

# ONSTAGE

CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS AT PENN STATE



## RIOULT

UNDERWRITTEN BY  
McQuaide Blasko Attorneys at Law

**CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS AT PENN STATE**

presents

# **RIOULT**

*Artistic Director and Choreographer*

**Pascal Rioult**

*Associate Artistic Director*

**Joyce Herring**

*Executive Director*

**Elizabeth LaCause**

*Company*

**Darwin Black Brian Flynn Penélope González  
Charis Haines Jere Hunt Michael Spencer Phillips  
Jane Sato Anastasia Soroczynski Marianna Tsartolia  
with Chase Sutton Charles Dumas Justin Shondeck  
*Apprentices: Adrienne Chu, Ann Olson, Holt Walborn  
Timothy Kochka, and Drew Shuler***

*Scenic Design*

**Harry Feiner and Drew Francis**

*Lighting Design*

**David Finley**

*Costume Design*

**Drew Francis and Russ Vogler**

*Technical Director*

**Stephen Arnold**

Major supporters of RIOULT's 2010–2011 season include Air France, Shana Alexander Charitable Foundation, The Atlantic Philanthropies, Crédit Industriel et Commercial, The Grand Marnier Foundation, Harkness Foundation for Dance, Harriet and Gordon Greenfield Foundation, The Geoffrey C. Hughes Foundation, Jana Foundation, Kendall-Parker Associates LLC, Kenneth French Fund for New Works, The Lepercq Foundation, Macy's Foundation, Morgan Stanley, National Endowment for the Arts, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts, One World Fund, Open Society Foundations, Fund for the City of New York, Ralph Lauren, The Shubert Foundation, and Sidley Austin LLP.

This tour of RIOULT is made possible by a grant from Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Center for the Performing Arts is grateful for the partnership with Alan Shaffranek, executive director of the C. Barton McCann School of Art. His efforts made the Dancing with Rioult Stars dance camp a success, and his continued partnership is valued and appreciated.

This afternoon's performance includes one intermission and a pause.

**2 p.m. Sunday, October 17, 2010  
Eisenhower Auditorium**

*The 2010–2011 season of the Center for the Performing Arts is supported, in part, by grants from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.*

*Cover photo credit: © 2008 Basil Childers*

# PROGRAM

## ***FABLES***

Based on *The Fables* by Jean de La Fontaine\*

*Choreography:* Pascal Rioult

*Lighting:* David Finley

*Costumes:* Russ Vogler

*Set:* Harry Feiner

### *Narrators*

The Man: Charles Dumas

The Child: Justin Shondeck

### *Dancers*

Darwin Black Adrienne Chu Brian Flynn Charis Haines  
Jere Hunt Ann Olson Michael Spencer Phillips Jane Sato  
Anastasia Soroczynski Marianna Tsartolia Holt Walborn

### **“The Hare and the Tortoise”**

*Music:* Steve Reich, *The Desert Music*

The Hares: Company

The Tortoise: Michael Spencer Phillips

### **“The Oak and the Reed”**

*Music:* Krzysztof Penderecki, *Dimension of Time and Silence*

The Oak: Michael Spencer Phillips

The Reed: Charis Haines

### **“The Crow and the Fox”**

*Music:* Johann Sebastian Bach, Sonata in F for Violin and Harpsichord

The Crow: Darwin Black

The Foxes: Jane Sato, Anastasia Soroczynski, and Marianna Tsartolia

### **“The Ant and Grasshopper”**

*Music:* Giacchino Rossini, *Semiramide* Overture

The Grasshopper: Jane Sato

The Ant: Jere Hunt

\*Jean de La Fontaine was born in 1621 at Château-Thierry, France. His most famous works are his *Fables*, for which he drew on the work of Aesop and the Indian fables of Bidpai. A massive work of 244 stories, La Fontaine described it as “a wide-ranging play in a hundred varied acts with the entire universe as a stage.”

(First performed November 6, 1997, at Florence Gould Hall at the French Institute/Alliance Française in New York City)

## INTERMISSION

## **SMALL STEPS, TINY REVOLUTIONS**

*Choreography:* Pascal Rioult  
*Music:* Steven Sametz  
*Based on a poem by:* Deborah Sacarakis  
*Lighting:* David Finley  
*Costumes and Set:* Drew Francis

Father: Brian Flynn  
Son: Chase Sutton

Adrienne Chu Penélope González Charis Haines Jere Hunt  
Ann Olson Michael Spencer Phillips Jane Sato  
Anastasia Soroczynski Marianna Tsartolia Holt Walborn

Alyssa Boob Alexandra Clingerman Emily Dale Cassandra Greenland  
Sophia Heltman Mma Ikwut-Ukwa Rachel King Faythe Lewis S. Noah Mendum-Purdy  
Megan Reese Emma Smith Ashley Van Veenendaal Madison Wadlinger  
Understudies: Abigail Casner Bryn Hawbaker Serena Hunter  
Aria Sakona Katicia Sakona Piper Wadlinger

(First performed on January 26, 2008, at the Zoellner Arts Center, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania)

*Small Steps, Tiny Revolutions* was commissioned by Zoellner Arts Center, Lehigh University, with support from Kathryn Dyer, Just Born Inc., *The Morning Call*, The Rider-Pool Foundation, Heather Rodale, Deborah Sacarakis, John Sacarakis, Marc and Susan Vengrove, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional support provided by the Kenneth French Fund for New Works.

## **PAUSE**

### **BOLERO**

*Choreography:* Pascal Rioult  
*Music:* Maurice Ravel, *Bolero*  
*Lighting:* David Finley  
*Costumes:* Russ Vogler  
*Set:* Harry Feiner

Darwin Black Brian Flynn Charis Haines Jere Hunt  
Michael Spencer Phillips Jane Sato Anastasia Soroczynski Marianna Tsartolia

When Maurice Ravel was asked about his *Bolero* he said, “My most famous piece—too bad there is no music in it.” Ravel challenged himself to repeat as little material as possible as many times as he could without losing the audience’s interest—exactly what Pascal Rioult decided to do with his version, creating a machine-like dance that explores the duality of constant rhythm and sensuality of *Bolero* while bringing it to a riveting crescendo. Variations in this human assembly line of movement bring detail to the choreography as the instrumentation adds detail to the music.

(First performed February 15, 2002, at Cal Performances, Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley, California)

This piece was co-commissioned by Cal Performances and The Théâtre de Saint Quentin en Yvelines, France.

Additional funding provided by The Florence Gould Foundation; The Harkness Foundation for Dance; an award, in part, from the National Endowment for the Arts; and with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs’ Cultural Challenge Program.

Set underwriting provided by The Grand Marnier Foundation.

# ABOUT THE COMPANY

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**RIOULT** was founded in 1994 and fast became an established name in modern dance with a reputation for creating and presenting the sensual, articulate, and exquisitely musical works of Pascal Rioult. Born into the American modern dance tradition, RIOULT is creating its own legacy of theatrically produced contemporary dance that speaks to the mind and heart. The company of nine dancers is based in New York City, where it presents an annual New York City season and tours nationally and internationally, reaching more than 20,000 audience members each year.

RIOULT has been invited to perform in theatres and at festivals throughout North America, including New York City Center Fall for Dance; Lincoln Center Out-of-Doors; American Dance Festival in Raleigh, North Carolina; the Annenberg Center in Philadelphia; the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in West Palm Beach, Florida; and Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley, California. An extensive international touring schedule has brought

the company to the Bermuda Festival, Cannes International Festival, Danse à Aix, Festival du Val du Marne, the Temps le Danse Festival, the Paris Opera Bastille, La Maison de la Danse in France, Tamaulipas Festival in Mexico, and many others.

RIOULT prides itself on its commitment to its dancers. Among the primary goals of the organization are to provide steady employment and health-care, as well as foster the artistic development of its performers by offering training classes, teaching opportunities, challenging repertory, and extended rehearsal and performance schedules.

Education and community outreach have been integral to RIOULT since its inception. RIOULT's arts-in-education program, DanceREACH, offers an interactive approach to introducing students to the world of modern dance, impacting thousands in New York City and around the world. Ongoing relationships with schools in New York City and the metropolitan area allow RIOULT to inspire new generations of dancers and audiences.

# WHO'S WHO

**PASCAL RIOULT** (*Artistic Director/Choreographer*) A former track and field star in France, Rioult came to the United States on a fellowship from the French Ministry of Culture to study modern dance in 1981. After performing with the companies of May O'Donnell and Paul Sanasardo, he was invited to join the Martha Graham Dance Company. As a principal dancer, he interpreted many prestigious roles in Graham's repertory. In 1990, Graham created for Rioult the central role of Death Figure in her ballet *Eye of the Goddess*. He performed opposite Mikhail Baryshnikov and Joyce Herring in *El Penitente* and was featured in the television specials *Martha Graham in Japan* and *Five Dances by Martha Graham*. Since starting RIOULT in 1994, Rioult has dedicated his energy to forging and perfecting a choreographic style of his own, nurturing a robust ensemble of dancers and growing his company. Several of his early works have become classics and his new works are anticipated yearly as those of a maturing master of his art. Lisa Jo Sagolla of *Backstage* referred to him as "one of the most adept and courageous choreographers in mainstream modern dance today." Rioult's works have been commissioned by the American Dance Festival, Cal Performances (Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley, California), Ballet du Nord in Roubaix (France), Geneva Ballet (Switzerland), The Orchestra of St. Luke's, Harriet and Gordon Greenfield Foundation, Grand Marnier Foundation, Théâtre de Saint Quentin en Yvelines (France), and Lehigh University (Bethlehem, Pennsylvania), among others. Rioult has been awarded grants from New York State Council on the Arts,

Rockefeller Brothers Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Shubert Foundation, Geoffrey C. Hughes Foundation, Harkness Foundation, Florence Gould Foundation, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, Shana Alexander Charitable Foundation, Lila Acheson Wallace Foundation, and others. He is a two-time recipient of the Choo-San Goh Award for Choreography.

**JOYCE HERRING** (*Associate Artistic Director*) was born in Grassy Point, New York. A founding member of RIOULT, Herring danced with the company until 2004, also holding the positions of rehearsal director, regisseur, and in 2008–2009 executive director. Herring met Rioult while dancing with the Martha Graham Dance Company, where she performed until 1999 as principal dancer. Herring and Rioult married in 1988. During her career with the Martha Graham Dance Company, Herring interpreted many leading roles, including Jocasta in *Night Journey*, the Bride in *Appalachian Spring*, the Virgin in *Primitive Mysteries*, Joan of Arc in *Seraphic Dialogue*, and Helen of Troy in *Clytemnestra*, along with roles in *Heretic*, *Lamentation*, *Deep Song*, *Conversation of Lovers in Acts of Light*, and others. Herring performed opposite Rioult and Mikhail Baryshnikov in Graham's three-character piece *El Penitente* and the following year was cast in the leading role in *American Document* opposite Baryshnikov. She made her debut in the solo *Lamentation* at the White House for the PBS production *Young Artists in Performance at the White House*. Other television credits include *Celebrate! 100 Years at the Met*, *Martha Graham*

in *Japan*, and *Three Dances by Martha Graham*. A former director of the Martha Graham School, Herring is a regisseur of the Graham Trust. She has been guest teacher at The Juilliard School and served on the faculties of the Conservatory of Dance at the State University of New York at Purchase, Marymount Manhattan College, Rudra Bejart in Lausanne, Alfredo Corvino's Dance Circle, the Neighborhood Playhouse, Harvard Summer Dance Center, North Carolina School of the Arts, Ballet du Nord, the Lyon Opera Ballet, the Conservatoire Nationale Supérieure de Musique de Lyon, the Geneva Ballet, the Ballet de Lorraine, and Interlochen Academy of the Performing Arts, among others.

**ELIZABETH LA CAUSE** (*Executive Director*) is originally from Burlington, Vermont. She comes from an early career in classical ballet and holds degrees from Skidmore College in dance and English literature. In 2006, she earned a master's degree in nonprofit management at Regis University in Denver. LaCause joined a public relations firm serving clients like the Paul Taylor Dance Company, Merce Cunningham Dance Company, and The Joyce Theater. From there she took a position in the education department of the New York City Ballet. She became acting director of the performing arts department at Snug Harbor Cultural Center in 2000 and executive director of the Staten Island Chamber Music Players in 2003. She joined RIOULT in August 2009.

**DARWIN BLACK** (*Dancer*) began dancing at Newark Arts High School under the direction of Ronnie D. Carney and also trained with Nancy Turano at New Jersey Dance Theater Ensemble. After a

fellowship at The Ailey School, he joined the Miami Contemporary Dance Company under the direction of Ray Sullivan. Black has appeared as a guest artist with both Adams Company Dance and Connecticut Ballet Theater and danced for the last two years with the Sacramento Ballet, performing works by George Balanchine, Twyla Tharp, Trey McIntyre, and others. He joined RIOULT in 2010.

**BRIAN FLYNN** (*Dancer*) is originally from Walpole, Massachusetts. Flynn earned his bachelor of fine arts degree at the Conservatory of Dance at Purchase College and has performed works by choreographers Paul Taylor, Merce Cunningham, Mary Anthony, Eun Me Ahn, and Kevin Wynn. He also performed with the Boston Ballet in Ben Stevenson's production *Cleopatra*. Flynn has taught and set works for RIOULT, including *Bolero* and *If By Chance*, for Alvin Ailey/Fordham University's bachelor of fine arts program and the Bermuda Civic Ballet. Flynn joined RIOULT in 1999 and is co-founder of RIOULT Circle.

**PENÉLOPE GONZÁLEZ** (*Dancer*) was born in Mexico City, where she began her formal dance training at the Ballet Nacional de México. In New York City she studied on scholarship at the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance. She danced numerous principal roles with the Martha Graham Dance Ensemble, including *El Penitente*, *Temptations of the Moon*, and *Diversion of Angels*, and performed with the Martha Graham Dance Company at New York City Center and the Spoleto Festival in both South Carolina and Italy. Gonzalez has set RIOULT repertory and taught modern classes in schools and universities across Mexico and the United States. Gonzalez is

RIOULT's e-marketing manager, responsible for the company's online presence, and she assists in communication with international presenters. She has been with RIOULT since 1998.

**CHARIS HAINES** (*Dancer*) is originally from Carpinteria, California. Haines graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of California at Santa Barbara with a bachelor of fine arts degree in dance, receiving the Alice Condodina Performance Award upon graduation. In New York City, Haines has performed with Wendy Osserman, Silver-Brown Dance, Jessica Gaynor Dance, Katherine Howard, Sue Hogan, and Lux Dance. Haines was first introduced to RIOULT while working at The Joyce Theater as the assistant house manager. She joined RIOULT in 2007.

**JERE HUNT** (*Dancer*) is a native of Huntsville, Alabama. He graduated from Marymount Manhattan College in 2009 with a bachelor of fine arts degree in dance under the direction of Katie Langan. While there, he performed works by David Parsons, Christopher d'Amboise, Martha Graham, Mollissa Fenley, Edgar Zendejas, and others. Hunt was an apprentice with the Alabama Ballet during the 2006–2007 season under the direction of Wes Chapman and has worked with such choreographers as Kristi Sutton, Lane Gifford, and Larry Keigwin. He has danced with SYREN Modern Dance and DeMa Dance. Hunt joined RIOULT in 2010.

**MICHAEL SPENCER PHILLIPS** (*Dancer*) received a bachelor of fine arts degree in dance from The University of Michigan, where he was also a member of the Peter Sparling Dance Company. Upon graduation, he attended

the Merce Cunningham School on scholarship and performed in the Cunningham Repertory Group. Other performance credits include New York City Opera, Battleworks Dance Company, Risa Jaraslow and Dancers, and an apprenticeship with the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. He is a teaching artist with RIOULT's DanceREACH program and has restaged Pascal Rioult's work. Phillips joined RIOULT in 2002 and is co-founder of RIOULT Circle.

**JANE SATO** (*Dancer*) Originally from San Francisco, Sato has danced and toured internationally with ODC Dance Commons in San Francisco, Buglisi Dance Theatre, Jeune Ballet de France, Battery Dance, and San Francisco Ballet. She graduated from The Juilliard School after having studied at San Francisco Ballet School. Sato has received honors in standard and Latin styles of ballroom dance, and has taught ballroom, creative movement, choreography, ballet, and modern technique in the United States, Singapore, Vietnam, Jordan, Israel, and Australia. Sato joined RIOULT in 2005.

**ANASTASIA SOROCZYNSKI** (*Dancer*) was born and raised in New Jersey. In 2002, she graduated with a bachelor of fine arts degree in dance from the State University of New York at Purchase, where she worked with such choreographers as Donald Byrd, Kevin Wynn, Kazuko Hirabayashi, Ayako Kurakako, Astrid Von Ussae, and Tracie Stanfield. Soroczynski is actively involved in team teaching for RIOULT's DanceREACH program and frequently demonstrates for master classes. She recently restaged RIOULT's *Wien* in an all-female cast for Fusionworks Dance Company in Rhode Island

and has taught dance in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Florida. Soroczynski is RIOULT's costume coordinator and is also an administration manager and production co-coordinator at Ballet Academy East. She joined RIOULT in 2002.

**MARIANNA TSARTOLIA** (*Dancer*) was born in Athens, Greece, where she received her bachelor of fine arts degree in dance from the State School of Dance. A recipient of scholarships from the Onassis Foundation and Merce Cunningham Foundation, Tsartolia graduated from the Merce Cunningham Studio in 1997. She performed in the United States and Europe with Mandafounis Modern Dance Company, Octana Dance Theatre, Connecticut Ballet, and Analysis Dance Company. For the past seven years she has worked as a teaching artist and is the educational artistic advisor for RIOULT's DanceREACH program. Tsartolia taught technique and repertory workshops in the United States, France, Greece, and Bermuda. She has restaged RIOULT's choreography for the Civic Ballet in Bermuda (2004–2008) and *Bolero* and *Wien* for the Hellenic Dance Company in Athens (2004, 2006, and 2007). Tsartolia joined RIOULT in 1998.

**CHASE SUTTON** (*Child Dancer*), 11, is a sixth-grader at the Lab School in Greenwich Village. He first started dancing at 8 years old through National Dance Institute. He liked dancing so much that he dropped soccer to dedicate himself more fully to the many hours required at the institute. An avid baseball player and a black belt in karate, Sutton has appeared on Broadway twice, danced in the National Dance Institute's annual gala, and has performed at press conferences and other promotional and educational events.

**ADRIENNE CHU** (*Apprentice*) was born and raised in Whitestone, New York, and is an alumna of Frank Sinatra School of the Arts. She received her bachelor of fine arts degree in dance from Marymount Manhattan College under the direction of Katie Langan, where she danced the works of Martha Graham, Lar Lubovitch, May O'Donnell, David Parsons, Benoit-Swan Pouffer, and Edgar Zendejas. Chu has performed works by Columbine Macher and Mary Anthony and has danced with the 360° Dance Company and Battleworks.

**ANN OLSON** (*Apprentice*) began dancing at 15 in Philadelphia, training with Henry Roy, and danced at the University of the Arts. A *summa cum laude* graduate of Skidmore College (dance and psychology), Olson performed professionally with local choreographers Leslie Pullis and Vanessa Page. After four seasons with the Ellen Sinopoli Dance Company as a featured performer and teaching artist, Olson moved to New York City, where she has danced with Saba Dance Theater, Trainor Dance, and TAKE Dance.

**HOLT WALBORN** (*Apprentice*) hails from Kentucky. He started dancing at 13 and studied at Interlochen Arts Academy. A graduate of Butler University with a bachelor of fine arts degree in dance, he worked with Marek Cholewa, Tong Wang, and Susan McGuire. Performance credits include Paul Taylor's *Cloven Kingdom*, Antony Tudor's *Dark Elegies*, and the Nutcracker Prince in Butler Ballet's *The Nutcracker*. He moved to New York City in May and has worked with Spark Movement Collective and The Hoover Dam Collective.

**CHARLES DUMAS** (*Narrator*) is a professor in Penn State's School

of Theatre. He was director of the Acting in Media Program at Temple University and associate professor in Penn State's Department of African and African American Studies. He was recently appointed senior professor at the University of the Free State and was a Fulbright Fellow at the University of Stellenbosch, both in South Africa. Dumas is a professional actor, director, and writer, and is the artistic director and co-founder of The Loaves and Fish Traveling Rep Company. Dumas' *9/11: A Day in the Life of a People* was chosen for the Philadelphia Fringe and performed at The National Constitution Center.

**JUSTIN SHONDECK** (*Narrator*), 11, is a sixth grader at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School in State College. Previous roles include Oliver (*Oliver!*), Corney Collins (*Hairspray*), Lumiere (*Beauty and the Beast Jr.*), and Amahl (*Amahl and the Night Visitors*). He will next be seen as John Darling in the Penn State Centre Stage production of *Peter Pan*. Shondeck lives in Boalsburg with his parents and his younger brother Evan. He enjoys playing the guitar, fencing, snowboarding, and playing with his dog Petey.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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#### BOOKING INFORMATION

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## Natalie MacMaster *Christmas in Cape Breton*

7:30 p.m. December 2  
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