

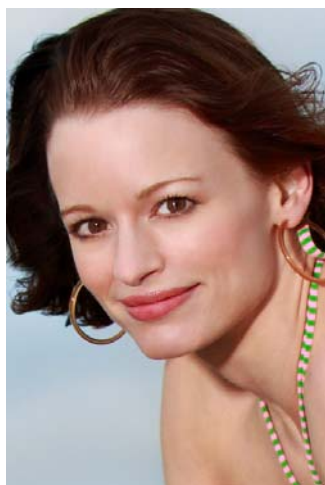
THE COMPANY



BETTIE DE JONG (Rehearsal Director) was born in Sumatra, Indonesia, and in 1946 moved to Holland, where she continued her early training in dance and mime. Her first professional engagement was with the Netherlands Pantomime Company. After coming to New York City to study at the Martha Graham School, she performed with the Graham Company, the Pearl Lang Company, John Butler and Lucas Hoving, and was seen on CBS-TV with Rudolf Nureyev in a duet choreographed by Paul Taylor. Ms. de Jong joined the Taylor Company in 1962. Noted for her strong stage presence and long line, she was Mr. Taylor's favorite dancing partner and, as Rehearsal Director, has been his right arm for the past 32 years.



MICHAEL TRUSNOVEC grew up in Yaphank, New York, and started dancing at age six locally and later attended the Nassau BOCES Cultural Arts Center in Syosset, New York from 1989 to 1992. In 1992, he was honored by the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts and was also named a Presidential Scholar in the Arts. He furthered his dance training at Southern Methodist University in Dallas performing the varied works of Humphrey, Graham, Balanchine, and Taylor. After receiving his B.F.A. in dance in 1996, he joined Taylor 2. He has also danced in works by Hernando Cortez and Patrick Corbin. Mr. Trusnovec received a 2006 Bessie Award for his Body of Work during the 2005-06 season. Fall 1998 marked his debut with the Paul Taylor Dance Company.



ANNMARIA MAZZINI began her dance studies in Allentown, Pennsylvania with Frances Evers, and earned her B.F.A. from the Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University. While working as a model for painters and sculptors, she studied at The Taylor School and in 1995 joined Taylor 2. She has performed in dances of Isadora Duncan, Karla Wolfangle, Juliette Soucie, Patrick Corbin, and Kim Gibilisco, as well as her own work. In addition to teaching on the road and at the Taylor School, she designs jewelry. Ms. Mazzini made her debut with the Paul Taylor Dance Company at the 1999 American Dance Festival in Durham, North Carolina.



ORION DUCKSTEIN is from Mansfield, Connecticut, where he began dancing after graduating from the University of Connecticut with a B.F.A. in acting. He has danced with the Sung-soo Ahn Pick Up Group, Peter Pucci, Robert Wood Dance, Amy Marshall Dance Company and Takehiro Ueyama. In addition to dance and theatre, he enjoys music and often brings his guitar on tour to play in his spare time. Mr. Duckstein joined Taylor 2 in October 1995. He made his debut with the Paul Taylor Dance Company in October 1999.



AMY YOUNG began her dance training at age ten in her hometown of Federal Way, Washington. She spent her senior year of high school studying at the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan prior to entering The Juilliard School in New York, where she earned a B.F.A. in 1996. She joined Taylor 2 in August of that year. Ms. Young enjoys teaching and has been on the faculty of Alaska Dance Theatre in Anchorage, Perry-Mansfield Performing Arts Camp, Metropolitan Ballet of Tacoma and The Taylor School. She also dances with the TAKE Dance Company. Ms. Young made her debut with the Paul Taylor Dance Company at the Paris Opera House in January 2000.



ROBERT KLEINENDORST is originally from Roseville, Minnesota. He graduated from Luther College in 1995 with a B.A. in voice and dance. After moving to New York, he danced with the Gail Gilbert Dance Ensemble, and Cortez & Co. Mr. Kleinendorst also performed with Anna Sokolow's Players Projects at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Having studied at The Taylor School since 1996, he joined Taylor 2 in August 1998. Mr. Kleinendorst joined the Paul Taylor Dance Company in Fall 2000.



JULIE TICE was born and raised in Petersburg, Illinois, where she began her dance training and grew up dancing with the Springfield Ballet Company. She continued her training at the University of Michigan, where she earned a B.F.A. in dance with honors and performed works by Bill DeYoung, Peter Sparling, Martha Graham and Paul Taylor. She received a 2007 Emerging Artist Award from the University's School of Music, Theater and Dance. In New York, Ms. Tice has performed with various choreographers as well as choreographing and performing her own work. She became a scholarship student at The Taylor School in January 1999 and joined Taylor 2 in the Summer of that year. Fall 2000 marked Ms. Tice's debut with the Paul Taylor Dance Company.



JAMES SAMSON is a native of Jefferson City, Missouri where he began his dance training at age eight. He received a B.F.A. in dance and a minor in business from Southwest Missouri State University, then went on to study as a scholarship student with the David Parsons New Arts Festival, Pilobolus Intensive Workshop, and the Alvin Ailey Summer Intensive where he was selected to perform in Paul Taylor's *Airs* set by Linda Kent. Mr. Samson has danced for Charleston Ballet Theatre, Omaha Theatre Company Ballet, Omega Dance Company, New England Ballet and Connecticut Ballet and the Amy Marshall Dance Company. He joined the Paul Taylor Dance Company in February 2001.



MICHELLE FLEET grew up in the Bronx and began her dance training at age four. She attended Ballet Hispanico of New York during her training at Talent Unlimited High School. There she was a member of The Ballet Hispanico Jr. Company. Ms. Fleet earned her B.F.A. in dance from Purchase College in 1999 and received her M.B.A. in business management in 2006. She has performed in works by Bill T. Jones, Merce Cunningham, Kevin Wynn, and Carlo Menotti. Ms. Fleet joined Taylor 2 in Summer 1999. She made her debut with the Paul Taylor Dance Company in September 2002.



PARISA KHOBDEH, an Iranian-American born and raised in Plano, Texas, trained under Kathy Chamberlain and Gilles Tanguay. Ms. Khobdeh earned her B.F.A. from Southern Methodist University and, while a student at SMU and the American Dance Festival, worked with choreographers Robert Battle, Judith Jamison, and Donald McKayle, among others. She also attended Taylor and Graham Intensives in New York City. Ms. Khobdeh has choreographed dances to benefit human rights organizations, as well as for independent films. In July 2006 she made her New York theatrical debut at the Stella Adler Studios in the lead role of Lanford Wilson's *Burn This*. She premiered with the Paul Taylor Dance Company at the American Dance Festival in Summer 2003.



SEAN PATRICK MAHONEY was born and raised in Bensalem, Pennsylvania. At age 12 he began training with Fred Knecht and by attending Princeton Ballet School on scholarship. He became an apprentice at American Repertory Ballet (ARB) and then became a featured dancer with the company. After graduating high school in 1993, he was chosen as one of the first members of Taylor 2. Mr. Mahoney later danced for David Parsons, Alex Tressor, and Geoffrey Doig-Marx, and was in Radio City's Christmas Spectacular. He returned to ARB under the direction of Graham Lustig and married his dance partner, Peggy Petteway. Mr. Mahoney rejoined Taylor 2 in Summer 2002. His debut with the Paul Taylor Dance Company was in January 2004.



JEFFREY SMITH was born in Rhode Island and began his performing career singing and tap dancing. Upon entering The Boston Conservatory as a musical theater major, he had the opportunity to perform works by Paul Taylor, José Limón, Sean Curran, and Anna Sokolow and later switched majors to graduate with a B.F.A. in dance performance. After graduating in 2001, He became a member of The Martha Graham Ensemble performing featured roles in *Diversion of Angels*, *El Penitente*, and the duet from *A Dancer's World* and Betram Ross's *Nocturne*. During this time he participated in The Taylor School Winter and Summer Intensives and became a member of Taylor 2 in March 2005. Mr. Smith made his debut with the Paul Taylor Dance Company in Cleveland in May 2005.



ERAN BUGGE is from Oviedo, Florida where she began her dance training at the Orlando Ballet School. She went on to study at the Hartt School of the University of Hartford under the direction of Peggy Lyman, graduating Summa Cum Laude with a B.F.A. in ballet pedagogy in 2005. She attended The Taylor School and the 2004 and 2005 Taylor Summer Intensives. Ms. Bugge has performed in works by Amy Marshall, Katie Stevinson-Nollet and Jean Grand-Maitre. She was also a member of Full Force Dance Theatre and the Adam Miller Dance Project. She joined the Paul Taylor Dance Company in Fall 2005.



FRANCISCO GRACIANO, a native of San Antonio, Texas, began dancing and acting at an early age. He received a B.F.A. in dance from Stephens College for Women (male scholarship), and scholarships from the Alvin Ailey School and The Taylor School. He has been a member of TAKE Dance Company, Connecticut Ballet, Ben Munisteri Dance Company, Cortez & Co. Contemporary/Ballet and Pascal Rioult Dance Theater, and has worked with such choreographers as Max Luna III, A.C. Ciulla, and Richard Chen See, among others. He also appeared in the operas *Aida* and *White Raven* directed by Robert Wilson. Mr. Graciano joined Taylor 2 in February 2004 and made his debut with the Paul Taylor Dance Company in Granada, Spain in Summer 2006.



LAURA HALZACK grew up in Suffield, Connecticut and began her dance training at the age of four with Brenda Barna. She furthered her training at The School of the Hartford Ballet and studied at the Conservatory of Dance at Purchase College. Ms. Halzack graduated Summa Cum Laude with a degree in History from the University of New Hampshire in 2003. She then studied at the Hartt School and at The Taylor School's 2004 Summer Intensive. She has performed with the Amy Marshall Dance Company and Syren Modern Dance and has enjoyed teaching in her home state. Ms. Halzack studied at The Taylor School for two years before joining the Paul Taylor Dance Company in Summer 2006.



JAMIE RAE WALKER began her ballet and modern dance training at age eight in Levittown, Pennsylvania and later performed with the Princeton Ballet, now American Repertory Ballet. In 1991 she began training at the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet where she performed principal and soloist roles in many Balanchine ballets. In 1992 she was awarded a scholarship by Violette Verdy at the Northeast Regional Dance Festival in Illinois. Ms. Walker joined Miami City Ballet in 1994 and performed principal and soloist roles in Balanchine and Taylor dances until 2000. In 2001 she received a scholarship to attend The Taylor School and was a part of the original cast of Twyla Tharp's Broadway show, *Movin' Out*. Ms. Walker joined Taylor 2 in Fall 2003, and became a member of the Paul Taylor Dance Company in Summer 2008.



MICHAEL APUZZO grew up in North Haven, Connecticut. He studied economic and theater at Yale University, graduating Magna Cum Laude in 2005. He began his dance training while in college, performing and choreographing in undergraduate organizations. After being dance captain for an original production of *Miss Julie* choreographed by Peter Pucci, Mr. Apuzzo debuted professionally at the Yale Repertory Theater. He has performed in numerous musicals and at equity theaters across the county, and recently finished performing in the national tour of Twyla Tharp's Broadway show, *Movin' Out*. He holds a second-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do. He made his debut with the Paul Taylor Dance Company at New York City Center in Spring 2009.