

- *Richter Academy of Classical Dance* -

# Spring Showcase



Anaheim Center for the Performing Arts at Servite  
June 19th, 2021

# **Richter Academy of Classical Dance**

Richter Academy of Classical Dance offers unparalleled training in the art of classical dance. We strive to develop not only a strong technical foundation in each of our students, but take great care to nurture and develop each student's own individual creativity, imagination, character, and integrity in order to produce true artists, with a rich inner world, capable of expressing themselves through performing arts.

***From the Director***

**Lauren Richter Henry**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the creation and success of our Spring Showcase. Special thanks to our teachers, costume designers, program designers, backstage volunteers, and every other volunteer who has so graciously given of their time and talents. Thank you to all the beautiful dancers of Richter Academy for your hard work and dedication throughout this challenging year. I am especially grateful to my family and my dedicated husband, Curtis. Each of you has played an essential role in bringing this joyful celebration of dance to fruition!

# Bios



## **Lauren Richter Henry** ***Director***

Lauren Richter Henry began her ballet training in 1996 in Orange County. In 2006, she moved to New York City to continue her training at AB T's Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School, and worked privately with Prima Ballerina Assouluta Eva Evdokimova. During this time, Lauren was awarded a scholarship through Youth American Grand Prix to continue her studies in Monte-Carlo at the Princess Grace Academy of Classical Dance under the direction of Marika Besobrasova. After spending two years there, Lauren received her first professional contract with the Prague State Opera Ballet in the Czech Republic and then went on to dance with the Bucharest National Ballet in Romania.

Lauren has competed in several competitions both nationally and internationally including LA Music Center's Spotlight Awards, Orange County Performing Arts Center's Stars of Tomorrow, Youth American Grand Prix, and Prague International Ballet Competition. During her professional career, Lauren's repertoire included roles in such classics as Giselle, La Bayadere, Le Corsair, Don Quixote, Sleeping Beauty, The Nutcracker, Swan Lake, and George Balanchine's Serenade.

Lauren is certified in levels 1-8 through the Bolshoi Ballet Academy Teacher Training Program. She is also a member of the international Dance Council CID at UNESCO, the official world-wide organization for dance. In addition to ballet, Lauren is a certified Pilab3s instructor with a dance specialization through BASI Pilates. Lauren has taught in several schools throughout Orange County as well as in some of the orphanages in Romania. Dance is truly her passion, and she loves to be able to share that passion with others.



## **Janell Burgess**

*New Owner*

Janell Burgess' passion for the arts began at a very young age with her committed studies in the Ballet Pacifica School, DeFore Foundation of the Arts, and Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance. She is the recipient of the Tremaine Scholarship, Giordano Merit Scholarship, and American Legion Award for her advocacy and commitment to art education in the Southern California school districts. She has been a professional choreographer and performing artist for over 20 years, teaching, choreographing, and performing worldwide. Janell has worked with top artists and companies including the KC & The Sunshine Band, The Jackson Family, Paul Oakenfold, Gene Simmons, Holly Madison, Universal Studios, Ceasars Entertainment, Disneyland, Fercos Brothers Circus, Brockus Project Dance, LA Contemporary Dance Company, Louise Reichlin & Dancers, and served as resident choreographer for Sands Hotel in Macau, China. Her Film & Television Credits include The Travel Channel, "The View," PBS, and West Africa's longest-running dance reality television show, "Maltina Dance All," which focused on bringing families together thru dance. As an educator, Janell's teaching career, spanning over the last 25 years. As a certified Zena Rommett Floor Barre Instructor, Certified Yoga Instructor, Certified FoodnSport Fitness Instructor, & Holistic Healthcare Practitioner, Janell brings a strong focus to body alignment, physical health, and mental wellness to the classes she teaches and dancers she educates. Her choreography has been featured on the Disney Channel, Atlantic City Hotels, Southern California Dance Invitational, LA Dance Invitational, Orange County Dance Festival, Newport Beach Film Festival, and most recently choreographed and produced the short dance film "Chameleon" which premiered live at Global Pushfest San Francisco in 2020. Ms. Burgess currently serves on the board of Jazz Spectrum Dance Company and holds the position of Artistic Director. Her mission is to help develop artists and projects that will inspire healing, bridge cultures, create unity, and ignite a passion for life!

# Bios



## Congratulations



## Rachel Soltesz

*RACD Alumni & Teacher*

Rachel Soltesz started dancing at the young age of two years old and fell in love with ballet and contemporary. Throughout her training, Rachel attended summer intensive programs at the Bolshoi Ballet Academy, Marat Daukayev Ballet School, Alonzo King Lines Ballet, and Ellison Ballet in New York City, as well as the Wiener Staatsoper in Vienna, Dresden Ballet School, and the International Ballet Masterclasses of Prague where she trained with some of the world's most renowned ballet instructors. She was offered to attend the year round professional school program at the Taneční Konservatoř Hlavního Města Prahy (Prague State Ballet School) but chose to finish her training at Richter Academy of Classical Dance under the direction of Lauren Richter Henry. In September of 2018, Rachel went to Posadas, Argentina to train with the company, Ballet Centro Del Conocimiento, and work alongside Mrs. Lauren to set Richter Academy's full length rendition of the Nutcracker. Once graduating high school, Rachel continued teaching many styles of dance including ballet, contemporary, jazz, character, and improvisation. She has choreographed contemporary solos for herself and other students to perform at numerous dance competitions over the past five years. In 2017, one of her choreographed solos was performed in the New York City Finals for the Youth American Grand Prix competition. Since then, many of her choreographed contemporary solos have received recognition in the top twelve at YAGP, California Dance Classics, Intrigue Competition, Rainbow Competition, and KAR Competition. In the fall of 2021, Rachel will be attending University of California, Los Angeles as a junior. Though she will miss her Richter Academy family, she plans on continuing to stay involved and teach whenever possible. Rachel would like to thank Lauren Richter Henry for being an amazing mentor and allowing her to share knowledge with the next generation of young dancers.



## **Martin St Pierre**

*Lucien d'Hervilly*

Martin St. Pierre started his dance training in 2007, tap dancing with Ben Spiegel. In 2011, he joined Elevation Dance Studio for their first season in Steamboat Springs, Colorado where he grew up. He attended two summer intensives for Joffrey Ballet school in 2015 in New York City and in 2017 in Dallas, Texas. In 2018, Martin continued his training with Colorado Ballet Academy in their Pre-Professional program for two years. With Colorado Ballet Academy he was able to perform with the company in many performances including Sleeping Beauty, The Nutcracker, and The Wizard of Oz.

Martin has since been training with State Street Ballet starting in 2020.

# Bios



**LilaRose Yelin**  
***Paquita***

LilaRose Yelin has been dancing classical ballet for the past 11 years. She has been accepted into prestigious programs around the United States including Nashville Ballet's Professional Training Program and Texas Ballet Theater's Studio Training Company.

She is grateful to Ms. Lauren, RACD and her family for all of their support to continue dancing and performing through these trying times!

# **Act I - Excerpts from Paquita**

*Choreography after Marius Petipa*

*Staged by Lauren Richter Henry, Stephanie Mehuys,  
Rachel Soltez, Chloe Koutroulis*

*Costume Design by Katty Scott*

Paquita - LilaRose Yelin

Lucien d'Hervilly - Martin St Pierre

Adv Character – Sydney Moran, LilaRose Yelin, Mikayla Fleming,  
Allyssa Sit, Natalie Truong, Isabelle Speakman

Int Character – Jayden Medeiros, Jordyn Medeiros, Natalie Kulba,  
McCartney Minter, Claire Kingston, Ella Garcia, Katarina Carney,  
Sophia Scott, Sophia Howard, Addy Gossett, Dillon Barron,  
Amelia Moag

Variation - Vinnie Winderman

Variation - Natalie Truong

Adv Intro – Zoe Lyn Nafarette, Natalie Truong, Allyssa Sit,  
Sydney Moran, Stella Stulik, Melia Pauper, Jayden Medeiros,  
Isabelle Speakman

Grand Adagio

Int – Gabriela Miranda, Jordyn Medeiros, Natalie Kulba,  
McCartney Minter, Claire Kingston, Ella Garcia, Katarina Carney,  
Sophia Scott, Sophia Howard, Addy Gossett, Dillon Barron,  
Amelia Moag, Macy Pence, Jenny Foley, Brighton Sajdowitz,  
James Scott

Variation - LilaRose Yelin



Primary – Gabriella Graham, Dahlia Gossett, Drew Wiltshire, Clara Fitzgerald , Vivianna Vescovi

Junior – Peyton Barron, Noelle Baghjajian, Cora Almeida, Kolby Keller, Ashlan David, Brooklyn Parker

Variation - Martin St Pierre

Beg B Dance – Sofia Schreiner, Sofia Benitez, Olivia Neves, Addie Moag

Variation - Isabelle Speakman

Beg C – Noella Watrous, Maddie Steele, Elliot Parks, Samantha Vargas, Claire Fleming, Abigail Heslop

Coda

## Synopsis

The story takes place in Spain during the presence of Napoleon's army. The heroine is the young gypsy girl, Paquita. Unbeknownst to Paquita, she is really of noble birth, having been abducted by gypsies when she was an infant. She saves the life of a young French officer, Lucien d'Hervilly, who is the target of a Spanish governor who desires to have him killed by Iñigo, a gypsy chief. By way of a medallion she discovers that she is of noble birth, being in fact the cousin of Lucien. As such, she and the Officer are able to get married.

# Act II - Commercial

"Pace of Life" – Adv/PrePro

Choreography by Rachel Soltesz

Melia Pauper, Claire Kim, Natalie Truong, Isabelle Speakman, LilaRose Yelin, Sydney Moran, Jessie Levasheff, Mikayla Fleming, Allyssa Sit

"Duality" – Int/Teen

Choreography by Natalie Jameson

Jayden Medeiros, Jordyn Medeiros, McCartney Minter, Katarina Carney, Sophia Scott, Sophia Howard, Addy Gossett, Amelia Moag, Macy Pence, Brighton Sajdowitz, Ella Garcia, Claire Kingston, Jenny Foley, Dillon Barron

"Thinking Out Loud" – Beg B/C

Choreography by Shawn Vitale

Noella Watrous, Maddie Steele, Elliot Parks, Samantha Vargas, Claire Fleming, Abigail Heslop, Addie Moag, Olivia Neves, Sofia Schreiner, Sofia Benitez

"Tranquil" – RACD Alumni

Choreography and Dancing by Rachel Soltesz

"Never Enough" – Junior

Choreography by Natalie Jameson

Kolby Keller, Peyton Barron, Noelle Baghjajian, Cora Almeida, Brooklyn Parker, Ashlan David, Jordyn Medeiros

"Straight Up" – Teen

Choreography by Shawn Vitale

Dillon Barron, Jayden Medeiros, McCartney Minter, Jenny Foley, Addy Gossett, Claire Kingston

"Ain't Nothing But a Party" – Adv/PrePro

Choreography by Shawn Vitale

Isabelle Speakman, Lilarose Yelin, Sydney Moran, Mikayla Fleming, Allyssa Sit, Natalie Truong, Jessie Levasheff, Brighton Sajdowitz

"Double Agents" - Junior

Choreography by Rachel Soltesz

Kolby Keller, Peyton Barron, Noelle Baghjajian, Cora Almeida, Brooklyn Parker, Ashlan David

"Maps" – Teen

Choreography by Natalie Jameson

Dillon Barron, Jayden Medeiros, McCartney Minter, Jenny Foley, Addy Gossett, Claire Kingston, Katarina Carney

"Troll Hop" – Beg B/C

Choreography by Shawn Vitale

Noella Watrous, Maddie Steele, Elliot Parks, Samantha Vargas, Claire Fleming, Abigail Heslop, Addie Moag, Olivia Neves, Sofia Schreiner, Sofia Benitez

"Wonka World" – Junior, Teen, Int

Choreography by Shawn Vitale

Jayden Medeiros, Jordyn Medeiros, McCartney Minter, Claire Kingston, Ella Garcia, Katarina Carney, Sophia Scott, Sophia Howard, Addy Gossett, Dillon Barron, Amelia Moag, Macy Pence, Jenny Foley, Noelle Baghjajian, Peyton Barron, Kolby Keller, Cora Almeida, Ashlan David, Brooklyn Parker

Alpha – RACD Alumni and PrePro Student

Choreography by LJ Tashiro Nafarette

Vinnie Winderman, Isabelle Speakman

"Opus No. 1" – Junior, Teen, Int

Choreography by Janell Burgess

Jayden Medeiros, Jordyn Medeiros, McCartney Minter, Cora Almeida, Katarina Carney, Sophia Scott, Sophia Howard, Addy Gossett, Amelia Moag, Macy Pence, James Scott, Brighton Sajdowitz

"Witness" – Jazz Spectrum Dance Company

Choreography by Christine Baltes and Janell Burgess

Janell Burgess, Jeni Jones, Stephanie Maxim, Lauren Richter Henry, Estelle Verdugo

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# Luke Speakman

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- Portraits
- Dance
- Headshots
- Pets

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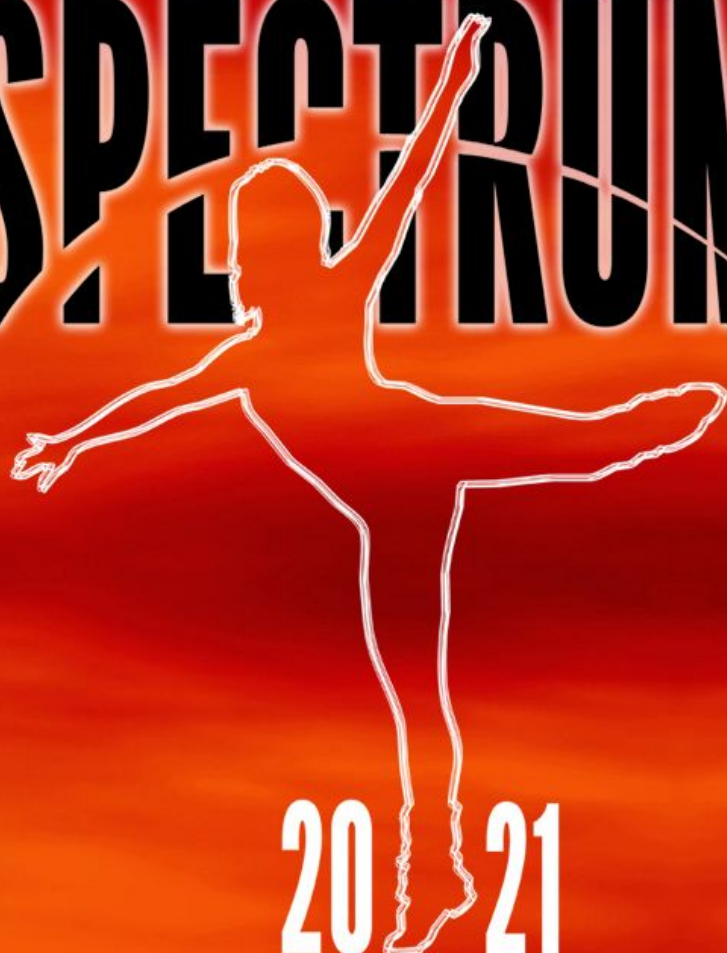
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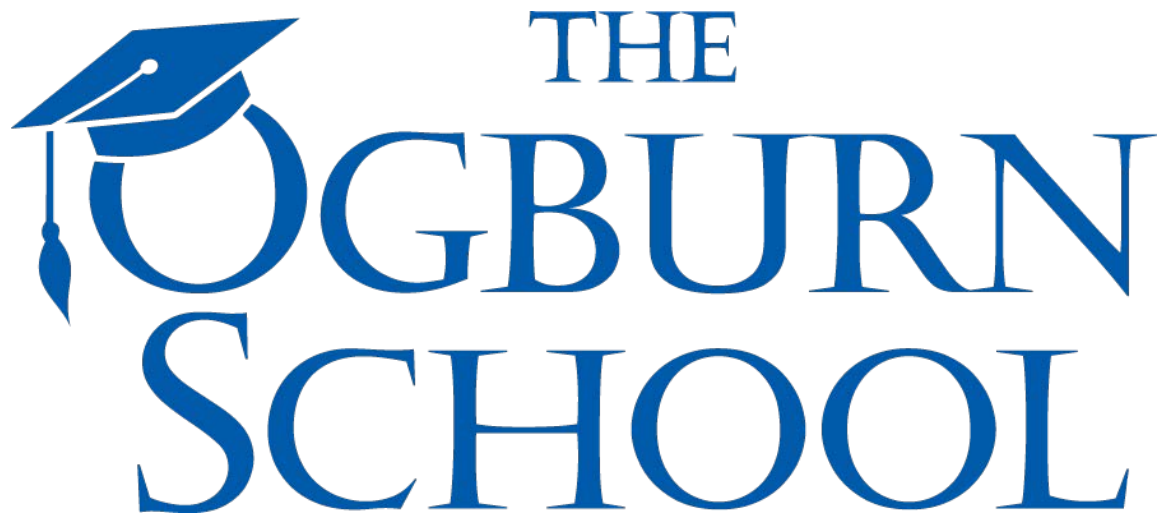


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