

April, 29-30, 2022

Spring 2022 Season at Symphony Space

Company: MorDance

Venue: Peter Norton Symphony Space

Location: New York, NY

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Kelsey Campbell

THROUGH COLLABORATION AND THEMES OF HUMANITY, MORDANCE RETURNS

TO THE STAGE THIS SPRING

An Ensemble of Eight Presents Three World Premieres

New York- MorDance, known for its commitment to creating new works that straddle the classical and contemporary ballet vernacular, presents their Spring season, April 29-30 at Peter Norton Symphony Space. Originally planned to premiere in April of 2020, the company will present three new works woven together by themes of humanity, pushing ballet to its limits with fast-paced bravura, intricate footwork, and scenic innovation. An ensemble of eight diverse and dynamic movers are joined by composer Polina Nazaykinskaya, pianist Konstantin Soukhovetski and lighting designer Becky Hiesler. Mirroring a layered, bright, and nuanced score by Terry C. Riley, In C utilizes backdrops layered throughout the premiere to represent the overlapping musical phrases. Choreographer Morgan McEwen plays with this layering and the music's constant C note played in repeated eighth notes to personify pulse, ephemerality, and the entropy of life. With a classical allegro vocabulary juxtaposed with pedestrian snapshots, this fast paced and mathematical premiere shines a light on the ensemble's virtuosic technique. Additionally, Encounters, a somber and ethereal work composed by Nazaykinskaya and performed by the captivating pianist Konstantin Soukhovetski, contrasts the divine and the earthly, exploring the effects of their meeting by those attuned to the energies of a higher power. In the true spirit of collaboration, Soukhovetski, who will play on stage in close proximity to the dancers, will execute port de bras and gestures in relation to the dancers while one hand continues to play the piano, calling the dancers to act and react to the movement. To close the evening, Humanism shines a light on the spoken words of civil rights activists with sound bites of resonant speech, spanning across the globe and throughout time. Contemporary in its movement language, the work highlights the voices and causes that both called for change and justice throughout history, while bringing to life a vision for the future generations. "Since the moment my husband and I got the news that we were expecting and about to bring a new life into the world, I began to see things through a different lens," explains Morgan McEwen, choreographer, and Artistic Director of MorDance. "The value of a breath, the miracle of creation, and a better more just world I wish for my child to live in are all inspirations for our seventh season and have led my choreographic and collaborative process in a real way."

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Season Seven will be performed April 29-30 at Peter Norton Symphony Space, located at 2537 Broadway at 95 th Street on Manhattan's upper west side. Tickets start at \$25 and are available at <https://www.mordance.org>. All performances begin at 8:00 p.m. Peter Norton Symphony Space is accessible by the 1,2 and 3 train to the 96th Street station. Symphony Space requires that all staff, artists, and patrons be vaccinated within one month of eligibility, and remained masked at all times.

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ABOUT MORDANCE

Founded in January 2013, MorDance is a New York based and female-led ballet company that employs movement principles of athleticism and grace to create new works that push the boundaries of both classical and contemporary movement. Prestigious and sophisticated, the company's mission is rooted in the commitment to modernize and innovate the ballet landscape through providing high-level and accessible performances for all audiences. MorDance is a company of distinction and excellence in the community, providing opportunities for female leadership and collaboration, while maintaining a robust and widespread schedule of performing arts outreach programming designed to empower youth in the community who do not have open access to performing arts. With a firm belief that high quality ballet performances should be available to all audiences in all communities, their work breaks down barriers of movement, social, and gender-based inequalities in dance and cultivates an empowered environment for artistic expression and exploration. Heralded by The New York Times as having, "an eye for shaping the arc of a dance as carefully as the transitions and details within it," MorDance has utilized collaborations between dancers,

composers, musicians and production design elements to present inventive works on stages throughout New York City, at residencies with the CUNY Dance Initiative and Kaatsbaan International Dance Center, and celebrated at the Sounds of the City, Dance at Socrates, Counterpointe, and Battery Dance Festival.

MorDance 2022 Spring Season is made possible in part with public funds from Creative Engagement, supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and the New York State Council on the Arts and administered by Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. Additionally, this work has been made possible by a commissioning grant from the O'Donnell-Green Music and Dance Foundation.

MorDance
2537 Broadway At 95th Street
New York, NY, 10025
212.864.5400
<https://www.symphonyspace.org/events/vp-mordance-2022-spring-season>

Schedule
April 29, 2022: 8:00pm
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