

NEW YORK CITY FALL SEASON 2021

PERIDANCE CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY

THE KnJ THEATER

PRESS CONTACT

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High-resolution images and videos available upon request

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New York City's acclaimed Peridance Contemporary Dance Company (PCDC) returns to the KnJ Theater for its first live season since the start of the pandemic. The company will present three performances on December 11th and 12th, 2021. The program highlights Israeli artists, featuring two new works; *Oceans* by Peridance's Artistic Director Igal Perry with original music by Israeli composer Amit Weiner and *studies in movement polyphony* by Guggenheim Fellowship recipient Netta Yerushalmy.

From its 2020 season, the Company will be presenting two works, which due to the pandemic, have never been performed in front of a live audience: *Twilight* by Igal Perry, set to music by Frédéric Chopin, and *Just Above the Surface* by Yin Yue, originally created during the Company's residency at Western Michigan University in 2019. The company previously presented these works in a virtual performance, *Threshold*, which was released in June 2021.

PERFORMANCE TIMES

Saturday December 11, 2021 at 7:30 PM (followed by a 'Meet the Artists' reception)

Sunday December 12, 2021 at 3:00 PM and 7:00 PM

ABOUT THE WORKS

Oceans – choreography by Artistic Director and Choreographer, Igal Perry; original music by Israeli composer Amit Weiner. Igal Perry's newest work, made possible through the support of New Music USA, explores the many currents of Israeli culture and heritage. The dance is also a collaboration with Amit Weiner, a film and music composer based in Israel whose work has been performed at Carnegie Hall and with Universal Music Production, among others. For this piece, Weiner has imagined a completely original score, crafting it with haunting melodies and rhythms set in various atypical time signatures. The piece embodies the contradictions inherent in the motion of oceans, which attack and retreat and simultaneously separate and connect the lands they engulf. In line with its title, the work dares to be vast, powerful and ever-shifting, both turbulent and calm, using the entire company to flood the stage with rippling and crashing patterns.

studies in movement polyphony – choreographer Netta Yerushalmy with music by Anna Meredith. In this short work, the container of the stage serves as a frame in which to observe and relish in the rich simultaneity of movement idioms that these dancers' bodies hold. It is a live archive, a formal study, a scavenger hunt, a salad, a quilt, a collage, another page in Netta's ongoing love letter to dance. Netta Yerushalmy grew up in Galilee, Israel and is currently a dance artist based in New York City. Her work, which spans across genres and disciplines, "aims to engage with audiences by imparting the sensation of things as they are perceived, not as they are known, and to challenge how meaning is attributed and constructed." Yerushalmy has been the recipient of many awards and fellowships from the Guggenheim, Princeton Arts, New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, the Center for Ballet and the Arts at New York University, New York City Center, and Jerome Robbins Bogliasco, among others. She has also choreographed for numerous repertory companies and fine arts programs as well as presented and performed works at many prestigious venues such as the Joyce Theater, New York Live Arts, and the Suzanne Dellal Center for Dance among many others. Visit nettay.com for more information about Netta Yerushalmy.

Just Above the Surface – Choreographer Yin Yue. Created as part of a residency program commissioned by Western Michigan University, this piece explores the electric connection of human interaction—the sensations that pull people together or apart. Conceptually rooted in Yue's FoCo technique which fuses movement from both Chinese folk and contemporary dance, the work communicates non-traditional narratives atop a buzzing and complex musical undercurrent by Michel Banabila, Shifted, Machinefabriek, and Metamorphoses.

Twilight – Artistic Director and Choreographer, Igal Perry. Twilight was originally commissioned in 2005 for the dancers of Joffrey II and has been reimaged on Peridance today. Set to a selection of Frédéric Chopin’s Etudes and Nocturnes, the work breaks down classical traditional lines into partnering sequences that produce a realm of deep, expansive, and affecting contemporary movement. This work embodies the myriad of textures that are famous in Chopin’s compositions and is a testament to Perry’s pure and elegant interpretation of the music.

VENUE

The Knj Theater is located at Peridance Center, at 126 East 13th Street, New York, NY, 10003 in a historic landmark building. The closest public transportation is the wheelchair-accessible 14th Street / Union Square station.



TICKETS

General Admission Tickets available at peridancecontemporary.org

\$30 General Admission

\$15 Students/Seniors

Group Discount on 10+ tickets (email pcdc@peridance.com)

ABOUT PERIDANCE CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY

New York City's Peridance Contemporary Dance Company (PCDC), led by Founder and Artistic Director Igal Perry, has been a powerhouse of expressive and innovative dance since 1983. The Company made its New York City debut in 1985 at the Riverside Dance Festival, and over the next 38 years has held NY seasons at venues including the Joyce Theater, BAM, the Kaye Playhouse, the John Jay Theater, and the Knj Theater at Peridance, commissioning over 75 new dance works.

PCDC has toured extensively in the United States and overseas, offering engaging dance performances and educational classes. In recent years, PCDC's domestic and international tours have brought contemporary dance to over 48,000 audience members around the globe at festivals and venues such as Jacob's Pillow, the Ent Center for the Arts in Colorado Springs, Spring to Dance St. Louis, the Staller

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Center at Stonybrook University, the Butler Arts Center in Indianapolis, the Suzanne Dellal Dance Centre for Dance and Theater in Tel Aviv, Ballet Internacional de Buenos Aires, Florence Dance Festival, Seoul International Dance Festival, and many more.

During the 2020 confinement, the company continued to offer free access for audiences to interact with dance, providing donation-based classes as well as presenting virtual works—such as an excerpt from *Perfection Has No Dreams*, *Doors*, and *Reverie*, a partnering duet where the dancers were filmed separately in their own homes and edited together in post-production.

PCDC is based at the renowned Peridance Center in Union Square and presents annual New York seasons at the Knj Theater at Peridance. In addition to Perry's signature works, described by the NY Times as "blessedly inventive," PCDC is passionate about commissioning and presenting works by both emerging and established choreographers. Over the last decade, the Company has premiered new works by 21 choreographers, and, in line with Perry's commitment to commissioning new and live music for dance, the Company has employed over 50 musicians and composers.

PCDC provides access to free dance workshops for children in low-income and immigrant communities through Dance Break, its outreach program which has served over 1,000 students since it was launched in 2016. The company continuously offers free classes and outdoor performances through organizations such as CityParks' SummerStage, Broadway Cares, and the Union Square Partnership, contributing to more accessible dance performances across New York City.

Over the last 10 years, PCDC has received funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, Harkness Foundation, Google, Jewish Communal Fund, New Music USA, and many individual donors.

To find out more about the Company, please visit peridancecontemporary.org.

PRESS

PCDC has been featured in the New York Times, Dance Magazine, Washington Post, Time Out New York, the Village Voice, and Dance Informa magazine to critical acclaim. For press tickets, high-resolution images, and videos, please contact Company Coordinator Colin Heininger at pcdc@peridance.com.

SEASON SPONSORS

PCDC's 2021 Fall Season is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature. In addition, Perry's newest creation, *Oceans*, is supported by New Music USA. Funding for New Music USA is made possible through annual program support and/or endowment gifts from Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, New York State Council on the Arts, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, Howard Gilman Foundation, Helen F. Whitaker Fund, and The Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Inc.

ABOUT ARTISTIC DIRECTOR IGAL PERRY

Igal Perry, Founder and Artistic Director of Peridance Contemporary Dance Company and Peridance Center, is a world-renowned choreographer, ballet master, and dance educator. Mr. Perry's elegant choreography, often in collaboration with contemporary composers, has been described as "blessedly inventive" (Jennifer Dunning, NYTimes). His works have been set on prestigious companies and performed at renowned festivals including Florence Dance Festival and Invito Alla Danza (Italy), Batsheva and Bat-Dor Dance Companies and the Karmiel Dance Festival (Israel), Ailey II and Complexions Contemporary Ballet (NYC), Companhia de Danca de Lisboa (Portugal), and Alberta Ballet (Canada).

Born in Israel, Igal Perry began his dancing career with Karmon, a folk-dance company. He later joined Bat-Dor Dance Company, where he worked with leading teachers and choreographers including Alvin Ailey, Benjamin Harkavy, John Butler, Rudi Van Dantzig, Inesse Alexandrov, Paul Sanasardo, and Lar Lubovitch. Upon arriving in the United States, Mr. Perry joined Dennis Wayne's Dancers as ballet master and choreographer. During that period, he staged John Butler's work for the NYC Opera, the Opera of Munich, Caracas Ballet, and Teatro Alla Scala in Milan, where he also directed the world premiere of Krzysztof Penderecki's opera *Paradise Lost*.

From 1981-1982, Mr. Perry headed the ballet department at Jacob's Pillow. In 1983, he launched his dance school, Peridance Center, now one of New York City's leading dance institutions, and founded Peridance Contemporary Dance Company, for which he has choreographed over 60 works, with performances at BAM, The Joyce Theater, and City Center.

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In addition to his daily class at Peridance, Mr. Perry serves as guest faculty/choreographer at The Jacob's Pillow Festival, The Ailey School, and Marymount Manhattan College. Since 1995, Mr. Perry has served as a guest teacher at Juilliard, where he staged his *Intimate Voices* and *Mourning Song*. His international teaching engagements include Scapino Ballet and Het National Ballet (Holland), Laterna Magica and the National Ballet (Prague), Architanz (Tokyo), The Royal Ballet of Sweden and Balettakademien (Sweden), the National Ballet of China, and the Kwang-Ju City Ballet Company (Korea).