
Anna Myer began her dance training in 1962 with Esther Brooks, at the Cambridge School of Ballet, on a Ford Foundation Scholarship. Later Myer was awarded scholarships at the Joffrey Ballet, The School of American Ballet, and American Ballet Theater. Myer then joined the Boston Ballet, and subsequently performed and studied with Ana Roje in Boston and Yugoslavia. Additional credits include performances in works by contemporary choreographers such as Zeve Cohen, Caitlin Corbett, Marguerite Mathews, and Pauline Koner. In 1992, Myer founded Anna Myer and Dancers in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Since its inception the company has performed the innovative choreography of Anna Myer to a steadily growing audience throughout the northeast, most notably in Boston and New York City. Her work has caught the attention and respect of some of the country's most prominent dance critics, including Jennifer Dunning and Jack Anderson of The New York Times, and Christine Temin of The Boston Globe. In 1999 a feature article in the Sunday New York Times Arts and Leisure section, by Kevin Giordano, "Thinking Post Modern but Talking Michelangelo." Christine Temin of The Boston Globe named the company one of the "Ten Best Dance Events of 2001" and the Boston Phoenix listed the company's 2003 season in its "Best of Arts and Dance 2003" roundup.

Myer's work has been funded numerous times by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Cambridge Arts Council and the Turner Family Foundation; she has been presented by Dance Umbrella's 1999 Boston Moves, Fleet Bank Celebrity Series 2003, Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival 2002 and 2003 and CrashArts at the institute of Contemporary Art, 2007.

About the Choreography

Anna Myer's unique language of movement is a fusion of her classical, modern, and postmodern background. Fluid, physical, and visually exciting, Myer's dances are emotionally charged and infused with a keen formal intelligence. Her ambitious repertoire includes works that are highlighted by original composition and live music, as well as multi-generational pieces. The nine extraordinary dancers who comprise Myer's company have an impressive and varied dance history.

About the Company



Jakov Jakoulov – Composer

Author of three ballets, five concertos, five string quartets, scores for over 20 theatrical, TV and cinema productions as well as numerous symphonic, chamber and choral works. In recent years the London's New European Strings Orchestra, Boston Symphony Tanglewood Contemporary Music Festival, "Future Classics" Series with Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Boston Symphony Chamber Concerts, Armenian National Symphony Orchestra, Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, New England String Ensemble, among others presented his work.

Recipient of six Annual Awards from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers; Doctor of Musical Arts from Boston University; Member of the National Honor Music Society. Has gained renowned international reputation with commissions and performances of his works in Germany, Sweden, Scotland, Finland, Italy, Mexico, Armenia, Russia, Israel as well as the United States. Recent CD recording, "Black Snow," was chosen as one of the "Top Five Classical Recordings List" of '99 by "Fanfare" magazine.

Susan Davenny Wyner – Conductor

After an international career as a soprano—performing as a soloist with the Metropolitan Opera and major orchestras throughout the U.S. and Europe—Susan Davenny Wyner has received acclaim for an equally impressive career as a conductor.

The MacNeil-Lehrer Newshour and WGBH Television have presented special documentary features on her life and work. The Cleveland Plain Dealer hailed her as "a galvanizing presence", and went on to state: "Wyner...defines those attributes reserved for the finest conductors. She has a firm vision of how a score should sound, an instinctive feel for texture and phrasing, and the ability to communicate ideas with almost laser-beam exactness to colleagues." The Los Angeles Times praised her "sensitive and thoughtful leadership" and The Chicago Tribune celebrated her "rousing and joyous" conducting.

Her conducting credits include the Los Angeles Philharmonic, The Boston Lyric Opera, and members of the Cleveland Orchestra in three special benefit performances. André Previn, Lynn Harrell, Peter Serkin, Emanuel Ax, Richard Stoltzman, Dominique Labelle, and Robert Levin have been among her guest soloists. She has also conducted concerts at the Hollywood Bowl, in the Czech Republic, at the Tanglewood and Aspen Music Festivals, and in Chicago's Orchestra Hall, as well as in New York and for CBS Radio. In 1998, The American Symphony Orchestra League named her a Catherine Filene Shouse Conductor, a first-time award given by a national panel of conductors and orchestral managers to conductors poised for major careers.

In addition to her guest conducting, Susan Davenny Wyner has been Music Director and Conductor of the Boston-based New England String Ensemble and the Warren Philharmonic Orchestra (near Cleveland, Ohio) since 1999. She has garnered praise for conducting a wide range of repertoire—orchestral, oratorio, operatic, and choral— from period instrument performances to world premieres of just-composed works.

Ms. Davenny Wyner graduated summa cum laude from Cornell University with degrees in both comparative literature and music. She continued her studies at Yale and Columbia Universities and received conducting fellowships at the Tanglewood and Aspen Music Festivals as well as at the Los Angeles Philharmonic Institute. In 1998, she was Assistant Conductor of Chicago's Grant Park Music Festival.

About the Dancers

Longer pieces (20-40 min) Selected Performances Music and Collaborations Notes Reviewed

The Presence of that Absence	Premiere: March 2004 Tsai Performance Center at Boston	Three piano pieces composed and performed by Jakov Jakoulov; three Latin popular songs [all recorded]	Available for Meet the Composer Grant.	
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Quintet to Brahms	Premiere: June 1998 Danspace Project at St. Mark's, NYC, NY	Johannes Brahms Sonata for Piano violin, and Cello, Op. 70 No. 2 – Sonata No.1 in G, Op. 78 – Adagio, Op. 86, No. 4 – Sonata No. 2 in A, Op. 100 – Allegretto grazioso, Op. 3, No. 1. – Op. 105, No. 2	Five dancers Local musicians or recorded.	<i>"Hands pressed together like beaks, arms become wings. Five dancers ... hop twist and turn .. while they maintain an amusing air of hothouse cool."</i> - Jennifer Dunning
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Wine and Roses	Premiere: 1995 Fitzgerald Theater Cambridge MA Jacob's Pillow Inside/Out theater 2003			<i>"A quintet danced to a witty instrumental amalgam of Bach, opera and a self-mocking English song."</i> - Jennifer Dunning, <i>New York Times</i>
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Shorter pieces Selected Performances Music and Collaborations Notes

Bach Deco Suite	Premiere May 2005 at Boston Ballet School, with New England String Ensemble.	Bach Cello Sonatas	Requires local musician. Seven Dancers. Cellist onstage.	
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Duet: The Presence of that Absence	Premiere May 2005 at Boston Ballet School, with New England String Ensemble.	Chopin Sonata for Cello and Piano, Opus 65	Local musicians or recorded	
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Duet from Quintet to Brahms	Premiere: June 1998 Danspace Project at St. Mark's NYC, NY	Local musicians or recorded	2 dancers	
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Current Repertory Continued...

James Brown – James is a graduate of Purdue University with a degree in Political Science. Since moving to New England, James has been a featured soloist with many of the local ballet companies such as Festival Ballet, Island Moving Company, Spindle City Ballet, Granite State Ballet, and Ballet Theater of Boston. He has also performed many contemporary and modern works. In 2002 James began his own company, Modern Populous. His work has received acclaim in Providence, where the company is based; they will be performing in Boston in the fall of 2005.

Marcio de Souza – Born in Brazil, Marcio began his study of dance at the age of nineteen at the Faculty of the Arts of Parana, where he performed with the Faculty Dance Company. He received a scholarship to study at the Contemporary Dance Company of Portugal as well as a scholarship to study at the Ballet Theater of Boston. This is his second season with Anna Myer.

Tye Gillespie – A football and basketball player in high school, Tye Gillespie began studying dance at Boston University while working on a degree in Engineering. He has studied ballet with Stefan Wenta, Elaine Haubert, Janek Schergen and Wilson Morielle, and studied modern and jazz with Pat Sandback, Micki Taylor-Pinney and Christine Baltes. He has performed a wide range of works from classical to modern to hip hop, including works by George Balanchine, Choo-San Goh, Molly Lynch, Peter Pucci, Ann Marie DeAngelo, Jacques Heim, Susan Hadley, Stephen Mills and Trey McIntyre. In addition to several years dancing with Ballet Pacifica, he has also performed with San Diego Ballet and Pulse Dance troupe Configuration, and will soon be performing with Dance Collective of Boston.

Ellie Kusner – Ellie's interest in modern dance was first sparked at Barnard College under the guidance and instruction of Janet Soares, Donlin Foreman, Risa Steinberg, Neta Pulvermacher, Lila York, Mary Lisa Burns, and other inspiring minds. Ellie received her ballet training from Boston Ballet, where she had the good fortune of performing with the corps de ballet in many productions. She has taught Pilates at various locations and modern dance to the talented students of The Boston Ballet School. This year Ellie has enjoyed working with Roxanne Lola and, of course, Anna Myer.

Nina Saraceno – Nina graduated Magna Cum Laude from Skidmore College with majors in Dance and Psychology. Native to Boston, she began her dance training at the Anna Roje School of ballet, also studying as a fourth generation Isadora Duncan dancer with Center Studio. She danced with the Boston Dance Company during the late 1990s and joined Anna Myer and Dancers in June 2003. She currently works with toddler and preschool-age children in and around Boston.

Carol Somers – Carol is originally from Minneapolis. She has danced for Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Ballet Manhattan, Eglevsky Ballet, Edward Villella, Ohad Naharin, Neta Pulvermacher, Beth Soll, and Caitlin Corbett. For her own choreography she has received commissions from Dance Umbrella, CRASHarts, the Island Moving Company of Newport, RI, and a "Top Ten Best of Dance" in 1999 from *The Boston Globe*. She is a certified Gyrotonic and Pilates instructor and is very happy to be dancing with Anna again.

Rick Alan Vigo – Rick is from Pensacola, Florida. Rick started dancing while attending Emory University as a theater major. He went on to study with Star Burlingame at Pensacola Junior College, and then on scholarship at the Alvin Ailey and Martha Graham Schools. While attending the Graham School, Rick began working with H.T. Chen and Dancers, and later worked with Hershey Park Entertainment. In New England Rick has danced with Anna Myer and Dancers, DigbyDance, Lorraine Chapman The Company, Jose Mateo's Ballet Theatre of Boston, and Northern Ballet Theatre. This is Rick's fifth year with Anna Myer and Dancers.

Courtney Wyckoff Benavides – Courtney began her dance training in Virginia at Arlington Center for Dance and also trained in the summer programs at Boston Ballet School, School of American Ballet, and American Ballet Theater. When she was 16 years old, she was awarded a full scholarship to train at the Houston Ballet Academy, under the direction of Clara Cravey and Steve Brule. In 1997, she was asked to join the Houston Ballet Company, where she danced for six years. There, she performed in ballets and contemporary pieces by Ben Stevenson, Trey McIntyre, Glen Tetley, Brian Enos, Dominic Walsh, and Stanton Welch. She is currently a student at Lesley University, where she is studying Counseling and Expressive Therapy.

Anne Zuerner – Anne Zuerner grew up on the shores of Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island. Her desire to dance, which began at an early age, took her away from home.

Jeremy-Ruth Revilock-Frost – Jeremy-Ruth is a recent graduate of The University of Hartford Hartt School with a BFA in Dance Performance. She began her dance training in Atlanta and then furthered her studies in Portsmouth, NH under the direction of Mihailo Djuric and Susan Duffy. She danced with Ballet New England and Ballet Theatre Workshop, performing soloist roles in both classical ballets and Djuric's contemporary pieces. Last summer Jeremy-Ruth studied at the Martha Graham School in NYC on scholarship. She is also a member of Northern Ballet Theatre in Nashua, New Hampshire.

About the Dancers Continued...

Longer pieces (20-40 min)	Selected Performances	Music and Collaborations	Notes	Reviewed
All at Once	<p>Premiere: Oct 2004 Danspace at St. Marks, NYC, NY Musicians from Julliard School.</p> <p>Boston Premiere: May 2005 Boston Ballet School, with New England String Ensemble</p> <p>Louisville Dance Festival, Sep 2005</p>	<p>Commissioned score by Jakov Jakoulov for 12-piece string ensemble.</p> <p>Conducted onstage by Susan Davenny Wyner.</p>	<p>Requires local musicians including music school students or amateur music groups. Ms. Davenny Wyner or Mr. Jakoulov available to conduct.</p> <p>Available for Meet the Composer Grant.</p> <p>9 dancers, 12 musicians and conductor onstage. 30' x 40' performance space suggested.</p>	<p>New York Times Boston Globe Boston Phoenix</p> <p><i>"All at Once" was visually unusual, and emotionally satisfying.</i> - Jack Anderson, <i>New York Times</i></p>
Penumbra	<p>Commissioned by CrashArts.</p> <p>Premiere: May 2007 ICA, Boston</p>	Bach Cello Suites	<p>Requires local cellist for live music.</p> <p>6 dancers and 10 local children.</p>	<p>Boston Globe</p> <p><i>"In an evening rich in imagination and musicality, Myer proved she is a creative force to be reckoned with"</i> - Terry Byrne, <i>Boston Globe</i></p>
HeartChunks	<p>Premiere: 1995 Green Street Studios, Cambridge, MA</p> <p>Jacob's Pillow Inside/Out theater July 2003.</p>	<p>Set to a recorded collage of Chopin, Chris Isaak's <i>Two Hearts</i>, Michael Convertino's, <i>It's a Big Planet</i>, and Los Tres Ases's, <i>Sabra Dios</i> and <i>Queseas Feliz</i>.</p>	<p>Two parts for local performers: One child and one female dancer over age 65.</p>	<p>New York Times Boston Globe Boston Phoenix</p> <p><i>"Myer makes everything extreme, from the walk on tiptoes to the heatt0stabbing gestures. A killer workout, both physically and emotionally."</i> -Christine Themin, <i>Boston Globe</i></p>
Bluebird No. 173	<p>Premiere: 1998 Danspace at St. Mark's, NYC.</p> <p>March 2003, FleetBoston Celebrity Series</p>	<p>Set to a recorded collage of songs: <i>Blue Velvet</i>, <i>Cancion Mixteca</i>, <i>Darlin</i>, <i>Forever</i>, and <i>The Lovers'Waltz</i>.</p>	<p>Seven adults and seven children. Anna Myer would audition and rehearse children (ages 7-9) from local dance studios.</p>	<p>New York Times Boston Globe Boston Phoenix</p> <p><i>"Bluebird No. 173 drew cheers from the audience."</i> - Jennifer Dunning, <i>New York Times</i></p>

Current Repertory

“All at Once” was visually unusual, and emotionally satisfying. At moments, the dance steps seemed to make the musical phrases visible while the musicians’ bowing arms appeared to be doing dances of their own... Striding, crawling and leaping, the dancers forged choreographic trails among and around them, swooping toward them at some moments, keeping their distance at others.

- Jack Anderson, *New York Times*

“Myer makes everything extreme, from the walk on tiptoe to the heart-stabbing gestures to the Petrouchka-like turned-in feet and hands held almost as if crippled...” “Local Choreographer Anna Myer shines...” “A talented choreographer ... Anna Myer’s work is full of high energy ... Her choreography is passionate, sweaty and tense ... A killer workout, both physically and emotionally.” “...a line of dancers facing the audience, offering their vulnerability and fluttering their hands as if to prepare to fly. The hands look like the wings on Giotto’s cherubs.” “In a dim season local choreographer Anna Myer Shines.” “A choreographer of great talent.”

- Christine Temin, *The Boston Globe*

“Anna Myer’s choreographic voice is quietly bizarre, but it is all her own. Ms. Myer, based in Boston, seems to look at dance — and life — from a slightly wry but affectionate distance. And what she sees becomes transformed into odd yet affecting imagery...” “Ms. Myer is a master weaver, smoothly blending ages and degrees of professionalism in intricately plotted yet simple-seeming dance ... *Bluebird No. 173* drew cheers from the audience.”

- Jennifer Dunning, *The New York Times*

“Myer’s latest is sure to be a classic....Anna Myer has gained a reputation as a post modernist. But that label used to require the rejection of both virtuosity and expressiveness, elements at the very foundation Myer’s riveting choreography....” “Anna Myer has proven herself to be a master choreographer who is always full of surprises and new ideas.”

- Theodore Bale, *Bay Windows*

Myer has devised a striking, slightly mysterious vocabulary for the upper torso; the wide ranging gestural palette for the arms and hands impart color and dimension.”

- Karen Campbell, *The Boston Herald*

“Choreographer Anna Myer explores heaven on earth. Originality punctuates Myer’s music-filled dance.”

- Debra Cash, *The Boston Globe*

“Behind Anna Myer’s musical dances lies a formalist’s brain and an iconoclast’s heart. To transmit her themes — which in this concert included the history of Italy as presented in the country’s art, musings on domestic life, and the variability of space and time — she employs a vocabulary of movement that’s at once eccentric and accessible. Her style represents a kind of classicism gone awry: one that concentrates on geometry and tempos and purity of line but is lit by a fierce energy and startling accents.”

- Thea Singer, *The Boston Globe*

Selected as one of the “Ten Best Dance Events of 2001” by The Boston Globe.

- Christine Temin, *The Boston Globe*

“In an evening rich in imagination and musicality, Myer proved she is a creative force to be reckoned with.”

- Terry Byrne, *The Boston Globe*

What Critics are Saying

2008

Anna Myer and Dancers TBA
Kendal at Hanover, *Evening of Duets*

Anna Myer and Dancers TBA
Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire, *Evening of Duets*

Anna Myer and Dancers TBA
Lebanon Opera House, Lebanon NH, *Evening of Duets*

Anna Myer and Dancers TBA
Spring Fundraiser at Boston Ballet, Boston MA
Work in progress "*Street Talk/Suite Talk*"

Anna Myer and Dancers TBA
Workshop at Dance Complex, Cambridge MA
Work in progress "*Street Talk/Suite Talk*"

Anna Myer and Dancers January 14
APAP Conference, Alvin Ailey Theater, New York NY
Work in progress "*Street Talk/Suite Talk*"

2007

Anna Myer and Dancers November 17, 18
Dance Complex, Cambridge MA, *New Duet*

Anna Myer and Dancers May 3, 4, 5
CrashArts, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston MA

Anna Myer and Dancers February 11
Workshop at Boston Arts Academy

2006

Anna Myer and Dancers April 29
Boston Ballet Studios

Anna Myer and Dancers May 2006
Barnstormer's Theater, Tamworth NH

Anna Myer and Dancers July 22
The Court House Silver Line Subway Station

Anna Myer and Dancers July 20
Summer Stages Dance, Concord MA

2005

APAP Conference, City Center January 8 & 10

Anna Myer and Dancers/New England String Ensemble January 28
Stoneham Theater, Stoneham, MA

Anna Myer and Dancers/New England String Ensemble January 30
Jordon Hall, Boston, MA

Anna Myer and Dancers/New England String Ensemble May 19, 20, 21
Boston Ballet, Boston, MA

PAE Conference, Memphis, TN September 23
Cannon Center for the Performing Arts

2004

APAP Conference January 12 & 13
City Center, NYC, NY

Tufts University February 24
Somerville, MA

Tsai Theater March 26 & 27
Boston MA

Everett Dance Theater May 7 & 8
Carriage House Theater, Providence, RI

Barnstormer's Theater June 19
Tamworth, NH

Danspace Project at St. Mark's Church September 30-October 3

2003

Fleet/Boston Celebrity Series January
Tsai Theater, Boston, MA

Dance Complex May 11 & 12
Cambridge, MA

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival July 3
Becket, MA

Dance Complex November 15 & 16
Cambridge, MA

2008, 2007, and Before