

GENEVA CONCERTS



PRESENTS

CRDT
CERQUA RIVERA DANCE THEATRE



Wilfredo Rivera, Artistic Director

Friday, September 16, 2022 • 7:30 pm
Smith Opera House

GENEVA CONCERTS

2022-2023 SEASON

Friday, September 16, 2022 at 7:30 pm
Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre

Sunday, November 6, 2022 at 3:00 pm
Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

Vinay Parameswaran, conductor; Tai Murray, violin
SIBELIUS Symphony No. 5, Op. 82 in E-flat Major
WYNTON MARSALIS Violin Concerto in D Major

Friday, March 10, 2023 at 7:30 pm
Symphoria

Lawrence Loh, conductor; Awadagin Pratt, piano
SEAN O'LOUGHLIN *Symphoria*
ROBERT SIERRA *Fandangos*

JESSIE MONTGOMERY *Rounds* for Piano and String Orchestra
DUKE ELLINGTON *Three Black Kings*
AARON COPLAND *Lincoln Portrait*

Sunday, April 23, 2023 at 3:00 pm
Michelle Merrill, conductor

MENDELSSOHN *The Hebrides Overture*, Op. 26
J.S. BACH *Brandenburg Concerto No. 3*
JOHANN STRAUSS, Jr. *On the Beautiful Blue Danube*
MOZART Symphony No. 41 in C Major, K. 551 (*Jupiter*)

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

These concerts are made possible, in part, by the Williams Family Foundation, the Wyckoff Family Foundation, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, and the Statewide Community Re-grants Program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by Auburn Public Theater.



ACT I

ROOT: mwanzo wa mwili ni roho (2018)
the beginning of the body is the spirit

Monique Haley was inspired by West African maxims from a book entitled *African Cultural Values: An Introduction* by Kwame Gyekye. Building on this foundation with Cerqua Rivera's artists 2018-2019 led to a powerfully rooted piece of art. This signature piece expresses our core value of diversity – that the health and beauty of a community is supported by each member contributing their true selves.

Choreography: Monique Haley
Composition: Joe Cerqua
Costume Design: Jordan Ross
Lighting Design: David Goodman-Edberg
Lighting Supervisor: Margaret Nelson
Projection Design: Simean Carpenter

Dancers: Theodore Alexander, Catera Burgess, Delphine Chang, Bennett Cullen, Esther Farley, Brennen Renteria, Bruno Salgado, Michelle Skiba

Percussionist: Paul Cotton

Creation of ROOT sponsored in part by The Cliff Dwellers Arts Foundation

Let It Be (2020)

by Paul McCartney and John Lennon
Arrangement: Stu Greenspan
Choreography: Katlin Bourgeois
Projection Design: Simean Carpenter

Dancers in order of appearance: Theodore Alexander, Esther Farley, Bennett Cullen, Sydney Jones
Vocalist: Margaret Murphy-Webb

Mood Swing (2020 excerpts)

The events in 2020 & 2021 demanded a response. As artists, we were compelled to create work specifically responding to and making meaning of the pandemic and social justice uprising. The result is these intimate and distinct conversations about what we have all experienced– with a sense of resilience, compassion, and hope ... a glimmering light in the dark.

Curator and Director: Wilfredo Rivera
Composition: Joe Cerqua
Costume Design: Jordan Ross
Lighting Design: Margaret Nelson
Projection Design: Simean Carpenter

Prelude

caRboN & goLD

Choreography: Eddy Ocampo
Poetry: Eddy Ocampo
Soloist: Delphine Chang
Voice Over: Eddy Ocampo, Mia Park

Culture Loop

Choreography: Monique Haley
Poetry: Shea Glover
Soloist: Catera Burgess
Vocalist: Margaret Murphy-Webb
Voice Over: Marti Gobel

Less

Choreography: Shannon Alvis
Soloist: Michelle Skiba

Pena Negra

Choreography: Wilfredo Rivera
Soloist: Brennen Renteria

Finale

Dancers: Mood Swing Ensemble

INTERMISSION

ACT II

From Here to Home (2022)

Choreography: Katlin Bourgeois
Composition: James Sanders

Costume and Prop Design: Jordan Ross

Dancers: Solo I Michelle Skiba, Solo II Sydney Jones, Catera Burgess, Bennett Cullen
Delphine Chang, Esther Farley, Brennen Renteria

Creation of From Here to Home sponsored in part by The Jazz Institute of Chicago

Afro Blue (premiere)

Composition: Mongo Santamaria
Lyrics: Oscar Brown Jr.

CRDT Musicians improvised rendering: Margaret Murphy-Webb, Paul Cotton & James Sanders

Shiver (2021)

You are invited to view the dancers as three parts of the same person. Shiver explores the before, during, and after of a loss. Not necessarily the literal death of a person, but rather the choice to separate oneself from a person, place, or circumstance that no longer serves personal growth. Each dancer represents a different part of the same individual undergoing this process of change.

Choreography: Stephanie Martinez
Assistant to the Choreographer: Noelle Kayser
Composition: Joe Cerqua
Costume Design: Jacqueline Sanders
Lighting Design: Margaret Nelson
Projection Design: Simean Carpenter

Dancers in Solo Features: Movement I Delphine Chang, Movement II Michelle Skiba,
Movement III Esther Farley

Why Don't You Do Right (2020)

By Kansas Joe McCoy
Arrangement: Stu Greenspan
Vocalist: Margaret Murphy-Webb
Live Musicians: Paul Cotton & James Sanders

Soul Remedy (work in process, to be premiered Spring 2023)

Launched in 2020, Soul Remedy is a multi-year exploration of the Aesthetic of the Cool, a culturally specific phenomenon rooted in the Black American experience that has shaped this country's arts and culture and impacted the world. This piece respects, reflects, and represents Black excellence as a central component of American culture.

Choreography: Monique Haley
Composition: Pharez Whitted
Costume Design: Jordan Ross
Lighting Design: Margaret Nelson
Projection Design: Simean Carpenter

Prelude

Lyrics: Monique Haley
Dancers: Catera Burgess, Delphine Chang, Bennett Cullen, Esther Farley,
Sydney Jones, Bruno Salgado, Michelle Skiba
Soloist: Brennen Renteria

A Groove in the Pocket

Soul Remedy Dancers:
Theodore Alexander, Catera Burgess, Delphine Chang, Bennett Cullen, Esther Farley,
Brennen Renteria, Bruno Salgado, Michelle Skiba

The Remedy

Dancer: Sydney Jones
Vocalist: Margaret Murphy-Webb

The Jazz, The Chameleon, The Funk
Soul Remedy Dancers featuring Catera Burgess
Vocalist: Margaret Murphy-Webb



Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre was founded in 1999 by Chicago artists Joe Cerqua, composer and musician; Wilfredo Rivera, choreographer and dancer; and Matt Lamb, painter. The company’s mission: to use multiple artistic forms (primarily dance and music) and the combined talents of our diverse company to convey intense personal narratives. Cerqua Rivera is proudly and visibly multicultural, exploring the intersection of heritage, culture, and identity through high quality art. Its unique culture of collaboration and diversity fosters magnetic connections between artists and audiences.

Cerqua Rivera is proud of its reputation, built over nearly 25 years, for compelling, complex, and timely artwork. With its intense focus on personal narratives, the combined talents of its diverse company, and the multiple artistic languages with which it communicates, Cerqua Rivera engages audiences in compelling human stories at once new and deeply familiar. Through its range of programming – from its interactive new work preview and discussion series, to community and touring performances, to its own full-scale concerts, Cerqua Rivera engages over 10,000 people each year.

Cofounder, Artistic Director & CEO: **Wilfredo Rivera**

Managing Director: **Catherine Painter**

Rehearsal Director: **Brennen Renteria**

Artistic Associate: **Ethan Kirschbaum**

Music Director: **Stu Greenspan**

Exclusive tour representation: **Siegel Artist Management LLC www.siegelartist.com**

www.cerquarivera.org - [@cerquarivera](https://www.instagram.com/cerquarivera) on social

www.cerquarivera.org - [@cerquarivera](https://www.instagram.com/cerquarivera) on social

COFOUNDERS



Wilfredo Rivera (Artistic Director) is a Cofounder of Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre, Artistic Director & CEO since 2007. He is responsible for the evolution of CRDT’s bold multi-cultural program and for establishing the company’s authentic interdisciplinary trademark. He is a rare Latinx artist serving as full-time arts leader. Every season he carefully selects the leading collaborators and thematic concepts for Cerqua Rivera’s season and curates the company’s artistic process. Decades as a working artist forged Wilfredo’s belief that only a diverse group can create the artwork for which the company is known – eclectic, culturally rich, deeply moving, utterly relevant. Wilfredo was born in Honduras, trained with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, and was a founding member of River North Dance Chicago. His concert work has been featured at the Auditorium Theatre, Chicago Jazz Festival, Hyde Park Jazz Festival, Harris Theater, Chicago Symphony Center with the Chicago Sinfonietta, Ruth Page Center for the Arts, DuSable Museum, Links Hall and Mayne Stage.



Joe Cerqua is a freelance, award-winning composer, producer, vocalist and sound designer. Original music and sound design: Steppenwolf, Goodman Theatre, American Players Theater, Milwaukee Rep, Asolo Theater, The Alliance, Mark Taper Forum, Geva Theater, Deaf West, Northlight Theatre, Skyline Opera, Cleveland Playhouse, Clarence Brown Theatre, Forward Theatre, Kansas City Rep, Indiana Rep, Berkshire Theatre Festival, Shakespeare and Co, Actors Theatre of Louisville, The Repertory Theatre of St Louis, Remy Bumppo. National Tours: *Sideman*, *American Buffalo*, *How I Learned to Drive*, *The Laramie Project*, *Broken Glass*, *Master Class*. Joe is the Cofounder and Composer in Residence for the Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre and the Creative Director and Producer for the Music Department at Columbia College.

DANCERS

Brennen Renteria began dancing in Corona, CA and in 2011, he attended the American Academy of Ballet summer intensive, training with ballet masters David Howard, Sean Lavery, and Galina Samsova. He earned his B.A. in Dance from Cal State Fullerton in 2014, then joined Thodos Dance Chicago where he worked with choreographers Brian Enos, Lucas Crandall, Garfield Lemonius, Brian McGinnis, Kevin Iega Jeff, among others. He has danced with Elements Ballet and in various Chicago productions. He joined CRDT in 2017.

Theodore Owen “Teddy” Alexander holds a BFA in Dance from Point Park Univ. and an advanced diploma in science from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute. Most recently he worked with Christopher Huggins, Debbie Allen Dance Academy, and Ballet After Dark, making his television premiere on NBC’s *America’s Got Talent*. In 2020, he founded Voracious Artistry Projects. His most recent venture was the Triangle Healing Project, a dance workshop along the routes of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade.

Catera Burgess earned a BFA in Dance from Western Michigan University. During her time there she was cast in works including BAIRA, Kate Skarpetowska, Jennifer Archibald, Mike Esperanza, and David Curwen. She was a member of Western Dance Project under the direction of Whitney Moncrief, and performed at the American College Dance Association in 2018-2020 in works by Alyssa Brutlag and Monique Haley. Catera currently choreographs and teaches around the Midwest.

Delphine Chang began her training in traditional Chinese and Indian dance in Taiwan, and continued her training in Portland, Oregon. Named Outstanding Senior, she graduated from the University of Arizona *summa cum laude* with a BFA in Dance and a minor in Arts Management. She then joined Missouri Contemporary Ballet. Delphine co-founded a small visual arts company, models, is an arts administrator and teaches. She is thrilled to be joining CRDT for her first season!

Bennett Cullen began dance training in the Chicago suburbs and continued at the University of Iowa. He has previously danced for The Big Muddy Dance Company, and Visceral Dance Chicago. Bennett has had the privilege to perform works choreographed by Ohad Naharin, Brian Enos, Prince Lyons, Nick Pupillo, Marguerite Donlon, Shannon Alvis, Ramon Flowers, Sarah Olson, Marc Macaranas, Eloy Barragan, and Meredith Stapleton. Bennett is excited to begin his first season with Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre.

Esther Farley is a recent graduate of the Boston Conservatory at Berklee in Boston, Massachusetts, where she received a B.F.A. in Contemporary Dance with an emphasis in Jazz Dance. She has performed works by Gabrielle Lamb, Bradley Shelver, and Catherine Coury. Esther’s choreographed solo work, *Montmartre*, was showcased at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston in 2019. Esther is passionate about creating interdisciplinary works, finding inspiration through film, culinary arts, music, and theater.

Michelle Skiba is a first generation Polish-American from Chicago. After graduating from Northwestern University, Michelle trained at Hubbard Street’s Professional Program under the direction of Alexandra Wells. There she performed works by Adam Barruch, Rena Butler, Peter

Chu, Ryan Mason, David Norsworthy, Robyn Mineko Williams, and others. Michelle went on to dance with Little Fire Artist Collective and to teach various Joffrey Ballet Community Engagement programs before joining CRDT in 2022.

Sydney Jones is a dancer, choreographer, and educator. After graduating from Point Park University with her BFA in dance, she joined South Chicago Dance Theatre and Inaside Chicago Dance. Her recent performances include An Evening with the South Chicago Dance Theatre, Dance for Life, Inaside’s Fall Concert, and more, where she performed choreography by Kia Smith, Monique Haley, Ron De Jesus, Stephanie Martinez, and Crystal Michelle Perkins, among others. She is thrilled to join CRDT!

MUSICIANS

Paul Cotton is a principal musician with Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago. He attended the American Conservatory of Music. Studio work include Hannibal Peterson & Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Otis Clay Blues singer, Tyrone Davis R&B singer, Artistics R&B group, Pilgrim Jubilee Gospel singers, Maggie Brown, and Don Moye’s Sun Percussion Summit. He currently works with Keith Eric & Waterhouse Reggae & Calypso Band, Picate Latin Jazz Band, Nyah Binghi Drum Choir, Bata Eca, & Eye Plus One.

Margaret Murphy-Webb is a musician and activist. A graduate of Chicago State University, she has been showcasing her talent nationally and internationally for over 30 years. Margaret has performed for presidents Obama and Clinton, has been featured at Chicago Jazz and Blues Festivals and countless other music venues. In 2018, Margaret was named Chicago’s Jazz Hero for her work as director of the non-profit organization, the South Side Jazz Coalition. Margaret is a co-chair of the DCASE’s Year of Chicago Music 2020/2021 initiative and a member of the City of Chicago Cultural Council.

Composer and violinist **James Sanders** earned a Master’s Degree in performance from Yale University. He is a member of the Chicago Sinfonietta since 1992 and leads several critically acclaimed jazz ensembles, including Conjunto, Proyecto Libre and the Blue Violin Quartet. He has performed internationally at major jazz festivals in Brazil, France, Poland and Italy. In 2011, Conjunto headlined at Pritzker Pavilion in Chicago before an audience of 10,000 people. His group Proyecto Libre was featured at the 2016 Chicago Jazz Festival. More info at jamesandersviolin.com

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Margaret L. Nelson, Lighting Designer and Stage Manager, has received two Ruth Page Dance Achievement Awards, a Joseph Jefferson Citation, and the Inaugural Dance Chicago Excellence in Production Art award. Her work has taken her to every state of the USA and six continents. She taught Lighting Master Classes from Duluth, MN to Montevideo, Uruguay. Her companies, M L Nelson Design and Lumen Siccum Productions, are involved in ongoing consulting work for architectural and performance projects.

Geneva Concerts Outreach

During the 1991–92 season, Geneva Concerts began an educational outreach program which continues to grow. In recent seasons we have reached more than 1,000 school children annually. This program helps to build our future audience base by exposing our children to a wide variety of concert and dance performances, and it assists the Arts-in-Education programs for Geneva and surrounding school districts by providing high-quality performers for school programs.

This week, as part of the Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre residency in Geneva, outreach began on Thursday morning as the full company of dancers and musicians presented a program for all students (620) at Geneva High School, followed by a program for all Geneva Middle School students (450). That afternoon, CRDT performed for the 110 students at St. Francis-St. Stephen School, and for Grade 4 & 5 at North Street School.

On Thursday evening, a Community Latin Jazz class was scheduled at Hobart & William Smith Colleges' Deming Dance Theatre, open to any HWS student or Geneva community member. Artistic Director Wilfredo Rivera's class is tailored to our community; with trained dancers as well as adults/teens with little previous experience in mind, beyond the physical benefits, the class centers on a joyful and uplifting experience.

For the next outreach event, Geneva Concerts will present the Geneseo Wind Quintet (flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, and French horn). The ensemble will perform assembly concerts in three Geneva schools (West Street School, St. Francis–St. Stephen School, and Grades 2 & 3 at North Street School) on Monday, October 24, 2022.

Geneva Concerts wishes to thank our donors:

Sustaining Organizations (\$250 or more)

Geneva Rotary Club
Hobart & William Smith Colleges
Williams Family Foundation
Wyckoff Family Foundation

Supporting Organizations (\$100 or more)

Finger Lakes Partners Insurance
Littlejohn & Barbi Orthodontics
Ports Café
The Printing Center
H. Touhey Insurance

Benefactors (\$250 or more)

Sheila & Jim Bennett
Joyce Jacobsen & William Boyd
Eileen & Brad Broyles
Hilda & Michael Collins
Alaine Espenscheid
Ellen & Paul Grebinger
Cornelia Delaney Johnson
Ellen & Kevin Mitchell
Gary & Brenda Mosher
John & Jessica Lou Tarr
Kathryn & John Vaughn
Susan Bassett & Sally Webster
Ford & Harriot Weiskittel

Patrons (\$175 or more)

Susan & David Belding
Paul & Joanne Bleakley
Phil & Polly Kasey
Dr. Pim Kovach
Monika McGowan
Judith & Scott McKinney
Steven & Kim Naimoli
Joyce Lotterhos Toher

Supporters (\$100 or more)

Elizabeth & Frank Arnold
Carl Aten
Nancy & Charles Bauder
Sharon P. Best
Walter Bowyer
Judy & Larry Campbell
Bill & Liz Dean
James Dickson
Jean Dickson

Neil Gold & Susan Mattick-Gold
Meg & Murray Heaton
Thomas & Carole Higgins
Ray Howard
Louisa Johnson
Diane J. Khouri
Richard & Meredith McCaughey
Debra McLaughlin
Elizabeth Newell
Gena Rangel
Bonnie & Bob Rochelle
Howard Sabin
Paul & Jeanne Salisbury
Terry & Mary Spittler
Marvin Bram & Ann Vandermeulen
Ann Warner
Max & Joanna Whelan

Friends (\$50 or more)

Barbara & Dan Belliveau
Shirley Blanchard
Claire & Richard Damaske
Mabel Deal
Deborah Driscoll
Jay Freer
Harlene Gilbert
Mary Anne & Mike Hanna
Ellen Hegarty
Gary Horvath
Virginia Illi
Natalie Lemmon
Lt. Gen. Charles & Gwen McCausland
Barbara Messur
Margaret Haining Opp
Lynn & Jorgen Overgaard
Eleanor Stearns
Angelique Szymanek
Donald & Christine Wertman
Martha Rice Winsor

Contributors (up to \$50)

Karen Fouracre
Erika & Charles King
Inge Robinson
Marilyn Watson
Karen Zona

Geneva Concerts Board of Directors

Hilda Collins, President
Ann Warner, Vice President for Membership
Tom McClure, Vice President for Outreach
Susan Belding, Vice President for Performance
Gena Rangel, Vice President for Programming
Sally Webster & Angelique Szymanek, Co-Vice Presidents for Publicity
Ford Weiskittel, Secretary
Diane Adams, Treasurer
Sheila Bennett
Walter Bowyer
Larry Campbell
Neil Gold
Dana Huyge
Kelly Johnson
Scott McKinney
Kevin Mitchell
Dan Mulvey
Alaina Olivieri
Karen Zona
Nozomi Williams, Honorary Member

Visit us at www.GenevaConcerts.org



@GenevaConcerts



@geneva_concerts

Families are encouraged to bring children to concerts but are asked to be considerate of other patrons. As we do not have ushers, please use discretion upon late entrance. For your convenience, blue recycling containers are provided in the lobby. Please deposit unwanted programs for reuse and recycling. The use of cameras and recording equipment is strictly prohibited. Please turn off cell phones and signal watches during concerts.