



Saturday 14 September 2019 • 7:30 p.m. Smith Opera House

GENEVA CONCERTS, INC.

2019-2020 SEASON

Saturday 14 September 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Jon Lehrer Dance

An innovative dance company distinguished by an "organically athletic" style rooted in modern and jazz dance. "Jon Lehrer's strikingly original choreography transformed the stage into an energy field of super-charged particles." — Dance Magazine

Friday 18 October 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

Christopher Seaman, conductor; Simone Porter, violin
HINDEMITH Symphonic Metamorphosis
BRUCH Violin Concerto No. 1
TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 4

Sunday 17 November 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

The Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass

An ensemble of virtuoso brass players, collected from the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Baltimore Symphony and others, performs an eclectic program ranging from J.S. Bach's *Contrapunctus IX* to Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story*, with John Philip Sousa and Harry James along for the ride.



This engagement of The Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass is made possible through the ArtsCONNECT program of Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Saturday 29 February 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Symphoria

Lawrence Loh, Conductor; Peter Rovit, violin; Arvilla Wendland, viola
BEETHOVEN Overture to *Fidelio*MOZART Sinfonia concertante for violin, viola, and orchestra
BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 4

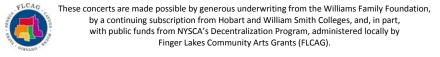
Friday 1 May 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

Ward Stare, conductor; Isabel Leonard, mezzo-soprano
USTVOLSKAYA Symphonic Poem No. 2
BERLIOZ Les nuits d'été
SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 11, "The Year 1905"

Programs subject to change.

Performed at the Smith Opera House, 82 Seneca Street, Geneva



GENEVA CONCERTS, INC.

Saturday 14 September 2019 • 7:30 p.m.

JON LEHRER Dance Company

Rhapsody (2017)

Music - Allen Touissant, Dave Brubeck, Mocean Worker
Lighting - Kam Hobbs
Costumes - Laura Vanner
Dancers - The Company

Troika (2016)

Music - Goldmund, Michael Nyman
Lighting - Kam Hobbs
Costumes - Jessica Wegrzyn
Dancers - James Jeffery, Patrick Piras, Nathan Rommel

Touch - (Work In Progress)
Original Music Composition - Zeno Pittarelli
Costumes - Laura Vanner
Dancers - Cristiana Cavallo, Katharine Larson

Bridge and Tunnel (2002)

"I went to High School in Queens, NY, this is how I remember it" - Jon Music - Paul Simon

1 - "Fun and Games" - The Company

2 - "For Mom" - Richard Sayama

3 - "Boyfriend / Girlfriend" - The Company

featuring Cristiana Cavallo and James Jeffery

4 - "Graduation" - The Company Lighting - Kam Hobbs

Costumes - Laura Vanner

Dancers - The Company

- INTERMISSION -

Solstice (Special Preview Performance)

Music - William Close & The Earth Harp Collective, Volker Bertelmann, Hauschka Costumes - Laura Vanner Dancers - The Company

Solstice was commissioned by and created at Artpark in Lewiston, New York for their Summer Solstice Celebration. We sincerely thank Sonia Clark, Nancy Brock, and Scott Goldman for their tremendous support.

Loose Canon

Music - Johann Pachelbel
Lighting - Kam Hobbs
Costumes - Sarah Brazo
Dancers - Cristiana Cavallo, Katharine Larson, Patrick Piras,
Nathan Rommel, Richard Sayama

The Moments That Made Me

Music - The Bad Plus

A Ritual Dynamic (2007)

Music - Hovannes K, DJ Disse Lighting - Kam Hobbs Costumes - Cindy Darling Dancers - The Company

The Company

Founder / Artistic Director / Choreographer - Jon Lehrer
Dancers - Cristiana Cavallo, James Jeffery, Katharine Larson, Aoi Ohno,
Mamiko Nakatsugawa, Patrick Piras, Nathan Rommel, Richard Sayama
Technical Director - Jeremy Granger
Resident Lighting Designer / Production Manager - Kam Hobbs

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Jon Lehrer Dance



Jon Lehrer started his company in 2007 in Buffalo, New York and has received critical acclaim nationally and internationally. Under his artistic direction, the company showcases Jon's unique choreography and embodies his definitive style. His extensive background in both the modern and jazz dance idioms fosters choreography that is organic, artistic, accessible and often humorous, reflecting life experience and the human condition.

The company's expressive style is based on three main elements of movement — circularity, 3-dimensionality, and momentum — which combine to create a form that is best described as "organically athletic." With creativity, athleticism, and the ability to make new and innovative modern and jazz dance accessible to all audiences, the company has made quite a name for themselves in the dance world. Striking the elusive balance between art and entertainment, Jon Lehrer Dance Company showcases unique choreography and a fun, distinctive style that fuses jazz and modern dance, creating a true spectacle onstage that can be enjoyed by dance experts and novices alike.

Now based in New York City, the company tours extensively, bringing their trademark artistic, athletic, and accessible style to audiences worldwide. *Dance Magazine* wrote, "the company took the house not so much by storm as by quantum physics," and Galerie Ortenau in Offenburg, Germany declared the company "dynamic, powerful, elegant – brings an absolute passion for the dance." The company toured to Europe in 2013, 2016, 2018, and will return in 2020. They toured to Russia in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2016, sponsored by the U.S. State Department in order to "bring the best in American modern dance to the people of Russia."

Biographies

Jon Lehrer, who was raised in Queens, New York, took his very first dance class at age 19 at the University at Buffalo. While dating a dancer, Jon teased her about how easy it must be to get an "A" in a dance class. The girl dared Jon to try a beginning level modern dance class, and his life was changed. After only two years of training at UB, Jon was asked to join the University's Zodiaque Dance Company. Jon ultimately received his BFA in dance from the University at Buffalo.

As a professional, Jon has danced with the Erick Hawkins Dance Company, Paul Sanasardo, John Passafiume Dancers, in Merv Griffin's "Funderful," and the Radio City Rockettes *Christmas Spectacular*. In 1997, Jon was hired by Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago, and after three years, was promoted to Rehearsal Director, and then given the position of Associate Director two years later. During his ten years with Giordano, Jon also became the resident choreographer, creating seven original works for the company that received rave reviews all around the world.

Jon has choreographed for several professional dance companies and universities all over the country. Jon teaches master classes throughout the U.S. and around the world, having been on the faculty at Dance Masters of America, Jazz Dance World Congress, Dance Teacher Summer Conference, Chicago National Association of Dance Masters (CNADM), Florida Dance Masters, and is a guest artist at numerous universities. In 2003, Jon had the honor of receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award from University at Buffalo's Zodiaque Dance Company. Jon was featured on the November 2007 cover of Dance Teacher magazine, and has been reviewed and interviewed in Dance Magazine numerous times. In 2009, Jon was commissioned by CNADM to write their modern dance syllabus, which is utilized by teachers all across the country to properly teach and introduce their students to modern dance. In 2010, Jon was honored with CNADM's Artistic Achievement Award for his excellence and artistry in concert dance. In August 2011, Jon was the guest speaker for Convocation at Shenandoah University. In 2015, Jon received the University at Buffalo College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Alumni Award. Most recently, Jon was the keynote speaker at Florida Dance Education Organization's conference in Orlando, Florida.

In July 2007, Jon moved to Buffalo, New York, to begin his much anticipated professional dance company. The company showcases his unique choreography and definitive style. Jon's extensive background in both the modern and jazz dance idioms fosters choreography that is organic, artistic, accessible and often humorous, reflecting life experience and the human condition. In its short history, the company has received much international recognition and critical acclaim, keeping audiences around the world and throughout the U.S. on the edge of their seats with their trademark athletic style. As *Dance Magazine* said, "...[they] took the house not so much by storm as by quantum physics. Jon Lehrer's strikingly original choreography transformed the stage into an energy field of super-charged particles." In 2019, Jon moved the company to New York City to begin the next chapter in the evolution of JLDC.

Cristiana Cavallo (Rehearsal Director) is from Utica, New York and began dancing at the age of 3. She received her training from local and guest artists at the Dancenter and at Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute School of Dance. Cristiana graduated in 2014 from the University at Buffalo with a BFA in dance and a BA in sociology. As a UB student, she was a member of the Zodiague Dance Company for three years and performed in several musicals. She has choreographed for many student productions and was the Director of Dancer's Workshop. She attended numerous summer programs, including NYSSSA, Thodos Dance Chicago Intensive, and Steps Summer Study. During her senior year, Cristiana was chosen for the Jon Lehrer Dance Observership, allowing her to train with the company and gain valuable insight into the professional world of dance. Most recently, Cristiana was invited to choreograph as part of the Barn Dance Project at the Theater at Woodshill, curated by Caitlyn Schrader. Cristiana has been with JLDC for six years, becoming an integral part of the company's success both on and off the stage.

James Jeffery started his training at the age of 16 in his hometown of Tempe, Arizona under the direction of Lisa Eardley Brame. He later went on to graduate with a BFA in dance from the University of Arizona. There, he studied with Sam Watson, Amy Earnst, Doug Nielsen, Michael Williams, Susan Quinn, Liz George, and Melissa Lowe. After college, James had the opportunity to travel the world,

performing with Royal Caribbean Cruises. He has also worked for Spirit Productions, under the direction of Emma Rogers, performing around the U.S., Canada, and Japan. In New York City, James has worked with choreographers Joey McKneely, Richard Hines, Jona Biddle, Guy Amir, and Brian Thomas.

Katharine Larson grew up dancing under Sheryl Rowland in Kingwood, Texas. She graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Arizona with a BFA in dance, a minor in chemistry, and was the recipient of the Gertrude Shur Modern Dance and Costume Manager Triple-Threat awards. She received additional training at the Juilliard School, LINES Ballet, and Northwest Dance Project. As a professional, Katharine was a seven-year company member with Eisenhower Dance Detroit, where she toured worldwide, performing works by choreographers such as Laurie Eisenhower, Mia Michaels, Ann Reinking, and Harrison McEldowney. Additionally, she performed in Thodos Dance Chicago's New Dances Concert and with Artifact Dance Project throughout China.

Mamiko Nakatsugawa is originally from Miyagi, Japan, where she started dancing at 9 years old. Mamiko moved to New York in 2015 to attend SUNY Fredonia, where she earned her degree in 2019. During this time, she spent her summers at many prestigious training programs in New York City, including Broadway Dance Center Professional Summer Semester, Paul Taylor Dance Company Summer Intensive, Gibney Dance Company Summer Intensive, Gaga New York Winter Intensive, and Module 19. As a professional, Mamiko has worked with Matthew Westerby Dance Company as an apprentice, performing "ReNew 3" with the company. She has performed in many musical theatre productions in Japan and the United States, including Anne of Green Gables (Japan tour ensemble), Cabaret (Kit Kat Girls), and South Pacific (Liat).

Aoi Ohno started dancing when she was 3 years old in Kanazawa, Japan. She graduated from Tokyo Visual Arts Vocational School, after which she joined the dance company RAKUDO. Upon moving to New York City, Aoi began training exclusively at the The Ailey School, working with many renowned teachers and choreographers, including Ray Mercer and Darrel Moultrie. Since graduating from The Ailey

School, Aoi has worked with Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, Impact Movement Collective, Albano Ballet, Arch Ballet, and Ballet Nepantla.

Patrick Piras is from Udine, Italy and began his dance training at the age of 6 focusing on professional ballroom dancing for three years until a sudden injury three years later made him stop. At age 14, Patrick started dancing again thanks to Arianna Zanello, who invited him to attend her school, Filodanza, and later became his mentor. He then focused his study in ballet, modern, jazz, and contemporary dance, and received scholarships to several summer intensives in Italy. Patrick came New York City to attend The Ailey School in 2013, where he graduated as a scholarship student. He has performed works by Alvin Ailey, Matthew Rushing, Ronnie Favors, Tracy Inman, Martin Lofsnes, Amy Hall, Darshan Bhuller, Nathan Trice, Nicholas Villenueve, Nai Ni Chen, Sheena Annalise and Christopher Rudd. He performed "Memoria" with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre at New York City Center in December 2014, and "Concurrence," representing The Ailey School in the Ailey Spirit Gala at David H. Koch Theatre in June 2016. Patrick performed with 360 Dance Company, as a guest artist with Nai Ni Chen, Arch Contemporary Ballet, and is a faculty member at The Ailey School.

Nathan Rommel is from Kansas City, Missouri and attended Hope College, where he received his degree in dance performance. Upon graduation, Nathan moved to Chicago, where he performed with Glordano II, having the pleasure of working with choreographers Ray Mercer and Peter Chu. Most recently, Nathan performed with Odyssey Dance Theatre in Salt Lake City, Utah, and as a soloist in Chicago Repertory Ballet's production of *Macbeth*, choreographed by Wade Schaaf.

Richard Sayama is originally from Honolulu, Hawai'i. He attended Marymount Manhattan College, where he double majored, earning his BFA in modern dance and BA in business arts and management. As a professional, Richard has worked with Alison Cook Beatty Dance, H.T. Chen & Dancers, and Rock Dance Collective. He has had the pleasure of performing works by Paul Taylor, José Limón, Elizabeth Roxas-Dobrish, Alison Cook Beatty, Elisabeth Motley, H.T. Chen, and Maria Torres.

Geneva Concerts Outreach

The aim of Geneva Concerts Outreach is to bring high-quality arts performance each year into the Geneva public schools and to Hobart and William Smith Colleges. Outreach in the public schools is supported by grants from the Wyckoff Family Foundation and the Geneva Rotary Foundation.

Jon Lehrer Dance

In conjunction with Jon Lehrer Dance, Geneva Concerts is providing three interactive outreach programs in the Geneva High School/Middle School gymnasium for all Geneva middle school and high school students. "Become a Super Dancer" is Jon Lehrer's highly successful, interactive education program. The students will laugh as they learn real Lehrer movements such as Spider-Man, Jellyfish, Sumo Slide, and Waterfall. The students will get a physical workout and gain valuable insight into the art and athleticism of dance.

Geneva Concerts is also providing a master class at Hobart and William Smith Colleges that focuses on the three main elements that embody the company's trademark athletic style: circularity, 3-dimensionality, and momentum. The exercises and warm-ups utilize these elements to prepare the dancer for movement that is best described as "organically athletic." The class integrates the approach and fluidity of modern dance and the excitement and energy of jazz dance with physics to create an expressive, engrossing style of movement. Students of all levels learn the technique, style, and repertoire that *Dance Magazine* says is "on the cusp of jazz/modern fusion."

Angelica String Quartet

For the pre-school through grade 2 age group, Geneva Concerts is sponsoring a performance in early October at West Street School by a string quartet who will first identify and model the instruments in the string family. Then through the use of both familiar and new songs, they will demonstrate the teamwork between players necessary in an ensemble setting as well as discuss the opportunity for expression that music has given them. Some repertoire from their performance will include baroque (Bach), classical (Mozart), bluegrass, an Irish reel, movie music (from Disney's *Moana*), as well as some pop music from the New York City's duo violin group "Black Violin."

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