Theat

CELEBRATING THE JOY OF DANCING ON ICE

## FALL FROLIC PERFORMANCE AND VIP PARTY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2022 SKY RINK AT CHELSEA PIERS

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Pictured Donovan Carrillo

## BLUE RIBBON GIVES ITS UTMOST SUPPORT TO ICE THEATRE'S 2022 FALL FROLIC PERFORMANCE AND VIP PARTY.



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# BLUE RIBBON

RESTAURANTS®

#### ABOUT THE COMPANY

Ice Theatre of New York<sup>®</sup> (ITNY) creates and advances dance on ice as an ensemble performing art and to provide education and public performances to people of all ages. Founded by Moira North in 1984, ITNY created the first not-for-profit professional ice dance company in the United States and was the first to receive funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

ITNY achieves its public arts and education mission by:

- Commissioning and performing new choreography of pieces created by recognized and emerging dance and ice skating choreographers. The company has created exclusive works by choreographers as varied as well-known skating choreographers Elisa Angeli, Lorna Brown and Joel Dear, modern dance choreographers Jacqulyn Buglisi, Elisa Monte, David Parsons, and Jody Sperling, performance artist Ann Carlson, McKnight Choreographer Fellow Deneane Richburg, and ballet great Edward Villella. We have just begun preparations for our first commissioned work with new media artist and creative technologist LaJuné McMillian.
- Making performances accessible to diverse audiences and presenting dozens of free performances, featuring our current repertory throughout New York City.
- Offering arts education programs on ice dancing and figure skating for school-aged children in Brooklyn, Queens, and Upper Manhattan, annually serving 800 – 1,000 NYC school students.
- Training company skaters and guest skating artists in its weekly Master Edge Classes at Chelsea Piers Sky Rink, as well as offering training programs for aspiring ice dance artists, including our Junior Ensemble.
- Collaborating with choreographers, producers, presenters, administrators and advocates from the dance and skating worlds and beyond while exploring creatively exciting relationships with artists from theatre, music, and new media disciplines.

62 Chelsea Piers, Suite 308, New York, NY 10011 (212) 929-5811 • itny@icetheatre.org





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### SAVE THE DATE 2023 BENEFIT GALA AND PERFORMANCE

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Honoring JASON BROWN

Choreography Award Recipient **ROHENE WARD** 

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CELEBRATING THE JOY OF DANCING ON ICE

## FALL FROLIC

**PERFORMANCE AND VIP PARTY** OCTOBER 27, 2022

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Mazal Karlick

#### 2022 WILL SEARS AWARD WINNERS

Donovan Carrillo & Gregorio Núñez

#### **GUEST ARTIST**

Donovan Carrillo

#### ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK

Armen Agaian, Elisa Angeli, Ingrid Apgar, Danil Berdnikov,

Sarah France, Ale Izquierdo, Kata Junninen, Angela Kim, Valerie Levine,

Freddie Moore, Andrew Saelee, Liz Schmidt, Aaron Singletary

#### PERFORMING APPRENTICES

Oona and Gage Brown

#### YOUTH PERFORMING APPRENTICES

Georgie Blackwell, Caroline Mura, and Milly Wasserman

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(Program subject to change)

#### MAGNETS

Choreographed by Youth Performing Apprentice Milly Wasserman Performed by Georgie Blackwell, Caroline Mura, and Milly Wasserman Music by Sylvan Esso "Dress"

Magnets, a modern ice dance trio, choreographed by Milly Wasserman in collaboration with Georgina Blackwell is about the constant push and pull of energy around us.

#### OF WATER AND ICE

Choreographed by Jody Sperling Performed by Sarah France and Valerie Levine Music by DJ Spooky

In the polar regions, a constant interplay takes place between H2O in its liquid and solid forms. Set to a DJ Spooky score, generated itself by the geometry of ice crystals and the math of climate change data, the dance explores what happens when this fragile balance of water and ice spins out of control. Choreography commissioned by Ice Theatre of New York® with the generous support of the NYS Council on the Arts.

#### **BODY PARTS**

Choreographed by Mauro Bruni Performed by Danil Berdnikov, Ale Izqueirdo, Kata Junninen, Freddie Moore, Liz Yoshiko Schmidt Music by Gabrielle Roth courtesy of Raven Recording

Gabrielle Roth began to develop her 5Rhythms approach to movement in the late 1970s. Hundreds of 5Rhythms teachers worldwide now use her approach in their continuing study and teaching, which posits that anyone can dance and enables practitioners to seek, discover and self-develop their own inner connection to the "Waves" of flowing, staccato, chaos, lyrical and stillness at the heart of their being. Choreography commissioned by Ice Theatre of New York®

#### **BACH TO BACH**

Choreographed by Joel Dear Performed by Armen Agaian Music Selections from Unaccompanied Cello Suite No.4 In E-Flat Major by Bach Performed by Yo-Yo Ma

#### THE DREAM DUET FROM "UNFORGETTABLE"

Choreography by Douglas Webster Performed by Sarah France & Aaron Singletary Music Soundtrack of the motion picture "The Artist" 2012

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#### WHEN ATOMS EMBRACE

Choreography and Costume by Lorna Brown Performed by Liz Schmidt Music by Arvo Pärt "Spiegel im Spiegel"

#### **TAKE FIVE**

Choreographed by Eliot Halverson Performed by Danil Berdnikov Music by Saxophonist Paul Desmond arranged by Dave Brubeck and performed by The Dave Brubeck Quartet

#### IN FRAGMENTS, WE MEET

Choreographed and performed by Ingrid Apgar & Angela Kim Music by Brambles "In the Androgynous Dark"

We represent a desire for process to be total, to move to where progress is measured more by the passing of time than by accomplishment. We aspire to acknowledge one another wholly in our piece, "In Fragments, We Meet." We dare greatly, drawing from our shared backgrounds and honoring where performance and competition (long left behind) conform and split. This is our first iteration of this piece fusing figure skating, hockey, dance, and circus, commissioned by Ice Theatre of New York®.

#### **RHYTHM DANCE**

Choreographed by Joel Dear Performed by Oona and Gage Brown Music by Imagine Dragons "Bones"

#### WILL SEARS AWARD WINNER

Mexican National Champion & Olympian Donovan Carrillo

#### ENSEMBLE FOR PEACE

Choreographed by Elisa Angeli

Performed by Elisa Angeli, Danil Berdnikov, Sarah France, Ale Izqueirdo, Freddie Moore, Andrew Saelee, Liz Yoshiko Schmidt, and Aaron Singletary Music by Sergei Rachmaninoff, performed by David Garrett "Concerto No. 2"

This piece is dedicated to the victims of war in Ukraine and everywhere throughout time in our world. Choreography commissioned by Ice Theatre of New York®

#### **FINALE**

#### WHO'S WHO

**ARMEN AGAIAN (Performer)** joined Ice Theatre of New York® as an artist in 2018. He has been ice skating since 2002, developing into a five-time National Champion in his native country of Georgia, and participated in the Junior World Championships three times. He also participated in the 2013 Youth Olympic Games, the Junior Grand Prix (2012-2015) and the 2016 European Championships. When not performing, Armen works as a skating coach in New York.

**ELISA ANGELI (Choreographer and Performer)** joined ITNY in 2008, and toured France with the company that year. In 2015, she became ITNY's Ensemble Director. An Italian ice dancer, who has earned recognition from the Italian Federation for Ice Skating, she studied Ballet with Ludmilla Vlassova (Bolshoi) and Giovanna Franzosi in Milan, and with Christine Wright at the Gibney Dance Center as well as Modern and Contemporary Dance at the Open Dance Center, New York, and at the Music, Art and Shows School, Milan. Elisa has trained in aerial silks at Streb Lab and at the Trapeze School in New York and in contortion and extreme flexibility classes with J. Noan and O. Karmansky. Her expertise as a circus arts specialist allows Elisa to bring a unique element of excitement and creativity when skating as a principal performer and aerialist with Ice Theatre of New York®. In 2009, Elisa participated with ITNY at the Premiere of Wintuk by Cirque du Soleil at Madison Square Garden. In Italy, she toured with Italian Champions on Ice, and Ghiaccio Spettacolo as an aerialist and performed in Munich with Spotlight Productions. Elisa has worked as an aerialist since 2014, with Cirque-tacular Entertainment, with which she performed in the show The Art of Circus in September 2016.

**INGRID APGAR (Aerial Performer)** is an NYC-based aerialist and ex-hockey player of 10 years. Though skating was a daily family affair growing up, this is her first time performing on ice. Gratitude to Angela Kim, Moira North, One Day One, and Ice Theatre New York for the opportunity to create this one-of-a-kind duet. Graduate of NYU Gallatin and Circus Warehouse.

**DANIL BERDNIKOV (Performer)** hails from the city of Samara, Russia, from which he competed as part of the junior national team as well as across his vast native land through high school. He then moved to Moscow both to continue his education and to join Stage Entertainment Russia to begin performing as a skater. Performing for an audience allowed Danil to fall in love with skating in a new way and his career has blossomed over eight years with Willy Bietak Productions and Wheeler Productions in the United States, Stageworks Worldwide Production in the UK and Holiday on Ice Productions and Dynamic Shows Entertainment in the EU. ITNY welcomes Danil as an artist, grateful to his parents, coaches, choreographers, and the fellow skaters who have supported him along the way.

**LORNA BROWN (Choreographer)**, a British and World Professional Champion and World and Olympic coach, has been a principal performer in numerous ice shows across the globe, including John Curry's Ice Dancing on Broadway and Theatre of Skating at the London Palladium. She has appeared in TV specials, touring galas, and commercials worldwide and has studied contemporary dance, working with some of the world's leading choreographers. She has coached and choreographed for over 50 national champions including two world professional champions. Lorna most recently choreographed for Emanuel Sandhu, (three-time Canadian Champion), Kevin Van Der Perren (Belgium Champion, two-time European medalist and 2011 silver medalist in Bratislava and Skate America) and Jenna McCorkell (10-time British Champion). Lorna has given workshops on all aspects of figure skating at National and International seminars for both skaters and coaches. She has produced and directed her own international skating school in the UK called Skate of the Art with the world-famous Rafael Arutunian. She specializes in the latest physics and aerodynamics in skating techniques, focuses a great deal on expression and style in her choreography, and has written several articles for skating magazines on these subjects. Lorna moved to the USA several years ago, has been awarded the PSA Level 7 ranking and holds a Bachelor's in sports science.

**OONA AND GAGE BROWN (Apprentices)** have just been crowned World Junior Ice Dance Champions representing Team USA at the 2022 World Junior Figure Skating Championships in Tallinn, Estonia, after winning silver medals at the 2021 U.S. Junior National Ice Dance Championships. A sister and brother ice dance team from Long Island, NY, they have been skating together for six years in numerous international competitions; performing regularly with Ice Theatre of New York® all that time, while training with coaches Inese Bucevica and ITNY choreographer Joel Dear for over two years. They've recently worked with On Ice Perspectives at beautiful Bryant Park Ice Rink and received much love and recognition for the resulting video of their Metallica Free Dance, which has gone viral.

**MAURO BRUNI (Choreographer/MBA/BFA)** first performed with ITNY in 2014. A leader in the professional figure skating community, Mauro works as an ice performer, as well as a coach, choreographer, and show director. He has taught students in the USA, Mexico, Britain, Sweden, the Netherlands, Germany, France, and Austria. Credits include: Ice Theatre of London creator and founder; House of Mauro creator and founder; Navesink Country Club Artistic Director; lead performer in numerous ice skating productions globally most notably: Holiday on Ice – star performer between 2007-2018; show director and choreographer for productions in Europe, North America and internationally; head choreographer at the Trelleborgskonståkningsklubb in Trelleborg, Sweden 2016-17. Awards include: US Professional Championships Groundbreaker award; Moins5 choreography award in Monéteau, France; ProSkaters Virtual Skateoff champion. Mauro has been recognized as an AIT certified choreographer PSA rated free skating coach and choreographer, and national and international competitor for Team USA from 1995-2005. @maurojbruni

**JOEL DEAR (Choreographer)** happily rejoins Ice Theatre of New York® creatively for the 2022 Home Season, having first enlisted as a company member in 2008. Joel quickly fell in love with skating in elementary school when a section of the school playground flooded and froze over. A two-time US National Medalist in Ice Dance and four-time Team USA member, he has performed in numerous national and international touring shows including Holiday on Ice, Bietak Productions, and Ice Dance International as well as TV productions including America's Got Talent and Instinct, and programs on PBS and HGTV. Joel's choreography for

National and International competitors has brought medals in both Ice Dance and Singles and most recently, as coach and choreographer for Oona and Gage Brown, the 2022 World Junior Ice Dance Champions. Other accomplishments of note include that of choreographer for the 2022 NQS Ice Dance Final Champions at both Novice and Junior levels and the 2022 National Junior Champions.

DONOVAN CARRILLO (Guest Performer) is a Mexican figure skater. He is a four-time Mexican national champion and has earned the highest placement by any Mexican skater at a World Championships and gualified to the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing. Carrillo began learning to skate in Guadalajara when he was eight years old. In 2013, he moved to León to keep training with his Coach Gregorio Nuñez. His junior international debut came in September 2013, at a Junior Grand Prix (JGP) event in Mexico City, where he placed 15th overall. Competing at the Festival Abierto Mexicano, Carrillo won the gold medal and became the first Mexican skater ever to land a guadruple jump, the guadruple Salchow, in a competition. At the 2021 U.S. Classic Carrillo finished in fifth place with new personal bests. At the 2021 CS Finlandia Trophy he became the first Mexican to land a quadruple Salchow in combination in an international competition. Scoring a new personal best in his free skate, Carrillo finished in fifteenth. After winning his fourth national title at the Mexican championships, Carrillo was named to the Mexican Olympic team, and opted to withdraw from the 2022 Four Continents Championships to minimize the risk of catching COVID-19 in the interim. Carrillo scored a new personal best of 79.69 in the short program of the Olympic men's event, placing nineteenth and becoming the first Mexican skater to qualify for the free skate segment at the Olympic Games. He called it "a dream come true."

SARAH FRANCE (Performer/Outreach Director) joined the Ice Theatre of New York in 2018, bringing her passion for ice dancing and broad knowledge of skating skills and disciplines to the company. France has translated her skills to many different areas as both the Director of Outreach Programming and as an ensemble performer with ITNY, in addition to being a choreographer, edge class instructor, aerialist, inline skater, dancer and off ice instructor. Her dedication to skating and desire to share her love of the ice with others has made her a sought after instructor and performer. She is a U.S. Figure Skating triple gold medalist, national ice dance competitor, six-time US Open Professional Figure Skating Championships competitor, and she realized one of her childhood inspirations by joining ITNY. In addition to her work with ITNY, France's skills have been highly valued in training developmental through internationally competitive skaters, working as a coach, choreographer and program director. She is a faculty member for Shattuck-St. Mary's International Figure Skating Center of Excellence training camps and a welcomed guest coach in skating programs around the world. Her well-rounded education on the ice has allowed her to flexibly work in all disciplines of skating, and she loves to share her passion for movement and glide with others through performing and teaching.

**ELIOT HALVERSON (Choreographer)** a native of Minneapolis, started skating at age six. She won the 2007 U.S. Junior Championship, 2006 U.S. Novice Championship and 2004 U.S. Intermediate Championship. Eliot is a national and international level competitive choreographer and served as choreographer for the Bressanone Summer Skating Camp in

the Italian Alps. In addition to "Take Five," she created "Swimming," a piece for three skaters to music by Florence and the Machine, for ITNY in 2016.

**ALE IZQUIERDO (Performer)** has been a member of ITNY since 2011, and performed as part of the Christmas Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall in the 2021-2022 season. A native of Léon, Guanajuato, Mexico, Ale started figure skating at age 8, becoming a three-time Mexican national champion, and she won first place at the International Santis Cup Switzerland in 2007. She moved to the USA in 2009, to train under the tutelage of the Ukrainian team of Victor Petrenko, Galina Zmievskaya and Nina Petrenko at the Ice House in Hackensack, NJ. She performed in Dancing on Ice with Torvill & Dean in the United Kingdom and in the Netherlands. Ale has been the advertising face of Polyglide Ice, a surface ITNY uses in its studio.

**KATA JUNNINEN (Performer)** is a 25-year-old skater, actor/performer, and aspiring choreographer originally from Finland. She's skated since she was 3 years old, but for most of her career she specialized in Synchronized Skating. During her 20-year career Kata has represented Finland internationally since 2010 and competed at the highest level in the Senior division since 2015. She has represented 3 countries, Finland, Sweden, and the USA in synchro and finished her career as a member of Team USA on the synchronized skating World Team 2018-2020. She has always loved performing and has a degree in Acting for Film and Television from NYCDA. Kata joined Ice Theatre of New York in 2021 and is thrilled to be a part of the 2022 Fall Frolic!

ANGELA KIM (Aerial Performer) is a Professional Figure Skaters, Circus Artist, & Founder of Balanced Skaters. Angela comes from an eclectic background: she began skating at the age of 6 and competed until age 18. She's been performing ever since. She started her professional career back in 2000 with Ice Theatre of New York, Inc.® and has held principal positions for Holiday on Ice, Disney on Ice, Royal Caribbean, Art on Ice, and Cirgue du Soleil since then. Her long-standing success stems from years of experience working with the body in many different disciplines. She discovered circus arts in 2006, and has been studying traditional Mongolian contortion and aerial acrobatics for over a decade. During this time, she also opened and co-owned a successful pilates studio called Studio Blue in Portland, Oregon, where she began to develop the Balanced Skaters program. After several years of coaching and running her studio, she began mixing circus with figure skating, putting her on the map as one of the few pioneering skaters to mix disciplines. In 2015 Angela received her certification as an Functional Range Conditioning (FRC) mobility specialist. She began coaching full-time on and off the ice in Oakland, CA, and opened her second pilates studio, Pilates Loft Oakland. After 2 years of being away from performing, she received an offer from Cirque du Soleil to perform as an inline skater and aerialist in their new creation, Volta. During her time in Cirgue, she continued to coach as well. She was asked to teach for Acrobatic Arts and was thrilled to be a part of a program that helped young dancers build strong, capable, and healthy bodies. Angela saw a disconnect in the skating world and wanted to make a larger impact in reaching broader skating communities. She teamed up with Acrobatic Arts to create Balanced Skaters.

**VALERIE LEVINE (Performer)** has collaborated on ITNY events for the past two decades and has been roller-skating as well as dancing tap, jazz, and ballet since the age of four. She started training in figure skating at 11, going on to compete and test until graduating high school, when she turned down a Disney On Ice to pursue her Bachelor's degree at the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT). At 19, she earned her gold level in Senior Ladies Moves and pre-golds in ice dance before skating professionally. While earning her BS in Product Management Textiles from FIT, she minored in dance and trained at Broadway Dance Center in many dance styles, leading to an off-ice career as a professional belly dancer, ballroom dancer and samba dancer. She currently teaches and performs these styles worldwide, while managing her own entertainment company Valerina Dance, which can be followed at ValerieLevine.com or on Instagram @Valerielevine.

**FREDDIE MOORE (Performer)** joined the Ice Theatre of New York in 2018. She is a Brooklyn native and U.S. Figure Skating triple gold medalist who has performed at events for Chanel, as well as for Phillip Glass at Rockefeller Center. She has also performed alongside Beth Woronoff in the Hudson Valley. She currently coaches skaters of all ages at Sky Rink and specializes in Moves-in-the-Field. Freddie holds a BA in Creative Writing and has published her work in Electric Literature and Hazlitt, among other places. One of her favorite quotes from Walt Whitman is: "And if the body were not the soul, what is the soul?"

**MOIRA NORTH (Founder/Artistic Director)** has been named one of the 25 Most Influential Names in Figure Skating by International Figure Skating Magazine, as a driving force in the development of figure skating as a performing art. Since founding Ice Theatre of New York® in 1984, she has commissioned renowned dance choreographers to make new works for the company while nurturing and developing choreographers from the world of ice. She has also been a catalyst in the development of other artistic ice dance companies in both Canada and the United States. Moira and partner Patrick Dean skated ITNY's first work, a collaboration with Belgian dance choreographer Marc Bogaerts, which won them first place in the Free Dance at the Professional Championships in Jaca, Spain. In her subsequent work as ITNY Director, Moira has continued to integrate contemporary dance into the repertory of ice choreography. Some of Moira's collaborations include productions with opera singer Alicia Hall Moran, singer/composer Theo Bleckmann, and the piece "Of Water and Ice" with Jody Sperling and DJ Spooky.

**JIRINA RIBBENS (Executive Director)** joined the Ice Theatre of New York® staff in December 2004, after serving on the board since the founding of the company. Over the past 17 years, Jirina has overseen ITNY's growth, including the expansion of its outreach programming for public school children, the addition of ongoing edge classes for ice artists and ITNY's entry into new media. Her ITNY collaboration with Improv Everywhere received over four million views on YouTube. Prior to her work with ITNY, Jirina worked in a variety of positions in the entertainment and sports industries, where, at Candid Productions, she produced and managed events with two-time Olympic Champion Dick Button. She also worked as an Olympic sports consultant and producer for television networks at nine Olympic Games, winning a 2002 Sports Emmy for Outstanding Live Sports Special as Associate Producer for the Salt Lake City Olympic Winter Games with NBC. Jirina and her husband reside in Harlem.

**ANDREW SAELEE (Performer)** marks his second season skating with ITNY. A 27-year-old Bay Area native he started skating with a bang at the tender age of ten when, on his first trip to Lake Tahoe, his mom found herself dragging him off the ice since he'd been skating the whole week of their visit. Since then, he's competed competitively for eight years, and has skated in professional shows such as: Disney On Ice and Great America, as well as at Sea World and Phantasialand.

**ELIZABETH (LIZ) YOSHIKO SCHMIDT (Performer)** has been skating with ITNY since 2017. Luscious edges, artistic dynamic movement, and traditional ice dancing and fundamentals in figures inform her skating and professional career which began in 2013, at the age of 18, performing internationally in Germany, France, Austria, Egypt and across the United States. A Japanese/German American skater who hails from Chicago, IL, she recently moved from San Francisco, CA, to New York City. A U.S. Figure Skating double gold medalist in Freestyle and Moves in the Field, and a silver medalist in Ice Dancing, Liz received her BFA in painting from the San Francisco Art Institute in 2018, and has exhibited her paintings and art work across the Bay Area. Liz took Jazz Fusion dance class at the Alonzo King Lines Dance Center in San Francisco from Lynn Brilhante for 7 years. Her former skating coaches are: Lorna Brown, Beata Handra, Paul Spruell, Phillip DiGuglielmo, Louis Vachon, Audra Shindo-Chan, and most importantly Larry Holliday (African American óx US Adult Nationals Campionship champion, former Ebony on Ice performer and her first coach).

**AARON SINGLETARY (Performer)** grew up in Pennsylvania skating for the Penguin Figure Skating Club and started his national competitive career training with Craig Maurizi at the Ice House in Hackensack, NJ. Aaron earned gold in Moves in the Field as well as singles Freestyle. Aaron now coaches primarily at City Ice Pavilion in New York City. Over the years Aaron has had many internationally revered coaches. Each left a prominent mark on his approach to skating and singling one or two would be a disservice to the others. He aims to further his knowledge so that one day he too may be an internationally recognized performer and coach. The 2019 Home Season marked his debut with Ice Theatre of New York®.

**JODY SPERLING (Choreographer)** a New York City-based dancer-choreographer, Jody serves as founder and Artistic Director of Time Lapse Dance where she has created more than 45 works and is the leading exponent of the style of early performance technologist Loïe Fuller (1862-1928). Jody has expanded Fuller's genre into the 21st century, deploying it in the context of contemporary and environmental performance forms. Jody earned a World Choreography Award nomination for her work on the French feature film The Dancer and has been commissioned to create a major new work in a forthcoming Fuller documentary. In 2014, Jody participated in a polar science mission as the first choreographer-in-residence aboard a US Coast Guard icebreaker and danced on Arctic sea ice. Since then, much of her work has focused on engaging with climate change. Jody is developing an inquiry called ecokinetics that cultivates the relationship between the human movers and ecological systems while providing strategies for climate-engaged artmaking. Of Water and Ice represents her second commission for ITNY.



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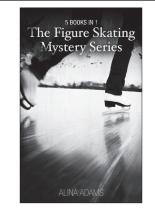


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