

Friday, November 5, 2021

Eryc Taylor Dance Fall Gala Honoring JoAnn M. Hunter, with Special Guests Kanon Sapp and Kíara

Company: Eryc Taylor Dance
Venue: The Lounge
Location: New York, NY

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Eryc Taylor Dance (ETD) announces their Fall Gala on November 5, 2021 at 7:00pm at The Lounge, 121 E 22nd Street, NYC. Tickets for this IN PERSON event are available on Eventbrite, accessible via <https://etd.nyc/>.

The celebratory evening will honor Broadway Director/Choreographer JoAnn M. Hunter (Andrew Lloyd Webber's *School of Rock*, *Cinderella*) with the first ever ETD Artistic Director's Award. Special Guest Kanon Sapp (looseKANONdance) will announce the new recipients of the ETD New Choreographer Grant. In addition to cocktails by Fleurs de Prairie and hors d'oeuvres by Daniel Boulud, there will be a performance of ETD's *Chaise Lung* featuring company members Alex Tenreiro Theis and Taylor Ennen. Former ETD Company Member Timothy Patterson will also perform as his alter ego, drag sensation Kíara.

TICKET LEVELS

\$200 Individual Admission

\$250 VIP Individual (plus VIP gift bag presented by fuze)

\$500 Bronze Sponsor (VIP plus Sponsor Board/Print & Digital Recognition)

\$750 Silver Sponsor (Bronze plus two VIP tickets to Spring Concert)

\$1000 Gold Sponsor (Silver plus four tickets to Spring Concert and rehearsal experience)

A message from Eryc Taylor, Artistic Director of Eryc Taylor Dance:

"As we return to live performance and our ability to engage our community through dance in person again, it's more important than ever to make sure we keep dance alive while honoring the diversity in creativity around us," said Eryc Taylor. "This year for our gala, I am proud to recognize amazingly creative women in dance who continue to carry the torch as leaders, as artists, and as super humans."

Our Company continues to stand for decency, love, and respect for all and I will always endeavor to convey that in our mission and extensive outreach work. We are committed to supporting and uplifting those who work tirelessly in fighting inequality and injustice while making art. We are here. Will you join us? Let's celebrate together!"

Eryc Taylor Dance (ETD), established in 2006, is a New York-based nonprofit dance company that performs and tours globally. The Company has performed at Lincoln Center Out-of-Doors, Joyce Soho, Joe's Pub at The Public Theater (NYC), New York Live Arts, Teatro Armando Manzanero, and Teatro José Peón Contreras (Merida, Mexico), Martha Graham Studio Theater, Bryant Park Theater, Guild Hall (East Hampton, NY), Busan Cultural Center (Busan, South Korea), and Provincetown Amphitheater (Cape Cod, MA). ETD is a recipient of funding from LMCC, NYSCA, and funding from Governor Cuomo's NYS Office. ETD is the recipient of Dance/NYC's Coronavirus Dance Relief Fund and receives generous support from The Marta Heflin Foundation.

For more information, please visit www.etd.nyc

Eryc Taylor is the Artistic Director of internationally recognized nonprofit dance company Eryc Taylor Dance and its social impact division, ETD Outreach. Taylor holds an MFA in Dance from NYU Tisch. Taylor is a Performer, Director, Producer, Curator, and CEO. He's been invited to instruct, perform, or speak at Google, Goldman Sachs, Merrill Lynch, Cadwalader Wickersham Taft, The Supportive Housing Network of NY, Gibney Dance Center, UARTS, and more. Taylor curates 20+ therapeutic movement workshops throughout NYC weekly for ETD Outreach. He has received grants, awards, city, and state funding from NYSCA, The Office of Governor Cuomo, and Dance/NYC Coronavirus Relief Fund. Among ETD's achievements was the invitation to perform at the 16th-18th International Avant-Garde Festival in Merida, Mexico, and received praise from El Universal about ETD's performances and workshops with the local Mexican youth. Taylor's 2019 project *EARTH* about global warming and climate change involves past recipients of ETD's New Choreographer's Grant and was featured on PBS ALL ARTS in a series titled "Climate Artists." Taylor is the Founder and Inventor of BurnBarre, LLC, the world's first truly portable ballet barre.

ETD's *Chaise Lung* (1992 - duet reconstruction), is a theatrically quirky and comical take on tango. The work, created in collaboration with choreographer Laura Peterson, premiered at The Kunsthaus Tacheles in East Berlin. *Chaise Lung* toured throughout Germany and the USA, including Lincoln Center Out of Doors in 1993. Initially composed by Astor Piazzolla, Salomon Lerner's score brings a fresh and contemporary musical twist. It is the fourth original score Mr. Lerner has created for Eryc Taylor Dance.

JoAnn M. Hunter (Honoree) is a director and choreographer with over 20 Broadway shows to her credit as a creator or performer. As Choreographer: Andrew Lloyd Webber's recent *Cinderella* (West End), the revival of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (London Palladium). On Broadway: *Love Life* (City Center Encores), *School Of Rock* (Broadway and US National Tour as well as West End, Australia and Asia), *Disaster!*, *On A Clear Day You Can See Forever*, and *Broadway Bound* with David Cromer. World Premieres: Directed and

Choreographed Unmasked, The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber (Paper Mill Playhouse), August Rush with John Doyle, Beatsville by Glenn Slater, A Sign Of The Times by Bruce Vilanch, and The Nutty Professor with Marvin Hamlisch and Rupert Holmes, directed by Jerry Lewis. Ever After (Alliance Theatre), Harmony (Alliance/Ahmanson Theatre) by Barry Manilow and Bruce Sussman, Annie, Pump Boys and Dinettes, Grease, Oliver, & Curtains all at Paper Mill Playhouse, National Tour of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. She has directed and choreographed Debra Monk in her one woman show with special guests Ron Rifkin, Andrea Martin, Victor Garber, and David Hyde Pierce.

As a performer, she appeared in twelve Broadway shows: Thoroughly Modern Millie, Thou Shalt Not, Kiss Me, Kate, Steel Pier, Chicago, A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum, How To Succeed In Business..., Damn Yankees, Guys And Dolls, Miss Saigon, Shogun, The Musical and Jerome Robbins' Broadway. JoAnn will be directing and choreographing the upcoming SuperYou The Musical by Lourds Lane which is a show about finding your voice and believing in yourself told thru kick-ass SuperHeroines.

Kanon Sapp (Special Guest) is the Artistic Director of looseKANONdance, a queer boutique contemporary dance company based in New York City. She founded the company in 2017 and has built its name and repertoire over the past three years. The company has been graciously supported by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, Upper Manhattan Engagement Zone, Fractured Atlas, Nimbus Dance, and more and was the 2018 recipient of the Eryc Taylor Dance New Choreographer's Grant. The company has performed work at New York City's most notable venues including Alvin Ailey Citigroup Theater, Peridance Capezio Salvatore Theater, Martha Graham Studio Theater, Center for Performance Research, Dixon Place, Judson Memorial Church, and 92nd Street YMCA among many more. looseKANONdance's evening-length work, P L A S T I C, premiered in August 2019 and was notably featured in Playbill. looseKANONdance is currently in production of fuze, a queer art experience coming November 13th in NYC. (fuzeexperience.com)

Timothy Patterson (Kiàra) began his artistic career within the inspirational atmosphere of Governor's School for the Arts. Following graduation, he attended George Mason University and soon continued training in New York city with Ballet Inc. and Eryc Taylor Dance Company, commissioned to perform and set works in New York, Virginia and Mexico. Within his focus on contemporary ballet at Governor's School for the Arts he discovered his love of makeup and costuming. A chameleon he became, transforming into Kiàra one of America's most theatrical and entertaining drag queens.

Daniel Boulud (Food) Originally from Lyon, Chef Daniel Boulud is widely celebrated as one of America's leading culinary authorities. Since arriving in New York City in 1982, he has continually evolved his cuisine and expanded his reach to properties across the U.S., as well as Toronto, Montreal, Dubai, Singapore, and The Bahamas. His culinary empire has brought him many accolades, yet his inspiration remains grounded in the rhythm of the seasons. From his flagship, DANIEL, to his properties across the globe, Boulud's signature remains the contemporary appeal he brings to soulful dishes rooted in the French tradition. Chef Daniel most recently opened Le Pavillon in Manhattan's state-of-the-art skyscraper One Vanderbilt. The restaurant offers an innovative menu showcasing vegetable-forward and seafood-centric cuisine.

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