

A black and white photograph of an ice skating performance. Three skaters are visible. In the center, a skater in a long, flowing dress is being lifted or supported by two other skaters. The skater on the left is in a dynamic pose, leaning back with one arm extended. The skater on the right is supporting the central skater. The background is dark, and the ice surface is visible at the bottom.

*Ice
Theatre
of
New York*

2003 Home Season

NOVEMBER 5, 6, 7 and 8, 2003

Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers | Pier 61 | 23rd Street & the Hudson River



ABOUT ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK

Ice Theatre of New York is dedicated to the development of ice dancing as an art through its performances and educational programs. The Company creates an environment in which professional skaters from various backgrounds can collaborate with choreographers, musicians, writers and visual artists in the crafting and performance of new works. Ice Theatre is the nation's first not-for-profit ice dancing ensemble to be awarded grants as a dance company by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts and the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs.

Founded by Moira North in 1984, the Company has established a repertory of more than 60 works, including pieces both by ice choreographers and by major modern dance choreographers such as Lar Lubovich, JoAnna Mendl Shaw, Jacquelyn Buglisi, Ann Carlson, Laura Dean, Alberto Del Saz, Donlin Foreman, David Dorfman, Elisa Monte and JoAnna Mendl Shaw. The repertoire ranges from twelve-skater ensembles to solos, duets and trios, accompanied by music from classical to contemporary. Among renowned guest artists who have performed with Ice Theatre are Olympic and World medalists John Curry, Toller Cranston, Paul Wylie and Yuka Sato, and star performers Gary Beacom and Katherine Healy.

Distinctive projects in which Ice Theatre has participated include Montreal Fashions on Ice, an annual show at Rockefeller Center featuring unique Montreal styles, and Winter Solstice on Ice, a TV production shot in Finland and aired by the Arts and Entertainment Channel. This year, Ice Theatre was featured on the Metro Arts Thirteen. Ice Theatre has also been produced by major dance presenters: Boston's Dance Umbrella, Vermont's Flynn Theatre, Dancing in the Streets, Creative Time, First Night Annapolis and producers in Europe. The Company performs on proscenium stages in addition to traditional rink settings.

Outreach programs include the Lunchtime Concert Series at Rockefeller Plaza, free to the public; New Works and Young Artists Series at Riverbank State Park, dedicated to giving promising choreographers and young performers an opportunity to present new works to school-age children from the area, and to providing skating clinics for public school students from Harlem and Washington Heights. The Company has also conducted master classes throughout the United States and Canada.



20th ANNUAL HOME SEASON PERFORMANCES

November 5, 6, 7 and 8, 2003 at 7 PM

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Moira North

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Douglas Webster

ENSEMBLE DIRECTOR

Judy Blumberg

GENERAL MANAGER

Michiko Simanjuntak

THE ENSEMBLE

Joshua Babb, Eve Chalom, Angela Chiang, Mathew Gates, Tyrrell Gene,
Line Haddad, Florentine Houdiniere, Daphne Johnson,
Natalia Kannounnikova, Kate Liberman, Arnold Myint, Kimberly Navarro,
Trina Pierre, Alyssa Stith, David Tankersley, Susan Wilsey

GUEST ARTISTS

Oksana Baiul (Nov 5)

Lu Chen (Nov 5)

Silvia Fontana (Nov 5, 6, 7 and 8)

Katherine Healy (Nov 6, 7 and 8)

Elena Leonova & Andrei Khvalko (Nov 5, 6, 7 and 8)

David Liu (Nov 5)

Vakhtang Murvanidze (Nov 5, 6, 7 and 8)

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Chenault Spence

ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGNER

Gayle Jeffery

STAGE MANAGER

Carolyn Furay

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Bruce Roberts

THE PROGRAM – November 5

(program subject to change)

OPENING

Choreographed by David Liu

Music by Frederic Chopin

Performed by Cecilia Becker, Josephine Becker and Christopher Colton

DRAUGHTSMAN'S CONTRACT

Choreographed by Elisa Monte

Music by Michael Nyman Costumes by Karen Young

Performed by Joshua Babb, Eve Chalom, Mathew Gates, Tyrrell Gene,

Line Haddad, Kimberly Navarro, David Tankersley and Susan Wilsey

Deconstruction of the formal court dance, brought to life on ice
with brilliant costumes and innovative partnering.

SOLO

Music by Al Jarreau

Performed by Vakhtang Murvanidze

SOLO

Performed by Lu Chen

LUNA TU

Music by Alessandro Safina

Choreographed and performed by Elena Leonova & Andrei Khvalko

PURPLE HAZE

Choreographed by Douglas Webster

Music by Jimi Hendrix, as played by Kronos Quartet

Costumes by Karen Young

Performed by Joshua Babb, Tyrrell Gene, Line Haddad, Florentine Houdiniere,

Arnold Myint, Kimberly Navarro, David Tankersley and Trina Pierre

Passion erupts in this work inspired by the "psychedelic" music of Jimi Hendrix's classic
of the same title – an examination of the political state of the world and a question of
whether people have been transformed since the music was written 36 years ago.

SOLO

Performed by Silvia Fontana

EL DUENDE

Choreographed by Carlos Orta

Music by Alberto Iglesias Costume by Carla Behrle

Performed by David Liu

Inspired by a collection of poems of Cante Jondo (Deep Song) by Federico García Lorca.
Lorca perceived "to have duende" as to receive a form of a Dionysian inspiration related
to anguish, mystery and death – an inspiration which particularly animates the
artist who performs in the public, such as the musician, the dancer and the poet.

DO DA DAY

Choreographed by David Liu

Music by Adiemus, Karl Jenkins

Costumes by Katherine McDowell

Performed by Eve Chalom, Angela Chiang, Florentine Houdiniere,

Natalia Kanounnikova, Daphne Johnson, Kate Liberman and Alyssa Stith

A raucous relay amongst tawdry women

DON'T STOP ME NOW

Music by Queen

Choreographed and performed by Elena Leonova & Andrei Khvalko

SOLO

Performed by Oksana Baiul

ICE MOVES

Choreographed by Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux, reset assisted by Katherine Healy

Music by Hector Berlioz

Costumes by A. Christina Giannini

Performed by Tyrrell Gene, Katherine Healy, Florentine Houdiniere,

Kate Liberman, Arnold Myint, Trina Pierre, Alyssa Stith, David Tankersley

This work is made possible, in part, with commissioning funds from the New York State Council on the Arts

Bonnefoux incorporated the classical techniques of ballet in this ensemble work,
originally created for the legendary Olympic and World Champion John Curry and

his dance-on-ice company. With the assistance of Katherine Healy, Bonnefoux
reset this piece on the Ice Theatre Ensemble.

FINALE

The November 5th performance is in conjunction with the
2003 Benefit Gala in honor of VERA WANG

*ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK: This was theater on a
gleaming white surface in a space like an arctic circle.
Each piece had a dramatic arc and told a tale, from the lavish
passion of Jacquelyn Buglisi's Dream to the mounting grief of
Doug Webster's Departures. Techniques served expression.
Even the sound of blades cutting the ice had meaning.*

— Margo Jefferson, The New York Times

10 Moments in Theater in 2002

THE PROGRAM – November 6, 7 and 8

(program subject to change)

DRAUGHTSMAN'S CONTRACT

Choreographed by Elisa Monte

Music by Michael Nyman

Costumes by Karen Young

Performed by Joshua Babb, Eve Chalom, Mathew Gates, Tyrrell Gene,

Line Haddad, Kimberly Navarro, David Tankersley and Susan Wilsey

Deconstruction of the formal court dance, brought to life on ice

with brilliant costumes and innovative partnering.

SOLO

Performed by Silvia Fontana

DON'T STOP ME NOW

Music by Queen

Choreographed and performed by Elena Leonova & Andrei Khvalko

DEPARTURES

Music by Gustav Mahler

Choreography by Douglas Webster

Performed by Eve Chalom, Florentine Houdiniere, Daphne Johnson,

Kimberly Navarro, Alyssa Stith and Susan Wilsey

May we be courageous and know that there is a better place

May we always reach for the hand that will lift us out of our suffering

May we also remember to extend a hand to those who suffer

Let us be compassionate to all soul, for then our wings may open

And perhaps we will fly without fear and ascend in flight with angels

In memory of Clarin Schwartz,

a friend of Ice Theatre of New York who incorporated the Company pro bono in 1984, and was lost during the World Trade Center disaster

PAUSE

PURPLE HAZE

Choreographed by Douglas Webster

Music by Jimi Hendrix, as played by Kronos Quartet

Costumes by Karen Young

Performed by Joshua Babb, Tyrrell Gene, Line Haddad, Florentine Houdiniere,

Arnold Myint, Kimberly Navarro, David Tankersley and Trina Pierre

Passion erupts in this work inspired by the "psychedelic" music of Jimi Hendrix's classic of the same title – an examination of the political state of the world and a question of whether people have been transformed since the music was written 36 years ago.

SOLO

Music by Al Jarreau

Performed by Vakhtang Murvanidze

AVE MARIA

Music by Charles Gounod and Franz Schubert

Choreographed and performed by Katherine Healy

DO DA DAY

Choreographed by David Liu

Music by Adiemus, Karl Jenkins

Costumes by Katherine McDowell

Performed by Eve Chalom, Angela Chiang, Florentine Houdiniere,

Natalia Kanounnikova, Daphne Johnson, Kate Liberman and Alyssa Stith

A raucous relay amongst tawdry women

PAUSE

HEART

Choreographed by JoAnna Mendl Shaw

Music by Mouth Music

Performed by Line Haddad, Arnold Myint and Kimberly Navarro

This work is made possible, in part, with commissioning funds from

the New York State Council on the Arts

The equilibrium between fully carved lines and an irreverent, passionate release of energy are maintained in this act of balancing mind and heart.

ON THE TOWN

Choreographed by Doug Webster

Music by Leonard Bernstein

Performed by Joshua Babb, Tyrrell Gene, Florentine Houdiniere, Daphne Johnson,

Kimberly Navarro, Alyssa Stith, David Tankersley, and Susan Wilsey

A playful reminiscence celebrating freedom and dance in New York

SOLO

Performed by Silvia Fontana

LUNA TU

Music by Alessandro Safina

Choreographed and performed by Elena Leonova & Andrei Khvalko

ICE MOVES

Choreographed by Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux, reset assisted by Katherine Healy

Music by Hector Berlioz

Costumes by A. Christina Giannini

Performed by Tyrrell Gene, Katherine Healy, Florentine Houdiniere,

Kate Liberman, Arnold Myint, Trina Pierre, Alyssa Stith, David Tankersley

This work is made possible, in part, with commissioning funds from the New York State Council on the Arts

Bonnefoux incorporated the classical techniques of ballet in this ensemble work,

originally created for the legendary Olympic and World Champion John Curry and

his dance-on-ice company. With the assistance of Katherine Healy, Bonnefoux

reset this piece on the Ice Theatre Ensemble.

FINALE

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

JOSHUA BABB grew up in Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, Canada. He and his sister, Rebecca Babb, were the 1998 Canadian Games Bronze Medalists, the 1998 Junior Dance Champions of Canada, and Canadian National Team members for three years. He competed for Canada at international events in Zagreb, Croatia and Oberstdorf, Germany. In 1999 he moved to Stamford, Connecticut, to train with World and Olympic coach Natalia Dubova. At present he is working in the tri-state area, choreographing for national and international competitors and for synchronized skating teams. This is Babb's fifth season with Ice Theatre of New York.

OKSANA BAIUL (Guest Artist) is originally from the Ukraine and started skating at the age of three. After years of training, she won major international competitions, including the World Championships in 1993 and shortly after the 1994 Olympic Games in Lillehammer. Currently, Baiul is back training with long-time coach Valentin Nikolayev. This season, she will be skating in *An Evening with Champions*; *Katarina Witts' Beauty on Ice*, which will air on NBC; *Ice Wars* on CBS; A&E's *Holiday on Ice* dreams; and *Stars on Ice* in Antwerp. She will also be a guest star during the 2004 *Stars on Ice* tour. She now resides in New Jersey.

JUDY BLUMBERG (Ensemble Director) has been a presence in the figure skating world for the past 18 years in a variety of different roles: that of performer, coach, commentator and consultant. Blumberg and former partner Michael Seibert are recognized worldwide as one of the most unique and innovative teams in the history of ice dancing. They were the five-time US Ice Dance Champions, three-time World Bronze medalists and two-time Olympic Team Members. They also hold numerous United States, International and World Professional Championship titles. Being inducted into the US Figure Skating Hall of Fame in 1996 was yet another memorable moment for this duo. Blumberg has completed her BS Degree at Hunter College concentrating in the area of Human Movement Studies. One won't soon forget the breathtaking duet with Douglas Webster in the debut of Webster's and Shaw's *Appalachia Waltz* in June of 1997. Blumberg's dance expertise was crucial in translating Peter DiFalco's *Tango*, from the floor to the ice. Blumberg, with her keen eye for detail and years of performing experience, directs the Ice Theatre of New York Ensemble. In addition to her work with Ice Theatre, Blumberg has served on the Board of Directors of the USFSA, the new Professional Skater's Cooperative, and the Athlete Advisory Council of the USOC. She is also proud to be a member of the Circle of Olympians involved in the NYC 2012 Olympic Bid. She is also currently coaching the promising the newly formed dance team of Isabella Tobias and James Warren.

JEAN-PIERRE BONNEFOUX (Choreographer) joined North Carolina Dance Theatre and DancePlace in 1996. Born in France, he joined the Paris Opera Ballet at age 14 and was named *Danseur Etoile* at 21. He has danced with the Bolshoi and Kirov Ballets and, in 1970, became a principal dancer with the New York City Ballet under the direction of George Balanchine. In 1977, Bonnefoux joined the faculty of the School of American Ballet, the official school of the New York City Ballet, realizing his lifelong ambition of training young dancers. His final performance was in 1980, after which time he dedicated himself to work as an artistic director, choreographer and teacher. Bonnefoux's choreography includes works

commissioned by the New York City Ballet, The Lincoln Center Institute, the Metropolitan Opera Ballet and the Pennsylvania Ballet. Bonnefoux has served as choreographer and ballet master for the Pittsburgh Ballet, and as Chairman and Artistic Director of the Ballet Department in the School of Music at Indiana University. He is also currently the Artistic Director, Choreographer and teacher for the ballet company and the school at the Chautauqua Institute in NY. Bonnefoux reconstructed his choreography for *Ice Moves*, originally created for the legendary Olympic and World Champion John Curry and his dance company on ice, for Ice Theatre of New York. This work was made possible by the assistance of Katherine Healy and by a commissioning grant from NYSCA.

EVE CHALOM holds a BA from the University of Michigan in Philosophy and English. Trained as an ice dancer, Chalom was a US National silver medalist and represented the US at the World Figure Skating Championships in 1997 and 1999. From 1996 to 1998, Chalom toured with *Stars on Ice* and The Tom Collins Tour of World Champions. She has taught ice dance in Dallas, Detroit, Ann Arbor and is currently teaching at several rinks in New York City. As a dancer, she trained in Flamenco, ballroom, tango, swing dance, modern and classical ballet and has performed with the Liz Lerman Dance Exchange and Coreoarte, a modern dance company in Venezuela. Chalom is currently studying modern dance and working with choreographer Carlos Orta in Manhattan.

ANGELA CHIANG (Apprentice) has passed her Senior Ladies test and began training and performing with Ice Theatre of New York as an apprentice during the Company's 2002 Summer Residency in Jamestown. In the past, she has worked with Moira North and David Liu. She returned to the Residency this past summer, prior to starting her first year at New York University.

LU CHEN (Guest Artist) is a pioneer for China in the sport of figure skating. She was China's ten-time National Champion and had a stellar international competitive career. She was two-time NHK Trophy Champion, one-time World Champion and two-time Olympic Bronze Medalist – her performance was one of the highlights of the 1998 Winter Olympics. Professionally, Chen performed with *Stars on Ice* and The Tom Collins Tour of World Champions, among others. She now performs in televised skating specials and teaches skating.

SILVIA FONTANA (Guest Artist) was Italy's 1996 National Champion and represented her country in various international competitions, including the Vienna Cup, Skate Canada, European Championships, World Championships and the 2002 Winter Olympics. She recently married US pair skater John Zimmerman in Rome.

CAROLYN FURAY (Stage Manager) is pursuing her degree in Stage Management and Costume design at Leigh Gerding College of Fine Arts at Webster University. Her first experience with Ice Theatre was as an Assistant Stage Manager for both the Montreal Fashions on Ice and the proscenium stage performances at the Macomb Center Performing Arts in Michigan. She has since then worked for productions at the Timber Lake Playhouse, St. Louis Arts Council, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis and the Magic Owl Children's Theatre. She is thrilled to return to work with the Company again this season.

MATHEW GATES has an impressive background as a competitive skater. In 1993 he was the US National Novice Champion, and in 1995 was the US National Junior Champion. In 1997 and 1999 he placed second in the US National Senior Dance and was a member of the World Team, competing both in Lausanne, Switzerland, and in Helsinki, Finland. He has competed internationally at competitions such as Skate America, Skate Canada, NHK Trophy (Japan), Nations Cup (Germany), Cup of Russia, St. Gervais (France), Nebelhorn Trophy (Germany) and Basler Cup (Switzerland).

TYRRELL GENE started dancing at the age of three in his hometown of Wenatchee, WA. Dancing, which was initially a form of therapy for his stroke-induced paralysis, led him into figure skating. For the past 13 years, he has trained as an ice dancer and became a five-time national competitor. He has continued his cross-training with his studies and performances of jazz, ballet, modern and ballroom dancing. Two years ago he relocated from Seattle to New York to skate with Ice Theatre of New York; he is also a figure skating coach in New York City.

LINE HADDAD was two-time French National Champion, one-time Israeli National Champion and represented France in the European Championships, World Championships and the Olympics. Professionally, she skated in Philippe Candeloro's *Beauty and the Beast* and in the French figure skating tour. She recently received her Master of Arts in translation and linguistics in Paris, majoring in French, English and Spanish. Haddad currently resides in the United States as a figure skating instructor and a choreographer.

KATHERINE HEALY was trained both as a skater and ballet dancer. She was a protégé of Olympic gold medalist John Curry and was the subject of the children's book, *A Very Young Skater*. She received her early dance training at George Balanchine's School of American Ballet, and at the age of 13, won the silver medal at the Second International Ballet Competition in Jackson, MS. The following year, she became the youngest dancer to win the gold medal at the International Ballet Competition in Varna, Bulgaria. Following her success in competition, Healy was invited at the age of 15 to join the London Festival Ballet (now the English National Ballet) as Principal Dancer. In 1990 and 1991, she performed as principal ballerina with Les Ballets de Monte Carlo, and from 1991 to 1997, Healy danced as principal ballerina with the Vienna State Opera Ballet Company. She has been an international guest artist in Japan, Canada and throughout Europe. Throughout her illustrious career as a ballerina, Healy never lost her love for or talent on the ice. She performed with the John Curry Skating Company, made appearances as a guest star in Scott Hamilton's *Celebration on Ice* in 1988, and in 1989 was featured skating and dancing en pointe in a pas de deux with Olympic gold medalist Robin Cousins on ABC's *Wide World of Sports*. After her retirement from dancing, Healy returned to professional figure skating, performing in the *Equal Challenge of Champions*, *An Evening with Champions* and with Ice Theatre of New York, among others. Most recently, Healy choreographed an ensemble piece for Ice Theatre, *Through a Glass, Darkly*, which premiered in November 2002. She was also the subject of an extensive profile in the October 2002 issue of *Ice Skating Magazine*. Healy graduated magna cum laude from Princeton University, and is currently coaching and choreographing at Sport-O-Rama in Monsey, NY, and at Iceland in New Hyde Park, NY. She has coached a number of competitors in the New York area at the regional, sectional and national levels.

FLORENTINE HOUDINIÈRE, born and raised in France, earned Gold at the French Junior National Championships in 1992 and competed in numerous international competitions. She was a member of the French National Team for five years. In 1995 she turned professional, and has since traveled internationally. She performed the lead role in the *Holiday on Ice*'s 1999/2000 European Tour of Colours of Dance and was a principal skater in the Broadway on Ice at the Andy Williams Moon River Theatre in the summer of 2000. She performed the title role in the US tour of *Anastasia on Ice*; *Cruella De Vil* in the Disney 15 show during the summer of 1997; and *Belle* in the 1996-1998 Disney on Ice production of *Beauty and the Beast*. This is Houdinière's third season with the Company, and she enjoys working with a variety of choreography and an outstanding team of artists.

GAYLE JEFFERY (Assistant Lighting Designer) has extensive experience in technical theatre that includes lighting, projection and sound design, and stage and production management for opera, dance, performance art, concerts, musicals and drama. Credits include nine years touring with Mandy Patinkin in *Concert*, and domestic and international tours with the White Oak Dance Project, the Erick Hawkins Dance Company & Orchestra, the Nikolais/Murray Louis Dance Company, *Black and Blue*, Philip Glass' *Koyaanisqatsi Live!* and Robert Wilson's *the Knee Plays*. She received a degree in chemistry from the University of Rochester.

DAPHNE JOHNSON, from Warren, PA, has been skating for the past 12 years in Jamestown, NY with coaches Kirk Wyse and Lenel Van Den Berg. She has competed twice at both the Junior Olympics and Eastern Sectionals. Johnson has earned her Gold Test in Moves in the Field and Freestyle and also hopes for her gold in Ice Dancing. She has taught both private lessons and Learn to Skate classes in Jamestown and is always delighted to return for Ice Theatre's summer residency. For many years, she was a featured performer at the Jamestown Skating Academy's annual performance of *Excellence on Ice*, and has enjoyed performing with Ice Theatre for the past two years. Last year, she was a member of the New York Rangers Figure Skating Entertainment team at Madison Square Garden, and appeared in the *Numana Project*, a fairytale on ice. Off the ice, she modeled for *20/20 Eyewear* magazine, and is in her third year studying Communications and Spanish at New York University.

KATE LIBERMAN began figure skating and studying classical ballet as a very young child. She trained at the Boston Ballet School for dance education and represented the Skating Club of Boston at the US Figure Skating Association's Eastern Sectional Championships during several competitive seasons. In 2002, Liberman placed fifth at the National Collegiate Championships. She has been a featured skater in Boston's *Ice Chips*. She is distinguished by her lyricism and ability to make the audience "see" the music as she skates. Liberman graduated from Lexington High School in 2002 and now attends Barnard College at Columbia University as a pre-med student. In addition to her work with Ice Theatre, she performs with the New York Rangers as a New York City Skater.

ELENA LEONOVA & ANDREI KHVALKO (Guest Artists) are originally from Russia. With her previous skating partner, Leonova won numerous international competitions including two Junior World Championships, Skate Canada, the NHK Trophy in Japan and the Nebelhorn

Trophy in Germany. Khvalko became a member of the Russian National Team when he was 17 and won many national and international competitions as well with his previous skating partner. In 1995, Leonova and Khvalko began their pairs partnership and won the 1999 and 2000 World Professional Championships, among others. They also skated in ice productions throughout the world, including *Champions on Ice*, *Art on Ice* in Switzerland and *Prince Ice World* in Japan.

DAVID LIU (Skater/Choreographer) was born in Taiwan, immigrated to the United States at the age of six and began training in dance and figure skating at the age of eight. He auditioned for New York City Ballet's School of American Ballet (SAB) and was accepted on full scholarship, under the tutelage of Richard Rapp and Andre Kramerevsky. George Balanchine promoted him to the first "Special Class" at the SAB under the intensive training of the late Stanley Williams. After finishing his dance training at SAB, Liu pursued his skating career and competed at three Olympic Games representing Taiwan. He teaches, choreographs and performs in both skating and dance. He has performed and given workshops and intensive classes in the United States, Taiwan, Japan, Hong Kong and Finland. Liu's choreographic works include *3's a Game Now 4 Play* for the Hong Kong Ballet's Choreographic Workshop and *Chix and Quacks* for the City Contemporary Dance Company, also in Hong Kong. He performed with the City Contemporary Dance Company's production of *Plaza X*, choreographed by Helen Lai, which featured both modern dance and skating. In 2001, Liu choreographed a new dance work, *TBD (To Be Dancers/To Be Determined)*, produced by Cloudgate 2 Company for the National Institute of the Arts in Taiwan. He also created his first work for Ice Theatre, entitled *Do Da Day*. In 2002, he choreographed a new work, entitled *5:1*, for the Singapore Dance Theatre. During that year, with dance choreographer JoAnna Mendl Shaw, Liu received a commissioning grant from NYSCA through Ice Theatre of New York for a collaboration entitled *Thin Ice/Common Ground*.

VAKHTANG MURVANIDZE (Guest Artist) was born in Tbilisi, Georgia. He is a seven-time National Champion of Georgia, represented his country seven times in World Championships and was in the 2002 Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Utah. He recently came back from Skate America. He now resides in the United States.

ARNOLD MYINT is originally from Nashville, TN. He started skating at a later age than most, but quickly developed a sufficiently strong technical base to compete nationally, earning spots on the podium in three out of four of his United States competitions. In addition to his technical training, Arnold also studied movement and dance and attended the University for Design. The school of the Nashville Ballet helped mold his understanding that aesthetic presentation and athleticism could be combined. Myint continued his training and developed skills in modern and jazz dance and ballet. After competing, he moved to Bangkok, Thailand where he worked for a record label and hosted a weekly television program. He soon returned to skating, working with Disney on Ice, touring North America and Europe. After Disney, Arnold joined Royal Caribbean International in their creation of a new show. Now in New York, he is attending a culinary school and exploring the world of musical theater, focusing on movement and voice. He joins Ice Theatre in hopes of growing as an artist and integrating all aspects of his creative experiences.

KIMBERLY NAVARRO first performed in a professional show at the age of nine as a soloist in Charles Schultz's Christmas Ice Show. She continued her training and became an ice

dancer, competing as US representatives at the Golden Spin in Zagreb, Croatia, at the Nebelhorn Trophy in Oberstdorf, Germany, at the NHK Trophy in Kyoto, Japan, and most recently at the Finlandia Trophy in Helsinki, Finland. Besides ice dancing, she has performed in seven national commercials on inline skates and has performed for Extreme Wheels Live and Team Rollerblade at DisneyWorld and Disney Paris. She is now a senior at Columbia University, studying English and dance.

MOIRA NORTH (Founder/Director), named one of the 25 Most Influential Names in Figure Skating by International Figure Skating Magazine in 2003, has been a driving force in the development of figure skating as a performing art. Since founding Ice Theatre of New York in 1984, she has been a catalyst in the development of other artistic ice skating companies in both Canada and the United States. North and partner Patrick Dean skated Ice Theatre's first work, a collaboration with dance choreographer Marc Bogaerts, which won them first place in the 1984 Professional Championships in Jaca, Spain. In her subsequent work as Ice Theatre Director, North has continued to integrate contemporary dance into the repertoire of ice choreography. She has studied several dance forms, including the Martha Graham technique, Japanese Butoh with Sankai Juku, and Haitian and African dance. She is a member of the Professional Teaching Staff at Sky Rink, Chelsea Piers, and previously served as co-director of the Sky Rink Skating School. Her artistic credits include teaching actress Ileana Douglas to skate for a role in the film, *To Die For*; teaching and choreographing a skating scene in the film *The Preacher's Wife*, with Whitney Houston and Denzel Washington; choreographing five productions of *Montreal Fashions on Ice* for the Quebec Delegation at Rockefeller Plaza; and choreographing the opening ceremonies for both the National Hockey League All-Stars Game and World Cup Hockey. She also served as creative consultant for A&E television's *Winter Solstice on Ice*, a television special aired during the 1999 holiday season.

CARLOS ORTA (Choreographer) has international recognition for his exploration and incorporation of Latin American and Spanish elements in dance. Born in Caracas, Venezuela, Orta began his dance studies in Paris at the Schola Cantorum. He apprenticed with Folkwang Hochschule Tanz in Essen, Germany, where he was mentored by Hans Zullig, Jean Cebron and Pina Bausch. He began performing with the Folkwang Ballet, and then danced with the Wuppertal Tanz Theater, Tanzforum Köln, the Maurice Kagel Tanz Theater and, as a principal dancer, with the Limón Dance Company in New York City. Orta has choreographed for companies around the world such as the Nederlands Dance Theater, Tanz Forum, the Limón Dance Company, Gelsenkirchen Opern Hause, Oldenburg Opern Hause, Ballet Nuevo Mundo, the Chamber Ballet of Caracas, Danza Hoy and Ballet Metropolitano in Venezuela. He has choreographed for universities and colleges across the United States, Spain, Costa Rica, and Germany. For his choreography, the International Academy of Dance in Cologne awarded Mr. Orta the Audience Prize in 1975 and the Jury Prize in 1976. In August 1985, the Venezuelan government honored him with its highest artistic recognition, The Prize of Dance. In 1983, he founded the Coreoarte Dance Company in Caracas and continues to be its part-time Artistic Director. Orta is a member of the dance committee of International Theater Institute/UNESCO since 1995 as well as The World Dance Alliance Americas. Last fall he was Center of Humanities and Arts' Distinguished Guest Artist at the University of Georgia's Franklin College of Arts and Sciences Department of Dance. Recently, Orta created two pieces, *Mágica Intimidad (Magical Intimacy)*, and *Yo soy Joaquín (I am Joaquín)*, for Los Lupeños de San José in California. In addition to traveling occasionally to Caracas to work with

his company and teaching at Long Island University and Manhattanville College, NY, he works with a group of dancers in Manhattan on new pieces and pieces from his repertoire.

TRINA PIERRE started skating at age eight in Sun Valley and was coached by Gary Beacom and Gia Guddat. She started skating in the Sun Valley performances at the age of nine, and was in Disney on Ice's Little Mermaid as one of the characters and as an understudy of the title role. Last January, she relocated to New York City from Seattle to study fashion at Parsons School of Design. She is also working with the New York Rangers as a New York City skater. Pierre is thrilled to be in New York, to be a part of Ice Theatre of New York and to combine her loves for theatre, dance, costumes and figure skating.

JOANNA MENDEL SHAW (Choreographer) has, for ten years, focused her choreographic work on creative partnerships for dancers and athletes. Her projects include works for gymnasts, in-line skaters, equestrians and ice skaters. Since 1998, Shaw has developed a performance form that partners dancers with equestrians and their horses. The Equus Projects/Dancing with Horses has gained national recognition for its theatrical fusion of equestrian dressage and dance. Shaw's ice dance work includes five works for Ice Theatre of New York, the first being Appalachia Waltz, co-choreographed with Doug Webster. Shaw's dance choreography has been commissioned by colleges and universities throughout the country, and presented in New York at Dance Theatre Workshop, St. Marks, Joyce SOHO and the 92nd Street Y. She is the recipient of two NEA Choreographic Fellowships. Shaw has taught at the University of Washington, NYU/Tisch, Princeton, Mount Holyoke College and Montclair State. She is currently on the faculty of Juilliard and The Ailey School/Fordham. Her international teaching includes residencies in Hungary, Wales, Korea, Switzerland and Scotland.

CHENAULT SPENCE (Lighting Designer) is lighting designer for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Cortez and Company, Saeko Ichinohi, SwingDance America, Broadway Dancin!, Cleveland Repertory Project and Connecticut Ballet. He has designed lighting for the Dance Theater of Harlem, Colorado Ballet, Washington Ballet, American Repertory Ballet, Juilliard Dance Ensemble, Erick Hawkins, Jose Limon, Bat-Dor Dance Company and the National Ballet of Iran, and has been a guest lighting designer for ballet and modern dance companies and opera throughout the world. As lighting designer for The Opera Company of Philadelphia, Spence received Emmys for The Damnation of Faust and Un Ballo in Maschera, starring Luciano Pavarotti. With the Alvin Ailey company, his work has been seen in New York at the City Center, Metropolitan Opera House, New York State Theater and in tour in the United States, Europe, Russia, South America, Africa and Asia. His works have been in television productions for PBS, ABC and other networks in more than thirty countries.

ALYSSA STITH was born and raised in West Point, NY and spent most of her formative years on the ice as a competitive figure skater. She began dancing in 1996 while touring with Living the Dream Theatre Company and, in 2000, earned her BA with Distinction in Dance from Ohio State University. Since then she has been striving to translate dance to ice while training and performing in both areas. On the ice, Stith has been performing regularly with Ice Theatre of New York since 2000, and was a principal in Rory Flockhart's Ebony on Ice/Soul Spectacular on Ice. She teaches skating and dance for the Figure Skating in Harlem program. In addition,

she choreographs, polishes programs and develops off-ice dance class for figure skaters. Off the ice, she performs with Andrea Woods (former member and rehearsal director of Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company) and Heather Harrington, and has trained in yoga and pilates in the past three years. Stith is pursuing her Masters in dance at New York University.

DAVID TANKERSLEY is a two-time US National Pair Champion, and has also competed internationally. He first joined the Ice Theatre ensemble in 2002 at the Stars, Stripes and Skates performance at Madison Square Garden, performing On the Town. Also an actor and a dancer, Tankersley recently returned from a world tour of West Side Story, which opened at Teatro alla Scala in Milan, Italy and continued to perform in Beirut and Japan. He previously joined productions of Evita, Sound of Music, Grease, Rock Stars (an off-Broadway show) and a European tour of Cabaret.

DOUGLAS WEBSTER (Associate Artistic Director) has choreographed pieces for Lu Chen, Elena Leichenko, Lucinda Ruh, Elena Leonova and Andrei Khvalko, Anita Hartshorn and Frank Sweiding, and many other national and international competitors. Webster has created seven critically acclaimed repertoire pieces for Ice Theatre and was hailed by critic Elizabeth Kendall as one of the finest ice choreographers. He also choreographed the Ice Theatre of New York segments in the A&E television special, Winter Solstice on Ice. Webster has worked with dance choreographers Ann Carlson, Elisa Monte, Johan Renvall, JoAnna Mendl Shaw and Peter DiFalco to translate their visions of movement to the ice. His coaching credits include Lucinda Ruh's World Professional debut and Alizah Allen's top ten performance in Senior Ladies at the National Championships in 1997. His professional performing career has spanned fifteen years, during which he has been a featured skater in Festival on Ice with Scott Hamilton and John Curry, Footloose on Ice with Nancy Kerrigan and the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2002 Winter Olympics. He also partnered Judy Blumberg during a period of her professional career. This fall, Webster was the Assistant Choreographer for a Disney on Ice show. He will depart to Europe soon after the Home Season to work with Holiday on Ice.

SUSAN WILSEY has been performing with Ice Theatre for seven years. She has skated professionally since the age of 15, performing in ice shows around the world including the Ice Capades, the world-renowned Sun Valley ice shows, the Nancy Kerrigan Christmas Tour and numerous television specials, including the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City. She completed her degree in Art History at Columbia University, and now resides in California with her husband Darren and her newborn son Rocco. She is thrilled to be back in New York City to perform with her favorite skating company in the world!

*Since 1984, when she founded the company,
Artistic Director Moira North has incorporated
forward-looking choreography for ice dancing with more
conventional pieces, usually superbly performed.*

— Hilary Ostlere, The Westsider



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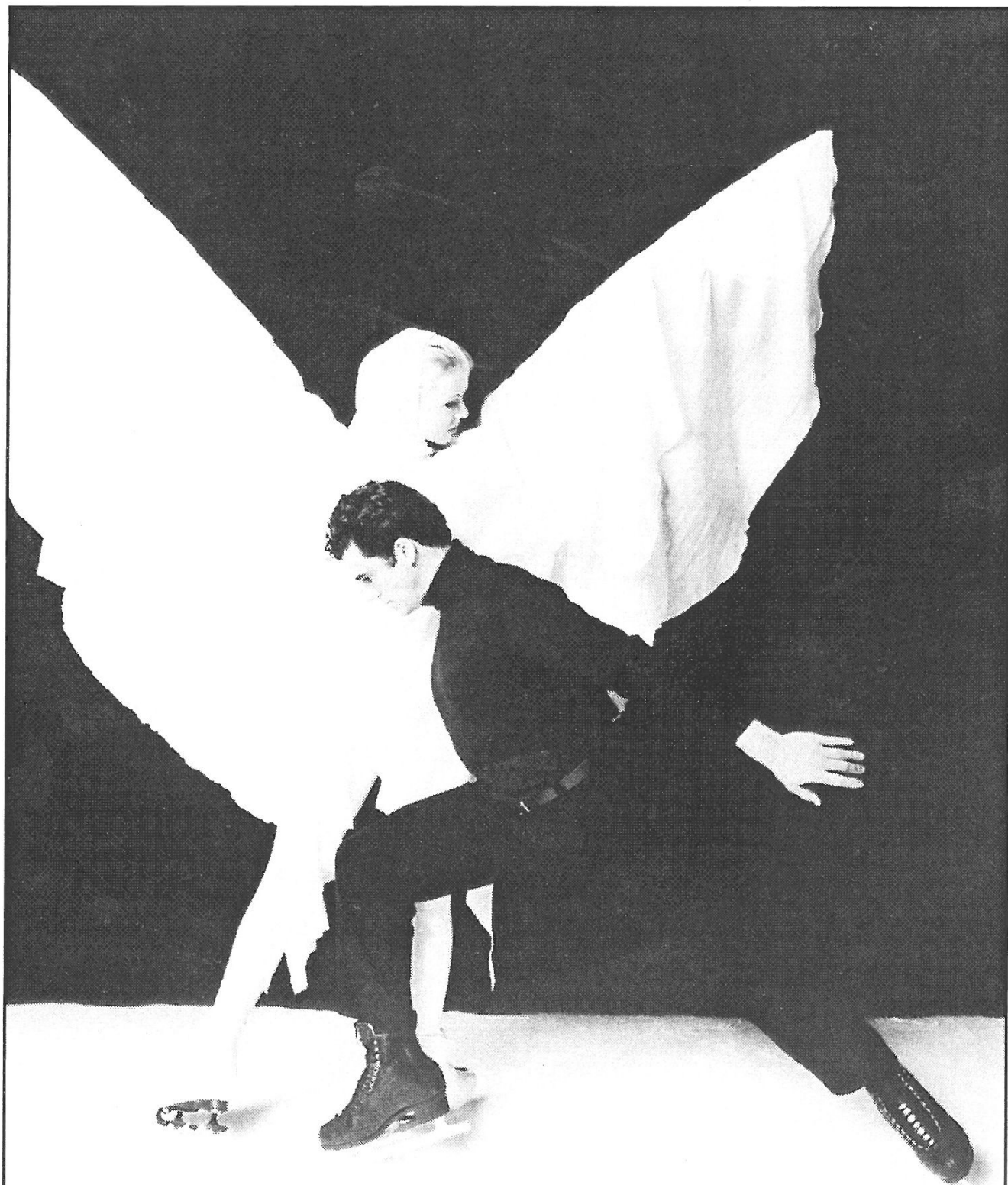
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David Liu in Rituals in 7's by JoAnna Mendl Shaw.
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