

# | THE DanceComplex |

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## **PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **THE DANCE COMPLEX PRESENTS WINTER WONDER DANCE FESTIVAL 2019**



Photo: courtesy of 10 Hairy Legs, featured in this year's Winter Wonder

**Cambridge, MA- December 6th 2019:** The Dance Complex's annual Winter Wonder Dance Festival features classes, repertory, and performance opportunities with internationally renowned Teaching Artists, both Boston-based and from around the world. Held every December, this festival is an opportunity to kick off the New Year with time dedicated to taking your next deep step in dance and movement.

This year's festival will be held Friday, December 27 to Tuesday, December 31, and will feature world dance classes: Afro Haitian, Senior Flamenco, All Levels Flamenco, Gaga/People, and Gaga/Dancers. Dancers can gain new experiences through Improv Jam and partnering classes as well. We are offering classes for all levels, plus for those who have never danced before and those who may be returning, so everyone can find something they love!

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Teaching artists are BOTH Boston based, The Dance Complex regulars, and are ALSO from Broadway and Tel Aviv. The final day of the festival will be a day of movement and reflection, focused on the mind-body connection. Reign in the New Year with a yoga class and become more in tune with your body for a new you in movement, while you sip hot chocolate.

Each year during Winter Wonder Dance Festival, we highlight our teaching artists through performance! Two informal performances will be held in our great Studio 7 where the bar is always open and mingling between pop-up performances is encouraged.

A Winter Wonder Teaching Artists Showcase will be held on Sunday, December 29 at 8pm where our winter-wonderful teaching artists will strut their movement-stuff as they share from their repertory of works. This years' performance will include New York's all-male dance group 10 Hairy Legs and Boston's own Yosi Karahashi. For an updated list of artists, please visit [dancecomplex.org](http://dancecomplex.org)

A Winter Wonder Repertory Pop Up Performance Party will be held on Monday, December 30 at 7pm as everyone shares their creative mojo from Winter Wonder through new dances-in-progress created over the four days. See works-in-progress from 10 Hairy Legs choreographed by David Parker, a duet in progress by Nattie Trogden and Hollis Bartlett, plus the beginnings of a duet created by Jean Appolon and Peter DiMuro. As an added holiday gift, an all-ages cast of tappers choreographed by Christina Harrington and a case of elder Flamenco dancers choreographed by Yosi Karahashi will perform.

Festival events range in price, with performances from \$10 and up and classes at \$16 and up. Performance tickets, class registration, and full festival schedule are available at [dancecomplex.org](http://dancecomplex.org). *The Dance Complex's Winter Wonder Dance Festival is made possible through support from The Massachusetts Cultural Council.*

#### THE DANCE COMPLEX'S ANNUAL WINTER WONDER DANCE FESTIVAL ARTISTS:

##### **David Parker & The BANG Group**

THE BANG GROUP is a rhythm-driven, New York-based dance company which spans contemporary and percussive forms. The company, founded and directed by Jeffrey Kazin and David Parker, has toured and performed widely throughout North America and Europe appearing at The Holland Dance Festival, Konfrontace in Prague, Tanzsprache in Vienna, Dance Week in Zagreb, Monte Carlo Dance Festival, Edinburgh Fringe Festival (2006, 2009 and 2014,) Biennale Charleroi in Belgium, Tanzmesse in Essen, Germany (2000 and 2016,) Fondation Cartier in Paris, OT 301 in Amsterdam, Divadelna Nitra in Slovakia, Belluard Bollwerk in Switzerland and numerous cities in Italy. The company has been generously supported by The Jerome Robbins Foundation, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, Doris Duke Foundation, New York Foundation for the Arts, Harkness Foundation, Tiger Baron Foundation, Mid Atlantic Arts Fund, Greenwall Foundation, Arts International, Fund for Mutual Understanding, Netherland- America Foundation, Pentacle's ARC Fund, Frederick Loewe Foundation and several private donors. It is presented regularly in New York City by New York Live Arts and its predecessor Dance Theater Workshop, Danspace Project, Dance Now NYC, Symphony Space, The Harkness Dance Festival and the 92nd Street Y, among many others. The Bang Group has made its second home in Boston through sustained partnerships with Summer Stages Dance (13 seasons), The ICA, and The Dance Complex. The company is also in residence annually at The Yard on Martha's Vineyard and at The West End Theater on Manhattan's upper west side and has recently become an Anchor Partner at the new Flea Theater in Manhattan. It supports and presents the work of a wide range of artists through its thrice-yearly series called Soaking WET at the West End Theater and its Dance Now Boston initiative which commissions new work created for cabaret spaces and enters its fifth annual season in June 2018.



## **Alex Biegelson & Will Tomaskovic**

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### **Ana Harmon**

Ana Harmon is a dancer and arts advocate living in Tel Aviv since 2010. Born in Boston, Ana attended Boston Latin High School while training with Boston Ballet's pre-professional program, before joining Ballet Austin II in 2008. After completing MASA Dance Journey on Kibbutz Ga'aton in 2010, she joined Kamea Dance Company in Beer Sheva where she danced for three years, touring across Israel and internationally. Ana received a BA Summa Cum Laude in Liberal Arts from Tel Aviv University in 2016. From 2016-2018 she worked for Batsheva Dance Company's International Development department. Today Ana is the International Project Manager for Gaga Movement and is a certified Gaga teacher. She is the 2019 awardee of the Yuri Stern Prize for Dance.

### **Christina Harrington**

Christina (Tap) started dancing late in the game compared to most children—she was 9 years old! She studied tap, jazz, and ballet at the Paula Coffey Dance Center in East Bridgewater, MA from 1987-1995. Tap was always her favorite, under teacher "Miss Denise" DaSilva. From 1996-1999, she was a member of the dance troupe Orchesis at Elmira College, led by Mia Filippetti. In 2000, Christina was an assistant tap choreographer for the Elmira College summer theatre program, under lead choreographer and Broadway performer Nedra Dixon. Breaking from dance to focus on her career in Arts Administration, Christina was away from the studio until 2009 when KSA Dance was formed in Chelmsford, MA. Since then, she has been tapping with KSA as both a student (under Katie Alexander and Amy McCarthy) and as an instructor. Currently, she teaches at The Dance Complex in Cambridge, MA, where she offers Level 1 and Level 2 adult tap classes.

### **Colleen Walsh**

Colleen's teaching cultivates a space for each individual to investigate the unknown, to observe, challenge, and appreciate oneself, and to find awareness in the present moment. With over ten years of experience teaching movement to students ages three to seventy three, Colleen's teaching leads with the heart and encourages a yoga practice to be just that...a practice.

Influenced by a Bachelor's of Art in Dance, a minor in Health and Wellness Education, many years coaching competitive and recreational gymnastics and teaching dance, and dancing and choreographing professionally in Boston, Colleen's classes welcome everyone through the offering of modifications and encouragement for students to find autonomy in their practices. Colleen is fascinated by how the body's anatomy and physiology connects with the mind and spirit, and cares for all aspects of her student's health through her yoga teachings.

Colleen has studied movement at the American Dance Festival on full scholarship, the Trinity Laban Conservatoire, Ursinus College, and at various festivals and programs in Boston. She completed her yoga teacher training with Boston Yoga School under the guidance of Amy Wren and Susannah van der Wende.



## **Daniel Gardner**

Danny Gardner made his Broadway debut as “Lucky” in Dames At Sea. He was “George M. Cohan / Dad” in the NY Spectacular starring the Rockettes at Radio City Music Hall. He was also seen performing along-side Tommy Tune in Encores! Production of Lady, Be Good! At City Center (with subsequent album). He has performed with symphonies nation-wide in Here to Stay – The Gershwin Experience! And toured with the Broadway productions of Irving Berlin’s White Christmas and 42nd Street. His choreographic credits include Video installations in Chicago, Washington DC, Dalls and Los Angeles (Niles Creative Group). Short film credits include The Night Lives On (Raindance film festival in London), A Tap Dance in a Circle (Lincoln Center Dance On Camera Festival) and Pelican (Top Indie Film Awards). Live performances include GIG – with Jenna Nichols and GIG – with Caleb Hawley. Room 17B, Exit Stage Left and Everybody Gets Cake with the physical dances company Parallel Exit. Multiple dances for the Town Hall series Broadway By The Year. Mercury for Super Hero Clubhouse, The Joshua Show, and Multiple dances for the pacific Symphony Orchestra, the Connecticut Ballet and the Irish Repertory Theatre. His work has also been seen at BC BEAT at Cielo, and Kicking and Screaming at Symphony Space.

## **Derek Crescenti**

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## **Em Papineau & Sofia Engleman**

Em Papineau and Sofia Engelman are dance artists based in Massachusetts. Their first collaborative work, *Where the air is light and clear*, was presented at the National College Dance Festival at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Since then, they have held artistic residencies at The Living Room, Ponderosa (Germany), the Dance Complex, and School for Contemporary Dance and Thought. The pair performed iterations of their recent project, *INSTANT SAVIORS (just add water)*, at Movement Research at the Judson Church, FRESH Festival, EstroGenius Festival at the Kraine Theater, HUT at the School for Contemporary Dance and Thought, the Dance Complex, and AS220’s Providence Movement Festival. Em and Sophie are also 2019/20 CATATLYSTS artists at The Dance Complex.

## **Gregory King**

Gregory King is a culturally responsive educator who received his MFA in Choreographic Practice and Theory from Southern Methodist University and is certified in Elementary Labanotation from the Dance Notation Bureau. His dance training began at the Washington Ballet and continued at American University. He has participated in the Horton Project in conjunction with the Library of Congress and has performed with The Washington Ballet, Erick Hawkins Dance Company, and many others. He has taught master classes, lectures, and workshops nationally and internationally. He has served as dance faculty for Texas Ballet Theatre and Boston Ballet, as well as visiting assistant professor of dance at Temple University, and visiting assistant professor of dance and Consortium on Faculty Diversity Fellow at Swarthmore College.



King contextualize the relevance of black dance aesthetics and cultural signifiers through research, writing, and public presentation and his current research project, titled “Digital Activism: Black Bodies Reclaiming Public Spaces,” combines the disciplines of dance, movement analysis, literary criticism, social psychology, and anthropology. In collaborations with Chris Cole, King is a Knight Foundation grant recipient and their project titled “Nine Lives,” premiered at the Rubber City Jazz and Blues Festival in Akron, Ohio in 2019. King is a dance writer for The Dance Enthusiast, THINKingDANCE, The Philadelphia Dance Journal, CHOICE Review, and Broad Street Review. Recently, Mr. King’s response to the Dancing for Justice Philadelphia event, was selected to be included in the U. S. Department of Arts and Culture’s new resource guide, “Art Became the Oxygen.”

### **Hollis Bartlet and Nattie Trogdon**

Hollis Bartlett and Nattie Trogdon are Brooklyn based performers, educators, dance makers, and partners. Their collaborations explore the relationship between performative rigor and experienced catharsis; thriving on opportunities to test the boundaries of the human body. Graduates of NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts and SUNY Purchase respectively, their work has been presented at Triskelion Arts, Gibney, Dixon Place, Duo Multicultural Arts Center (DMAC), Jack Crystal Theater, FIRST LOOK at the Brooklyn Ballet, No Theme Festival (Poughkeepsie, NY), School for Contemporary Dance and Thought (SCDT) and Earthdance. They’ve taught master classes and shown work at universities including SUNY Brockport, Skidmore College, NYU and SUNY Purchase, and have been artists in residence at The Dance Complex (MA), Peaceable Barn (CT), and through Work Up 5.0 at Gibney. Collectively they’ve performed for Annie Kloppenberg, Adam Barruch, Brian Brooks, Oliver and Teri Steele, Mark Dendy, David Dorfman, Kensaku Shinohara, and Doug Varone. The duo are 2019/20 Artists in Residence at The Dance Complex.

### **Jean Appolon**

The Director and Co-Founder of Jean Appolon Expressions, Jean Appolon is also a successful choreographer and teacher based in Boston and Port-au-Prince, Haiti. He received his earliest training and performance opportunities in Port-au-Prince with the Viviane Gauthier Dance Company and the Folkloric Ballet of Haiti. Appolon continued his dance education in the U.S. with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and the Joffrey American Ballet School, graduating with a BA in 2003 from a joint degree program at The New School. Appolon teaches regularly at Boston Ballet, The Dance Complex, and the University of Massachusetts Boston, among other locations. Appolon was recently appointed a 2017 Brother Thomas Fellow and was also inducted to the 1804 List of Haitian American Changemakers in the U.S.

### **Pam Pietro**

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## **Peter DiMuro**

Peter DiMuro has woven a career as a performer, choreographer, director, teacher, facilitator and arts engager, touring and teaching internationally. His current creative umbrella is Peter DiMuro/ Public Displays of Motion, a company that develops and performs artistic works and cultivates dance/arts literacy, advocacy and engagement. Recent engagements for the company include two commissions from Landmarks Orchestra, performed at the Hatch Shell, two commissions illuminating the public art installations of Liz Glynn and Nick Cave, and a yearlong residency at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.

Peter has taught and created for Cornerstone Theatre Institute/LA, American Dance Festival and Bates Dance Festival and adjudicated several American College Dance Festival Association regional conferences. Peter's work has appeared on tour and been commissioned by leading presenters, including The Kennedy Center/DC, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center/MD, Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, as well as on a nationally aired television commercial for the National Institute on Aging.

His fifteen-year relationship with Liz Lerman Dance Exchange culminated in his artistic directorship of the company, after leading seminal projects internationally including "The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Project" and the 17-city tour of "Hallelujah Project".

## **Robert Mark Burke with 10 Hairy Legs**

Robert Mark Burke is a dancer, choreographer, director and teaching artist. Robert has shown his work throughout the United States including the wild project, Dixon Place, Paramount Theater (Boston), Hofstra University, Rutgers University, Rider University, and New Jersey Performing Arts Center. He was recipient of the 2015 and 2017 Jersey (New) Moves Choreography Fellowship and the 2015 Dance on The Lawn Emerging Choreographer Commission. Rober was a guest artist with Bryn Cohn and Artists, and currently dances with Randy James' 10 Hairy Legs, Megan Williams, Meagan Woods and Company and Lucinda Childs Dance Company. This is Robert's fifth year with 10 Hairy Legs.

10 Hairy Legs, a male repertory company, provides a lens to experience the broad spectrum of dance. Widely acclaimed for its aggressive commissioning of new works and curation of master works, we have served more than 85,000 patrons, students, artists and educators since our founding in 2012, nationally and internationally. Commissions: Doug Varone, Doug Elkins, Tiffany Mills, Manuel Vignouille, Julie Bour, Megan Williams, Adam Barruch, Al Blackstone, Larry Keigwin, Raja Feather Kelly, Nicholas Sciscione and Yin Yue. Broadcasts have included NJTV's State of the Arts, The Meredith Vieira Show and Nick Cannon's Red Nose Dancathon. Dance Education is an important part of our mission and we provide a wide range of programs for all ages exemplifying the many facets of maleness expressed through dance to more than 2,500 students and educators each year.



## Yosi Karahashi

Yosi left Japan to fulfill her dream of studying flamenco and ended up staying in Spain for 17 years, studying at the legendary flamenco school Amor de Dios in Madrid. She started her professional career performing in many tableaus around Spain and other countries such as Japan, Morocco, Portugal, France, Cyprus and Canada. Yosi moved to Boston in 2012, and since then has been a very active performer, collaborating with many participants of the Greater Boston dance scene, such as The Dance Complex, The Boston Foundation, The New England Conservatory, Deborah Mason School of Dance, Jose Mateo Dance Theatre, Peter DiMuro's company, Celebrity Series of Boston and Boston Landmarks Orchestra among many others. She also worked as artistic adviser and choreographer for skaters on the Theater on Ice in Boston especially for an international contest in France 2019 (in which they got silver).

As well as being trained in pure flamenco, Yosi has developed a very personal dance style around fusion of flamenco and other types of dance, including pop and Japanese traditional music, which was showcased when she was an invited artist to the CATALYSTS intensive eight-month residency program by The Dance Complex on the year of its 25th anniversary. Yosi firmly believes that Flamenco is not just a dance, but a way of life, that there should be no limits for expression and it should be shared with everybody. With this in mind, she started to use sign language in her Flamenco performances. For Yosi the art of flamenco is a way to communicate.

Yosi founded Flamenco Therapy, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing flamenco to those who need it most: the elderly, the sick, and children who cannot access music and dance themselves. Also collaborated with Kara Fili at The Dance Complex and Citywide Cambridge Senior Center bringing flamenco to dancers over 60 or with limited mobility at the age-friendly dance class which provides "senior citizens" (as a person over the age of 60 with a wide range of emotional, physical and learning disabilities) a specialized, fun and engaging flamenco experience.