



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **BalletX's 2023/24 season opens at The Wilma Theater, October 18 - 29**

*BalletX, Philadelphia's premier contemporary ballet presents the world premiere of "Siete" by choreographer Matthew Neenan, Philadelphia premiere of "Eros & Psyche" by Jamar Roberts & the return of Jennifer Archibald's "Exalt"*

**PHILADELPHIA (October 10, 2023)** – [BalletX](#), Philadelphia's premier contemporary ballet, returns to the Wilma Theater for its highly-anticipated 2023 Fall Series with tickets on-sale to the public now. Held October 18 - 29 at the Wilma Theater, the Fall Series will feature:

- the world premiere of *Siete* by Matthew Neenan. This piece will feature live music by composer and classical guitarist, Michael Poll. Neenan is co-founder of BalletX and has been hailed as "one of America's best dance poets" by The New York Times, choreographing on major companies including New York City Ballet and Pacific Northwest Ballet.
- the Philadelphia premiere of *Eros & Psyche* by Jamar Roberts co-commissioned by the Vail Dance Festival. *Eros & Psyche* is set to live music by Philip Glass. Roberts who was a dancer and Resident Choreographer with Ailey and has created work for Complexions and New York City Ballet is known for his "mesmerizing choreography" (Dance Magazine).
- and the return of Jennifer Archibald's *Exalt* which fuses house music and global dance tracks to challenge the boundaries of classical ballet. Inspired by club culture and praised by Dance International for its "drama, grit and swagger," BalletX has toured this work across North America, receiving standing ovations from enthusiastic audiences. Archibald is the founder and director of Arch Dance Company, Resident Choreographer of Cincinnati Ballet, and lecturer at Columbia and Yale Universities.

"BalletX's Fall Series celebrates and kicks-off our 18<sup>th</sup> year of producing new works that expands ballet technique and vocabulary," said **Christine Cox, Artistic & Executive Director of BalletX**. "This program is going to have something for everyone and truly spans a diverse movement vocabulary with tremendous music. I love that we go from classical guitar, to Phillip Glass, and finish with house music."

Performing these pieces include 13 dancers Annika Kuo, Ashley Simpson, Ben Schwarz, Eli Alford, Francesca Forcella, Itzkan Barbosa, Jared Kelly, Jerard Palazo, Lanie Jackson, Peter Weil,



Savannah Green, Skyler Lubin, as well as dance fellows Marco Lorenzo-Giguere and Olivia Winston. Additional contributors to the show include Lighting Designer [Michael Korsch](#), Costume Designer [Christine Darch](#), and Costume Designer [Olivia Mason](#). Live music for the show features Michael Poll (guitar), Grant Loehnig (piano), Maria Im (violin), Gared Crawford (violin), Kathryn Dark (viola), Branson Yeast (cello), Alexandr Kislitsyn (violin) and Yoshihiko Nakano. Sponsors of this Series include: The William Penn Foundation, Wyncote Foundation, Neal W. Krouse, The Shubert Foundation, Anne M. & Philip H. Glatfelter III Family Foundation, Ruth Foundation for the Arts, Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation, Janet & Jim Averill, Jim Goodwill, and Susan & Jeff Campbell.

Each performance for the Fall Series 2023 will be approximately 100 minutes, including one intermission. For tickets, student discounts, and more information, contact the BalletX Box Office at 215-225-5389 x250 or [boxoffice@balletx.org](mailto:boxoffice@balletx.org). More information is also available at [BalletX.org](http://BalletX.org).

**\*\*Note for media: Covering media interested in attending the Fall Series or advanced interview, please contact: [tday@signature57.com](mailto:tday@signature57.com) and [dpilosi@signature57.com](mailto:dpilosi@signature57.com) \*\***

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**About BalletX**

Based in Philadelphia, BalletX is one of the nation's premier contemporary ballet companies, known for commissioning choreographers from around the world to create new ballets that are "fresh, inclusive, and connect to what people want" (Philadelphia Citizen). Led by Artistic & Executive Director Christine Cox, BalletX has been recognized by The New Yorker as a "place of choreographic innovation" producing over 120 world premiere ballets and films by more than 70 choreographers in its 18-year history. In addition to virtual works, main-stage performances and international touring, the company offers free community pop ups, dance classes, artist Q&As, open rehearsals and in-school dance education designed to bring audiences closer to dance. To learn more about BalletX's programming and dancers, visit [BalletX.org](http://BalletX.org) and follow the company on social media.

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**NOTES TO EDITORS:**

1. Photos, bios and video are available for publication at [BalletX.org/pressroom](http://BalletX.org/pressroom).