

# FIVE MOONS

DANCE FESTIVAL



*Tiger '64*

"Stomp Dancer Taking Medicine" by Jerome Tiger (Muscogee (Creek), Seminole)  
Courtesy of: Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa OK

**AUGUST 25, 2024**  
Reynolds Performing Arts Center | The University of Oklahoma



WEITZENHOFFER FAMILY COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS  
**SCHOOL OF DANCE**  
*The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA*

**ABT**  
AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE

OKLAHOMA  
CITY  
BALLET

tulsa  
ballet

Marcello Angelini, Artistic Director



**JACOBSON HOUSE**  
NATIVE ART CENTER

**FAM**  
First Americans Museum

**FLight**

# FIVE MOONS

DANCE FESTIVAL

The state of Oklahoma has a rich history that includes one of the most unique contributions to dance in the United States and abroad. The University of Oklahoma School of Dance is pleased to host the Five Moons Dance Festival, which celebrates the legacies of Maria Tallchief (Osage), Marjorie Tallchief (Osage), Rosella Hightower (Choctaw), Moscelyne Larkin (Peoria/Eastern Shawnee), and Yvonne Chouteau (Shawnee). These five Native American ballerinas were born or raised in Oklahoma and their courage, passion and perseverance propelled them to perform on the world's greatest stages and leave a lasting mark on the dance world. Held over multiple days, the festival includes receptions, lectures, panel discussions and performances in honor of the Five Moons.

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## *mission statement*

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The Five Moons Dance Festival objective is to celebrate the legacies of the five Native ballerinas of Oklahoma as American icons, while bringing attention to the history of dance in the state. In the process of honoring these Native American women, the festival also endeavors to create a platform for the next generation of female underrepresented choreographers.

## *celebrating the legacies of*

**Yvonne Chouteau** (Shawnee)

**Rosella Hightower** (Choctaw)

**Moscelyne Larkin**  
(Peoria/Eastern Shawnee)

**Maria Tallchief** (Osage)

**Marjorie Tallchief** (Osage)

## *honoring the career and accomplishments of*

**Yvonne Chouteau**  
(Shawnee)



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## 2024 PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Michael Bearden  
Leslie Kraus  
Maggie Boyett  
Mary Margaret Holt  
Susan E. Brackett  
Glenn Edgerton  
David Barocio  
Charla EchoHawk  
Russ Tallchief  
Tana Fitzpatrick

## FIVE MOONS DANCE FESTIVAL COORDINATOR

Leslie Kraus

## SPECIAL THANKS

Alan Hiserodt  
Maggie Boyett  
Christina Terekhov Conway  
Elizabeth Terekhov Impallomeni  
Dustin Trotter  
The Families of James R. Squirrel &  
Troy Little Axe Sr.

The Five Moons Dance Festival organizers would like to express its sincere gratitude to those listed below for gifts received as of August 11, 2024

## MOON

Betsy Brackett & Gregg Wadley

## DANCER

Everett Family Affiliated Fund,  
Schoenfeld Headers, Doug and Melissa Schoenfeld

## SUPPORTING

Paul and Terry Bell, Dr. Ricard Carlson, Flight Agency



Dear Five Moons Festival Attendees,

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the University of Oklahoma College of Fine Arts, to welcome you to the third Five Moons Dance Festival, designated this year as a Centennial Event of the college. As we celebrate our centennial, it seems entirely appropriate to recognize the five Native American ballerinas born in Oklahoma whose paths took them around the world as ambassadors for their cultural heritage and our state as well as for the art of ballet.

We are deeply grateful to all who have contributed their support to the Five Moons Dance Festival in so many ways. Their gifts of time, talent, commitment, and resources help to ensure that the legacies of the five ballerinas live on, inspiring future generations of Native and underrepresented artists of all disciplines from dance and music to theatre and visual arts. We at the University of Oklahoma are honored that our School of Dance was founded by Yvonne Chouteau and her husband Miguel Terekhov over six decades ago and that their artistry and relentless efforts laid the foundation for the School of Dance of today.

Thank you for joining us in the very cradle of our artistic legacy and for celebrating with us the glorious careers of five dauntless ballerinas whose spirit continues to soar through this festival and all whose lives they touched. As we celebrate our centennial, we also celebrate all that is to come. So it is with Yvonne Chouteau, Rosella Hightower, Moscelyne Larkin, Maria Tallchief, and Marjorie Tallchief all of whom continue to influence the art of dance in our world today in ways even more beautiful than they may have imagined. Our thanks go out to them and to you for celebrating with us.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Margaret Holt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Mary Margaret Holt**

Dean, Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts

# The Shawnee Tribe

## Office of the Chief

Ben Barnes  
Chief

Roy Baldrige  
Second Chief



hato caaki wiyeefa (Greetings, everyone).

The Shawnee Tribe is deeply honored by the influential life and legacy of our very own Myra Yvonne Chouteau, and we're enormously grateful to be able to celebrate Yvonne with everyone present today at the 2024 Five Moons Dance Festival.

Ms. Chouteau and the other Five Moons ballerinas—Rosella Hightower, Moscelyne Larkin, Maria Tallchief, and Marjorie Tallchief—perfectly embodied their families' and communities' wildest hopes and dreams, and their unique legacies inspire us all.

Thank you especially to Dean Holt and our friends at the University of Oklahoma School of Dance for creating this opportunity. And thanks most of all to you, members of the dance community, for joining us in recognizing these legendary women who forged paths for future generations of Indigenous people to find their authenticity, express themselves fully, and honor their communities.

niyaawe,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'B' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

**Ben Barnes**  
Chief, Shawnee Tribe





On behalf of the University of Oklahoma School of Dance, welcome to the third Five Moons Dance Festival. It is our pleasure to host this event in honor of five incredibly dynamic women. Each of them not only had impressive careers as dancers but were also visionary leaders as they directed and established some of the world's most prolific dance companies and schools. Our hope is that in honoring the legacies of the Five Moons, this festival will inspire the next generation of Native American and underrepresented women leaders in the dance world and in the global community.

Today's performance represents the power of their influence as they directed, founded, danced with, or inspired the creation of many participating companies and organizations. I want to thank Chief Ben Barnes and Maggie Boyett of the Shawnee Tribe for their incredible support, work, and dedication to this year's festival as we pay tribute the legacy of Yvonne Chouteau. I also want to thank Five Moons Dance Festival Coordinator Leslie Kraus for all she has done behind the scenes to honor these five women in such a powerfully authentic way. The festival would not be possible if it were not for the tireless efforts of Maggie Boyett and Leslie Kraus. Last but not least, I want to thank the daughters of Yvonne Chouteau, Elizabeth Terekhov Impallomeni and Christina Terekhov Conway, for their insight into their mother's career and who she was as a person in the planning of this festival. Our hope is that you will leave today's festival filled with inspiration and a sense of unity that is created amongst the Native and dance communities.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Bearden". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

**Michael Bearden**  
Director, School of Dance



WEITZENHOFFER FAMILY COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS  
**SCHOOL OF DANCE**  
*The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA*

## ARTISTIC

**Michael Bearden**, *Director*

**Jennifer Wynne**, *Assistant to Director*

**Gary Bramlett**, *Instructor (Ballroom)*

**Gina Bramlett**, *Instructor (Ballroom)*

**Lauren Combs**, *Recruitment/  
Audition Coordinator*

**Boyko Dossev**, *Associate Professor (Ballet)  
Artistic Director, Oklahoma Festival Ballet*

**Glenn Edgerton**, *Associate Professor (Ballet)*

**Yury Erivanov**, *Staff Musician*

**Jan Fugit**, *Lecturer (Ballet)*

**Steven Ha**, *Assistant Professor (Dance History)*

**Austin Hartel**, *Associate Professor of  
Dance (Modern Dance)*

**Rebecca Herrin**, *Lecturer (Ballet)*

**Mary Margaret Holt**, *Dean,  
Weitzenhoffer College of Fine Arts  
Nichols Chair/Regents' Professor of Dance  
(Ballet)*

**Leslie Kraus**, *Associate Professor of Dance  
(Modern Dance)  
Five Moons Dance Festival Coordinator*

**Roxanne Lyst**, *Artistic Director,  
Contemporary Dance Oklahoma  
Associate Professor of Dance (Modern Dance)  
Graduate Student Liaison*

**Ellen Madson**, *Staff Musician*

**Jennifer Montgomery**, *Instructor  
(Body Conditioning)*

**Leigh Mahoney**, *Instructor  
(Body Conditioning)*

**Kathleen Redwine**, *Lecturer  
(Dance History)*

**Dustin Trotter**, *Media Center Coordinator  
Special Events Assistant*

## EMERITUS FACULTY

**Steve Brule**, *Associate Professor  
Emeritus (Ballet)*

**Clara Cravey Stanley**, (1950-2022)  
*Professor Emerita (Ballet)*

**Donn Edwards**,  
*Professor Emeritus (Ballet)*

**Camille Hardy**, (1943-2017)  
*Professor Emerita (Dance History)*

**Jerry Lewis**, *Professor Emeritus  
(Lighting Design)*

**Kozaburo (Ko) Yukihiro**,  
*Professor Emeritus (Modern Dance)*

## FOUNDERS

**Miguel Terekhov**, (1928-2012)  
*Professor Emeritus (Ballet)*

**Yvonne Chouteau**, (1929-2016)



# PRODUCTION STAFF

Producer	Mary Margaret Holt
Associate Producer	Kasey Allee-Foreman
Faculty Advisor to Stage Management	Christopher Sadler
Design and Production Area Coordinator	Renée Brode
Technical Director	Akari Harada
Production Carpenter	E. Pope
Scenic Charge Artist	Sydney Hagen
Scenic Undergraduate Assistants	Elizabeth Elliott, Gillian Kelley, Jenna Norton, Cara Oates, Abigail Pirtle, Goldie Snow
Properties Director	Margot Glaser
Electrics Supervisor	Eric Stehl
Stage Manager	Ris Carroll, Madeline Lewis
Lighting Designer	Harrison Best
Lighting Undergraduate Assistants	Micah Dooley, Lauren Foster, Madison Heckelsberg, Noah Jittawait, Connor Lin, Lucas Knapp, Emily Morris, Ruby Ravsten, Kellen Sapp, Sophia Smith, Trey Wilson
Costume Studio Director	Christina Draper
Lead Stitcher	Amy Kercher
Stitcher	Stephanie Cirar
Junior Cutter/Draper	Chloe Mullins
Costume Undergraduate Assistants	Emily Heskett, Paige Kasulis, Natalie Lane, Joy Omeish, Emily Post, Landre Sanders, Hunter Sheehan, Brooke Strachan, Samantha Verbsky, Terrye Hudson
Box Office	Terrye Hudson, Sherri Morgan
House Manager	Donna Huston
Marketing Coordinators	Deidre Caldwell, Lestari Kusumawardani

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DANCE FESTIVAL



## YVONNE CHOUTEAU

*March 7, 1929 – January 24, 2016*

Yvonne Chouteau (Shawnee) was born in Fort Worth, Texas and raised in Vinita, Oklahoma. She debuted with the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo at the young age of 14 and danced with the company for 14 years. In 1947, she made history as the youngest individual ever inducted to the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. In 1960, Chouteau became an artist in residence at the University of Oklahoma and established the Department of Dance, now known as the OU School of Dance, with her husband, Miguel Terekhov. She also founded Oklahoma City Civic Ballet, now known as Oklahoma City Ballet, in 1963.



## ROSELLA HIGHTOWER

*January 10, 1920 – November 4, 2008*

Rosella Hightower (Choctaw) was born in Durwood, Oklahoma. She danced with several influential companies including the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, Ballet Theatre, Rene Blum's Original Ballet Russe and Grand Ballet du Marquis de Cuevas. Rosella Hightower founded the Center for Classical Dance in Cannes, France, in 1962. She was crucial to the launch of the Prix de Lausanne ballet competition in the early 1970s, and in 1981, she became the first American director of the Paris Opera Ballet.



## MOSCELYNE LARKIN

*January 14, 1925 – April 25, 2012*

Moscelyne Larkin (Peoria/Eastern Shawnee) was born in Miami, Oklahoma. At 15 years of age, she was accepted into and danced with the renowned Original Ballet Russe and the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo companies. She and her husband, Roman Jasinski, founded the Tulsa Civic Ballet in 1956, later to become Tulsa Ballet Theatre. She organized the first Oklahoma Indian Ballerina Festival in 1967, in which four of the Five Moons performed to honor their heritage.

In 1991, she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts from the University of Tulsa for her international dancing achievements.



## MARIA TALLCHIEF

*January 24, 1925 – April 11, 2013*

Maria Tallchief (Osage) was born in Fairfax, Oklahoma, just five miles away from one of the Osage Nation's three cultural districts. She danced with the renowned Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo company in the 1940's. Tallchief is widely considered to be America's first prima ballerina. She was a principal dancer with George Balanchine's New York City Ballet, where he created several title roles for her. Tallchief

co-founded the Chicago City Ballet with her sister, Marjorie, in 1980. In Oklahoma, June 29th is known as "Maria Tallchief Day."



## MARJORIE TALLCHIEF

*October 19, 1926 – November 30, 2021*

Marjorie Tallchief (Osage) was born in Denver and spent her childhood in Fairfax, Oklahoma with her sister, Maria. She danced with various companies, including Ballet Theatre (now known as American Ballet Theatre), the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo and the Harkness Ballet. Tallchief was the first Native American dancer to become a premiere danseuse étoile at the world-renowned Paris Opera Ballet.

She served as the director of dance at Harid Conservatory in Boca Raton, Florida from 1989 to 1993. The University of Oklahoma in Norman presented Tallchief with a distinguished service award in 1992.

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## *Welcome and Remarks*

Mary Margaret Holt, Dean of Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts  
Benjamin Barnes, Chief of the Shawnee Tribe  
Opening video by Flight Agency

### OKLAHOMA CITY BALLET PRESENTS

## **GISELLE**

Choreography by Jean Coralli and Jules Perrot | Music by Adolph Adam

Courtney Connor Jones

### AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE PRESENTS

## **THE SEASONS**

(Pas de Deux)

Choreography by Alexei Ratmansky

Staged by Stella Abrera | Music by Alexander Glazunov | Costumes by Moritz Junge  
Costumes originally designed for the ballet Songs of Bukovina by Alexei Ratmansky

Lilia Greyeyes and Finnian Carmeci

### ELISA HARKINS PRESENTS

## **RADIO III**

Choreography by Elisa Harkins and Stina Nyberg

Music by Elisa Harkins | Regalia by Carol Young | Sound Engineer Mark Kuykendall

Elisa Harkins, Maggie Boyett, Maura García

### OKLAHOMA CITY BALLET STUDIO COMPANY PRESENTS

## **SPIDER BRINGS FIRE**

Choreography by Racheal Nye | Music by Jerod Impichchaachaaha' Tate

Set Design by Meghan Buchanan, inspired by the illustrations of Dustin Mater | Costumes by Jerica Hucke

*Spider Brings Fire* is the Chickasaw legend of how the world acquired fire. In this version of the story, the animals witness a sycamore tree being struck by a lightning bolt and bursting into flames. They quickly compete to see which animal can cross the river, to the tree, and bring this precious fire back. After failed attempts by crow, owl and snake - and after the scorching fire permanently alters their appearance - the animals decide spider might have a chance. She easily dances across the river and carries on her back just a tiny ember in a bowl weaved out of silk and clay. This unlikely hero changed the history of the world, and all living things, with her great care and intelligence.

Dancers of Oklahoma City Ballet Yvonne Chouteau School,  
Studio Company Program

OU SCHOOL OF DANCE PRESENTS

**AWAKENING**

Premiere: December 2015, New York, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

Choreography by Robert Battle

Staged by Elisa Clark | Rehearsal Director Roxanne Lyst | Music by John Mackey

Costume Design by Jon Taylor, recreated by Cat Buchanan, executed by Lloyd Cracknell & Christina Draper

Lighting Design by Al Crawford, recreated by Josh Monroe, executed by Renee Brode

Diego Aguilar, Alana Benton Dionne Bracey, Kameron Bryant, Anthony Glosson, Madi McVey,  
Amari Norman, Ruby Peterson, Isa Rondon, Hunter Sheehan, Averie Warren, Olivia Williams

Covers: SarahAnn Posey, Emily Wyatt

- • -

15 MINUTES INTERMISSION

- • -

OU SCHOOL OF DANCE PRESENTS

**THE FOUR MOONS**

(Cherokee Variation)

Choreography by Miguel Terekhov

Composer Louis Ballard | Pianist Jerod Impichchaachaahaa' Tate

Costume by Lloyd Cracknell & Nancy Boyett

Lighting Design by Harrison Best | Staged by Michael Bearden

Vitoria Correia

AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE PRESENTS

**...if it ain't BA-ROQUE**

(Second Movement)

Choreography by Hope Boykin

Music by George Frideric Handel "Serse, HWV 40: Ombra mai fu" recorded by Cecilia Bartoli

Costumes styled by Hope Boykin | Commissioned by ABT Studio Company

Lilia Greyeyes and Finnian Carmeci

OU SCHOOL OF DANCE PRESENTS

**BOUQUET FOR YVONNE**

Choreography by Mary Margaret Holt & Clara Cravey Stanley

Costume Design by Mike Buchwald | Music by Léo Delibes, Peter Illyich Tchaikovsky, & Johan Strauss

I.

Sophia Brown, Julian Cottrell, Harry Hefner, Ava Kabealo, Taylor McCardle, Oscar Miller,  
Ben Nemmers, Paige Omuhundro, Andrew Parsons, Melissa Quiros Diaz,  
Sophia Redford, Skylar Ryden

II.

Variation from *The Sleeping Beauty*

Sophia Redford

III.

Paige Omohundro with Sophia Brown, Julian Cottrell, Harry Hefner, Ava Kabealo, Taylor McCardle, Oscar Miller, Ben Nemmers, Andrew Parsons, Melissa Quiros Diaz, Sophia Redford, Skylar Ryden

IV.

Variation from Graduation Ball: Sophie Brown

V.

Entire Cast

**TULSA BALLET PRESENTS**

**ROMEO & JULIET**

(Pas de Deux)

Choreography by Edward Liang

Staged by Daniela Buson, Susan Frei, Alfonso Martin, Arman Zazyan

Music by Sergei Prokofiev | Costumes by David Walker

Nao Ota & Jun Masuda

**AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE PRESENTS**

**COPPELIA**

("Prayer" variation)

Staged by Frederic Franklin after Arthur Saint-Leon

Music by Léo Delibes | Costume by Patricia Zipprodt

Lilia Greyeyes

**OKLAHOMA CITY BALLET YVONNE CHOUTEAU SCHOOL PRESENTS**

**DUSTY RAVEN**

Choreography by Maria Konrad | Music by Maxence Cyrin

Raven Bighorn

**THE SHAWNEE TRIBE, OKLAHOMA CITY BALLET  
YVONNE CHOUTEAU SCHOOL, & OU SCHOOL OF DANCE PRESENTS**

**SOCIAL SONGS & THE GRAND DÉFILÉ**

Singers & Dancers of the Shawnee Tribe Staged by Maggie Boyett

The Grand Défilé Choreography & Staging by Racheal Nye

Music by Frédéric Chopin | Costumes by Elevé Dancewear

The Grand Défilé or "Big Parade" proudly exhibits the lasting legacy of Yvonne Chouteau with dancers from the OU School of Dance and the Yvonne Chouteau School.

Singers & Dancers of the Shawnee Tribe, Dancers of the Yvonne Chouteau School, Oklahoma City Ballet Studio Company, and the OU School of Dance



## ROBERT BATTLE

Robert Battle became Artistic Director of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in July 2011 after being personally selected by Judith Jamison, making him only the third person to head the Company since it was founded in 1958. Mr. Battle had a long-standing association with the Ailey organization before leading the Company.

A frequent choreographer and artist in residence at Ailey since 1999, he set many of his works on Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Ailey II, and at The Ailey School. The Company's repertory includes his ballets *Ella*, *For Four*, *In/Side*, *Love Stories* finale, *Mass*, and *Unfold*. In addition to expanding the Ailey repertory with works by artists as diverse as Kyle Abraham, Mauro Bigonzetti, Ronald K. Brown, Rennie Harris, and Paul Taylor, Mr. Battle has also instituted the New Directions Choreography Lab to help develop the next generation of choreographers.

In 2023, Mr. Battle stepped down from his position after 12 years as Artistic Director of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.



## HOPE BOYKIN

Two time "Bessie Award" winner, Hope Boykin was an original member of Complexions, danced with Philadanco, and completed 20 years with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Hope has choreographed for numerous dance companies including Philadanco, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, Minnesota Dance Theater, Ballet X, Eisenhower Dance Detroit, Ballet Black of London, American Ballet Theatre Studio Company, The Philadelphia Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and has created three works for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.

Along with many commissions including Vail Dance Festival, Hope has choreographed and co-directed for off-broadway and regional theater, including a *Cornelia Street* for the Atlantic Theater Company in New York City.

Hope has garnered much acclaim with her virtual work for Carolina Performing Arts, Guggenheim Works And Process Virtual Commissions initiative, and the National Black Theatre. As a motivator, Hope has been an annual keynote speaker for Lincoln Center Activate, a national education forum, which has included a special Weekend With Hope, a series of talks with friends and dance industry professionals, discussing crucial topics in our dance world.



## ELISA HARKINS

Elisa Harkins is a Native American (Cherokee/Muscogee) artist, singer, dancer/choreographer, electronic music composer, and curator based in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her work is concerned with translation, language preservation, and Indigenous musicology. Harkins uses the Cherokee and Mvskoke languages, electronic music, sculpture, and the body as her tools. She is the first person to sing a contemporary song in the Cherokee language. Harkins received a BA from Columbia College, Chicago, and an MFA from CalArts. She has since continued her education at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. She has exhibited her work







## RACHEAL NYE

Racheal Nye joined Oklahoma City Ballet as the Director of the Yvonne Chouteau School and Studio Company in 2020. Racheal was previously Principal of Kansas City Ballet School where she created and oversaw their Pre-Professional Day Program. She also worked as Children's Ballet Coach and staged children's roles in the company's productions including Devon Carney's *The Nutcracker*, which toured to the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. She is a graduate of the Kirov Academy in Washington, D.C., where she attended on scholarship and studied with Nikolai Morozov, Alla Sizova, and Elena Vinogradova. She then joined Ballet Internationale in Indianapolis and continued training with Irina Kolpakova and Vladien

Semenov. In 2000, Racheal joined Nevada Ballet Theatre and was promoted to principal in 2006. Racheal has danced leading roles in *Giselle*, *Swan Lake*, *Don Quixote*, *Cinderella*, Balanchine's *Serenade* and *Who Cares?*, as well as works by Twyla Tharp, Choo San Goh, Val Caniparoli, and many others. She has performed internationally including in Luxembourg, Korea, and Portugal.



## ALEXEI RATMANSKY

Born in St. Petersburg, Alexei Ratmansky trained at the Bolshoi Ballet School in Moscow. He was a principal dancer with the Ukrainian National Ballet, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, and Royal Danish Ballet. As a choreographer, Mr. Ratmansky has created ballets for Dutch National Ballet, Kirov Ballet, Royal Danish Ballet, Royal Swedish Ballet, New York City Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, and the State Ballet of Georgia. His 1998 work, *Dreams of Japan*, earned a prestigious Golden Mask Award by the Theatre Union of Russia.

In 2003, Mr. Ratmansky was invited to mount a full-length ballet, *The Bright Stream*, at the Bolshoi Theatre, a production which would win for him the appointment of Bolshoi Theatre artistic director in 2004. For the Bolshoi Ballet, he also choreographed full-length productions of *The Bolt* (2005) and re-staged *Le Corsaire* (2007) and the Soviet-era *Flames of Paris* (2008). Under Mr. Ratmansky's direction, the Bolshoi Ballet was named "Best Foreign Company" in 2005 and 2007 by The Critics' Circle in London, and he received a Critics' Circle National Dance Award for *The Bright Stream*.



## CLARA CRAVEY STANLEY

1950 - 2022

Clara Cravey Stanley began her professional career with the Harkness Ballet of New York under the direction of Ben Stevenson. As a principal dancer she toured Europe and the Middle East performing in Switzerland, Germany, Russia, Spain, Portugal, Yugoslavia, Iran, Paris and Istanbul. She has danced at summer festivals including Spoleto, Nervi and Monte Carlo where she performed for Prince Rainier and Princess Grace of Monaco.

Mrs. Cravey was a founding member of the Ballet de Caracas in Venezuela under the direction of Vincente Nebrada with whom she toured world wide.

She has performed at the White House and at the Kennedy Center.



## MIGUEL TEREKHOV

Born in Montevideo, Uruguay, to a Ukrainian immigrant father and a Charraúa Indian mother, Miguel Terekhov fell in love with dance at age seven after watching a ballet performance. He went on to have a professional career in ballet, dancing with two of the most influential touring companies of the 20th century. From 1942-47, Terekhov performed with Colonel Wassily de Basil's Original Ballets Russe and then with the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo from 1954-58 as a principal dancer. He was best known as performer of character roles, such as the Shah in *Scheherazade*, Hilarion in *Giselle*, Dr. Coppelius in *Coppelia*, and as the General and Headmistress in

*Graduation Ball*.

Born in Fort Worth but growing up in Vinita, OK, part French and part Shawnee-Cherokee, dancer Yvonne Chouteau began dancing at age 2 1/2 and was accepted into the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo at age 14. Her first solo role was the Prayer in *Coppelia* and she was soon dancing major roles in *Raymonda*, *Paquita*, *The Nutcracker* and *Pas de Quatre*. While on tour with the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, Terekhov and Chouteau met and married. She left the company in 1957 when she was expecting her first child. In 1961, Terekhov and Chouteau began teaching in what is now the School of Dance at the University of Oklahoma. In 1963, they became the first artistic directors of the Oklahoma City Civic Ballet, now the Oklahoma City Ballet, bringing in numerous internationally acclaimed dancers to perform with the company in its early years. As Chair of the (then) Department of Dance at OU, Terekhov designed a rigorous curriculum that is still largely followed today. He choreographed over thirty ballets, including seven full-length ballets, operas and musicals, and taught courses in ballet technique, teaching methods, choreography, and dance history. Miguel Terekhov died in 2012 and Yvonne Chouteau died in 2016.

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**SCHOENFELD**  
*Headers*

*With heartfelt gratitude for the 5 Moons*

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## JEROD IMPICHCHAACHAHA' TATE



Jerod Impichchaachaaha' Tate is a classical composer and citizen of the Chickasaw Nation in Oklahoma, dedicated to the development of American Indian classical composition. He is a 2022 Chickasaw Hall of Fame inductee and a 2022 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient from The Cleveland Institute of Music. In 2021, he was appointed a Cultural Ambassador for the U. S. Department of State.

Among many recent premieres, Tate's highlights include commissions from the New York Philharmonic, American Composers Orchestra, Cantori NY and Turtle Island Quartet. This season, Dover String Quartet tours Tate's new quartet, *Woodland Songs*, Oklahoma's Canterbury Voices premieres Tate's first opera, *Loksi' Shaali' (Shell Shaker)*, PostClassical Ensemble presents an all-American-Indian program curated by Tate in Washington D.C., and his popular work *Chokfi'* has been programmed by the Austin, Eureka, and Ft. Collins symphonies. Tate is currently at work on a new violin concerto for acclaimed violinist Irina Muresanu, as well as new works for the Oklahoma City Philharmonic and North Carolina Symphony Orchestra.

Tate is a three-time commissioned recipient from the American Composers Forum, a Chamber Music America Classical Commissioning Program recipient, a Cleveland Institute of Music Alumni Achievement Award recipient, a governor-appointed Creativity Ambassador for the State of Oklahoma and an Emmy Award-winner for his work on the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority documentary *The Science of Composing*. His music was also featured in the HBO series *Westworld*.

Tate earned his Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from Northwestern University and his Master of Music in Piano Performance and Composition from The Cleveland Institute of Music. His middle name, Impichchaachaaha', means "their high corncrib" and is his inherited traditional Chickasaw house name. Learn more at [www.jerodtate.com](http://www.jerodtate.com).

## ARTISTS

### AMERICAN BALLET THEATER



Finnian Carmeci  
Corps de Ballet



Lilia Greyeyes  
Studio Company

### TULSA BALLET



Jun Masuda  
Principal  
Appearing courtesy of Tulsa Ballet



Nao Ota  
Principal  
Appearing courtesy of Tulsa Ballet

OKC BALLET



Courtney Connor Jones  
*Principal*

GUEST ARTISTS



Maggie Boyett



Maura García

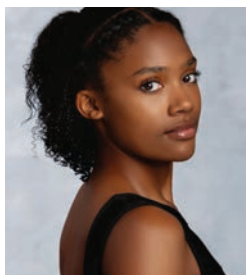


Elisa Harkins

OU SCHOOL OF DANCE



Diego Aguilar



Alana Benton



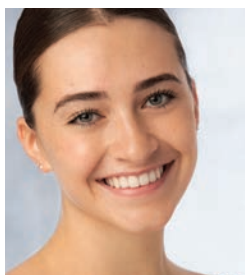
Dionne Bracey



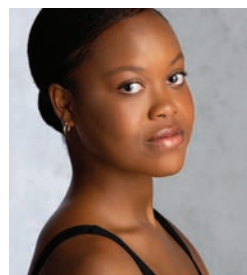
Kameron Bryant



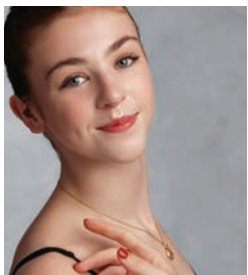
Anthony Glosson



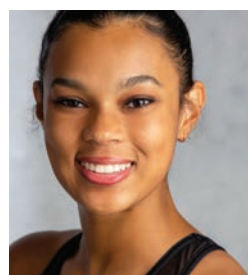
Madi McVey



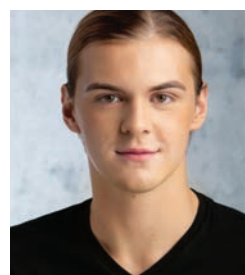
Amari Norman



Ruby Peterson



Isa Rondon

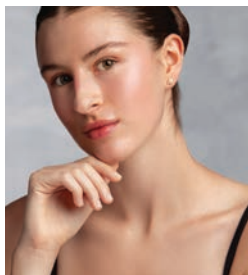


Hunter Sheehan



Averie Warren

OU SCHOOL OF DANCE



Olivia Williams



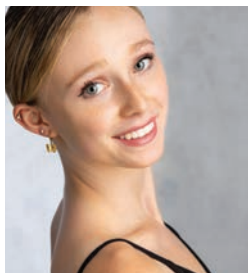
Sarah Ann Posey



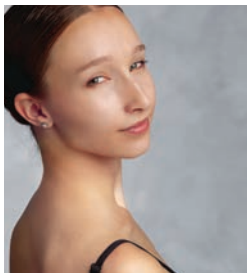
Emily Wyatt



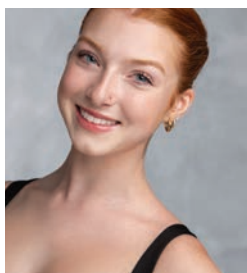
Vitoria Correia



Sophia Redford



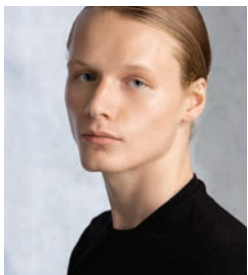
Paige Omohundro



Sophia Brown



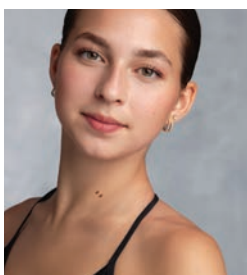
Julian Cottrell



Harry Hefner



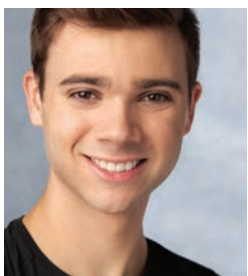
Ava Kabealo



Taylor McCardle



Oscar Miller



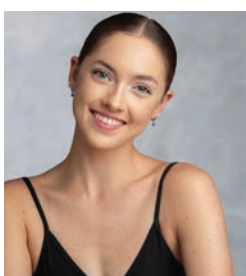
Ben Nemmers



Andrew Parsons



Melissa Quiros Diaz



Skylar Ryden

OKLAHOMA CITY BALLET YVONNE CHOUTEAU SCHOOL

OKCB II

Madisen Acevedo, Aylani Guajardo, Annabelle Gourley, Audrey Huston, Katie Kelley, Olivia MacFadden, Bella Saclolo, Sarah Beth Wriston, John Aguirre, Michael O'Neill

TRAINEES

Ashleigh Abel, Julianne Arduino, Talitha Barrington, Faith Barror, Alina Chi, Jessica Glaws, Sienna Hopper, Graceanna MacKaron, Kaylee Meinholdt, Isabella Padilla, Ava Reed, Kira Robinson, Allison Umbrell, Ivy Watts, Ashleigh Wells, Malia Wellwerts, Towako Wunsch, Julien DeJear, Duncan Gwinn, Gunnar Hammarstrom, Liam Hutt, Kieran Laverentz, Patricio Perez-Ruiz, Bailey Roberts, Colin Thurman

PRE-PROFESSIONAL GROUP 1

Desmond Burrows, Brooklyn De-Longe, Georgeanne Growingthunder, Piper Hubbard, Sloane Jackson, Perrin Jones, Amélie Nye, Jillian Rindler, Noah Rindler, Sophia Sorocco, Heloha Tate, Nicole Vovnov, Alice Zhang

PRE-PROFESSIONAL GROUP 2

Maya Bryant, Carigan Clark, Evelyn Degreve, Olivia Funderburk, Sophie Gospadarek, Marlee Mackin, Londyn VanCuren, Rhys Williams



**Peyote**  
(lyrics in Cherokee)

Bluebird Bring Me Peyote

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
u-li-ye-s-di (Cactus)

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
a-dv-s-gv (grow)

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
ga-no-hi-lv-sv (flying)

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
ga-lv-la-di (high)

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
sa-quu (one)

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
no-qui-si (star)

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
un-ni-si-la-dv (web)

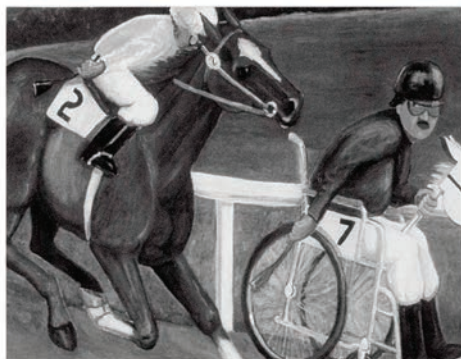
DB  
a-yv (I)

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
u-nv-tsv-gi (fell)

RWJ  
e-la-di (down)

I am back with Magic Fire

PONY



ELISA HARKINS

**Pony**  
Lyrics in English and  
Muscogee (Creek)

Rodeo

Rolling like a star

Corotke (Crippled)

Cuko-essiyv (Painter)

Dream away

Did you tell a story

Honece (Wild)

Ue-home-eskv (Whisky Drinker)

When they come at night,  
I ride away

Hoktet rakkon ohlikes  
(A woman is riding a horse)

# DANCE:

## *A Communication of the Spirit*

At their best, the Arts help communicate the speech of the spirit into a universal language. This language reflects emotions and tells stories without using words. Yvonne Chouteau and Miguel Terekhov were our parents, so in our family that communication of the spirit was through the art of dance.

When they were children, each of our parents had danced at young ages, but they didn't start with ballet. As a two year old, our Mom learned the steps of ceremonial dances from her Shawnee father and then enthusiastically embraced the dances she learned at powwows that he took her to across Oklahoma. At family and social gatherings, our Dad saw and learned some of the dances popular in Uruguay, South America, where he was born.

Later, after years dedicated to learning ballet, both our parents sought to bring beauty into other people's lives through the gifts of their well-trained talents. This quote from our Mom sums up what both she and our Dad believed about performing dance for audiences: "People come to see beauty. To make people happy through dance, you must expose your soul."

As a young Terekhov family, dance played a special, all-encompassing role in our lives that wasn't limited to the classroom or stage. Sometimes, our dance would spring out while we were playing in our backyard, or on vacations, or when visiting our parents' ballet friends who also had children and were living a dancing life like ours.

During the best days of dancing together as a family, our lives would flow with happiness. Before we felt that flow, we also experienced the rigorous work and dedication that people who love dance commit themselves to do almost daily.

For decades, dance filled our lives, as well as those of the many students our parents taught. Its sweetest memories continue to echo in all our hearts today. The spirit expressed in dance will truly continue to inspire many people for all time.

**-Christina Terekhov Conway  
and Elizabeth Terekhov Impallomeni**  
Daughters of Yvonne Chouteau & Miguel Terekhov



Photos provided by Chouteau-Terekhov Archives





L-R: Moscelyne Larkin, Marjorie Tallchief, Maria Tallchief, Rosella Hightower, and Yvonne Chouteau  
Photo by Doug Hoke/Courtesy of The Oklahoman