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## FAR

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## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Wayne McGregor** (Concept, Direction, and Choreography) is a multi-award-winning British choreographer, renowned for his physically testing choreography and groundbreaking collaborations across dance, film, music, visual art, technology, and science. He is artistic director of Wayne McGregor | Random Dance, resident company at Sadler’s Wells Theatre in London, and resident choreographer of The Royal Ballet (appointed 2006). In January 2011, McGregor was awarded a CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire). From 2008 to 2010, McGregor was appointed the government’s first Youth Dance Champion. In 2004 he was a research fellow at the Experimental Psychology department of Cambridge University. McGregor is a frequent creator of new work for Bolshoi Ballet, La Scala, Milan, Paris Opera Ballet, Nederlands Dans Theater, San Francisco Ballet, Stuttgart Ballet, New York City Ballet, Australian Ballet, and English National Ballet as well as movement director for theater and film (including *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*). In 2011, McGregor premiered new work for The Royal Ballet (*Live Fire Exercise*) and Paris Opera Ballet (*L’Anatomie de la Sensation*) and in December he will premiere *UNDANCE*, an opera/dance collaboration with Mark-Anthony Turnage and Mark Wallinger, for Wayne McGregor | Random Dance at Sadler’s Wells.

**Catarina Carvalho** (Dancer) was born in Lisbon, Portugal, where she began her dance training. In 1994, she went to France to train for six years at the École Supérieure de Danse de Cannes Rosella Hightower, with a scholarship from the Ambrosoli Foundation, Zürich. In 2000, she joined Ballet du Rhin as an apprentice and performed works by the director Bertrand d’At. In 2003 she worked with Javier de Frutos in Companhia Instável’s project *Portugal*. The same year, Carvalho joined Companhia Portuguesa de Bailado Contemporâneo, where she worked with choreographers Vasco Wellenkamp and Benvindo Fonseca. She has also performed works by Rui Horta, César Moniz, and Rita Judas. Carvalho joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2008.

**Davide Di Pretoro** (Dancer) was born in Colleferro, Rome, Italy, where he started to study dance. He later trained in classical ballet and Cunningham technique at the National Academy of Rome and completed his studies at Balletto di Roma and Associazione Italiana Danzatori. In 2002, he won a scholarship to study at the Merce Cunningham Dance School in New York and worked with Compagnia Danza Prospettiva in Rome under Vittorio Biagi. In 2003, Di Pretoro worked freelance with the Yvann Alexandre and Georges Momboye companies in France. In 2005–2006, he worked with Thierry Smits’s Compagnie

Thor in Brussels. The next season, Di Pretoro joined Ballet Preljocaj, where he stayed until 2009. In 2009–2010 he joined Dansgroep Amsterdam under the direction of Itzik Galili and Krisztina De Chatel. Di Pretoro joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2010.

**Michael-John Harper** (Dancer) was born in Jamaica and, at the age of eight, moved to Florida, where he began his dance training at Michael’s Academy for the Performing Arts. After high school, he attended New World School of the Arts in Miami as a scholarship student and graduated with a BFA in Dance. He then joined the Alvin Ailey II Junior Dance Company in New York with appearances in Innsbruck, Austria, and the United States. He did a creative residency at the Palucca Schule in Dresden, focusing on William Forsythe improvisation techniques; was a scholarship student at the Alonzo King Lines Ballet in San Francisco; and performed at the 2009 Contemporary Dance Festival in New York with the Thang Dao Dance Company. Harper joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2010.

**Paolo Mangiola** (Dancer) was born in Reggio di Calabria, Italy, and studied dance from a very young age. In 1997, he won a scholarship at the School of Art in Milan, under the direction of Susanna Beltrami training in classical ballet, Cunningham technique, and improvisational dance theater. On completing his studies in 2001, he joined the Aterballetto company for four years, dancing repertory by Mauro Bigonzetti, William Forsythe, Jacopo Godani, and Fabrizio Monteverde. In 2005, he joined the Tanztheater-Nürnberg in Germany for three years, under the direction of Daniela Kurz, dancing in works by Kurz, Rui Horta, Jorma Elo, Andres Gringras, and Stejn Cellis. Mangiola choreographed for Atterballetto in 2005 for the Tanztheater-Nürnberg’s “next generation” program in 2008. He joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2008.

**Daniela Neugebauer** (Dancer) was born in Switzerland. She started her professional dance training at the Ballettschule der Hamburgischen Staatsoper under John Neumeier and continued at the Dansacademie, Rotterdam. She has worked with Ballet Gulbenkian under Paulo Ribeiro and Dance Works, Rotterdam, under Ton Simons. Neugebauer has performed in works by Ribeiro, Simons, Dana Caspersen, Stephen Petronio, Vaclav Kunes, Bruno Listopad, and others. She received three scholarships from the Migros-Genossenschafts-Bund between 2000 and 2003. Neugebauer joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in January 2010.

**Anna Nowak** (Dancer) was born in Lodz, Poland. From 1991 to 2000, she studied in the National Ballet School in Lodz. She graduated with honors from a five-year program in the

National Music Academy of F. Chopin, taking a degree in Art with specialization in Dance Teaching. From 2001 to 2007, Nowak danced with the National Opera in Warsaw, taking solo roles in repertoire including *Swan Lake*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *La Bayadère*, *La fille mal gardée*, *The Nutcracker*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. In 2007 she joined the Gran Canaria Ballet where she danced the principal role in *Jeunehomme* by Uwe Scholz. Nowak joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2008.

**Benjamin Ord** (Dancer) was born in Auckland, New Zealand. He completed his dance training at the University of Auckland under teachers Timothy Gordon, Juliet Fisher, and Mary-Jane O’Reilly, obtaining a bachelor of performing arts. In 2006 Ord joined Auckland-based Company Z, winning Best Male Dancer in the Tempo New Zealand Dance Festival. He has since worked with Curve Foundation Dance Company, Royal New Zealand Ballet, Marc Brew Company, and Hubert Essakow Dance, among others. In 2010 Ord was the recipient of a Creative New Zealand Grant to take part in a professional development trip to New York, where he studied at Movement Research and the Merce Cunningham Studio. Ord joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in autumn 2011.

**Fukiko Takase** (Dancer) was born in New York and raised in Japan. She worked for three years as a freelance dancer and choreographer in Japan and received a three-year Cultural Affairs Fellowship from the Japanese government to study at the Codarts-Rotterdam Dance Academy and London Contemporary Dance School. From 2006 to 2010, Takase worked for Henri Oguike Dance Company, assisting Oguike with *Tread Softly*. She also worked for Darshan Singh Bhuller, Darren Johnston, and Russell Maliphant as a freelance dancer. Her choreographies include *Landing*, a full-length work for Theatre X-cai in Japan, and *Autumn Hunch* for the National Theatre, Tokyo. Takase joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in autumn 2011.

**Alexander Whitley** (Dancer) was born in Penrith, UK, and trained at The Royal Ballet School. He joined Birmingham Royal Ballet in 2000, where his repertoire included *La fille mal gardée*, *Still Life at the Penguin Café*, and David Bintley’s *Carmina Burana*. Whitley joined Rambert Dance Company in August 2004. He choreographed five pieces for Rambert Seasons of New Choreography, one of which, *Solo?*, was taken into Rambert’s repertoire. Whitley has worked with choreographers Darshan Singh Bhuller, Rafael Bonachela, Christopher Bruce, Javier de Frutos, Siobhan Davies, Garry Stewart, Karole Armitage, and Michael Clark. In 2008, as a guest artist for Michael Clark Company’s New York tour, he was nominated for the Spotlight Award in the 2008 Critics’ Circle Awards. He joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2010.

**Jessica Wright** (Dancer) was born in Nottingham and trained at Central School of Ballet, London. She went on to work with “theensemblegroup” and Mobius Dance. In 2005 she was selected as an apprentice for D.A.N.C.E., a new interdisciplinary program under the direction of Wayne McGregor, William Forsythe, Angelin Preljocaj, and Frédéric Flamand. She was a guest dancer with the Forsythe Company and the Ballet Preljocaj and danced in two new creations, *Memeri* by McGregor and *A Success Story* by Flamand. Since 2005 she has collaborated with Morgann Runacre-Temple, creating dance films and interactive performances. Their film *Out of Hand* (2006) was selected for the final of the Cobravison Short Film Competition. Wright joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2008.

**Odette Hughes** (Rehearsal Director) joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in June 1997, becoming the company’s rehearsal director in 2000. She is responsible for the everyday artistic supervision of the company, overseeing all performances and directing all rehearsals. Hughes was first assistant choreographer to McGregor on *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (2004) and the movement coach on *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* (2006). She was rehearsal director on Michel Ocelot’s musical *Kirikou*, The Royal Ballet’s *Ingram*, and The English National Opera’s *Salome*, all directed or choreographed by McGregor; and in 2006 assisted McGregor on *Dido and Aeneas* at La Scala. Hughes has restaged numerous McGregor ballets, including *Eden|Eden* for the San Francisco Ballet (2006), returning in 2008 to rehearse it for their 75th anniversary; *Genus* for the Paris Opera Ballet (2009); and *Chroma* for the National Ballet of Canada (2010) and the Bolshoi Ballet (2011). She was appointed Wayne McGregor | Random Dance associate director in January 2007.

**Lucy Carter** (Lighting Design) won the Knight of Illumination Award for Dance 2008 for *Chroma*. Her work with Wayne McGregor spans 18 years and more recently includes *Live Fire Exercise*, *Limen*, *Infra*, *Chroma*, *Qualia* (The Royal Ballet); *Dido and Aeneas* and *Acis and Galatea* (Royal Opera House/The Royal Ballet); *Outlier* (New York City Ballet); *Dyad 1929* (Australian Ballet); *Kirikou and Karaba* (musical); *L’Anatomie de la Sensation* and *Genus* (Paris Opera Ballet); *Skindex and Renature* (Nederlands Dans Theater); *Dyad*, *Entity*, *Amu*, *Digit01*, *AtaXia*, and *Nemesis* (Wayne McGregor | Random Dance); *2 Human* (English National Ballet); and *Yantra and Nautilus* (Stuttgart). Other recent dance credits include *Still Life* for Val Caniparoli and Scottish Ballet; *Invitus Invitam* with Kim Brandstrup for The Royal Ballet; *Just Add Water* and *Faultline* for Shobana Jeyasingh Dance; and *As you are* and *Faun* for CoisCéim Dance

Theatre, Dublin. Recent opera includes *Mary Stuart* (Opera North), *Mr. Brouček* (Opera North and Scottish Opera), and *Parthenogenesis* (Katie Mitchell directing for ROH 2, Royal Opera House). Recent theater includes *Breathing Irregular* (Gate Theatre).

**rAndom International** (Set Design) was founded by Stuart Wood, Flo Ortkrass, and Hannes Koch in 2002. Working from the fringes of art, design, science, and architecture, rAndom is developing projects and installations that reinterpret the “cold” nature of digital-based work and emphasize the interaction between the animate (audience) and the inanimate (object), bringing the two into a powerful relationship of performance. The studio’s work has won many awards in the fields of art, architecture, and design, including Designer of the Future in Basel 2010, the iF Design Award (2005 and 2006), the Wallpaper Design Award (2006), and the Creative Futures Award (2005). In 2009 their interactive *Audience* installation received an honorable mention at Prix Ars Electronica, and *The Observer* recognized rAndom among the top ten UK designers in 2007. Their work forms part of the collections at the Museum of Modern Art (New York), Victoria and Albert Museum (London), and Maxine and Stuart Frankel Foundation for Art (US).

**Moritz Junge** (Costume Design) was born in Germany and studied at the Hochschule der Kunste, Berlin and at the Slade School of Fine Art. He was the overall winner of the Linbury Prize for Stage Design in 2001. Costume designs include Wayne McGregor | Random Dance’s *Entity*; Wayne McGregor’s *Live Fire Exercise*, *Limen*, *Infra*, and *Chroma* (The Royal Ballet); *Outlier* (New York City Ballet); *Aida* (ROH); *Messiah* (ENO); *Dido*, *Queen of Carthage* and *The Hour We Knew Nothing of Each Other* (NT); *All About My Mother* (Old Vic); *La Cenerentola* (Glyndebourne Festival Opera and Deutsche Oper Berlin); *Ottone in villa* (Kiel); *Rigoletto* (Hanover); *Die Zauberflöte* (Lucerna); *The Bartered Bride* and *Un ballo in maschera* (Freiburg); and costumes and co-set designs for *The Tempest* (premiere, ROH).

**Ben Frost** (Original Music) writes music of contrast. Influenced as much by classical minimalism as punk rock and metal, Frost’s throbbing guitar-based textures emerge from nothing and slowly coalesce into huge, forbidding forms that often eschew conventional structures in favor of the inevitable unfolding of vast mechanical systems. His performances at international festivals include Montreal’s famed MUTEK, where amplified electronics combined with the furious thrashing of live guitars. His music’s intense physicality has filled gallery spaces and driven contemporary dance productions by Icelandic Dance Company, Chunky Move, and acclaimed choreographers Erna Ómarsdóttir and Wayne McGregor. Frost has performed and worked with/for

artists as diverse and acclaimed as Björk, Stars Like Fleas, Tim Hecker, Amiina, Christian Fennesz, Jóhann Jóhannsson, Wildbirds & Peacedrums, and Bora Yoon.

## ABOUT THE COMPANY

**Wayne McGregor | Random Dance** was founded in 1992 and became the instrument upon which McGregor evolved his drastically fast and articulate choreographic style. The company became a byword for its radical approach to new technology, incorporating animation, digital film, 3D architecture, electronic sound, and virtual dancers into the live choreography. In *Nemesis* (2002), dancers duelled with prosthetic steel arm extensions to a soundtrack incorporating mobile phone conversations; in *AtaXia* (2004), McGregor’s fellowship with the Experimental Psychology department of Cambridge University fueled the choreography; in *Entity* (2008), choreographic agents were imagined to a soundscape created by Coldplay collaborator Jon Hopkins and Joby Talbot (*Chroma*); and in *FAR* (2010), cutting-edge design (rAndom International) fuses with choreography mined from a radical cognitive research process.

Wayne McGregor | Random Dance is Resident Company of Sadler’s Wells, London, and Associate Company of DanceEast, Suffolk. Wayne McGregor, CBE, is Resident Choreographer of The Royal Ballet, Covent Garden. [www.randomdance.org](http://www.randomdance.org)

North American Artist Representative: Cathy Pruzan, [www.cathypruzan.com](http://www.cathypruzan.com)

## COMPANY ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Wayne McGregor | Random Dance is supported by Arts Council England.

The development of the *FAR* set, by rAndom International, and the Choreographic Thinking Tools used in the process of making, were developed during a residency at the Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center, Troy, NY.

The Choreographic Language Agent was developed with support from Portland Green Cultural Projects. All R-Research activity is supported by Coventry University.

Thanks to The Quercus Trust for their ongoing support.

For more on *FAR*, read "Unpeeling the Layers" by David Jays on **Insite**, our online forum at [www.peakperfs.org/Insite](http://www.peakperfs.org/Insite).

Dance

Dance

Dance



Dr. Susan A. Cole, President  
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Peak Performances presents:

American Premiere!  
**Wayne McGregor | Random Dance**  
**FAR**

Concept and Direction **Wayne McGregor**  
 Choreography **Wayne McGregor**, in collaboration with the dancers

Dancers **Catarina Carvalho, Davide Di Pretoro,**  
**Michael-John Harper, Paolo Mangiola,**  
**Daniela Neugebauer, Anna Nowak, Benjamin Ord,**  
**Fukiko Takase, Alexander Whitley, Jessica Wright**

Rehearsal Director **Odette Hughes**

Lighting Design **Lucy Carter**  
 Set Design **rAandom International**  
 Costume Design **Moritz Junge**

Technical Director **Christopher Charles**  
 Technical Manager **Colin Everitt**  
 Production Electrician and Relighter **Michael Smith**

Original Music **Ben Frost**

Artistic Director **Wayne McGregor**  
 Executive Producer **Rebecca Marshall**  
 Associate Director **Odette Hughes**  
 Creative Learning Director **Jasmine Wilson**  
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*FAR* is co-produced by Sadler's Wells, London, UK, and by Peak Performances @ Montclair State (NJ) and is made possible in part by a grant from the Association of Performing Arts Presenters Creative Campus Innovations Grant Program, funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. *FAR* is co-commissioned by Maison de la Danse, Lyon, FR; Fondazione I Teatri, Reggio Emilia, IT; Belgrade Dance Festival, Belgrade, SE; Belfast Festival, Belfast, UK; Brighton Dome and Festival Ltd, Brighton, UK; Laban Theatre, London, UK, and DanceEast, Ipswich, UK.

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 inside the theater.

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**Peak Performances**

SEASON  
**11/12**



Credit: Ravi Deepres

**American Premiere!**  
**Wayne McGregor | Random Dance**  
**FAR**  
**October 27-30, 2011**  
**Alexander Kasser Theater**  
**Montclair State University**