

# Elemental

Created by Michelle Dorrance  
and Nicholas Van Young

## Dorrance Dance

DATES: DEC 5—8 at 7:30pm  
DEC 8 at 2pm

LOCATION: BAM Fisher (Fishman Space)

RUN TIME: Approx 70min  
no intermission

#BAMNextWave

### Brooklyn Academy of Music

Adam E. Max,  
BAM Board Chair

William I. Campbell and  
Nora Ann Wallace,  
BAM Board Vice Chairs

Katy Clark,  
President

Joseph V. Melillo,  
Executive Producer

*Season Sponsor:*

### **Bloomberg Philanthropies**

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

*Leadership support for dance at the  
BAM Harvey and the BAM Fisher provided by  
the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation*

*Major support for dance at BAM  
provided by The SHS Foundation*

*Support for female choreographers and  
composers in the Next Wave Festival provided  
by the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation*

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

*Chubb is a lead sponsor of BAM*

# Elemental

## Created by

Michelle Dorrance and  
Nicholas Van Young

## Choreography by

Michelle Dorrance and  
Nicholas Van Young  
in collaboration with the performers

## Additional choreography by

Ephrat “Bounce” Asherie  
Matthew “Megawatt” West

## Original music by

Donovan Dorrance  
Gregory Richardson  
Aaron Marcellus

## Featuring original composition

“Stridulations for Dorrance” by  
Billy Martin

## Additional music

“All the Things You Are in C Sharp”  
Written/Composed by Charles Mingus  
Published by Adams Avenue

## Lighting design

Kathy Kaufmann

## Costume design

Andrew Jordan

## Sound design

Christopher Marc

## Stage manager

Betsy Ayer

## Technical director/Assistant stage manager

Diego Quintanar

## Production assistants

Ali Dietz  
Carly D. Shiner

## Performers

Ephrat “Bounce” Asherie  
Christopher Broughton  
Elizabeth Burke  
Warren Craft  
Donovan Dorrance  
Michelle Dorrance  
Aaron Marcellus  
Carson Murphy  
Claudia Rahardjanoto  
Gregory Richardson  
Leonardo Sandoval  
Byron Tittle  
Matthew “Megawatt” West  
Nicholas Van Young

*Elemental* has been developed in part  
during the Harkness Dance Residency at  
BAM Fisher.

Underwriting support for this work is  
provided by Anh-Tuyet Nguyen and  
Robert Pollock.

Hand-crafted instruments provided  
courtesy of artist Adam Morford of  
MorfBeats. [morfbeats.com](http://morfbeats.com)



# Who's Who

---

MICHELLE DORRANCE  
Artistic Director/Co-Creator

Michelle Dorrance is a New York City-based artist. Mentored by Gene Medler (North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble), she was lucky to study under many of the last master hoofers. 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 includes Savion Glover's *Ti Dii*, Manhattan Tap, Barbara Duffy, JazzTap Ensemble, Rumba Tap, and solo work ranging from *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert* to commissions for the Martha Graham Dance Company, Vail Dance Festival, and American Ballet Theatre. A 2018 Doris Duke Artist, 2017 Ford Foundation Art of Change Fellow, and 2015 MacArthur Fellow, 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 BA from New York University and is a Capezio Athlete.

---

NICHOLAS VAN YOUNG  
Associate Artistic Director/Co-Creator

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, he has performed with Manhattan Tap, RumbaTap, Dorrance Dance, and Beat the Donkey, has toured as a drummer for Darwin Deez, and spent almost a decade with *STOMP*, performing the lead role and acting as rehearsal director. Young tours both 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's Works & Process Rotunda Project, both collaborative efforts with Michelle Dorrance.

---

EPHRAT "BOUNCE" ASHERIE  
Performer

Ephrat "Bounce" Asherie, a 2016 Bessie Award-winner for innovative achievement in dance, is a NYC-based B-girl, dancer, and choreographer. As artistic director of Ephrat Asherie Dance (EAD), she has presented work at Jacob's Pillow, FiraTarrega, and New York Live Arts, among others. Asherie has received numerous awards to support her work including a NDP Award from NEFA, a Mondo Cane! Commission from Dixon Place, and an Extended Life Residency from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. She has taught at Wesleyan University and is on faculty at Broadway Dance Center. [ephratasheredance.com](http://ephratasheredance.com)

---

CHRISTOPHER BROUGHTON  
Performer

Christopher Broughton, born and raised in Los Angeles, CA, began dancing at the age of 11 and has never looked back. Under the instruction of Paul and Arlene Kennedy at Universal Dance, he became a member of

the Kennedy Tap Company, receiving the national NAACP ACT-SO Award twice. He now travels worldwide both as a soloist and with Jason Samuels Smith's A.C.G.I., Rasta Thomas' Tap Stars, and Dorrance Dance. Performances include New York City Center's *Cotton Club Parade*, *Juba! Masters of Tap & Percussive Dance* at the Kennedy Center, and Broadway's Tony and Astaire award-winning production *After Midnight*.

---

ELIZABETH BURKE  
Performer

Elizabeth Burke is a Chapel Hill, NC, native who spent 11 years under the direction of her mentor, Gene Medler, in the acclaimed North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble. Burke has been with Dorrance Dance since its inception in 2010. She pursues her own choreographic work, teaches, and performs as a soloist on occasion. She is an alumna of the school at Jacob's Pillow and Marymount Manhattan College (BA political science, BA communication arts, magna cum laude).

---

WARREN CRAFT  
Performer

Warren Craft is a New York City tap dancer who has trained in ballet with both American Ballet Theatre and School of American Ballet. He has been a member of Brenda Bufalino's New American Tap Dance Orchestra, Max Pollak's RumbaTap, and Dorrance Dance. He moves with "bizarre physicality," and "unconventional eloquence" (*The New York Times*).

---

DONOVAN DORRANCE  
Composer/Performer

Donovan Dorrance hails from Chapel Hill, NC, where he studied piano, guitar, drums, and voice before attending the University of North Carolina for a BA in philosophy. In

2014, Dorrance moved to Brooklyn to assist his sister Michelle's company and pursue his passion for music. In addition to composing music with Gregory Richardson for Dorrance Dance, he composes music for film and theater, collaborating with students from NYU and Columbia University.

---

BILLY MARTIN  
Composer

Born in New York City in 1963, percussionist, composer, and visual artist Billy Martin dedicated himself to music full-time at age 17—casting himself into Manhattan's thriving, eclectic musical landscape. He carefully honed his craft everywhere from chamber orchestra stages to Brazilian nightclubs to the underground performance spaces that nurtured the burgeoning downtown improv community. Most notably, Martin formed and performs with the genre-defying experimental band Medeski, Martin & Wood. He has published anti-instructional films, literature, artwork, and music worldwide. He is currently president/CEO of the non-profit foundation Creative Music Studio founded in 1971 by Karl Berger and Ornette Coleman.

---

AARON MARCELLUS  
Composer/Performer

Aaron Marcellus, a singer, vocal coach, writer, musician, dancer, and actor from Atlanta, GA, started in gospel music and has performed around the world. He has recorded albums and was voted into the top 24 on *American Idol* in 2011. After a world tour, Marcellus was featured in a Chapstick commercial, NBC's *Next Caller*, and was a cast member of *STOMP*. Marcellus also hosts a burlesque show at Duane Park. Most importantly, he founded both Surrender to Love, LLC, a foundation that supports arts programs and seeks to feed the hungry, and Adventure Voice, a training program offering vocal classes for groups and individuals.

---

**CARSON MURPHY**

Performer

Carson Murphy has had the fortune to travel the world tap dancing and working with incredible artists. Murphy is currently a member of Dorrance Dance and Nicholas Young's Sound Movement. She has also performed with and for Sarah Petronio, Ted Levy, Leela Petronio's Hip Tap Project, Max Pollak's *Rumba Tap*, Barbara Duffy and Company, Katherine Kramer, Mable Lee, Michela Marino-Lerman, Chloe Arnold's *Syn-copated Ladies*, Tap City, Josh Hilberman, Sarah Savelli, Ayodele Casel, was a part of the original recreation of Harold Cromer's *Opus One*, toured the US with Broadway's *42nd Street*, has been seen dancing on Time Square's JumboTron, and has been featured in *Dance Spirit Magazine*. Murphy is endlessly inspired by these artists and many more and is eternally grateful to spend her life teaching and dancing. Murphy is the owner and director of Sound Movement Pilates and Gyrotonic® studio in Larchmont, New York. [soundmovementny.com](http://soundmovementny.com)

---

**CLAUDIA RAHARDJANOTO**

Performer

Claudia Rahardjanoto, born and raised in Berlin, Germany, started dancing professionally at the age of nine at the Deutsche Oper Berlin. Named one of "25 to Watch" by *Dance Magazine* in 2010 and featured on the cover of *Dance Teacher Magazine* in 2011, Rahardjanoto has danced with and learned from Andreas Dänel, Sven Göttlicher, Dianne Walker, Ted Levy, Dormeshia Sumbry-Edwards, Michelle Dorrance, Derick K. Grant, Brenda Bufalino, Roxane Butterfly, Andrew Nemr, Barbara Duffy, Jane Goldberg, Jared Grimes, Max Pollak, Michael Minery, the late Harold "Stumpy" Cromer, and the legendary Mable Lee, among others. She is grateful to be able to share her passion and love for tap dance through her performances and teaching worldwide.

---

**GREGORY RICHARDSON**

Composer/Performer

Gregory Richardson is a composer, performer, and multi-instrumentalist and has been a member of Dorrance Dance since 2011. He learned rhythm and blues at an early age from a family of musicians in which everyone could play at least a little piano and everyone was expected to sing. The Tucson native studied at Bard College and has been working as a professional musician in New York City for nearly two decades. Richardson is known for his winning combination of natural talent, hard work, and dedication and is fortunate to have traveled the world several times over with various ensembles. He lives and works in Brooklyn, where he has been a part of countless collaborations.

---

**LEONARDO SANDOVAL**

Performer

Leonardo Sandoval, Brazilian tap dancer, has become known in the tap world and beyond for his musicality, and for adding his own Brazilian flavor to tap. An early member of Dorrance Dance, he is also in demand as a choreographer, solo dancer, and jazz musician. A true dancer/musician, Sandoval has had his work, including collaborations with composer Gregory Richardson, presented at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and the National Folk Festival.

---

**BYRON TITTLE**

Performer

Byron Tittle is a multi-faceted dancer based in New York where he studied extensively at Broadway Dance Center and the American Tap Dance Foundation, and then later toured the country with The Pulse on Tour. After finding commercial success dancing for Janet Jackson, Nicki Minaj, and Laurie Ann Gibson, Tittle is focused on pushing the

boundaries in the concert dance world. He has been touring with Dorrance Dance since 2014 and continues to approach each show with vigor and excitement. His "elegant and polished lines" (*The Brooklyn Rail*) captivate audiences worldwide as he feels most at home with the company.

---

**MATTHEW "MEGAWATT" WEST**

Performer

Matthew "Megawatt" West started dancing at 16 on his church's dance team in Queens, NY, and with the company On Point Choreography, where he learned challenging choreography and mastered different styles within hip-hop dance. He has competed in several B-boy competitions and strives to impart knowledge and wisdom to the next generation of dancers. He has taught at Coney Island's Shining Angels Studio and at after school programs in Queens. West is an avid listener of house music and a dedicated student of house dance, training with the NYC crew MAWU, Conrad Rochester, and James "Cricket" Colter.

---

**KATHY KAUFMANN**

Lighting design

Kathy Kaufmann, a New York City native, has been happily designing for Dorrance Dance since its inception (*SOUNDspace*, *The Blues Project*, *ETM*, *Myelination*). A resident designer at Danspace Project whose work has been seen throughout the US, Canada, Europe, and Asia, she also teaches at Sarah Lawrence. She is a two-time Bessie recipient and was nominated for her work on Rebecca Davis' *Bloowst Windku* in 2015. Recent projects include designs for Moriah Evans, Mariana Valencia, Jonathan Gonzales, David Parker, Tatyana Tennenbaum, Mina Nishimura, Morgan Bassichis, and Ephrat Asherie Dance.

---

**ANDREW JORDAN**

Costume design

Andrew Jordan is a Brooklyn-based artist and costume designer exploring the possible relationships between sculpture, installation, puppetry, and the moving form of the human body. Jordan's work has been proclaimed "sensational...a visual feast" (*The Philadelphia Inquirer*) and "a sculptural wonder" (*The New York Times*). He has designed for both stage and screen, including projects spanning opera, contemporary dance, experimental performance, and parade. His most recent collaborators include playwright Kyoung Park and choreographers Douglas Dunn, Ellen Cornfield, Michelle Dorrance, Cori Olinghouse, Raja Feather Kelly, and Christopher Williams. Jordan received his MFA with an emphasis in sculpture from the Cranbrook Academy of Art and his BFA in fine arts with a minor in media studies from the Columbus College of Art and Design. Jordan is also known under the moniker andytoad. [andytoad.com](http://andytoad.com)

---

**CHRISTOPHER MARC**

Sound design

Christopher Marc has been with Dorrance Dance since June of 2016. He has worked as a sound engineer with several companies around the country including Kennedy Center, Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Mills Entertainment, Aquila Theatre, and Harlem Stage. His sound designs include *More Forever* (CT & Co) and *The Magic Flute* (Pacific Symphony). His other credits include *The Black Book*; *Wuthering Heights*, *The Tempest*, *Fahrenheit 451*, *Twelfth Night* (Aquila Theatre national tour); *Berlin to Broadway*, *Candide*, *Putting It Together*, *La Rondine* (Skylark Opera); *God of Carnage*, *Striking 12*, *Death of a Salesman* (Artistry MN); and *Becky's New Car*, *Sherlock Holmes*, *The Boxcar Children*, *Over the Tavern*, *Death of a Salesman* (Lyric Arts).

---

BETSY AYER  
Stage manager

Betsy Ayer's recent dance credits include *Four Quartets* (Bard Summerscape); Trisha Brown Dance Company; *FLEXN* (Park Avenue Armory and international tour); Vail Dance Festival; and New York City Ballet. Other favorite projects include *Only the Sound Remains* (White Light Festival); *The Gospel According to the Other Mary* (premiere and tour with the Los Angeles Philharmonic); *St. Matthew Passion* (Lincoln Center/Park Avenue Armory); Carnegie Hall; *Ainadamar* (Teatro Real, Madrid); New York City Opera; *La Passion de Simone* (international tour); Lincoln Center Festival; and *Shockheaded Peter* (the Little Shubert). She is a graduate of Smith College.

---

DIEGO QUINTANAR  
Technical director/Assistant stage manager

Diego Quintanar started working in theater production as a student at the College of the Holy Cross. He was introduced to Dorrance Dance through his work with the Guggenheim's Works & Process series as a project coordinator. His other credits include Latino Cultural Center and Wyly Theater, Dallas, TX (carpenter and electrician); off-Broadway's *I Like It Like That* (production manager); and Shen Wei Dance Arts and Dance Heginbotham (assistant stage manager and scenic charge).

---

## DORRANCE DANCE

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, with performances for packed houses at venues including The Joyce Theater, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, New York City Center, Vail Dance Festival, Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Carolina Performing Arts at UNC/Chapel Hill, Works & Process at the Guggenheim, and Cal Performances at UC Berkeley, among many others, including international venues in Canada, France, Germany, Spain, England, Hong Kong, and Singapore. [dorrancedance.com](http://dorrancedance.com)

## DORRANCE DANCE STAFF

Artistic Director  
Michelle Dorrance

Executive Director  
Donald Borrer

Production Manager/Sound Engineer  
Christopher Marc

Company Manager  
Tina Huang Abrams

Associate Artistic Director  
Nicholas Van Young

Assistant to the Artistic Director  
Olivia Maggi

Rehearsal Director  
Elizabeth Burke

Music Director  
Donovan Dorrance

Lighting Designer  
Kathy Kaufmann

Lighting Supervisor  
Serena Wong

Technical Director/Assistant Stage Manager  
Diego Quintanar

Artist Representative  
Margaret Selby, Selby/Artists Management

Financial Services  
Andrea Nellis, Nellis Management Services

---

## Thank You!

Dorrance Dance Board of Directors

Joseph Gallo (Chair), Deb Klowden Mann (Secretary), Marc Steglitz\* (Treasurer), Angelina Burnett, Michelle Dorrance, M'Liss Dorrance\*, Emma Dunch, Linda Moffitt\*, and Ann Mullaly\*

Dorrance Dance Major Supporters  
(Friend's Circle and above, as of 11/27/18)

Charles and Deborah Adelman\*, Hank and Gerry Alpert, Norman Appel and Susie Freidman, Karen and Edward Applebome\*, Jody and John Arnhold, Bob and Linda Berzok, Peter and Heather Boneparth, Doug and Kim Borrer, Walter and Marjorie Buckley, Walter and Susan Buckley\*, Dick and Lisa Cashin, Jim Chervenak, Munroe and Becky Cobey, Stuart H. Coleman and Meryl Rosofsky\*, Gretchen Court\*, Scott Craft and Anabel Adams\*, Michael and Nancy Feller\*, Barry and Irene Fisher, Carolyn Gray and George Peppard, Jonathan Groff, Sarah Hancock, Dean Hargrove, Odile Isralson, Anne Izzillo\*, Christopher Jones and Deborah McAlister\*, Tory Kane\*, Betty Kenan, Thomas S. Kenan, III, Pat and Michael Klowden, Stacey Lalljee, Mark and Taryn Leavitt\*, Olga Lucia, Joyce Menschel, Virginia and Timothy Millhiser\*, Donna Moro-Sutherland\*, Anh-Tuyet Nguyen and Robert Pollock, Wyndham Robertson, Jed Scala and Paula Wardynski, Joel and Angela Solomon, Evan Steen and Shari Hellman, Monica Voldstad\*, John Wieland, Suzi Wojdyslawski, Elaine and Irving Wolbrom, and Gabrielle Yen\*

In addition to those with an (\*) above, thank you to the supporters whose Patron Tickets helped make this performance possible:

Meryl and Gilbert Benaim, Henri Benaim, Jennifer Chaitman, Lisa Church, Karon Cullen, Noe DeWitt, Jack and Paula Kaminer, Rebecca Kilborne, and Margaret Selby

And special thanks for all you do for Dorrance Dance to:

Henri Benaim, Nancy Feller, Andrea Nellis, Alexandra Martin, Amanda Hameline, Cory Greenberg, Linda Murphy and Imogen Moon, Wendy Eagle and Teddy Balkin, Elissa Hecker, Jennifer Thompson, Purpose Productions, Tony Waag & American Tap Dance Foundation, Hanaah Frechette & Flamenco Vivo, and Margaret Selby & the Selby Artists Management team.

Dorrance Dance's performances are generously supported by the Howard Gilman Foundation, the Harkness Foundation for Dance, and are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.



BAM®, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Next Wave®, and Teknopolis® are trademarks of Brooklyn Academy of Music, Inc. © Brooklyn Academy of Music, Inc. (2018).



Claudia Rahardjanoto, Byron Tittle, Elizabeth Burke Photo: Matthew Murphy

# BAM

Virginia B.  
Toulmin  
Foundation

for support of female  
composers and choreographers  
in the Next Wave Festival

# Salutes