



David Bazemore

# DOUG VARONE AND DANCERS

**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR** Doug Varone

**DANCERS** Courtney Barth, Hollis Bartlett, Brad Beakes, Jake Bone, Joniece "JoJo" Boykins, Daeyana Moss, Thryn Saxon, Doug Varone, Ryan Yamauchi

**LIGHTING DESIGNERS** Stacey Boggs, David Ferri, Ted Sullivan, Derek Van Heel

**COSTUME DESIGNER** Lynne Steincamp

**PRODUCTION MANAGER** Tricia Toliver

**GENERAL MANAGER** Patty Bryan

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Zellerbach Theatre

Friday, November 17 @ 8 PM

Saturday, November 18 @ 2 PM

Saturday, November 18 @ 8 PM

There will be an intermission.

**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Media support for the 23/24 season dance series provided by *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

## PROGRAM NOTES

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### *Somewhere* (2019)

**CHOREOGRAPHY** Doug Varone

**MUSIC** Leonard Bernstein, Orchestral selections from *West Side Story*

**LIGHTING DESIGN** Derek Van Heel

**DANCERS** Courtney Barth, Hollis Bartlett, Brad Beakes, Jake Bone, Joniece "JoJo" Boykins, Daeyana Moss, Thryn Saxon, Ryan Yamauchi

*Somewhere* was created to explore Leonard Bernstein's iconic score to *West Side Story* void of the musical's well-known narrative, exposing a new way to visualize the score. Permission was granted by the Leonard Bernstein Foundation for this expressed purpose.

*Somewhere* is made possible in part by generous support from DANCEworks, a unique collaboration and creative residency program established between SUMMERDANCE Santa Barbara and the Lobero Theatre. Additional funding credits for the creation of *Somewhere* include the National Endowment for the Arts and the New York State Council for the Arts. *Somewhere* premiered on September 6, 2019 at the Lobero Theatre, Santa Barbara, CA.

*Somewhere* is dedicated to Dianne Vapnek.

## INTERMISSION

### *Two Piano Pieces*

#### *Short Story* (2001)

**CHOREOGRAPHY** Doug Varone

**MUSIC** Sergei Rachmaninoff, *Prelude in C Sharp Minor*

**LIGHTING DESIGN** Ted Sullivan

**COSTUMES COORDINATED BY** Courtney Barth

**DANCERS** Brad Beakes, Daeyana Moss

*Short Story* was commissioned by the Limón Dance Company and premiered on October 9, 2001 at the Joyce Theater in NYC.

#### *Nocturne* (2017)

**CHOREOGRAPHY** Doug Varone

**MUSIC** Frederic Chopin, *Nocturne in E Minor, Opus 72, #1*

**LIGHTING DESIGN** Stacey Boggs

**COSTUME COORDINATED BY** Courtney Barth

**DANCER** Doug Varone

*Nocturne* premiered on August 2, 2017 at Jacob's Pillow in Becket, MA.

## PAUSE

**Rise** (1993)

**CHOREOGRAPHY** Doug Varone

**MUSIC** John Adams, *Fearful Symmetries*

**LIGHTING DESIGN** David Ferri

**COSTUME DESIGN** Lynne Steincamp

**DANCERS** Ryan Yamauchi and Hollis Bartlett, Brad Beakes and Courtney Barth, Thryn Saxon and Daeyana Moss, Jake Bone and Joniece "JoJo" Boykins

*Rise* premiered on October 8, 1993 at the Quick Center for the Arts in Fairfield, CT. It was created in residence at NYU Tisch Summer Dance Residency Program and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia through a generous grant from the Carpenter Foundation.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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"Each creative process is a tremendously collaborative event with the dancers, embracing all of our imaginations, instincts and artistry. My thanks and love to them for being such great, caring allies in the creation of the many dances that fall from my brain."

- Doug Varone

### Doug Varone and Dancers

The 2023/24 season marks the company's 38th year. On the concert stage, in opera, theatre and on the screen, Varone's kinetically thrilling dances make essential connections and mine the complexity of the human spirit.

On tour, the company has performed in more than 125 cities in 45 states across the U.S. and in Europe, Asia, Canada and South America. Stages include The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, San Francisco Performances, London's Queen Elizabeth Hall, Toronto's Harbourfront, Moscow's Stanislavsky Theater, Buenos Aires' Teatro San Martin, the Venice Biennale, Marble Hall in Tokyo, and the Bates, Jacob's Pillow and American Dance Festivals. In opera and theatre, the company regularly collaborates on the many Varone-directed or choreographed productions that have been produced around the country.

Doug Varone and Dancers are among the most sought-after ambassadors and educators in the field. The company was selected to tour as part of the DanceMotionUSA(SM) program, a joint project between BAM and the U.S. Department of State, touring, performing and teaching in Argentina, Paraguay and Peru for a month. This project culminated in the premiere of a new commissioned work for Brooklyn Academy of Music's Next Wave Festival, in collaboration with the Argentina-based Brenda Angiel Aerial Dance. Other BAM produced seasons include *Dense Terrain* (2007), the *30th Anniversary Season* (2016) and *In the Shelter of the Fold/Epilogue* (2019). For the past 20 years, the company's annual summer intensive workshops at leading universities attract students and professionals from around the globe. The DEVICES Program, a mentoring initiative for emerging choreographers began its pilot year in 2014. This unique program mentors 12 artists over the course of several months in the

creation and presentation of new works. Other educational initiatives include Virtual Varone, a program which creates virtual residencies around the globe and the Education/Performance Project which enfold college dance students into the company's repertory, directly sharing the stage with company dancers. The Project has been a cornerstone in the company's teaching and mentorship programs, creating an important dialogue with young dancers about their artistry and the affect they can have in the world today.

Varone, his dancers and designers have been honored with 11 Bessie Awards. The company's creative output is as varied as Varone's interests. Recent projects include: *everything is fine*, a full evening movement play based on the poems of Billy Collins, with a new score by David Van Tieghem; *The Scrapbook*, a digital journal of 10 films created and directed by Varone, set to iconic songs from the 1940s-50s and *Somewhere*, Varone's acclaimed non-narrative version of Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story*. The company's newest work, *To My Arms Restore*, is staged to a suite of Handel arias offset by an electronic score digitally mastered by a live DJ and will premiere in March 2024. [dovadance.org](http://dovadance.org) | [@dovadance](https://www.instagram.com/dovadance)

### **Doug Varone** (Artistic Director)

Award-winning choreographer and director Varone works in dance, theatre, opera, film and fashion. His New York City-based Doug Varone and Dancers has been commissioned and presented to critical acclaim by leading international venues for over three decades.

In the concert dance world, Varone has created a body of works globally. Commissions include Paul Taylor's American Modern Dance Company, Limón Dance Company, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Rambert Dance Company, Martha Graham Dance Company, Batsheva Dance Company and Bern Ballet, among others. In addition, his dances have been staged on more than 100 college and university programs around the country.

In opera, Varone is in demand as both a director and choreographer. Among his productions at The Metropolitan Opera are Richard Strauss' *Salome*, the world premiere of Tobias Picker's *An American Tragedy*, Stravinsky's *Le Sacre du Printemps*, designed by David Hockney, and Hector Berloiz's *Les Troyens*. He has staged multiple premieres and new productions for Minnesota Opera, Opera Colorado, Washington Opera, New York City Opera and Boston Lyric Opera, among others. His numerous theatre credits include choreography for Broadway, Off-Broadway and regional theatres across the country. Recent projects include directing and choreographing the MasterVoices production of *Dido and Aeneas* at NY's City Center, starring Tony Award winners Kelli O'Hara and Victoria Clark, staging Julia Wolfe's Pulitzer Prize winning oratorio, *Anthracite Fields*, for the Westminster Choir and the Bang on a Can All-Stars and choreographing the revival of Kurt Weill's musical *Lady in the Dark* at City Center.

Varone received his BFA from Purchase College where he was awarded the President's Distinguished Alumni Award. Numerous honors and awards include a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, an Obie Award, the Jerome Robbins Fellowship at the Bogliasco Institute in Italy, two individual Bessie Awards, a Doris Duke Artist Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Dance Guild.

**Courtney Barth** (Dancer, Costume Manager, Workshop Coordinator)

Barth (she/they) is a New York-based dancer originally from Las Vegas, NV. They are a graduate of SUNY Purchase where they studied abroad at London Contemporary Dance School. While abroad, she performed Crystal Pite's *Polaris* at Sadlers Wells. Since graduation, she has worked with Shannon Gillen at NYC fashion week and Kensaku Shinohara at the Queens Museum and is currently a company member with Hannah Garner's 2nd Best Dance Company. Barth joined Doug Varone and Dancers in 2017. She also acts as Costume Manager and Workshop Coordinator for the company.

**Hollis Bartlett** (Dancer)

Bartlett is a performer, teacher, creator and advocate for the arts. His curiosity for movement and performance began at an early age and led him to NYU where he received a BFA in dance and studied abroad at the Salzburg Experimental Academy of Dance in Austria. As an educator, he has taught at the Bates Dance Festival and at universities including Rutgers, Montclair and SUNY Purchase. As a creator, he collaborates with partner Nattie Trogdon and they are currently in residence at LMCC's Art Center on Governors Island. Bartlett joined Doug Varone and Dancers in 2011.

**Brad Beakes** (Dancer, Education Manager, Licensing and Staging)

Beakes is a New York City-based dance artist originally from Glendora, California and a graduate of California State University, Fullerton. In his performance career, Beakes has been honored to dance with the Limón Dance Company (2016-2017), Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company (2011-2016), Nikolais Dance Theatre (2011-2018) and Keith Johnson/Dancers, among other collaborators. Beakes has had the pleasure of teaching with the New York City Department of Education, Gibney, Limón Institute, Dance International Program of Japan, Manhattanville College and SUNY Purchase College. Beakes has been a performer, teacher and administrator with Doug Varone and Dancers since 2017.

**Jake Bone** (Dancer, Company Manager, Tour Manager)

Bone, originally from Dallas, Texas, earned a BFA in dance with honors at the University of North Texas where he performed works by Bebe Miller, Nick Cave, Kihyoung Choi and Anna Sokolow. Since moving to New York City, he has been a company member for Bare Dance Company, Gibney Dance Company and Awakening Movement. He has also had the pleasure of working with the Median Movement, the Metropolitan Opera, Bulareyaung Pagarlava, Kensaku Shinohara and Steeledance. Bone joined Doug Varone and Dancers in 2015 and acts as the Company Manager and Tour Manager.

**Joniece "JoJo" Boykins** (Dancer, Social Media Coordinator)

Boykins is an African American native of Inglewood, California. She received her BFA in dance from the Conservatory of Dance at SUNY Purchase College. During her time at Purchase, she performed the works of Doug Varone, Peter Chu, Kevin Wynn, Jonathan Reidel, Alexandra Beller and Nejla Yarkin. Alongside her studies, she has attended professional programs such as Springboard Danse Montréal, Hubbard Street, Alvin Ailey and Ronald K. Brown/Evidence's summer workshop. She has performed in works by Donald McKayle, Rennie Harris, Christopher Huggins, Tommie Waheed, Lula Washington and Tamica Washington-Miller. Boykins joined Doug Varone and Dancers in 2021.

**Daeyana Moss** (Dancer, Social Media Coordinator)

Moss, a Bronx native, attended Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts where she received the Father Fame award in 2017. She then continued her education at Conservatory of Dance at SUNY Purchase, graduating in 2021. Moss has performed works by Alvin Ailey, Janis Brenner, Joseph Hernandez, Annie Rigney, José Limón, Lajamartin, Anna Sokolow and Doug Varone. She recently performed in Armenia with Gaspard & Dancers. Moss performed in Sleep No More Halloween 2023 at the McKittrick Hotel under the creative direction of Stephanie Batten Bland and Marla Phelan. She joined Doug Varone and Dancers in 2021.

**Thryn Saxon** (Dancer)

Saxon is a dancer, teacher and choreographer based in NYC. Saxon has performed with Sleep No More and Kate Weare Company, and is currently working with Helen Simoneau Danse. Her work under the moniker SAXYN Dance Works has been performed at The Perez Art Museum, Windhover Performing Arts Center, Arts on Site, Gelsey Kirkland Theater and 92Y where her solo, *lorelei*, was selected for the Future Dance Festival 2022. Most recently, Saxon was selected as the RADicle 22/23 AIR at The Croft in Michigan. Saxon is thrilled to be in her second season with Doug Varone and Dancers.

**Ryan Yamauchi** (Dancer, Rehearsal Director, Workshop Coordinator)

Yamauchi was born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii and began his dance training at the Mid-Pacific Institute School of the Arts. He later moved to New York and received his BFA in dance from SUNY Purchase. Yamauchi has had the pleasure of dancing with 2nd Best Dance Company, Loni Landon Dance Projects, NVA & Guests and Sidra Bell Dance New York. He has also performed as a guest dancer with Gibney Dance Company, Santa Fe Opera and Santa Barbara Dance Theater. Yamauchi began working with Doug Varone and Dancers in 2015.

**Tricia Toliver** (Production Manager)

Toliver was the resident Lighting Designer/Production Manager for the Barnard College Dance Department from 2009-2022, designing lighting for new works by many noted choreographers. She has had the pleasure of working primarily in the dance world for such companies as the Trisha Brown Dance Company, Lucinda Childs, Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, Limón Dance Company, Doug Varone and Dancers, Donald Byrd/The Group, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, Susan Marshall, David Dorfman Dance, Camille A. Brown Dance Company, Parsons Dance and Complexions. She danced with Donald Byrd/The Group from 1987-1991.

**Stacey Boggs** (Lighting Designer)

Boggs is a New York-based lighting designer and production manager. She comes to Doug Varone and Dancers from working as the Lighting Director for the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. She has designed for choreographers such as Bill T. Jones, Troy Powell, Robert Moses, Christopher Wheeldon, Chang Yong Sung and Stephane Boko. She has also designed *The Wizard of Oz* (Dancer's Workshop), *8-Track* (Shadowlands), *#9, Marco Millions (based on lies)* and *The|King|Operetta* (Waterwell). Other designs include *Soundtrack 63* (651 Arts), *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Theatre Three), *I Love a Piano* (national tour), and *Urinetown* (Saint John's University). She has designed at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and Carnegie Hall on numerous occasions. She has also worked as a lighting supervisor for The Wooster Group and as the Technical and Lighting Director for Ailey II. She graduated from NYU's Graduate Design program in 2005 and is a member of USA 829.

**Patty Bryan** (General Manager)

Bryan has been involved with dance companies and organizations throughout her professional career. She has held senior administrative positions with Rena Shagan Associates, Armitage Gone! Dance, DanceBrazil, Gina Gibney Dance, Shen Wei Dance Arts and the New York State Dance Force. She has served as Board Chair of Pentacle Dance/Works, President of the Nancy Meehan Dance Company Board, President of the Laban/BartiniEFF Institute for Movement Studies Board and was co-founder and Board President of Dance Umbrella in Austin, TX. She also performed with the Nancy Meehan Dance Company. She has been with Doug Varone and Dancers since 2019.

**David Ferri** (Lighting Designer)

Ferri has worked with prominent choreographers such as Pina Bausch, Shen Wei, Doug Varone, Yin Mei, Eiko and Koma, Jane Comfort, David Rousseve, Jody Sperling and Ballet Preljocaj. He has been the Production Manager for the prestigious American Dance Festival since 1996 training upcoming designers in America. Ferri is the recipient of the 1987-1988 Bessie Award for his design of Doug Varone's *Straits* and the 2000-2001 Bessie Award for Sustained Achievement in Lighting Design. Ferri is the resident Lighting Designer and Technical Director for the Vassar College Dance Department.

**Lynne Steincamp** (Costume Designer)

Steincamp has worked with numerous choreographers over the course of her long association with dance, including Gina Gibney, Shapiro & Smith, Susan Marshall and Alyson Pou. She was Costume Consultant for the Trisha Brown Company for over a decade. Her association with Doug Varone began in 1990. She has designed for many of the company's works, including *Force Majeure*, *Rise*, *Possession* and *Bel Canto*. She now lives on a horse farm in Connecticut with her husband, artist Power Boothe.

**Ted Sullivan** (Lighting Designer)

Sullivan has designed lighting for productions at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park and Hartford Stage; lit dance choreographed by Agnes de Mille, Jiri Kylian, George Balanchine and Robert Battle; and designed for dance companies such as American Ballet Theatre II, the Limón Dance Company and Ballet Tech. Sullivan's designs for theatre productions include the Metropolitan Opera in New York, The Chaing Kai-Shek National Theatre in Taiwan, the Palacio de Bellas Artes in Mexico City, and the Kennedy Center's Eisenhower and Terrace Theatres. He also works in architectural lighting and has received two Lumen awards.

**Derek Van Heel** (Lighting Designer)

A Brooklyn-based lighting designer, Heel's designs have been seen at Jazz at Lincoln Center, the Alvin Ailey Theatre, The Metropolitan Museum of Art and assorted Off-Broadway venues. Recent work includes designs with White Snake Projects, New York City Opera, EyeKnee Coordination, Under the Radar at The Public Theatre, Syracuse Opera, Red Fern Theatre Company, Palm Beach Opera, Actors Studio Drama School, Curtis Institute of Music, Shreveport Opera, Scandinavian American Theatre, Origin Theatre and The Civilians. His award-winning designs for Ren Gyo Soh's *Butoh Medea* have been shown internationally at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, United Solo Europe and SoloFest'17 in Izmir, Turkey. Heel received a BFA from the University of Montana and a MFA from NYU Tisch.

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This presentation of Doug Varone and Dancers is presented with the collaborative administrative support of Performing Arts Strategies. For touring/performance information: [info@performingartsstrategies.com](mailto:info@performingartsstrategies.com)

## MUSIC CREDITS

Leonard Bernstein, *Leonard Bernstein Conducts the NY Philharmonic, West Side Story Suite, West Side Story, Original Motion Picture Soundtrack*, by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes, Inc., Sole Agent for Leonard Bernstein Music Publishing Company LLC, publisher and copyright owner.

Sergei Rachmaninoff, *Prelude in C Sharp Minor*, Pianist: Rory Corke

Frederic Chopin, *Nocturne in E Minor, Opus 72 #1*, Pianist: Janusz Olejniczak

John Adams, *Fearful Symmetries*, courtesy of Elektra/Nonesuch by arrangement with Hendon Music, Inc., a Boosey & Hawkes company, publisher and copyright owner.

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# UPCOMING DANCE

**Dorrance Dance**  
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DEC 8-9

**BODYTRAFFIC**  
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