

TEXTURE

CONTEMPORARY BALLET

TEXTURE IN AUGUST

**South Park
Amphitheater
August 29, 2021
@ 7 PM**



Music Guest

**CAMELIA
ROAD!**

Texture's Season is made possible in part with generous support from the Allegheny Regional Asset District, Arts, Equity, & Education Fund, A.W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, The Fine Foundation, The Heinz Endowments, New Hazlett Theater, Opportunity Fund, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, PNC Charitable Trust, Individual Donors, and Corporate Donors. We would like to thank our media sponsors WESA & WYEP.



NOTE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Alan Obuzor

Welcome to *Texture in August!* We are happy that you are here, and we are excited to share what we have been working on with you.

The past year has been challenging in many ways, but today, we are glad to come together and celebrate music, dance, and life. Today we will be presenting three different dance works, as well as our featured musical guest, the wonderful **Camelia Road!**

The first piece you will see this evening is a new work, *Dalí*, choreographed by Texture dancer Madeline Kendall. This piece, inspired by the artwork of Salvador Dalí, uses music and dance to explore some of the ways that art can make you think and feel.

'til the wheels come off was choreographed in 2019 by Christopher Bandy, and it has been a joy to revisit. This work gives a peek into the beauty and humanity of people's personal imperfections and illogical relationships.

The final piece on the program will be excerpts from *Laurie Blue*, which Kelsey and I choreographed back in 2016. The piece is set to the music of bestselling musical artist Adele. The richness, fullness, and emotion in Adele's voice is all the inspiration Kelsey and I needed to create this piece.

I always love the opportunity to bring back and revisit past works. People are always growing, changing, and evolving, so when dancers go back to dance a past work, it is always amazing to see their growth and the new depth they have inside themselves to bring to a piece. Equally, I love seeing new dancers dance roles that were originated by others in the past. Every person and dancer is beautifully unique, and I love seeing the individualism that new dancers bring to past works.

I hope you enjoy the performance!

Alan Obuzor

PROGRAM

Dalí

Choreography: Madeline Kendall

Music: Johann Sebastian Bach, Dustin O'Halloran, Valgin Sigurosson, Reykjavik, Keaton Henson, Ren Ford

Dancers: Kelsey Bartman, Katharine Hunter, Madeline Kendall, Katie Miller, Alan Obuzor, Sophie Powell

Musical Guest: Camelia Road

'til the wheels come off

Choreography: Christopher Bandy

Music: Tom Waits

Dancers: Kelsey Bartman, Katharine Hunter, Madeline Kendall, Katie Miller, Alan Obuzor, Sophie Powell

>> Intermission <<

Laurie Blue

Choreography: Kelsey Bartman & Alan Obuzor

Music: Adele

Dancers: Katharine Hunter, Madeline Kendall, Katie Miller, Alan Obuzor, Sophie Powell

PRODUCTION AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Bob Steineck Stage Manager; **Marcia Harder** Graphic Designer; **Marjorie Liese** Operations/Finance/Box Office Manager; **Alexandra Tiso** Artistic Administrator; **Katie Miller** Manager of Outreach & Community Involvement

TEXTURE

CONTEMPORARY BALLET

Photo: Mark Simpson Photography Design: Marcia Harder Artist: Erin Patterson



New Hazlett
Theater ♿

November
29-31

IN THE LIGHT

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES



Alan Obuzor - Founder, Artistic Director, Choreographer & Dancer

Alan Obuzor was honored in 2013 by Dance Magazine by being named one of the "Top 25 to Watch". Originally from Pittsburgh, Alan began dancing at the age of nine. Two years later he attended Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School (PBTs), where in 1998 he was a recipient of the prestigious Princess Grace Foundation Dance Honorarium. Alan received a contract to join Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre's (PBT's) professional company at the age of 17. During his seven years in PBT's Company, he danced a wide array of ballets ranging from classical to neoclassical to contemporary, which included principal and soloist roles in ballets such as *The Nutcracker*, *Swan Lake*, *Symphony in C*, *Carmina Burana* and *Divertimento 15*. In that time he also worked with many world renowned figures in dance, and was selected to originate soloist roles in new works by choreographers Dwight Rhoden, Derek Dean, Matjash Mrozewski and Jiabin Pan. Alan began teaching in 2002; from 2007-2012, Alan was on the faculty of PBTS as one of the primary Pre-Professional Division teachers and choreographers. In the fall of 2012, Alan joined the teaching faculty of Pittsburgh Youth Ballet. Alan choreographed his first work in 2002 on himself and a fellow dancer. Since that time he has choreographed over 95 new works for Texture Contemporary Ballet, PBT, PBTS, Pittsburgh Youth Ballet Company, New Ballet Ensemble, Harvard Ballet Company, Point Park University, Dancers' Trust, Canton Ballet, Pittsburgh High School for the Creative and Performing Arts and various independent projects. In 2011, Alan won first place in the Pittsburgh Chapter of the National Society of Arts and Letters Dance/Choreography competition. He is also the founder and Artistic Director of Texture Contemporary Ballet since 2011.



Kelsey Bartman - Associate Artistic Director, Choreographer & Dancer

Kelsey Bartman is a local Pittsburgher who trained at Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School (PBTs) and CAPA High School, along with various summers at American Ballet Theater in NYC, Jacobs Pillow Jazz Program, and PBTS Summer Programs. She has performed with Texture Contemporary Ballet for 10 years, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Nashville Ballet, Nashville Ballet 2, and Nashville in Motion, in a wide variety of classical and contemporary ballets, including several Balanchine ballets, *The Four Temperaments*, *Valse Fantasie*, *Theme and Variations*, *Allegro Brillante*, and *Divertimento #15*. Kelsey began choreographing while at CAPA High School, and has choreographed an incredible 79 ballets, 49 for Texture Contemporary Ballet, 10 for WIP Choreography Project, and another 20 ballets for companies including PBT, PBTS, Nashville Ballet, Columbus Modern Dance, Resonance Works, Arova Contemporary Ballet, and Laurel Youth Ballet. Kelsey began teaching in 2010 and has taught a variety of classes including beginning, intermediate, advanced ballet, pointe, contemporary, modern, lyrical, theatre jazz and choreography for a variety of schools, including Nashville Ballet, Millennium Dance Complex, Xtreme Tumbling & Dance Center, Berks Ballet Theater, Laurel Youth Ballet, and Dance Alloy.



Camelia Road - Acoustic Folk Duo

Addi Twigg and Lauren Zurchin have been making music together since the late 90's. Named after the street that connects their two homes, Camelia Road emerged onto the Pittsburgh arts scene in 2011. The duo delivers sincere lyrics, hearty melodies, and rich harmonies in every performance.

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THE NUTCRACKER

Artistic Director: Alan Obuzor

December 3, 2021

7 pm

August Wilson
African American
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Pittsburgh, Pa. ♿



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ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES



Bob Steineck - Stage Manager

Bob Steineck is currently resident lighting designer for Texture Contemporary Ballet, Pgh Playwright's Theatre, Mercyhurst Univ. Dance Dept., Rennie Harris' PureMovement and RHAW, Pgh. Festival Opera and Raphael Xavier Company. Mr. Steineck has toured throughout the US and abroad with both Rennie Harris Companies PureMovement & RHAW, Reed Dance, Squonk Opera, the Lyon Opera Ballet, Sankai Juku, Phoenix Dance Company, Kirov Ballet Academy and the "America Tour" for Stars on Ice. Television/Video/DVD credits include A Gathering of Sons for PFO, the Dizzy Gillespie Allstar Big Band for A&E Cable, the Spyro Gyra concert for PBS, Lindy & Loon for Maria Del Rey, and Johnny a Trio by Warner Bros. Publications. He has designed for several corporate events. His most recent lighting designs include: three world premieres: Point of Interest for Raphael Xavier at ICA in Boston and Lifted for Rennie Harris PureMovement at Dance Place in D. C., and A Gathering of Sons commissioned by Pittsburgh Festival Opera, Pittsburgh, PA. Other designs include Concerto Barocco for Mercyhurst Dance Dept.; JH:Mechanics of A Legend for Hiawatha Project; Xerxes and Sweeny Todd for Pittsburgh Festival Opera.



Katharine Hunter - Dancer

Katharine Hunter, from Pittsburgh, PA, began her training with Pittsburgh Youth Ballet. She is furthering her ballet career with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre's graduate program. Katharine has attended summer programs with Chautauqua Institute, School of American Ballet for three summers, Ballet Met, and Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre. She has performed with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre's company productions of *Giselle*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and Terrence S. Orr's *The Nutcracker*. She has also worked with Jamie Murphy and performed a versatile piece called "Wind". Her repertoire also consists of George Balanchine's *Who Care's*, *Serenade*, *Valse Fantasy*, *Stars and Stripes*, and *Walpurgisnacht* as well as original pieces by Alan Obuzor. She is very excited to be working with Texture Contemporary Ballet.



Madeline Kendall - Dancer

Madeline Kendall was trained in classical ballet under the direction of Stuart Carroll and Sharron Newton of Capitol Ballet Company in Sacramento, CA. In 2014, Madeline moved to Salt Lake City, UT to dance with Ballet West where she performed in a number of productions, including *Swan Lake*, George Balanchine's *Symphony in C*, and John Cranko's *Romeo and Juliet*. While dancing with Ballet West she was a part of the statewide educational outreach program, Ballet West for Children, performed as a guest artist in a production of *The Nutcracker* in Fairbanks, AK, and participated in a Cultural Dance Exchange Program with the Staatliche Ballettschule Berlin in Germany. Madeline has danced with Texture Contemporary Ballet since 2016, as a resident artist, and she has performed with the company at the White Wave DUMBO Dance Festival in Brooklyn, NY. She has also enjoyed the opportunity to collaborate with other local artists in Texture's main stage performances and elsewhere in the community. More recently, Madeline has appeared as a guest artist with The Sacramento Ballet in their production of *Giselle*.



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ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES



Katie Miller - Manager of Outreach & Community Involvement & Dancer

Katie Miller is originally from Metamora, MI and began taking dance classes at the age of three. She studied for many years at the Paavola School of Dance, spending summers at Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School's (PBTS's) Intensive Summer Programs. She continued her studies at PBTS's Graduate Program for two years, Complexions Contemporary Ballet Summer Intensive, and also received private instruction from Giuseppe Canale of Northeast Academy of Dance. She has performed with Texture Contemporary Ballet for nine years, The Sacramento Ballet for six years, PBT, PBTS, and had the opportunity to perform in The Suzanne Farrell Ballet *Forever, Balanchine: Farewell Performances* at The Kennedy Center. The performances have ranged from classical, to contemporary, to tap, to neoclassical ballets exemplified by George Balanchine: *Serenade, Chaconne, Concerto Barocco, The Four Temperaments, Who Cares?, Stars and Stripes, Rubies, Western Symphony, and Allegro Brillante*. Katie has been teaching from 2003 to the present, at Paavola School of Dance, The School of the Sacramento School, and Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School, in their Pre-Professional Division, Summer Intensive, and Community Division. She has danced with Texture for nine years and has recently started choreographing for Texture Contemporary Ballet's WIP Choreography Project. For several years, Katie has been doing wide ranging administrative tasks for Texture as an Administrative Assistant and Manager of Outreach & Community Involvement.



Sophie Powell - Dancer

Sophie Powell was born in Kirkland, WA. In her years growing up, Sophie trained with Deborah Hadley, where she started her pursuit of a dance career. She also trained at the Houston Ballet Academy in their Professional Division from 2015-2018. From there she moved to Pittsburgh to train at Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre. She joined their Graduate Program and performed with the company in their productions of *The Nutcracker, Giselle, and Beauty and the Beast*. Sophie is excited to begin this new part of her life dancing with Texture Contemporary Ballet.

MISSION STATEMENT

To inspire an appreciation of dance through dynamic and captivating performances, creative choreography, shared passion, and exceptional dance training.

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