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glacier

Office of Arts + Cultural Programming

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World Premiere!
Liz Gerring Dance Company

glacier

Choreographer Liz Gerring
Composer Michael J. Schumacher
Production Designer Robert Wierzol
Associate Lighting Designer Amith A. Chandrashaker
Costume Designer Maison Taia
Production and Stage Manager Bill Schaffner
Rehearsal Assistants Elizabeth DelMont and Heather Waldon
Artistic Advisor Irène Hultman Monti
Executive Director, Liz Gerring Dance Company Eric Rosenzeig

Dancers Benjamin Asnied, Brandon Collves, Tony Neidenbach, Adele Nickel, Brandin Steffensen, Jake Szczyrsk, Jessica Weiss, Claire Westby

Glacier is commissioned by Peak Performances © Montclair State (NJ). Supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. Glacier is an evening-length choreographic work for eight dancers based on composer Michael J. Schumacher’s 2007–2012 work Glacier.

Duration: 1 hour, no intermission.

In consideration of both audience and performers, please turn off all electronic devices. The taking of photographs or videos and the use of recording equipment are not permitted. No food or drink is permitted in the theater.
I began making this work with a series of gestures: the simple string movements, initially of hands and arms. Gradually the work unfolded, gestures reinventing fully bodily realizations, into a layering of movement as it gathered momentum. I really felt simultaneously both the solidity and the malleability inside the sound space and used that as we developed the work in the resident at the large campus of the Alexander Hamilton High School.

My primary concern in choreographing is representing relationships. Behind every piece are hints of my own experience—love, lust, despair, anger, defeat, and triumph are all present in the movement. Nonetheless, I am most interested in the body and its presentation through space and time, irrespective of plot.

—Liz Gerring, Choreographer

Liz Gerring (Choreographer) is born in San Francisco, CA in 1965. She grew up in the Los Angeles area and began studying dance at age 13. In high school she studied at the Clarice Smith in Washington, DC. In 1988 she is a member of the Brio Trance Dance Company, where she also worked as rehearsal director from 2006 to 2009. She has performed Merce Cunningham’s role in the final Merce Cunningham “Event” at the Park Avenue Armory in New York City his home. Jake Szczypek (Choreographer), originally from New Haven, CT, began his career movement studying gymnastics and curling. He began his studies at a young age by going to see the 5th World Dance Festival in Los Angeles, where his passion for working with Liz Gerring since March 2008. He has been creating dances and teaching since 2000. For his work with Deborah Hay’s “New” and performs with Nancy Stark Smith and Mike Vargas. His work has been presented at PDXCON, PDX Live for Dance, with the New World Symphony. Since then, he has created Hultman Monti has performed at Danspace Project, the Connelly Theater, The Kitchen, Engine 27, and other venues, both in New York City and nationally.

Michael J. Schumacher (Composer) is a composer and performer, and artist in New York City. His work in visual arts, Chicago, and digital media, specializing in computer generated sounds that reflects the scale of the sound/visual to the architecture of the exhibition space and larger audiences. Based on collaborative compositions with other artists, Schumacher’s work at Portland, CA. He was trained in dance at the University of Hawaii and in addition to Liz Gerring Dance Company, he dances for Kenny Gortfeldt and the director of Understudy NYC. He has been creating dances and teaching since 2000. He travels with his work a residence director at New York City for a Season of NYC. He has performed and choreographed, performed Merce Cunningham’s role in the final Merce Cunningham “Event” at the Park Avenue Armory.

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About the Artists

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