

2018 BAM Next Wave Festival

Dorrance Dance makes its BAM debut with *Elemental*—an innovative site-specific work co-created by Michelle Dorrance and Bessie Award-winning dancer, choreographer, and musician Nicholas Van Young, Dec 5—8 at BAM Fisher

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Season Sponsor

“Dorrance pushes the boundaries of tap while exposing its true nature: that it is music.”—*The New York Times*

Elemental

Dorrance Dance

Created by Michelle Dorrance and Nicholas Van Young

Live music by Donovan Dorrance, Gregory Richardson, Aaron Marcellus, and Billy Martin

Costumes by Andrew Jordan

Lighting design by Kathy Kaufmann

Sound design by Christopher Marc

BAM Fisher (Fishman Space), 321 Ashland Pl

Dec 5—8 at 7:30pm; Dec 8 at 2pm

Tickets: \$25

Master Class: Dorrance Dance

With Michelle Dorrance and Ephrat Asherie

Co-presented by BAM and Mark Morris Dance Group

Nov 27 at 2pm, Mark Morris Dance Center (3 Lafayette Ave.)

For advanced to professional dancers of all styles

Price: \$20

Visit BAM.org/master-classes for more information and to register

Nov 9, 2018/Brooklyn, NY—The 2018 Harkness Foundation Artist in Residence at the BAM Fisher, **Michelle Dorrance** brings her uniquely expansive practice to bear on *Elemental*—a new collaboration with Dorrance Dance Associate Artistic Director **Nicholas Van Young**. Van Young’s collaboration with Dorrance in the 2016 production *ETM: Double Down*, effectively turned the entire stage into an instrument. In the world premiere commission created specifically for BAM’s most intimate venue, Young, Dorrance, and the rest of the company continue to push the technical, musical, and emotive boundaries of the form, transforming the Fishman Space into an auditory playground.

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Elemental brings together 13 performers, including Dorrance and Van Young, as they seamlessly intertwine music and dance delivering an absorbing performance that pulses with innovation. Featuring original, live music by pianist **Donovan Dorrance**, bassist **Gregory Richardson**, and eclectic soul vocalist **Aaron Marcellus**, the piece blends standard and atypical instrumental forms that weave and twist common modalities into a rhythmic tapestry. The new work will also include an original composition *Stridulations for Dorrance* by acclaimed American jazz musician **Billy Martin**, using handcrafted percussive instruments by artist **Adam Morford** (Morfbeats) to create a unique auditory language—hands and feet, metal and liquid, tension and release, body and sound.

Michelle Dorrance, founder and artistic director of Dorrance Dance, is one of the most sought-after tap dancers of her generation and “one of the most imaginative tap choreographers working today” (*The New Yorker*). Mentored by Gene Medler, she grew up dancing with the North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble. Career highlights include: *STOMP*, Derick Grant’s *Imagine Tap*, Jason Samuels Smith’s *Charlie’s Angels/Chasing the Bird*, Ayodele Casel’s *Diary of a Tap Dancer*, Mable Lee’s *Dancing Ladies*, and Darwin Deez. Company work include: Savion Glover’s *Ti Dii*, Manhattan Tap, Barbara Duffy & Co, JazzTap Ensemble, Rumba Tap, and solo work ranging from *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert* to Damian Woetze’s Vail Dance Festival and a commission for the Martha Graham Dance Company. A Doris Duke Artist (2018), Ford Foundation Art of Change Fellow (2017) and MacArthur Fellow (2015), Dorrance is humbled to have been acknowledged/supported by United States Artists, the Joyce Theater, New York City Center, the Alpert Awards, Jacob’s Pillow, Princess Grace Foundation, The Field, American Tap Dance Foundation, and the Bessie Awards. Dorrance holds a B. A. from New York University and is a Capezio Athlete.

Nicholas Van Young is a dancer, musician, choreographer, and a 2014 Bessie Award recipient. He began his professional career at age 16 under Acia Gray and Deidre Strand with Tapestry Dance Company in Austin, TX, eventually rising to principal dancer and resident choreographer. Since moving to New York, Van Young has performed with Manhattan Tap, RumbaTap, and Dorrance Dance. He has toured as a drummer for Darwin Deez, and spent almost a decade performing with *STOMP*, where he performed the lead role and acted as rehearsal director. Van Young tours nationally and internationally, teaching and performing at various tap festivals, and founded Sound Movement Dance Company and IFTRA (Institute for the Rhythmic Arts). He is thrilled to have found a home with Dorrance Dance, co-creating and developing *ETM: Double Down*, and the Guggenheim Rotunda Project, both collaborations with Michelle Dorrance.

Dorrance Dance is an award-winning tap dance company based in New York City. The company’s work aims to honor tap dance’s uniquely beautiful history in a new, dynamic, and compelling context; not by stripping the form of its tradition, but by pushing it—rhythmically, technically, and conceptually. The company’s inaugural performance garnered a Bessie Award for “blasting open our notions of tap” and the company continues its passionate commitment to expanding the audience of tap dance, America’s original art form. Founded in 2011 by artistic director and 2015 MacArthur fellow Michelle Dorrance, the company has received countless accolades and rave reviews, and has performed for packed houses at venues including Joyce Theater, Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival, New York City Center, Vail International Dance Festival, Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Carolina Performing Arts at UNC Chapel Hill, Works and Process at the Guggenheim, and Cal Performances at UC Berkeley, among many others, including

colleges and universities across the US and international venues in Canada, France, Germany, Spain, England, Hong Kong, and Singapore. dorrancedance.com

For press information, contact Cynthia Tate at ctate@BAM.org or 718.724.8022.

Credits

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Michelle Dorrance is the recipient of the Harkness Dance Residency at the BAM Fisher in 2018.

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Support for dance at the BAM Fisher provided by the Mertz Gilmore Foundation

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General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort

Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers varied light fare and bar service prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater); D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM
Car: Limited commercial parking lots are located near BAM. Visit BAM.org for information.

For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org

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