancer since 2010.

Jessica Daley, Dancer

Hailing from Philadelphia, Jessica has been performing since she was a young child. She began her training at Philadelphia's Jason Douglas Dance Academy and continued her studies at The Rock School of the Pennsylvania Ballet and The Ailey School. She attended The University of the Arts where she earned her BFA in Modern Dance in 2004. Her performance experience encompasses a wide variety of styles including the 76ers Dance Team, West Side Story and Eleone Dance Theater. Jessica has been dancing with Koresh since 2004.

Micah Geyer, Dancer

Raised in North Carolina, Micah started dancing at a young age with Nina's School of Dance in Durham. He later joined the North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble under the direction of Gene Medler. During his career, he had the privilege to perform at the Kennedy Center and the Joyce Theater for Tap City, as well as tour throughout Europe and South America. He received his BFA in Dance Performance and Psychology from East Carolina University and joined Koresh Dance Company in 2007.

Krista Montrone, Dancer

Krista began her training at the age of three in Hudson, NH at Melissa Hoffman Dance Center. After moving to Connecticut in 2000, she continued her training at D'valda & Sirico Dance and Music Centre. In 2008 Krista moved to NYC where she was involved in many projects including the opening of Revolution at the Joyce Theatre and various industrial projects ranging from Aflac to Juicy Couture. She currently teaches and sets choreography for multiple schools in Philadelphia. Krista joined Koresh Dance Company in 2011.

Kevan Sullivan, Dancer

Kevan grew up in Millford, CT and started his dance training at the age of two. He studied at the Lee Lund Studio of Dance while also traveling to NYC. In 2009, Kevan received the Director's Talent Scholarship rewarding him with a full tuition scholarship to the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Kevan was also selected to be a student at the School of Jacobs Pillow Contemporary Traditions Program in the summer of 2010. Kevan has danced for Alchemy Dance Company as well as Tommie Waheed Evan's "Waheed Works". This is Kevan's second season with Koresh.

Robert Tyler, Dancer

Robert Tyler grew up in Batavia, NY and began dancing at the age of 10. He studied under the instruction of Robin Cotler at her studio, Images in Dance. In 2008 he began studying at The University of the Arts and graduated in May 2012 with a BFA in Dance Performance majoring in ballet. In the summer of 2010 and 2011, he worked with Robin Cotler's dance company, Images Evolution, and performed at the International Dance Festival in Poland. Robert joined Koresh Dance Company in 2012.

Asya Zlatina, Dancer

Asya was born in Moscow, Russia and immigrated to the United States in 1992. She trained throughout the DC/Baltimore area and graduated in May 2008 from Goucher College with a BA in Psychology and Dance. Asya has performed at the Kennedy Center (ClancyWorks Dance Company) and the DiCapo in NYC (Nilas Martins Dance Company). She has received additional training under Roni Koresh as well as ABT, Alonzo King and Maurya Kerr, Robert Moses, and NDT. In 2013 she graduated from Drexel University with an MS in Arts Administration. Asya joined Koresh Dance Company in 2008.



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PERFORMING ARTS SERIES MISSION STATEMENT

The Performing Arts Series supports the teaching mission of Appalachian State University by presenting a diverse array of music, dance and theatre events designed to enrich the cultural landscape of the campus and surrounding region. By creating memorable performance experiences and related educational and outreach activities, the series promotes the power and excitement of the live performance experience, provides a "window on the world" through the artistry of nationally and internationally renowned artists and showcases some of the finest artists of our nation and our region.

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