

**BALLET**

**CATHERINE HABASQUE** studied ballet and literature in Paris. As a principal dancer she worked with Maurice Béjart, Nacho Duato, Jiri Kylian, William Forsythe, Ohad Naharin, Mats Ek and more, and has danced worldwide with the Compañía Nacional de Danza and Béjart Ballet, including at Lincoln Center in New York, the Paris Opera, Bunkai Kaikan in Tokyo, Fenice in Venezia and many more. Since 2005 she has also been choreographing; and since 2007 she stages Nacho Duato's pieces worldwide. In 2015 she founded Dancers For the World / DFW, an artistic and humanitarian organisation which she directs. [www.dfw-ch.com](http://www.dfw-ch.com). Among other awards, she was nominated Best Dancer of the Year in 2007 (Deutscher Kritikerumfrage) for *Silent Cries* from Jiri Kylian. As a director and choreographer, she was a finalist at the International Fedora Prize 2014 for Opera and Ballet for *Crystal Tears*, a project with Andreas Scholl. <http://www.catherine-habasque.ch/>

**AZUSA NISHIMURA** is from Hiroshima, Japan. Her repertoire ranges from classical ballet to contemporary dance. She began her professional career in Europe in 2000. Since then she has been living in Zürich and works throughout Switzerland as a dancer, teacher and choreography assistant. Collaborating with artists from other fields as well, she has performed in operas, dance films, theater performances, music videos, commercial events and photo shoots. <http://www.azusa.ch>

**ALICE BERTSCHY** started dancing in Geneva at the Académie de danse de Genève and then at Dance Area before attending the English National Ballet School in London. She then worked for three seasons with the Polish National Ballet in Warsaw. Following that she took a break to work as a volunteer with horses. She then came to Basel/Alsace and worked with Maria Guerrero. She also works as a massage therapist, Pilates instructor and freelance dance teacher.

**EVAN SCWHARZ** is a Swiss/Austrian/American freelance dancer, choreographer, and teacher. He received his early training from the *Los Angeles County High School for the Arts*, and later trained at *The Juilliard School*, in New York City, graduating in 2014. Upon graduating from Juilliard, Evan began working with *Ballet Bern* in Switzerland, and thereafter with *National Dance Company Wales* in the UK. Evan has had the pleasure to dance repertoire and new creations by Pina Bausch, Ohad Naharin, Marcos Morau, Maxine Doyle, Roy Assaf, Twyla Tharp, Guy Weizman & Roni Haver amongst others. Throughout his career, Evan has danced across the United States, Europe, Asia and the Middle East, including with various international companies as a guest artist. He also has worked on various commercial jobs and has won prestigious awards. Recently he joined the *fabien prioville dance company* (DE). Evan continues to freelance internationally with his base in the Netherlands.

**LINDA MAGNIFICO** completed her dance education in Italy and received her first engagement with the Croatian National Ballet in Zagreb, where she danced as a soloist from 1988 to 1991. From 1994 to 2003 she was a soloist with the Compagnia Zappalà Danza and assistant to Roberto Zappalà. In 2004 Linda Magnifico moved to Switzerland. She danced for cie. Anna Huber and was a dancer at the Lucern Theatre under the direction of Verena Weiss for three years. In 2007 she founded the company "dysoundbo" together with the composer Sasha Shlain. As a ballet mistress and choreographic assistant, she was engaged at St. Gallen Theater and Staatstheater Darmstadt. From 2014 to 2019 she worked as rehearsal director for the dance company Konzert Theater Bern. Since January she is co-president of the IG Tanz Zentralschweiz.

**JORGE GARCÍA PÉREZ** was born in Zaragoza. He studied at the prestigious dance School María de Ávila under the direction of María de Ávila and Lola de Ávila in Spain. He began his professional dance career in Sybaa Ballet, season 2003-2004 and Malandain Ballet Biarritz II for the season 2004-2005. He joined Junior Ballet at the Opera House in Zürich after winning the gold medal at Premio Roma International Dance Competition. The next year he was promoted to demi-soloist and thereafter became a soloist of Zürich Ballet. In 2008 he joined Ballett Basel as a soloist under the direction of Richard Wherlock. In 2011 he choreographed "Match[ing] Sounds" and won first prize at the Jugendförderpreis des Sperber Kollegiums in Switzerland. Since then he has been building his own repertory and has won several international prizes as a young choreographer at Cross Connection International Choreographic Competition, Hanover International Choreographic Competition, Bugos - New York International Choreographic Competition and Emergent Choreographers Contest. During those years he has also worked with, and created his own choreographic work for companies such as Staatstheater Mainz, Stephen Delattre Dance Company, San Francisco Ballet, Konzert Theater Bern, Ballet del Sur de Bahía Blanca, Elephant in the Black Box, Béjart Ballet Lausanne, Compañía Nacional de Danza de Madrid and Ballett Theater Basel. Since 2016 he is the Artistic Director at Carta Blanca Dance, a dance company which he founded together with Permi Jhooti in Basel, Switzerland. Due to the pandemic, he and Rubén Cabaleiro founded DanceLive Europe in March 2020. It is a live and online platform offering free online lessons worldwide for professional dancers. It also provides performances and events as the first online platform in the world offering live and online international gala performances.

**CLARISSA ROCHA** began her dance studies in Brazil at the age of eleven. Seven years later she started to work as a teacher and as a dancer. Throughout her career she has always tried to balance those two professions that she loves, teaching and performing, as she considers them as complementary. In 2005 she moved to Madrid where she carried on with her studies and where she graduated in choreography and interpretation at the Maria de Avila Conservatory. At the same time she was performing with different dance companies of various styles, from aerial dance and outdoor performance to contemporary dance. During the 8 years she lived in Madrid she also worked as ballet, contemporary dance and Pilates teacher. In 2013 Clarissa moved abroad again, this time to London, where she continued with her career as dancer and teacher. There she collaborated in a post graduate dance project at the London Contemporary Dance School and had a permanent role as a teacher at Ballet4life, focusing on ballet for adults and elderly people. In collaboration with Ballet4life's director, she developed a programme especially conceived for people with dementia.

**CONTEMPORARY**

**STEFANIE FISCHER** completed her education at Tanzakademie Zürich. Since the season of 2015/16 she is a member of the Tanzkompanie Theater St.Gallen. In 2005 she won first prize at Prix de Solothurn and she won the Migros Dance Studies prize three years consecutively. From 2007 to 2012 she danced with the Kiel Ballet. Since 2012 she performed in various productions in Switzerland, Austria and Germany. She was a guest at Theater Lüneburg and a member of the Cathy Sharp Dance Ensemble. She worked with the Passion RED Collective and is a co-founder of Bufo Makmal in Basel. Since 2018 she teaches occasionally at Profitraining St. Gallen, at the Theater Dance School, at the dance company of St. Gallen Theater and as a guest teacher at Ballett Graz.

**JORGE GARCÍA PÉREZ** was born in Zaragoza. He studied at the prestigious dance School María de Ávila under the direction of María de Ávila and Lola de Ávila in Spain. He began his professional dance career in Sybaa Ballet, season 2003-2004 and Malandain Ballet Biarritz II for the season 2004-2005. He joined Junior Ballet at the Opera House in Zürich after winning the gold medal at Premio Roma International Dance Competition. The next year he was promoted to demi-soloist and thereafter became a soloist of Zürich Ballet. In 2008 he joined Ballett Basel as a soloist under the direction of Richard Wherlock. In 2011 he choreographed "Match[ing] Sounds" and won first prize at the Jugendförderpreis des Sperber Kollegiums in Switzerland. Since then he has been building his own repertory and has won several international prizes as a young choreographer at Cross Connection International Choreographic Competition, Hanover International Choreographic Competition, Bugos - New York International Choreographic Competition and Emergent Choreographers Contest. During those years he has also worked with, and created his own choreographic work for companies such as Staatstheater Mainz, Stephen Delattre Dance Company, San Francisco Ballet, Konzert Theater Bern, Ballet del Sur de Bahía Blanca, Elephant in the Black Box, Béjart Ballet Lausanne, Compañía Nacional de Danza de Madrid and Ballett Theater Basel. Since 2016 he is the Artistic Director at Carta Blanca Dance, a dance company which he founded together with Permi Jhooti in Basel, Switzerland. Due to the pandemic, he and Rubén Cabaleiro founded DanceLive Europe in March 2020. It is a live and online platform offering free online lessons worldwide for professional dancers. It also provides performances and events as the first online platform in the world offering live and online international gala performances.

**PAU ARÁN** (Cerdanyola del Vallès, 1981) is a Spanish-born dancer, choreographer and teacher now living and working in Germany. He studied at Conservatorio Profesional de Danza 'Mariemma' in Madrid and later at Folkwang University of the Arts in Essen, Germany. This led to his most significant training to date, in Wuppertal under the direction of Pina Bausch. Since 2013, and in parallel to his career as a dancer, Pau has been creating his own work which has been presented in Germany, Spain, France, Italy, Chile and Japan. He develops the expression of his art through body language, focusing on creation and pedagogy of contemporary dance. The beauty of movement and his interest in the poetics of contemporary dance are represented in his projects, in which intimate spaces are created where the audience can breathe and open their emotions, and the stage space is utilized as a temple to reconnect with ourselves through art. The Pau Aran dance company was founded in 2020, with a commitment to share knowledge of experiences with the next generation. Pau encourages self-discovery and helps to further develop the identities of his students, performers and collaborators as they adapt and mold learned practice to new realities. He and his dancers move with the passage of time, focusing on the transient nature of dance and fusing heritage and tradition with the future. Pau Aran Dance Company's inaugural creation, *Lettre d'Amour*, premiered at the Grec Festival in Barcelona in 2020. His latest creation, *Untitled*, currently in development, explores gender and movement, and how contemporary culture and new forms of communication influence this. [www.pauaran.com](http://www.pauaran.com)

**ENRICO PAGLIALUNGA** is an Italian performer-teacher-young choreographer based in Berlin. He is co-founder of the project *InCapsula art scenario*. He has danced in various projects and has also choreographed in Europe and the USA. Enrico is currently collaborating with Sonia Rodriguez Hernandez for Transforma Berlin. He is working on his own dance project as well.