



PREMIERES

PROGRAM 1 | OCTOBER 21 - 23, 2022



FSU Center for the Performing Arts

THE SARASOTA BALLET 2022 - 2023 SEASON

THE SARASOTA BALLET

Margaret Barbieri	Iain Webb	Joseph Volpe
Assistant Director	Director	Executive Director

Principals

Danielle Brown, Marijana Dominis, Macarena Gimenez, Ricardo Graziano,
Maximiliano Iglesias, Ricardo Rhodes, Luke Schaufuss

Junior Principal	Character Principal
Richard House	Ricki Bertoni

Soloists

Arcadian Broad, Marco Alessandro Corcella, Yuki Nonaka,
Lauren Ostrander, Anna Pellegrino, Daniel Pratt, Ivan Spitale

Coryphée

Luis Gonzalez, Dominique Jenkins, Emelia Perkins

Corps de Ballet

Sierra Abelardo, Isabella Benton, Mihai Costache, Kennedy Falyon Cassada, Josh Fisk, Willa Frantz,
Evan Gorbell, Samuel Gest, Thomas Leprohon, Andrea Marcelletti, Bel Pickering, Morgan Rust,
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Hailey Stinchcomb, Calen Sutherland, Jessica Templeton

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Pavel Fomin	Company Teacher		

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IAIN WEBB

Director

As Director of The Sarasota Ballet, I have the distinct joy of welcoming you to the inaugural Program of The Sarasota Ballet's 2022 – 2023 Season, **Premieres**. As a ballet company, we aim to share with the community not only treasured classics so deeply intertwined with the history of dance, but remarkable new creations that simultaneously express the artistic voices of today and inspire the budding talents of tomorrow. It is this latter purpose which **Premieres** serves—a triple bill of one-act World Premieres by three choreographers, each with their own story to tell through ballet.

Premieres opens with Resident Choreographer Ricardo Graziano's tale of a nomadic collective sojourning for a place to call home, *The Pilgrimage*. Graziano's tenth one-act ballet choreographed for The Sarasota Ballet, *The Pilgrimage* explores the solidarity forged through mutual hardship and the power of determination and adherence to one's beliefs, in the hope of securing a more promising future. Next, Richard House delves into reflections on the human condition through a Surrealist lens with *Living Ghosts*. The music, selections from Ludovico Einaudi's *Seven Days Walking*, drives this examination of the space within our own minds, and its evolution over the cycles of our lives. We then move on to Gemma Bond's *Excursions*, a technically rigorous endeavor inspired by the words and American music of composer Samuel Barber, drawing from 20th-century musical concepts and themes. Each ballet within **Premieres** probes the nuanced complexity of the human experience in its own fashion, carefully sculpted by these burgeoning choreographers to communicate with clarity and poignancy through the art of dance.

I hope you will join me this Season for another spectacular year of ballet, a visual language through which we have come to understand one another for hundreds of years, and for many more to come.

Program 1 – Premieres

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Sandra & Neil DeFeo
The Pilgrimage



Audrey Robbins &
Harry Leopold
The Pilgrimage



Robin Klein-Strauss &
Michael Strauss
The Pilgrimage



Donna Maytham
*In Loving Memory of
 Walter Maytham*
Living Ghosts



**Rosemary & Lou
 Oberndorf**
Living Ghosts



Melliss Swenson
*in Loving Memory of
 Curt Swenson*
Living Ghosts



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Excursions



Joan Mathews
Excursions

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In Loving Memory of Jerry Sellman

Living Ghosts

Shari & Steve Ashman
 Marnie & Stephen Grossman

Excursions

Waldron Kraemer & Joan Lovell
 Jared Winters



This program is funded, in part, by Sarasota County Tourist Development Revenues

Ricardo Graziano's *The Pilgrimage* Ballet Synopsis

Per the term's definition, a pilgrimage is a journey, often into an unknown or sacred foreign place, where a person goes in search of a new or expanded meaning about their self, others, nature, or a higher good, through the experience. It can lead to a personal transformation, after which the pilgrim returns to their daily life.

The Pilgrimage transpires in a deserted land, where a group of nomadic people wander in search of their next home or experience while facing the difficulties and pleasantries of the journey. As a community, they count on each other and their beliefs to get through the hard times and find the strength to move on.

Choreographer Ricardo Graziano remarks: "Throughout life's journey we encounter multiple obstacles, are presented with pleasant situations, and are gifted with relationships that help us grow stronger and wiser so we can move forward and be better prepared for the future that lies ahead, whatever it may be."

Richard House's *Living Ghosts* Ballet Synopsis

After visiting the National Gallery of Victoria's exhibition *The Picasso Century*, House was struck by aspects of the philosophical outlook of some of the Surrealist artists. Curatorial notes commented on how Surrealist imagery could amplify truths about the human condition; how the hallucinatory tone relates to "the moment before the mind rests: memories of life...bleeding into dreams". This intoxicating image became the departure point for *Living Ghosts*.

At a similar time, House began listening to Italian composer Ludovico Einaudi's *Seven Days Walking*, an auditory chronicle of a week-long journey along the Alps. The exciting contrasts between sections of ambitious drama and moments of contemplative solitude in Einaudi's score were a stimulating canvas for a dance work that meditates on the cycles in a person's life and the reflections we have as the journey progresses. Though there is no physical reference to a journey, *Living Ghosts* explores the shifting tones of relationships across a person's life, relationships with loved ones, with community, and ultimately with oneself. Though we spend our lifetimes reaching out to others, the interior world of our mind and the images that frequent that space are resolutely ours alone. *Living Ghosts* is an evocation of the memories that greet us at the moment before our minds rest.

Gemma Bond's *Excursions* Ballet Synopsis

Bond's new work takes its inspiration from the words and music of Samuel Barber's *Excursions*, paired with three of the four movements from his Piano Sonata Op 26. Though extremely difficult to execute, the sonata is much more than a virtuosic showpiece; Barber integrated many 20th-century musical ideas into the sonata.

Barber stated regarding the music: "These are 'excursions' in small classical forms into regional American idioms. Their rhythmic characteristics, as well as their source in folk material and their scoring, reminiscent of local instruments are easily recognized."

The ballet ends with the fourth movement, a classic fugue of ferocious virtuosity that makes strenuous technical demands of the performers and the pianist. The main theme of the fugue, a three-bar chromatic syncopated melody, is developed over multiple variations and modulations, moving between hands and, midway through the piece, yielding to a brief E-major interlude with allusions to American Western folk music as well as Barber's earlier *Excursions*.

2022 - 2023 SEASON PROGRAM BOOK

Due to the impact of Hurricane Ian, The Sarasota Ballet's 2022 - 2023 Season Program Book will be available in print from Program 2 - Expressions onwards. For Program 1 - Premieres, please enjoy digital access via the QR code below. Alternatively, you can access it through The Sarasota Ballet website - SarasotaBallet.org



2022 - 2023 SEASON

Friday Evening | Saturday Evening | Sunday Matinee

The Pilgrimage

Choreography by Ricardo Graziano

Music by Dmitri Shostakovich *Piano Trio Mo. 2 in E minor, Op. 67*

Costume Designs by Jerry Wolf **Lighting Design by** Ethan Vail

Commissioned by The Sarasota Ballet

First Performed by The Sarasota Ballet October 21, 2022

Macarena Gimenez

Maximiliano Iglesias

Marijana Dominis

Mihai Costache

Emelia Perkins

Marco Alessandro Corcella

INTERMISSION

Living Ghosts

Choreography by Richard House

Music by Ludovico Einaudi *Seven Days Walking, selections from Day 3 and Day 6*

Costume Designs by Kat Chan **Lighting Design by** Ethan Vail

Commissioned by The Sarasota Ballet

First Performed by The Sarasota Ballet October 21, 2022

1st Movement

Danielle Brown Bel Pickering Gabriella Schultze Hailey Stinchcomb
Ricki Bertoni Arcadian Broad Daniel Pratt Josh Fisk Samuel Gest

2nd Movement Duet

Dominique Jenkins Samuel Gest

Josh Fisk and Arcadian Broad

Bel Pickering Gabriella Schultze Hailey Stinchcomb
Daniel Pratt Ricki Bertoni

3rd Movement Duet

Danielle Brown Ricki Bertoni

Josh Fisk and Arcadian Broad

4th Movement

Danielle Brown Dominique Jenkins Bel Pickering Gabriella Schultze
Ricki Bertoni Arcadian Broad Josh Fisk Samuel Gest

5th Movement Duet

Hailey Stinchcomb Daniel Pratt

INTERMISSION

Excursions

Choreography by Gemma Bond

Music by Samuel Barber *Selections from Excursions and Piano Sonata, Op. 26*

Costume Designs by Lauren Starobin **Lighting Design by** Ethan Vail

Commissioned by The Sarasota Ballet

First Performed by The Sarasota Ballet October 21, 2022

Principal Couples

Macarena Gimenez Maximiliano Iglesias

Marijana Dominis Luke Schaufuss

Solo Couples

Alessandra Nova	Israel Ellis
Emelia Perkins	Yuki Nonaka
Sierra Abelardo	Evan Gorbell
Anna Pellegrino	Andrea Marcelletti
Lauren Ostrander	Marco Alessandro Corcella

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Saturday Matinee | Sunday Evening

The Pilgrimage

Choreography by Ricardo Graziano

Music by Dmitri Shostakovich *Piano Trio Mo. 2 in E minor, Op. 67*

Costume Designs by Jerry Wolf **Lighting Design by** Ethan Vail

Commissioned by The Sarasota Ballet

First Performed by The Sarasota Ballet October 21, 2022

Danielle Brown Luke Schaufuss

Anna Pellegrino Juliano Weber

Lauren Ostrander Thomas Leprohon

INTERMISSION

Living Ghosts

Choreography by Richard House

Music by Ludovico Einaudi *Seven Days Walking, selections from Day 3 and Day 6*

Costume Designs by Kat Chan **Lighting Design by** Ethan Vail

Commissioned by The Sarasota Ballet

First Performed by The Sarasota Ballet October 21, 2022

1st Movement

Marijana Dominis Willa Frantz Sierra Abelardo Kennedy Falyn Cassada
Ricardo Graziano Luke Schaufuss Yuki Nonaka Luis Gonzalez Evan Gorbell

2nd Movement Duet

Anna Pellegrino Evan Gorbell

Luis Gonzalez and Yuki Nonaka

Sierra Abelardo Kennedy Falyn Cassada Marijana Dominis
Luke Schaufuss Ricardo Graziano

3rd Movement Duet

Willa Frantz Ricardo Graziano

Luis Gonzalez and Yuki Nonaka

4th Movement

Anna Pellegrino Willa Frantz Sierra Abelardo Kennedy Falyn Cassada
Ricardo Graziano Yuki Nonaka Luis Gonzalez Evan Gorbell

5th Movement Duet

Marijana Dominis Luke Schaufuss

INTERMISSION

Excursions

Choreography by Gemma Bond

Music by Samuel Barber *Selections from Excursions and Piano Sonata, Op. 26*

Costume Designs by Lauren Starobin

Lighting Design by Ethan Vail

Commissioned by The Sarasota Ballet

First Performed by The Sarasota Ballet October 21, 2022

Principal Couples

Danielle Brown Daniel Pratt

Sierra Abelardo Ricki Bertoni

Solo Couples

Isabella Benton	Samuel Gest
Kennedy Falyn Cassada	Arcadian Broad
Paige Young	Mihai Costache
Bel Pickering	Luis Gonzalez
Willa Frantz	Thomas Leprohon

2022 – 2023 SEASON OVERVIEW

2 EXPRESSIONS

November 18 - 19, 2022 | Opera House

MacMillan's *Dances Concertantes* (Company Premiere)

Ashton's *Dante Sonata* (Company Premiere)

Ashton's *Rhapsody*

3 AT NIGHT

December 16 - 17, 2022 | Opera House

Ashton's *Les Patineurs*

Robbins' *In the Night* (Company Premiere)

Robbins' *Fancy Free*

4 IN REP

January 27 - 30, 2023 | FSU Center

Broad's *Frequency Hurtz* (World Premiere)

Lang's *Shades of Spring* (Sarasota Premiere)

Ashton's *Façade*

5 DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM

February 24 - 27, 2023 | FSU Center

The Sarasota Ballet presents Dance Theatre of Harlem

6 LA SYLPHIDE

March 24 - 25, 2023 | Van Wezel

Kobborg's *La Sylphide* (Company Premiere)

7 TRIBUTE TO BALANCHINE

April 28 - 29, 2023 | Opera House

Balanchine's *Divertimento No. 15*

Balanchine's *The Four Temperaments*

Balanchine's *Western Symphony*

THE NUTCRACKER

Sarasota Ballet
SCHOOL
director · IAIN WEBB

December 9 & 10, 2022
Venice PAC

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Sarasota Opera House



Venice Tickets: 941.218.0627 | Veniceperformingartscenter.com
Sarasota Tickets: 941.359.0099 | SarasotaBallet.org

Friends of The Sarasota Ballet Luncheon

November 21, 2022 @ 11:30am

Michael's On East

"Playing a Principal Role"

Join the Friends of The Sarasota Ballet at Michael's on East for their first luncheon and a discussion with some of the Company's Principal Dancers!

Purchase your tickets at SarasotaBallet.org or contact Amy Wensley at awensley@sarasotaballet.org



The Sarasota Ballet Gala Royale

April 30, 2023

Sarasota Opera House | Circus Arts Conservatory

Join us for an evening to remember as we honor The Sarasota Ballet's Executive Director, Joseph Volpe.

The Gala Royale will begin with a specially curated performance by The Sarasota Ballet at the Sarasota Opera House. Following the performance, guests will make their way to the Circus Arts Conservatory to enjoy a lavish dining experience, catered by Michael's on East. The evening will conclude with decadent desserts and dancing.

For information on Gala Tables and Tickets please contact Rachael Fisk at 941.225.6519 or rfisk@sarasotaballet.org

A Society To Develop Younger Audiences

RELEVÉ



Young professionals ages 21-45 can become a member for FREE

Benefits to being a Relevé Member are:

- Exclusive invitations to cocktail parties with company dancers
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THE SARASOTA BALLET INVITES YOU TO JOIN US AS A CONTRIBUTING MEMBER



Each season we rely on contributed support to help us bring great artistry to the stage and award-winning programs to the community.



BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP:

Contributing members enjoy ticketing benefits, invitations to exclusive events, master classes, open rehearsals, and special programs throughout the season.



YOUR GIFT AT WORK:

Your gift makes it possible for our dancers to perform extraordinary works, over 200 students to participate in The Ballet School and The Conservatory, 120 students to participate in *Dance – The Next Generation*, and thousands of audience members and Sarasota students to experience world-class dance in the performance halls and in the community.

For questions about different ways to give or to make your contribution over the phone, please contact:

Lauren Stroman, Development Director
941.225.6510 or lstroman@sarasotaballet.org



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