

NW
DANCE
PROJECT

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
SARAH SLIPPER

SPRING MAR 27 + 28
SONGS

NEWMARK THEATRE



2 WORLD
PREMIERES
SARAH SLIPPER
ETHAN COLANGELO

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Your generosity is how we shall survive these challenging times.

Every donation directly supports our artists and our mission of creating and premiering dynamic new dance works from a diverse roster of gifted choreographers working with complete artistic freedom; of bringing dance to disadvantaged and marginalized youth in our community; and empowering the mentorship of the next generations of dancers through our varied and accessible training programs and projects.

Please make your gift of a tax-deductible donation using the link below, or mail your check. Each and every gift makes an impact on our artists, programs, and community. More than ever, every dollar counts, and every dollar is appreciated.



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HONORING NATIVE PEOPLES + LANDS

NW Dance Project offers this land acknowledgment with gratitude, appreciation, and respect to those who lived upon and stewarded this precious land before colonization.

The Portland metropolitan area, originally known as the Wapato Valley, rests on the unceded land and village sites of numerous indigenous tribes including Multnomah, Wasco, Cowlitz, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Chinook, Tualatin, Kalapuya, Molalla, and many other peoples who lived and made their homes along the Columbia and Willamette Rivers.

We recognize that this land was unjustly taken from these tribes and we take this opportunity to thank the original caretakers of this land.

We wish to recognize and honor the present-day federally recognized tribes of this area: Grande Ronde, Siletz, and Cowlitz; as well as Chinook Nation, whose federal recognition is long overdue.

Our debt to these honored peoples as well as their descendants is abundant, present, and everlasting.

NW DANCE PROJECT

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
SARAH SLIPPER

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SPRING SONGS

MAR 27 + 28 / 2026

Newmark Theatre

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Kalli Loudan

Tulia Marshall

Anthony Milian

Olivia Paris Sarvello

Mateo Vidals

Audrey Wells

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PLEASE NOTE: Food, cameras, and recording devices are not permitted in the theatre.
Smoking is not permitted in the theatre or in the building.



SARAH SLIPPER

artistic director

Sarah Slipper was born and raised in Vancouver, British Columbia, and received her professional training at the Royal Ballet School in London, England, and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School. She made her professional debut with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and became one of the company's leading dramatic ballerinas. Sarah worked closely with many internationally renowned directors, choreographers and teachers, including Arnold Spohr, Rudi van Dantzig, Hans van Manen, Jirí Kylián, Agnes de

Mille, Galina Yordanova, and Alla Savchenko. Sarah was noted for her classical line and dramatic abilities, dancing the principal roles in classical ballets such as *Swan Lake*, *Les Sylphides*, *Giselle*, and *The Nutcracker*. In addition to the classical repertoire, she received worldwide acclaim for her performances of contemporary ballets, most notably Nobert Vesak's *The Ecstasy of Rita Joe* and the award-winning *Belong pas de deux*.

Following her career with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Sarah continued her passion for music and drama, studying theatre at the honours level at the University of Winnipeg, and in Oxford, England. Sarah has served as Rehearsal Director with both Alberta Ballet and Oregon Ballet Theatre. Sarah's command of classical and contemporary styles is demonstrated in her active role of teaching and coaching younger dancers. In addition to mentoring and coaching the next generation of dancers at NW Dance Project, Sarah has been a guest master teacher with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Washington Ballet, Ballet Austin, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, The Jefferson Dancers, and the Dance Departments of the University of Utah, Cornish College of the Arts, the University of Iowa, Cal State Long Beach, and SUNY Purchase.

As an award-winning independent choreographer, Sarah has worked with prominent dance companies including NW Dance Project, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Oregon Ballet Theatre, Nashville Ballet, Washington Ballet, Ballet Jorgen, Louisville Ballet, BalletNY, Alberta Ballet, Ballet Pacifica, Cornish Dance Theater, and The Jefferson Dancers. She was awarded the Grand Prize for Choreography at the International Choreographic Competition Saint Sauveur 2000 for her ballet *Shattered Night*, created on the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. During her choreographic residency at Festival des Arts in Quebec, Canada, her ballet *A River In A Dry Land*, was described by the Montreal Gazette as "one of the finest choreographies produced in residency." Sarah's works have been described as, "visually arresting, emotionally raw, and relentlessly dynamic... pulsing with cinematic drama, transforming gesture into dialogue and movement into memory;" (Forbes.com) and "... a complete, enclosed world, a somber yet hopeful winter landscape across which the three couples thread in a long, smoothly unfolding skein of dance." (The New York Times)

A Fine Balance, her pas de deux created during the first year of NW Dance Project, was a finalist for the prestigious Benois de la Danse award in 2006 and was performed at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow as part of the award's gala celebration.

As Founding Artistic Director of NW Dance Project Sarah has created over 50 ballets to date, and is currently working on several new creations while serving as artistic director of NW Dance Project.

ETHAN COLANGELO

choreographer

Ethan Colangelo (he/him) was born and raised in Toronto where he began his initial training at Canada's National Ballet School and Elite Danceworx. He is now an alumni of The Juilliard School where he received the Hector Zaraspe Prize for Choreographic Promise. Most recently, he has created new works for Ballet BC, BODYTRAFFIC, Orsolina28, Whim W'Him Contemporary Dance, Ballet Edmonton and the National Ballet of Canada. Ethan was also one of nine choreographers selected worldwide for the Copenhagen International Choreography Competition in 2018 and 2021. At the competition in 2021, his piece recurrence won the Audience Choice Award along with the DAF Production Prize. Colangelo has also taught and made new creations for educational institutions such as The Juilliard School, The Ailey School, Arts Umbrella Dance Company, Springboard Danse Montréal, DAF in Rome and MOVE NYC . Furthermore he has presented work at Orsolina28, The Baryshnikov Arts Center, Festival des Arts de Saint-Sauveur, The Queen Elizabeth Theatre, APAP, Alice Tully Hall in Lincoln Center, The Museum of Contemporary Art, The Four Seasons Center for Performing Arts and the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Ethan is now the new Choreographic associate for The National Ballet of Canada as of July 2023.



company



GABRIEL CANEPA

Born in Houston, Texas, Gabriel Canepa trained at Kinder High School for the Performing and Visual Arts and the Juilliard School where he performed works by Tiler Peck, Ohad Naharin, Rena Butler, and Jawole Willa Jo Zollar. As part of Peridance Contemporary Dance Company's 40th Anniversary Season, Gabriel danced in works by Igal Perry, Robert Battle, Ohad Naharin, Johannes Wieland, and Jessica Lang. With Visceral Dance Chicago, Gabe performed Gustavo Ramírez Sansano's *18+1*, and *CARMEN.maquia*. Gabriel joined NW Dance Project in 2024 where he has performed works by Ihsan Rustem, Sarah Slipper, Gustavo Ramírez Sansano, and Caroline Finn.



KALLI LOUDAN

Originally from Houston, Texas, Kalli Loudan attended Boston Conservatory at Berklee where she worked with Junichi Fukuda and Darrell Grand Moultrie. Kalli finished her BFA in dance at Sam Houston State University where she performed works by Andy and Dionne Noble, Donald Shorter, Gabrielle Lamb, and Joshua Manculich. After graduating, Kalli danced with NobleMotion Dance (2019-2021), then went on to join DanceWorks Chicago where learned repertoire by Mark Caserta, Robert Battle, Drew Lewis, Hannah Britson, Charissa-Lee Barton, Demis Volpi, and Rubén Graciani. In 2023, Kalli performed in works by Noelle Kayser, Ching Ching Wong, Boykin Dance Project, Niko8, and Hedwig Dances. Kalli is excited for her first season with NW Dance Project!



TULIA MARSHALL

Tulia Marshall, born in Vietnam, grew up in New York City, completed the Hubbard Street Professional Program, and graduated with a BFA in Dance and a BA in Arts Management from SUNY Purchase College, receiving the Conservatory's Presidential Scholar Award. Tulia presented original work for Soundscape Møen Sommerkoncert in Denmark, Daniel Ulbricht's Stars of American Ballet, The New York Chinese Cultural Center, Doug Varone's Devices 8 Cohort, Dance Studio Alliance, and Battery Dance Festival. She has performed at The Dock 11 Berlin, The Joyce Theater, Park Avenue Armory, and with Peter Chu and Athomas Project performing original works by Bryan Arias, Johannes Wieland, and James Vu Anh Pham. Tulia joined NW Dance Project this season.



ANTHONY MILIAN

Anthony Milian, from Ann Arbor, Michigan, holds a BFA in Dance from The Ohio State University and a Master's Degree in Movement Science, specializing in Biomechanics and Reproductive Physiology, from the University of Michigan. Anthony completed the Hubbard Street Professional Program and then apprenticed for Hubbard Street's main company, performing repertory by Rena Butler, Alejandro Cerrudo, Ohad Naharin, and Crystal Pite. Anthony appeared at the Venice Biennale Festival performing works by Merce Cunningham, Edit Domszalai, and Saburo Teshigawara. Anthony joined NW Dance Project in 2022, where he has performed in works by Sarah Slipper, Luca Veggetti, Ihsan Rustem, Yin Yue, Caroline Finn, Bryan Arias, Serge Bennathan, Nicole Von Arx, and Gustavo Ramírez Sansano.



PARIS SARVELLO

Originally from Detroit, Michigan, Olivia Paris Sarvello graduated from Indiana University Bloomington with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance. Paris apprenticed with Eisenhower Dance Detroit from 2023 to 2025, where she performed in works by Maxine Doyle, Yoshito Sakuraba, Tess Voelker, Tamisha A. Guy, Norbert De La Cruz III, Joshua Peugh, and James Gregg. Paris taught ballet, contemporary, and Pilates to pre-professional dancers throughout her time in Detroit and she received the Emerging Choreographer Award from Regional Dance America in 2025. Paris is excited to join NW Dance Project this season!



MATEO VIDALS

Mateo Vidals grew up in Brooklyn, New York, and began dancing at Shannon Hummel's Cora Dance. He graduated from Hamilton High School as a dance major and received further training at Paul Taylor American Modern Dance and The Joffrey Ballet Academy. Mateo graduated from SUNY Purchase in 2024 with a BFA in dance performance and composition. Mateo has worked with notable choreographers Andrea Miller, Norbert De La Cruz III, Doug Varone, Gregory Dolbashian, Greg Lau, Earl Mosley, Darrell Moultrie, Jie-hung Connie, Jesse Obremski, and Antonio Brown. Mateo joined NW Dance Project in 2024 where he has performed works by Ihsan Rustem, Sarah Slipper, Gustavo Ramírez Sansano, and Caroline Finn.



AUDREY WELLS

Audrey Wells, originally from Portland, is thrilled to be joining NW Dance Project this season! She earned a BFA in Dance from Marymount Manhattan College. Audrey then began dancing with SALT Contemporary Dance, where she performed works by Micaela Taylor, Ihsan Rustem, Olivier Wevers, Garrett Smith, and Joni McDonald. Following SALT, Audrey performed with Yin Yue Dance Company in Italy, performed Micaela Taylor's evening-length work, *Blue Nav*, in Dallas Texas, danced in several works by Lauren Edson with LED. Most recently Audrey danced as a company artist with Open Space Dance, where she performed works by Franco Nieto, Noelle Kayser, Ching Ching Wong, Keelan Whitmore, and Outrun the Bear.



THANK YOU!

NW Dance Project thanks the following individuals, foundations, corporations, and government agencies for their generous support. This listing reflects gifts received from March 16, 2025 through March 15, 2026. If you have a correction or concern concerning this listing, or want to become included on the list, please contact us at 503.421.7434 or info@nwdanceproject.org.

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Company (company pages)
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