

*Ice
Theatre
of
New York*



2004 WINTER FESTIVAL
December 27-30, 2004

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.

Cover: Katherine Healy. Back cover: The Ice Theatre Ensemble in Appalachia Waltz, by JoAnna Mendl Shaw. Photo by Diane Bidermann.



2004 WINTER FESTIVAL

Presented by Ice Theatre of New York and Sky Rink/Chelsea Piers

Monday, December 27, 2004 at 7 PM

Tuesday, December 28, 2004 at 7 PM

Wednesday, December 29, 2004 at 3 PM and 7 PM

Thursday, December 30, 2004 at 3 PM

(General skating sessions at Sky Rink from 11:30 AM-6:50 PM)

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Moira North

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Douglas Webster

ENSEMBLE DIRECTOR Judy Blumberg

GENERAL MANAGER Michiko Simanjuntak Grasso

MARKETING/DEVELOPMENT Paddy Kennedy

THE ENSEMBLE

Daniil Barantsev, Angela Chiang, Heather Cookson Rothman,

Aidan Daley-Hynes, Tyrrell Gene, Lucia Green-Weiskel,

Line Haddad, Jessica Hunt, Raye Levine, Kate Liberman,

Arnold Myint, Kimberly Navarro, Alyssa Stith, David Tankersley,

James Yorke and Jennifer Wester

WITH

Katherine Healy

David Liu

Suzanne MacDonald

Vakhtang Murvanidze

LIGHTING DESIGNER Chenault Spence

PRODUCTION MANAGER Gayle Jeffery

PRODUCTION ASSOCIATE Carolyn Furay

THE PROGRAM

(program subject to change)

CRACKED ICE

Choreographed by Katherine Healy

Music by Bach, Gardel, Piazzola, Plaza and Wagner

Performed by the Ice Theatre Ensemble: Angela Chiang,

Aidan Daley-Hynes, Jessica Hunt, Raye Levine, Kate Liberman,

Kim Navarro, Heather Cookson Rothman, Alyssa Stith and Jennifer Wester

It is the morning of the major season premiere of the company's new flamenco ballet. The Teacher arrives to give company class. He cajoles, exhorts, encourages and scolds his flock as they warm up their weary muscles for the big night. The Artistic Director (and the Teacher's benefactor), "Madame," is going to drop by to watch some of the class exercises and a final run-through of a portion of the new piece. She only stays for a short time as she receives a sudden phone call from the haute couture designer: she must come at once to the couture house to pick up the glamorous gown she will wear to the premiere that evening.

The Teacher anxiously awaits Madame's arrival as company class begins...

Characters:

Teacher - Tyrrell Gene

Madame - Moira North

Madame's Assistant - Christopher Colton

Ballerina/Skater - Katherine Healy

SOLO

Choreographed by Vakhtang Murvanidze and Ari Zakarian

Performed by Vakhtang Murvanidze

TWIST

Choreographed by David Parsons

Music by Chemical Brothers

Performed by Line Haddad and David Tankersley

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

THE LOTTERY

Choreographed by Heather Harrington

Original music by Quentin Chiappetta

Performed by Angela Chiang, Aidan Daley-Hynes, Kate Liberman,

Kim Navarro and Alyssa Stith

This piece explores the nature of gossip, which leads to fingerpointing. The audience is caught between watching the performers and being watched by the performers. Who will be picked next?

SKATER'S WALTZ

Choreographed by Moira North
Performed by Suzanne MacDonald

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.

TANGO IMAGES

Choreographed by Peter DiFalco
Music from the film *The Tango Lesson*
Male Duet performed by Daniil Barantsev and David Tankersley
Female Duet performed by Kate Liberman and Alyssa Stith
Male/Female Duet performed by Kim Navarro and James Yorke
with Jessica Hunt and Jennifer Wester
This piece shows the amazing footwork and fierce passion that characterize the Argentine Tango

SOLO

Choreographed by Vakhtang Murvanidze and Ari Zakarian
Performed by Vakhtang Murvanidze

2:1

Choreographed by David Liu
Music by J.S. Bach
Costumes by Katherine McDowell
Performed by Tyrrell Gene, Line Haddad and Alyssa Stith
The relationship between what one imagines
if there were two

IN THE MOOD

Music by Garland, Kern and Razaf
Choreographed and performed by Katherine Healy

SARABANDE

Music by Johann Sebastian Bach
Choreographed and performed by David Liu
An excerpt from "Plaza X"

ENCHANTED EVENING

Choreographed by Douglas Webster
Music of *Come Fly with Me*, *Fever* and *That's All*
as performed by Michael Bublé
Performed by Daniil Barantsev, Aidan Daley-Hynes, Angela Chiang,
Lucia Green-Weiskel, Tyrrell Gene, Line Haddad, Jessica Hunt, Arnold Myint,
Kimberly Navarro, Alyssa Stith, David Tankersley, Jennifer Wester
and James Yorke

20th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

*Congratulations to Ice Theatre's original founders:
Marc Bogaerts, Marjorie Kouns, Cecily Morrow and Moira North
and the Ice Theatre ensemble, staff and Board members
for twenty exciting years of
superb and thrilling skating!*

1984: Founder/Director Moira North and partner Patrick Dean in the first
Ice Theatre piece, choreographed by Marc Bogaerts



THE ARTISTS

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 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. With Ice Theatre of New York, Judy began as a performer in the premiere of *Appalachia Waltz* by Douglas Webster and JoAnna Mendl June of 1997. Blumberg's dance expertise was crucial in translating Peter DiFalco's *Tango Images* from the floor to the ice. Blumberg, with her keen eye for detail and years of performing experience, now 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. In addition, she is the only US Technical Specialist for Ice Dance trained in the new figure skating scoring system. Blumberg has completed her BS Degree at Hunter College concentrating in the area of Human Movement Studies and is currently attending the Institute of Integrative Nutrition, where she will soon be certified as a holistic nutrition consultant.

ANGELA CHIANG has passed her Senior Ladies test and began training and performing with Ice Theatre of New York 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 second year at New York University (NYU).

QUENTIN CHIAPPETTA (Composer) enjoys a diverse career as a composer and sound designer for dance, television, film, and theatre. He has scored dozens of independent films, and his work has been heard at film festivals in Berlin, Toronto, Los Angeles, New Jersey, and, most recently, at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York and the Sundance Film Festival in Park City. Quentin has collaborated with many choreographers, including Kevin Wynn, Mary Anthony, Igal Perry and Jody Sperling. Last year, he provided the score for Heather Harrington's evening-length work, *Imitations of Drowning*, at St. Mark's Church, as well as Ms. Harrington's most recent piece, *Giscard Games*, this past August. Other notable collaborations include The Grand Step Project, Mr. Chiappetta's third site-specific collaboration with Stephen Koplowitz, having previously written music for Webbed Feats in Bryant Park (1997), and for the re-opening of the NY Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center (2001).

AIDAN DALEY-HYNES is from Burtonsville, MD. She started her ensemble skating experience by performing with The Potomac Ice Theatre. She then trained at The Chesapeake Skating School and has earned a gold medal in Moves in the Field. She has competed in numerous International Theatre on Ice Competitions and earned one gold and two silver medals. She has participated in exhibitions for the World Championships in Washington, DC and for *Stars, Stripes and Skates* in Long Island, NY. Most recently, she performed with The Next Ice Age in Ocean City, Maryland. This is her first year performing with Ice Theatre of New York.

PETER DIFALCO (Choreographer), master teacher of the tango and other ballroom dances, has a rich and varied career as a dancer, choreographer and dance company director for more than 40 years. DiFalco started out as an ethnic dancer working with La Meri at Jacob's Pillow. At Ted Shawn's invitation, he was a member of the Pillow's faculty from 1946-53, teaching and dancing with luminaries such as Ruth St. Denis, José Limón and Anthony Tudor, both during the summers and regular seasons. From 1956-59, he directed his own diFalco Dance Theater, which traveled throughout the United States and appeared frequently on TV. He then moved to New York and began a career in ballroom dance. He is a coach, choreographer and instructor for some of the world's best known competition and exhibition couples, and resides in North Carolina.

CAROLYN FURAY (Production Associate) is delighted to be returning to New York for this holiday season, having worked with Ice Theatre on various projects over the last four years. This year she has kept herself busy trying to graduate college and working for Opera Theatre of St. Louis and Timber Lake Playhouse. Special thanks to Michiko and Moira!

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, Ty 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. After living in New York for three years as a coach and as a performer with Ice Theatre of New York, he recently relocated to Bozeman, Montana, to serve as Skating Director at the Valley Ice Garden.

LUCIA GREEN-WEISKEL (Apprentice) started skating at the age of 8 in Greenfield, MA and trained with several skating clubs in the New England area. She competed at all major regional competitions for seven years, earning numerous medals, while performing and receiving ballet instruction, strength training and conditioning on the side. She finished her competitive career once in college and began to coach professionally. Off the ice, she is an International Relations graduate from Hampshire College and is proficient in Mandarin Chinese. This

is her first year performing with Ice Theatre of New York.

LINE HADDAD was two-time French National Champion, one-time Israeli National Champion and represented France in international championships such as the European Championships and World Championships. She also participated in the 1992 Olympic Games and was the youngest athlete in the Games that year. Professionally, she skated in Philippe Candeloro's *Beauty and the Beast* ice performances and in the French Figure Skating Tour. She 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 choreographer.

HEATHER HARRINGTON (Choreographer) graduated from Boston University with a degree in psychology. She then moved to New York City and danced with the Doris Humphrey Repertory Company, the Martha Graham Ensemble, the Pearl Lang Dance Theater, and the Bella Lewitzky Dance Company. Her choreography has been presented by various venues including The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Sidelines Series, where she choreographed and performed an onsite piece on the stairs of Federal Hall Memorial on Wall Street; Danspace Project's City/Dans series; the Toronto Fringe Festival; Fresh Tracks at Dance Theater Workshop; New Stuff at PS 122; Dancing in the Streets at Wave Hill; The Yard; Joyce SoHo; Danspace Project's Draftwork Series; Austria's Hotel Pupik performing series; Downtown Dance Festival at Battery Park; Newsteps at Mulberry Street Theater; the American Dance Guild Presents at Hunter College; Goose Route Arts Festival in West Virginia; and the dance series at Sweat at DeBaun Auditorium in Jersey. As a figure skater, Harrington has performed, taught and choreographed for Ice Theatre of New York. In 2001, she received a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) through Ice Theatre of New York to choreograph a new piece. This piece, *Once Again*, was performed in the Company's Home Season at Sky Rink and in the Concert Series at The Rink at Rockefeller Plaza. She is currently a coach for Sky Rink and for Figure Skating in Harlem. Harrington will be performing a new piece in the Sundays at Three series at the 92nd Street Y on February 6, 2005 at 3pm.

KATHERINE HEALY (Choreographer, Principal Skater) 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 prestigious 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 also 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. In 2002, Healy choreographed an ensemble piece for Ice Theatre of New York, *Through a Glass, Darkly*. She was also the subject of an extensive profile in the October 2002 issue of *Ice Skating Magazine*. In 2003, Healy staged Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux' work *Ice Moves* (formerly created Curry and his ice dance company) for Ice Theatre, and her recent Ice Theatre commission *Cracked Ice* premiered during the Company's 20th Anniversary Gala last October. 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.

JESSICA ELLEN HUNT was born in Rochester Hills, MI, and first trained as a skater at Skating Club of Detroit. She then relocated to start school and to continue her skating training at University of Delaware. She has competed nationally as a figure skater and performed professionally in *Greg Thompson Show: Holiday on Ice* and more recently with *The Next Ice Age*. She now resides and works as a coach in Hackensack, NJ. This is Hunt's first year performing with Ice Theatre of New York.

GAYLE JEFFERY (Production Manager) has extensive experience in technical theater 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.

RAYE LEVINE (Apprentice) began training and performing with Ice Theatre during the Company's 2003 Summer Residency in Jamestown. In the past, she has worked with Moira North. She returned to the Residency this past summer, prior to starting her first year at Cooper Union, majoring in Architecture.

KATE LIBERMAN began figure skating at the age of four and just two years later began studying classical ballet at the Boston Ballet School for dance education. She represented the Skating Club of Boston at the US Figure Skating Association's Eastern Sectional Championships during several competitive seasons. In 2002, Kate represented Barnard College at the National Collegiate Championships where she placed fifth in the senior division. Kate is currently a junior at Barnard College of Columbia University and plans to pursue a career in medicine. She has been a member of Ice Theatre since the fall of 2003.

DAVID LIU (Choreographer, Principal Skater) was born in Taiwan and immigrated to the United States at the age of six. He then began formal training in both dance and skating shortly. In dance, he attended NYC Ballet's School of American Ballet (SAB) on full scholarship under the tutelage of Richard Rapp and Andre Kramerevsky. George Balanchine himself selected Liu to undergo further intensive training with the late Stanley Williams. After concluding at SAB, David pursued his competitive skating career, participating at the 1992 & 1998 Olympic Games and receiving numerous amateur skating medals and honors. More recently, Liu has been producing, choreographing and performing in exhibitions. He has appeared in television specials including Kurt Browning's *Gotta Skate* for NBC, Disney's *Michelle Kwan Skating Special*, and the Motrin American Open 2001, where Liu was rewarded with the Robert Wagenhoffer Memorial Award. He has choreographed programs for skating luminaries such as Brian Boitano, Lu Chen, Midori Ito, Rosalynn Summers, and Katarina Witt and for major television specials including Kurt Browning's *Gotta Skate*, *Divas on Ice* with Katarina Witt, PBS' *An Evening with Champions*, and NBC's *Rockefeller Center Christmas Specials*. Liu is a resident choreographer for Ice Theatre of New York where he also regularly performs. In 2002 he received a commissioning grant from NYSCA through Ice Theatre for a collaborative work with choreographer JoAnna Mendl Shaw. In dance, Liu has been active as a choreographer in both the United States and Asia. Recent works include *5:1* for Singapore Dance Theatre, *TBD* produced by Cloudgate 2 Company for the National Institute of the Arts in Taiwan, *3's a Game, Now 4 Play* for the Hong Kong Ballet and *Chix and Quacks* for the City Contemporary Dance Company. Liu teaches both skating and dance and has conducted seminars and master classes in the United States, Asia and Europe.

SUZANNE MACDONALD (Apprentice) has been an Ice Theatre apprentice for several years and has performed at the Company's Concert Series at The Rink at Rockefeller Plaza and at The New Works and Young Artists Series at Riverbank Skating Complex. She was a senior-level competitor at the 2003 U.S. National Figure Skating Championships. She is now residing in Simsbury, CT, training with Tatiana Tarasova.

VAKHTANG MURVANIDZE (Guest Artist) was born in Tbilisi, Georgia. He is a ten-time National Champion of Georgia, represented his country seven times

in World Championships and was in the 2002 Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, UT. 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 an aspiring restaurateur and chef, and is also exploring the world of musical theater, focusing on movement and voice. He joined Ice Theatre in hopes of growing as an artist and integrating all aspects of his creative experiences.

KIMBERLY NAVARRO first performed in a professional ice show at the age of nine as a soloist in Charles Schulz's *Christmas Ice Show*. She continued her training and became an ice dancer, competing for the United States in Croatia, Germany, Japan and Finland. Besides ice dancing, she has performed on inline skates in seven national commercials, in *Extreme Wheels Live* and Team Rollerblade shows at DisneyWorld and Disney Paris. Last May she graduated cum laude from Columbia University with a degree in English and a minor in Dance. She just recently returned from performing Knots Berry Farm's *It's Christmas Snoopy!* in Southern California.

MOIRA NORTH (Founder/Director), named one of the 25 Most Influential Names in Figure Skating by International Figure Skating Magazine in 1998 and 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 US. 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 repertory 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 choreo-

graphing 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) (1944-2004) was born in Caracas, Venezuela. He trained in dance at the Scola Cantorum in Paris and with Pina Bausch at the Folkwang Hochschule in Essen, Germany. In 1979 he joined the José Limón company. A dancer of great dramatic intensity, he danced lead roles in much of the Limón repertory, including Othello in *The Moor's Pavane*, and in works by Susanna Linke and Donald McKayle. His choreography, which often drew from Venezuelan folk themes, won awards at the International Academy of Dance in Cologne and was performed by the Limón company, the Nederlands Dans Theater, and companies in Germany, Colombia and Venezuela. He founded and directed Corearte Dance Company of Venezuela, based in Caracas, and he taught at colleges like LIU and Manhattanville College. In 1985 Orta received the Prize of Dance from the Venezuelan government.

DAVID PARSONS (Choreographer) has enjoyed a remarkable career as a performer, choreographer, teacher, director, and producer of dance. He was a leading dancer with the Paul Taylor Dance Company, and has made guest appearances at the New York City Ballet, the Berlin Opera, MOMIX, and the White Oak Dance Project, among others. He founded The Parsons Dance Company with lighting designer Howell Binkley in 1987. As Artistic Director, Mr. Parsons has created over 70 works for the company, having received commissions over the years from presenters such as American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Paul Taylor Dance Company, the American Dance Festival, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, the Spoleto Festival, and Het Muziektheater in Amsterdam. Parsons' work has been seen on Paris Opera Ballet, Feld Ballets/NY, Nederlands Dans Theater, English National Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance Company, and BatSheva Dance Company of Israel, among many others. Parsons choreographed and directed the dance elements for *Times Square 2000*, celebrating the turn of the millenium. He is a recipient of the 2000 Dance Magazine Award, and the 2001 American Choreography Award for his work with *AEROS*, a production featuring the Romanian Gymnastic Federation that was featured on the Bravo Channel. Parsons is also committed to dance education; he has administered a successful eight-season dance festival in Fort Myers, Florida, which has brought noted dance professionals from across the U.S. to work with dance students of all levels in a Parsons-designed curriculum. In the spring of 1999, Parsons was awarded the National Artist Award by the University of Arizona at Tucson for his outstanding work with young people.

HEATHER COOKSON ROTHMAN (Apprentice), from Hudson, OH, has been skating for the last 13 years. She earned her Gold Medal in Moves in the Field and competed in singles under coaches Christian Martin and Helen McGrew until an injury forced her to end her singles career. After retiring from singles, Rothman focused all of her attention on ice dancing. Unwilling to give up her schooling in order to relocate to form a competitive partnership, Rothman focused primarily on testing with coach Alyssa Hicks Blackwell. At the age of 18, she became the third youngest skater and the twelfth skater in the history of U.S. Figure Skating to pass the Golden Waltz, the most difficult Senior International Ice Dance Test. While training under Hicks Blackwell, Rothman earned her Gold Medal in Ice Dancing and also completed the Junior International and Senior International Ice Dance Tests. In June 2004 she passed the Midnight Blues, which made her one of the first skaters to complete the brand-new International Ice Dance Test. Rothman has enjoyed working with Ice Theatre since 2002, and looks forward to continuing to work and to perform with the Company. Off the ice, Heather is in her second year at Columbia University, where she plans to earn a degree in French with a concentration in Spanish.

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, Julliard Dance Ensemble, Erick Hawkins, José Limón, 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* with 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 the majority 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 earned her BA with Distinction in Dance from Ohio State University in 2000. Since then she has been striving to translate dance to ice while training and performing in both areas. On the ice, Alyssa has been performing regularly with Ice Theatre of New York since 2000. She was a principal in Rory Flockhart's *Ebony on Ice/Soul Spectacular on Ice*. Alyssa teaches skating and dance for the Figure Skating in Harlem program. Off the ice, she has performed with several modern dance companies and is completing her Masters Degree in dance at NYU.

DAVID TANKERSLEY has competed in US National Figure Skating Championships and internationally as well. 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 dancer, Tankersley went on 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*. This fall, Tankersley and Haddad worked with renowned dance choreographer David Parsons to create a new work for Ice Theatre of New York, made possible by a commissioning grant from NYSCA.

DOUGLAS WEBSTER is currently Associate Artistic Director of Ice Theatre of New York and a member of the Program Development Committee for the US Figure Skating Association. Recently, he choreographed the opening number of the Sun Valley Ice Performance and the opening and closing numbers for the Stars, Stripes and Skates benefit event at Madison Square Garden. He has choreographed pieces for Lu Chen, Elena Liachenko, Lucinda Ruh, Elena Leonova & Andrei Khvalko, Anita Hartshorn & Frank Sweiding, and many national and international competitors. Mr. Webster has created eleven critically-acclaimed repertory 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*. Mr. Webster has worked with dance choreographers Ann Carlson, Elisa Monte, Johan Renvall, JoAnna Mendl Shaw, Peter DiFalco and David Parsons to help develop their visions of movement on the ice. He also had the opportunity to partner with five-time National Dance Champion Judy Blumberg in a portion of her professional career. Recently, Webster was the assistant choreographer for Disney on Ice's *Mickey and Minnie's Magical Journey* and *Finding Nemo* and Holiday on Ice's *Pinocchio*. Currently he is back in New York, teaching, choreographing and working for Ice Theatre of New York.

JENNIFER WESTER and DANIIL BARANTSEV teamed up at the end of 2003. Jennifer, originally from Dallas, has been skating since she was 12 and formerly partnered with Italian skater Massimo Scali. Daniil, originally from Russia, is a two-time Junior World Champion with former partner Natalia Romaniuta. They are currently training with coach Nikolai Morozov at the Connecticut International Skating Center and hope to compete internationally in the future.

JAMES YORKE competed nationally and internationally in ice dancing prior to turning professional. One of his notable partnerships was with Judy Blumberg, with whom he placed third at the 1993 and 1994 *Challenge of Champions*. He now resides, coaches and choreographs in Los Angeles, CA.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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SPECIAL THANKS TO:

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This event is made possible by public funds from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs.



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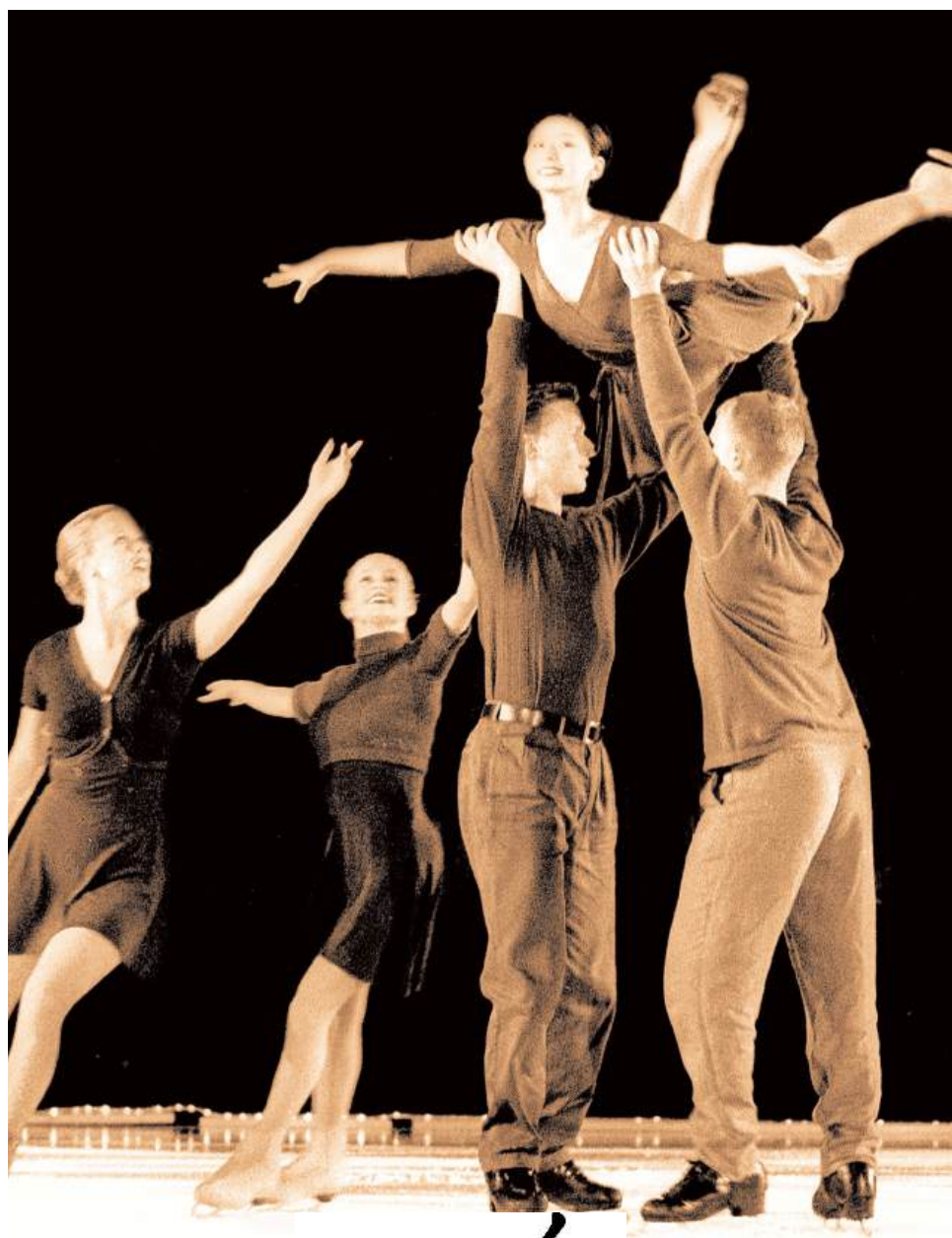
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