

Thursday, October 23, 2025

Works & Process: The Trail of Early Balanchine Archives with Emily Coates

Company: New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
Venue: Library for the Performing Arts
Location: New York, NY

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Emily Coates and Derek Lucci, photo by Chris Randall.

Dancer, writer, performance-maker, and Yale professor Emily Coates spent two years mapping far-flung artifacts related to George Balanchine found in archives throughout the northeast United States. This research became part of her Works & Process commission, *Tell Me Where It Comes From*, scheduled to premiere in New York this November. A former dancer with New York City Ballet, Coates searched in holdings at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Harvard's Houghton Library, Yale's Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, the Archives at Jacob's Pillow, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts' Jerome Robbins Dance Division, and New York City Ballet Archives, among others. In this artist talk, Coates shares the idiosyncratic trail of ephemera and people she encountered along her journey to move closer to the source of his work, from a great remove, through archival shards. Coates will be joined by members of her creative team and fellow performers Derek Lucci and Charles Burnham, along with special guest Adam Lenz, Public Engagement and Programs Manager at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art. Join us for this unique opportunity to see what goes into creating a new work about the afterlife of a legendary choreographer.

New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
111 Amsterdam Avenue
New York, NY, 10023

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Schedule

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