

Ice  
Theatre  
of  
New York

CELEBRATING THE JOY  
OF DANCING ON ICE



**ICE THEATRE BENEFIT GALA • May 9**

Honorees **Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean**

Ice Angel Award **Betty Wasserman**

Alumni Award **Darlene Parent and Wade Corbett**

[icetheatre.org](http://icetheatre.org)    

**HOME SEASON**

**MAY 6, 7 & 9, 2022**  
SKY RINK AT CHELSEA PIERS



# Ice Theatre of New York

CELEBRATING THE JOY OF DANCING ON ICE

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## ABOUT THE COMPANY

Ice Theatre of New York ® (ITNY) creates and advances dance on ice as an ensemble performing art and to provide education and public performances to people of all ages. Founded by Moira North in 1984, ITNY created the first not-for-profit professional ice dance company in the United States and was the first to receive funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

ITNY achieves its public arts and education mission by:

- Commissioning and performing new choreography of pieces created by recognized and emerging dance and ice skating choreographers. The company has created exclusive works by choreographers as varied as well-known skating choreographers Elisa Angeli, Lorna Brown and Joel Dear, modern dance choreographers Jacquelyn Buglisi, Elisa Monte, David Parsons, and Jody Sperling, performance artist Ann Carlson, McKnight Choreographer Fellow Deneane Richburg, and ballet great Edward Villella. We have just begun preparations for our first commissioned work with new media artist and creative technologist LaJuné McMillian.
- Making performances accessible to diverse audiences and presenting dozens of free performances, featuring our current repertory throughout New York City.
- Offering arts education programs on ice dancing and figure skating for school-aged children in Brooklyn, Queens, and Upper Manhattan, annually serving 800 – 1,000 NYC school students.
- Training company skaters and guest skating artists in its weekly Master Edge Classes at Chelsea Piers Sky Rink, as well as offering training programs for aspiring ice dance artists, including our Junior Ensemble.
- Collaborating with choreographers, producers, presenters, administrators and advocates from the dance and skating worlds and beyond while exploring creatively exciting relationships with artists from theatre, music, and new media disciplines.

**62 Chelsea Piers, Suite 308, New York, NY 10011**  
**(212) 929-5811 • [itny@icetheatre.org](mailto:itny@icetheatre.org)**

[icetheatre.org](http://icetheatre.org)    



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Elisa Angeli

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CELEBRATING THE JOY  
OF DANCING ON ICE

## HOME SEASON PERFORMANCES

MAY 6, 7 & 9, 2022

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## BENEFIT GALA & PERFORMANCE

MAY 9, 2022

### FOUNDER/ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Moira North

### ENSEMBLE DIRECTOR

Elisa Angeli

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jirina Ribbens

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATES

Mazal Karlick and DJ McDonald

### ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK®, Inc.

Armen Agaian, Danil Berdnikov, Collin Brubaker, Mauro Bruni,  
Angela Chiang, Sarah France, Jennifer Gruver, Ale Izquierdo  
Valerie Levine, Sabrina Mann, Freddie Moore, Kseniya Ponomaryova  
Andrew Saelee, Liz Yoshiko Schmidt, and Aaron Singletary

### GUEST ARTIST

Emanuel Sandhu

### JUNIOR ENSEMBLE

Georgina Blackwell, Ciara Flaherty, Electra Scheiner,  
Chris Tenzin, Megumi Tsutsumi, and Milly Wasserman

### SCHOOL FIGURES

Mauro Bruni, Sarah France and Kate Mangiardi

### PERFORMING APPRENTICES

Oona and Gage Brown

### LIGHTING DESIGNER/PRODUCTION MANAGER

Chris Lipari

# 2022 HOME SEASON

(Program subject to change)

## SCHOOL FIGURES

A Moira North and Elee Kraljii Gardiner collaboration  
Performed by Mauro Bruni, Sarah France and Kate Mangiardi  
Poem from *serpentine loop* read by Elee Kraljii Gardiner  
Dedicated to the memory of Elisabeth L'Heureux

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## IN AN INSTANT (World Premiere)

Choreographed by Milly Wasserman  
Performed by Georgina Blackwell, Ciara Flaherty, Electra Scheiner,  
Chris Tenzin, Megumi Tsutsumi, and Milly Wasserman  
Music "Come, Gentle Night" by Abel Korzeniowski

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## BODY PARTS (World Premiere)

Choreographed by Mauro Bruni  
Performed by Angela Chiang, Danil Berdnikov, Ale Izqueirdo,  
Freddie Moore, Liz Yoshiko Schmidt  
Music by Gabrielle Roth courtesy of Raven Recording

Gabrielle Roth began to develop her 5Rhythms approach to movement in the late 1970s. Hundreds of 5Rhythms teachers worldwide now use her approach in their continuing study and teaching, which posits that anyone can dance and enables practitioners to seek, discover and self-develop their own inner connection to the "Waves" of flowing, staccato, chaos, lyrical and stillness at the heart of their being. Choreography commissioned by Ice Theatre of New York®.

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## OF WATER AND ICE (World Premiere)

Choreographed by Jody Sperling  
Performed by Sarah France and Valerie Levine  
Music by DJ Spooky

In the polar regions, a constant interplay takes place between  $H_2O$  in its liquid and solid forms. Set to a DJ Spooky score, generated itself by the geometry of ice crystals and the math of climate change data, the dance explores what happens when this fragile balance of water and ice spins out of control. Choreography commissioned by Ice Theatre of New York® with the generous support of the New York State Council on the Arts.

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## TAKE FIVE

Choreographed by Eliot Halverson  
Performed by Armen Agaian or Danil Bernikov  
Music by Saxophonist Paul Desmond arranged by Dave Brubeck  
and performed by The Dave Brubeck Quartet

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**SACROSANCT** (World Premiere)

Choreographed by Lorna Brown

Performed by Kseniya Ponomaryova and Collin Brubaker

Music: "The Poet Acts" by Philip Glass

"We treasure the trees, as they stir love in the darkness and light in the breeze." — Lorna Brown

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**AFTERNOON OF A FAUN**

Choreographed and performed by Mauro Bruni

Music: "Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune" by Claude Debussy

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**PIVOTING** (Live World Premiere)

Choreographed by Joel Dear

Performed by Angela Chiang, Sarah France, Jennifer Gruver,

Ale Izquierdo, Sabrina Mann, and Freddie Moore

Music by Olafur Arnalds

A piece about pivoting together through the pandemic.

Choreography commissioned by Ice Theatre of New York®

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**RHYTHM DANCE**

Choreographed by Joel Dear

Performed by Oona and Gage Brown

Music by Koolhaas Moe Dee

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**VOGUE** (World Premiere)

Choreographed by Joanne Mcleod and Cesar Valentino

Performed by Emanuel Sandhu

Music: "Vogue" by Madonna and Shep Pettibone

Transcending an attitude and expression to speak what is unique about human individuality.

"The Idea is not to live forever but create something that will." — Andy Warhol

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**ENSEMBLE FOR PEACE**

Choreographed by Elisa Angeli

Performed by Danil Berdnikov, Mauro Bruni, Sarah France, Ale Izquierdo, Freddie Moore,

Andrew Saelee, Liz Yoshiko Schmidt, and Aaron Singletary

Music: "Concerto No. 2" by Sergei Rachmaninoff, performed by David Garrett

This piece is dedicated to the victims of war in Ukraine and everywhere throughout time in our world.

Choreography commissioned by Ice Theatre of New York®

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**FINALE**

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## WHO'S WHO

**ARMEN AGAIAN (Performer)** joined Ice Theatre of New York® as an artist in 2018. He has been ice skating since 2002, developing into a five-time National Champion in his native country of Georgia, and participated in the Junior World Championships three times. He also participated in the 2013 Youth Olympic Games, the Junior Grand Prix (2012-2015) and the 2016 European Championships. When not performing, Armen works as a skating coach in New York.

**ELISA ANGELI (Choreographer)** joined ITNY in 2008, and toured France with the company that year. In 2015, she became ITNY's Ensemble Director. An Italian ice dancer, who has earned recognition from the Italian Federation for Ice Skating, she studied Ballet with Ludmilla Vlassova (Bolshoi) and Giovanna Franzosi in Milan, and with Christine Wright at the Gibney Dance Center as well as Modern and Contemporary Dance at the Open Dance Center, New York, and at the Music, Art and Shows School, Milan. Elisa has trained in aerial silks at Streb Lab and at the Trapeze School in New York and in contortion and extreme flexibility classes with J. Noan and O. Karmansky. Her expertise as a circus arts specialist allows Elisa to bring a unique element of excitement and creativity when skating as a principal performer and aerialist with Ice Theatre of New York®. In 2009, Elisa participated with ITNY at the Premiere of *Wintuk* by Cirque du Soleil at Madison Square Garden. In Italy, she toured with *Italian Champions on Ice*, and *Ghiaccio Spettacolo* as an aerialist and performed in Munich with Spotlight Productions. Elisa has worked as an aerialist since 2014, with Cirque-tacular Entertainment, with which she performed in the show *The Art of Circus* in September 2016.

**DANIL BERDNIKOV (Performer)** hails from the city of Samara, Russia, from which he competed as part of the junior national team as well as across his vast native land through high school. He then moved to Moscow both to continue his education and to join Stage Entertainment Russia to begin performing as a skater. Performing for an audience allowed Danil to fall in love with skating in a new way and his career has blossomed over eight years with Willy Bietak Productions and Wheeler Productions in the United States, Stage-works Worldwide Production in the UK and Holiday on Ice Productions and Dynamic Shows Entertainment in the EU. ITNY welcomes Danil as an artist, grateful to his parents, coaches, choreographers, and the fellow skaters who have supported him along the way.

**LORNA BROWN (Choreographer)**, a British and World Professional Champion and World and Olympic coach, has been a principal performer in numerous ice shows across the globe, including *John Curry's Ice Dancing* on Broadway and *Theatre of Skating* at the London Palladium. She has appeared in TV specials, touring galas, and commercials worldwide and has studied contemporary dance, working with some of the world's leading choreographers. She has coached and choreographed for over 50 national champions including two world professional champions. Lorna most recently choreographed for Emanuel Sandhu, (three-time Canadian Champion), Kevin Van Der Perren (Belgium Champion, two-time European medalist and 2011 silver medalist in Bratislava and Skate America) and Jenna McCorkell (10-time British Champion). Lorna has given workshops on all aspects of figure skating at National and International seminars for both skaters and coaches. She has produced and directed her own

international skating school in the UK called Skate of the Art with the world-famous Rafael Arutunian. She specializes in the latest physics and aerodynamics in skating techniques, focuses a great deal on expression and style in her choreography, and has written several articles for skating magazines on these subjects. Lorna moved to the USA several years ago, has been awarded the PSA Level 7 ranking and holds a Bachelor's in sports science.

**OONA AND GAGE BROWN (Apprentices)**, have just been crowned World Junior Ice Dance Champions representing Team USA at the 2022 World Junior Figure Skating Championships in Tallinn, Estonia, after winning silver medals at the 2021 U.S. Junior National Ice Dance Championships. A sister and brother ice dance team from Long Island, NY, they have been skating together for six years in numerous international competitions; performing regularly with Ice Theatre of New York® all that time, while training with coaches Inese Bucevica and ITNY choreographer Joel Dear for over two years. They've recently worked with On Ice Perspectives at beautiful Bryant Park Ice Rink and received much love and recognition for the resulting video of their Metallica Free Dance, which has gone viral.

**COLLIN BRUBAKER (Performer)** hails from Chicago, Illinois, and made his ITNY debut at Rockefeller Center March 8, 2022. He started skating at the age of six, following in the footsteps of his older siblings. A former team USA member, Collin has a US National Junior Silver Medal under his belt and represented the USA in ISU Junior World Championships, ISU Grand Prix Skate Canada, and other international competitions. After finishing his competitive career, he completed his degree in Finance & Communications at Eastern Michigan University.

**MAURO BRUNI (Choreographer/Performer/MBA/BFA)** first performed with ITNY in 2014. A leader in the professional figure skating community, Mauro works as an ice performer, as well as a coach, choreographer, and show director. He has taught students in the USA, Mexico, Britain, Sweden, the Netherlands, Germany, France, and Austria. Credits include: Ice Theatre of London creator and founder; House of Mauro creator and founder; Navesink Country Club Artistic Director; lead performer in numerous ice skating productions globally most notably: Holiday on Ice – star performer between 2007-2018; show director and choreographer for productions in Europe, North America and internationally; head choreographer at the Trelleborgskonståkningsklubb in Trelleborg, Sweden 2016-17. Awards include: US Professional Championships Groundbreaker award; Moins5 choreography award in Monéteau, France; ProSkaters *Virtual Skateoff* champion. Mauro has been recognized as an AIT certified choreographer PSA rated free skating coach and choreographer, and national and international competitor for Team USA from 1995-2005. @maurojbruni

**ANGELA CHIANG (Performer)** credits her accomplishments in skating to her mother's and grandmother's encouragement. Both dreamt of becoming graceful figure skaters and Angela has found skating with ITNY, which she joined as a young apprentice, to be truly instrumental in developing her artistry. Her passion for figure skating started as soon as she stepped on the ice at age four in her native New Jersey. A USFS double gold medalist and graduate of NYU with a B.A. in Journalism and Metropolitan Studies, Angela went on from her competitive career to work as an instructor for Figure Skating in Harlem, a member of

the NHL New York Rangers City Skaters squad, House of Mauro performer and a beloved coach at Chelsea Piers over the past 18 years. A full-fledged cast member on and off with ITNY since 2003, she feels thrilled to perform with the cast this season!

**JOEL DEAR (Choreographer)** happily rejoins Ice Theatre of New York® creatively for the 2022 Home Season, having first enlisted as a company member in 2008. Joel quickly fell in love with skating in elementary school when a section of the school playground flooded and froze over. A two-time US National Medalist in Ice Dance and four-time Team USA member, he has performed in numerous national and international touring shows including *Holiday on Ice*, Bietak Productions, and *Ice Dance International* as well as TV productions including *America's Got Talent* and *Instinct*, and programs on PBS and HGTV. Joel's choreography for National and International competitors has brought medals in both Ice Dance and Singles and most recently, as coach/choreographer for Oona and Gage Brown, the 2022 World Junior Ice Dance Championship. Other accomplishments of note include that of choreographer for the 2022 NQS Ice Dance Final Champions at both Novice and Junior levels and the 2022 National Junior Champions.

**SARAH FRANCE (Performer)**, U.S. Figure Skating triple gold medalist, national ice dance competitor and six-time US Open Professional Figure Skating Championships competitor, realized one of her childhood inspirations when she joined ITNY in the spring of 2019. Before taking the ice, she explored her love of movement, studying ballet and eventually performing professionally in modern dance and several other disciplines as well as skating and teaching. Sarah has been an ice dance coach and choreographer since 1998, working with Regional, Sectional, National and International competitors across all skating disciplines at Shattuck St. Mary's in Minnesota, where she remains faculty-member-at-large. She also serves as Director of Skating at City Ice Pavilion in Long Island City. A native of Pittsburgh, PA, Sarah now resides in New York City.

**ELEE KRALJII GARDINER (Writer & Editor)** authored the award-winning *serpentine loop*, a book of poems using the language of ice and edges to articulate life beyond the rink. Her second book, *Trauma Head*, a long poem memoir about vertebral artery dissection and stroke, was shortlisted for the Kroetsch Award for Innovative Poetry and won the Cogswell Award for Literary Excellence. She edited the acclaimed anthologies *V6A: Writing from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside* and *Against Death: 35 Essays on Living*. Originally from Boston, she learned creative language from her mother, Tenley Albright, on ice at The Skating Club of Boston. Elee now lives in Vancouver, BC, as a dual citizen and frequent collaborator where she directs Vancouver Manuscript Intensive. [eleepg.com](http://eleepg.com).

**JENNIFER GRUVER (Performer)** has been a member of the Ice Theatre of New York® Ensemble since 2017. She fell in love with the sport of figure skating at the age of six, and with the love and support of her family, coaches, and directors, that passion has not wavered in all her years of skating. A Colorado native, Jennifer spent 16 years competing in the Southwestern Region before following her dreams of becoming a professional performer. After graduating from the University of Colorado with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Anthropology, Jennifer spent five years traveling the world with Disney On Ice. She wrapped

up her touring career in December, 2016, to pursue more of her dreams in New York City, where she finds herself coaching, choreographing, and performing more than ever.

**ELIOT HALVERSON (Choreographer)** a native of Minneapolis, started skating at age six. She won the 2007 U.S. Junior Championship, 2006 U.S. Novice Championship and 2004 U.S. Intermediate Championship. Eliot is a national and international level competitive choreographer and served as choreographer for the Bressanone Summer Skating Camp in the Italian Alps. In addition to "Take Five," she created "Swimming," a piece for three skaters to music by Florence and the Machine, for ITNY in 2016.

**ALE IZQUIERDO (Performer)** has been a member of ITNY since 2011, and performed as part of the *Christmas Spectacular* at Radio City Music Hall in the 2021-2022 season. A native of León, Guanajuato, Mexico, Ale started figure skating at age 8, becoming a three-time Mexican national champion, and she won first place at the International Santis Cup Switzerland in 2007. She moved to the USA in 2009, to train under the tutelage of the Ukrainian team of Victor Petrenko, Galina Zmievskaya and Nina Petrenko at the Ice House in Hackensack, NJ. She performed in *Dancing on Ice* with Torvill & Dean in the United Kingdom and in the Netherlands. Ale has been the advertising face of Polyglide Ice, a surface ITNY uses in its studio.

**VALERIE LEVINE (Performer)** has collaborated on ITNY events for the past two decades and has been roller-skating as well as dancing tap, jazz, and ballet since the age of four. She started training in figure skating at 11, going on to compete and test until graduating high school, when she turned down a Disney On Ice to pursue her Bachelor's degree at the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT). At 19, she earned her gold level in Senior Ladies Moves and pre-golds in ice dance before skating professionally. While earning her BS in Product Management Textiles from FIT, she minored in dance and trained at Broadway Dance Center in many dance styles, leading to an off-ice career as a professional belly dancer, ballroom dancer and samba dancer. She currently teaches and performs these styles worldwide, while managing her own entertainment company Valerina Dance, which can be followed at [ValerieLevine.com](http://ValerieLevine.com) or on Instagram @Valerielevine.

**CHRIS LIPARI (Lighting Designer/Production Manager)** is pleased to once again illuminate the creative work of Ice Theatre of New York®. He began his professional career as a dancer and figure skater, performing at Radio City Music Hall, in Las Vegas, Australia, Italy, Portugal, Tokyo and Saudi Arabia. After finishing a year-long international tour of the roller-skating spectacle *Starlight Express*, Chris merged his performing talents, business acumen and innate creativity to launch a career as a special events producer/director. Currently, as a nonprofit event specialist, his focus is on creating and executing experiences for organizations in the health and wellness, social justice, animal welfare, and arts/culture sectors. [www.chrislipari.com](http://www.chrislipari.com)

**SABRINA LOGREN-MANN (Performer)** joins Ice Theatre of New York® for this Home Season as a four-time gold medalist in USFS competition with a competitive skating background of 13 years. She transitioned into show life when Willy Bietak Productions hired her

to skate for Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. Sabrina has coached full time for the past decade while continuing to perform professionally across the United States.

**KATE MANGIARDI (Performer)** won a USFSA gold medal in Moves in the Field and has been coaching throughout the tristate area for over 15 years working with all levels. After receiving her BA from Vassar and MFA in painting from Rhode Island School of Design, she began exhibiting her work in museums and galleries. Awarded the W.K. Rose Fellowship in the Creative Arts in 2009, Kate merges her experience as a skater into her art: exploring the connection between the etching a skater leaves behind on the ice and the creation of a drawing and has been excited and grateful for the opportunity to explore this direction in her work with ITNY.

**JOANNE MCLEOD (Choreographer)** directs the Champs International Skating Centre of Vancouver, BC, where, as World and Olympics coach, she choreographed the Opening and Closing Figure Skating Gala at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. She became the only Canadian to choreograph Gold Medal routines in the ISU Interpretive Event at ISU GP Skate Canada and later collaborated with Ellen Burka and Osbourne Colson to form the Ice Theatre of Toronto, which affiliated with Moira North and ITNY. Joanne has worked with many championship skaters in various collaborations, which have included the ISU World Championship Gala, Hard Rubber Jazz Orchestra, Grouse Mountain Tourism, Vancouver Convention Center, and NHL Awards Night. She holds both an honors undergraduate and a graduate degree in Performing Arts, with a Dance Major from Grant McEwan University in Edmonton, Alberta, and has pursued advanced dance studies in Montreal, Toronto and New York.

**FREDDIE MOORE (Performer)** is a Brooklyn native and U.S. Figure Skating triple gold medalist thrilled to continue showing her love for skating with the Ice Theatre of New York® Ensemble, having first performed with ITNY as a child. She currently coaches skaters of all ages, and has performed alongside Beth Woronoff in her company *Calé Ouvert*. Freddie holds a BA in Creative Writing and has published her work in *Electric Literature* and *Hazlitt*, among other places. One of her favorite quotes from Walt Whitman is: "And if the body were not the soul, what is the soul?"

**MOIRA NORTH (Founder/Artistic Director)** has been named one of the 25 Most Influential Names in Figure Skating by International Figure Skating Magazine, as a driving force in the development of figure skating as a performing art. Since founding Ice Theatre of New York® in 1984, she has commissioned renowned dance choreographers to make new works for the company while nurturing and developing choreographers from the world of ice. She has also been a catalyst in the development of other artistic ice dance companies in both Canada and the United States. Moira and partner Patrick Dean skated ITNY's first work, a collaboration with Belgian dance choreographer Marc Bogaerts, which won them first place in the Free Dance at the Professional Championships in Jaca, Spain. In her subsequent work as ITNY Director, Moira has continued to integrate contemporary dance into the repertory of ice choreography. Moira's latest collaborations included productions with opera singer Alicia Hall Moran, singer/composer Theo Bleckmann and the exhibition *New York on Ice* at the Museum of the City of New York.

**KSENIYA PONOMARYOVA (Performer)** made her ITNY debut at Rockefeller Center on March 8, 2022. A native of Odessa, Ukraine, she started skating at age five and trained with the Figure Skating Team of Ukraine beginning at age eleven. She has won a Ukrainian Novice Championship, ISU Junior Grand Prix and competed internationally for Ukraine, as well as five times at US Nationals, where she has been a US Sectional medalist. Kseniya holds a Senior Rating in Choreography and a bachelor's degree in Olympic sports and management from the Pedagogical University in Kyiv, Ukraine.

**JIRINA RIBBENS (Executive Director)** joined the Ice Theatre of New York® staff in December 2004, after serving on the board since the founding of the company. Over the past 17 years, Jirina has overseen ITNY's growth, including the expansion of its outreach programming for public school children, the addition of ongoing edge classes for ice artists and ITNY's entry into new media. Her ITNY collaboration with Improv Everywhere received over four million views on YouTube. Prior to her work with ITNY, Jirina worked in a variety of positions in the entertainment and sports industries, where, at Candid Productions, she produced and managed events with two-time Olympic Champion Dick Button. She also worked as an Olympic sports consultant and producer for television networks at nine Olympic Games, winning a 2002 Sports Emmy for Outstanding Live Sports Special as Associate Producer for the Salt Lake City Olympic Winter Games with NBC. Jirina and her husband reside in Harlem.

**ANDREW SAELEE (Performer)** marks his first season skating with ITNY. A 27-year-old Bay Area native he started skating with a bang at the tender age of ten when, on his first trip to Lake Tahoe, his mom found herself dragging him off the ice since he'd been skating the whole week of their visit. Since then, he's competed competitively for eight years, and now coaches and skates in professional shows, including Disney On Ice and Great America, as well as at Sea World and Phantasialand.

**EMANUEL SANDHU (Guest Artist)** an alumnus of Canada's National Ballet School, has been a three-time Canadian Men's Figure Skating and a Grand Prix Final Champion, back-to-back Skate Canada International Grand Prix Gold Medalist and a two-time Olympian. Emanuel's dancing placed him as a top three male on the number one rated television show *So You Think You Can Dance* Canada followed by the National Tour of the same name. The first figure skater in the world to complete a triple/triple/triple jump combination in competition, he has invented many never-before-seen spins, including the famously flexible "Sandhu Spin" and his skating performances have been recognized world-wide for their blend of art and technique. Proud of his Italian-East Indian heritage, Emanuel's awards include the Indo-Canadian Chamber of Commerce Youth Achievement Award at age 17, the Premier's Athletic Award, and a nomination for Canada's Male Athlete of the Year Award.

**ELIZABETH (LIZ) YOSHIKO SCHMIDT (Performer)** has been skating with ITNY since 2017. Luscious edges, artistic dynamic movement, and traditional ice dancing inform her skating and professional career which began in 2013, at the age of 18, performing internationally in Germany and across the United States. A Japanese/German American skater who hails from Chicago, IL, she recently moved from San Francisco, CA, to New York City. A U.S. Figure Skating double gold medalist in Freestyle and Moves in the Field, and a silver

medalist in Ice Dancing, Liz received her BA of Fine Arts in Painting from the San Francisco Art Institute in 2018, and has exhibited her work across the Bay Area.

**AARON SINGLETARY (Performer)** grew up in Pennsylvania skating for the Penguin Figure Skating Club and started his national competitive career training with Craig Maurizi at the Ice House in Hackensack, NJ. Aaron earned gold in Moves in the Field as well as singles Freestyle. Aaron now coaches primarily at City Ice Pavilion in New York City. Over the years Aaron has had many internationally revered coaches. Each left a prominent mark on his approach to skating and singling one or two would be a disservice to the others. He aims to further his knowledge so that one day he too may be an internationally recognized performer and coach. The 2019 Home Season marked his debut with Ice Theatre of New York®.

**JODY SPERLING (Choreographer)** a New York City-based dancer-choreographer, Jody serves as founder and Artistic Director of Time Lapse Dance where she has created more than 45 works and is the leading exponent of the style of early performance technologist Loie Fuller (1862-1928). Jody has expanded Fuller's genre into the 21st century, deploying it in the context of contemporary and environmental performance forms. Jody earned a World Choreography Award nomination for her work on the French feature film *The Dancer* and has been commissioned to create a major new work in a forthcoming Fuller documentary. In 2014, Jody participated in a polar science mission as the first choreographer-in-residence aboard a US Coast Guard icebreaker and danced on Arctic sea ice. Since then, much of her work has focused on engaging with climate change. Jody is developing an inquiry called *ecokinetics* that cultivates the relationship between the human movers and ecological systems while providing strategies for climate-engaged artmaking. *Of Water and Ice* represents her second commission for ITNY. Time Lapse Dance has returned to the stage with performances May 5-7, including online viewing options in a program running concurrently with ITNY's Home Season.

**CESAR VALENTINO (Choreographer)** works as a dancer, choreographer, designer, director, stylist, and makeup artist. He just finished choreographing the Off Broadway show and *New York Times* critic's pick *Bruise and Thorn*. With a background in figure skating, Cesar began voguing in 1983 and became one of the first to take voguing mainstream and around the world, eventually touring with the Willie Ninja and Malcolm McLaren Deep in Vogue tour in 1989. Cesar features in the films *House of Tres*, *Paris is Burning*, as well as the *Vogue Classique*, and *Absolute Vogue* projects receiving the Marcel Christian Legend Award 1991, the Paved the Way Award, the Ballroom Gatekeeper Award, and the Ballroom Icon Award. Cesar serves on the faculty of the Alvin Ailey Extension and the Broadway Dance, and Martha Graham Dance Centers and has taught vogue workshops all over the world in dance conferences and competitions as well as colleges throughout the United States. Cesar's designs can be seen in the holiday windows of Bloomingdales. His most recent projects include the Smirnoff pride "Welcome Home" commercial alongside Laverne Cox and the NYC Mayor's office pride campaign. He appears in *Love Is In The Legend*, as a supporting actor in *I'm An Electric Lampshade*, and hosts the *Topics Best Walk* show. Cesar recently celebrated 39 years of vogue dancing experience.

# THE CAST



Armen Agaian



Danil Berdnikov



Collin Brubaker



Mauro Bruni



Angela Chiang



Sarah France



Jennifer Gruver



Ale Izquierdo



Valerie Levine



Kate Mangiardi



Sabrina Logren-Mann



Freddie Moore



Kseniya Ponomaryova



Andrew Saelee



Liz Yoshiko Schmidt



Aaron Singletary



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In memory of Will Sears.

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- NY State Council on the Arts
- Will Sears/S.F. Foundation

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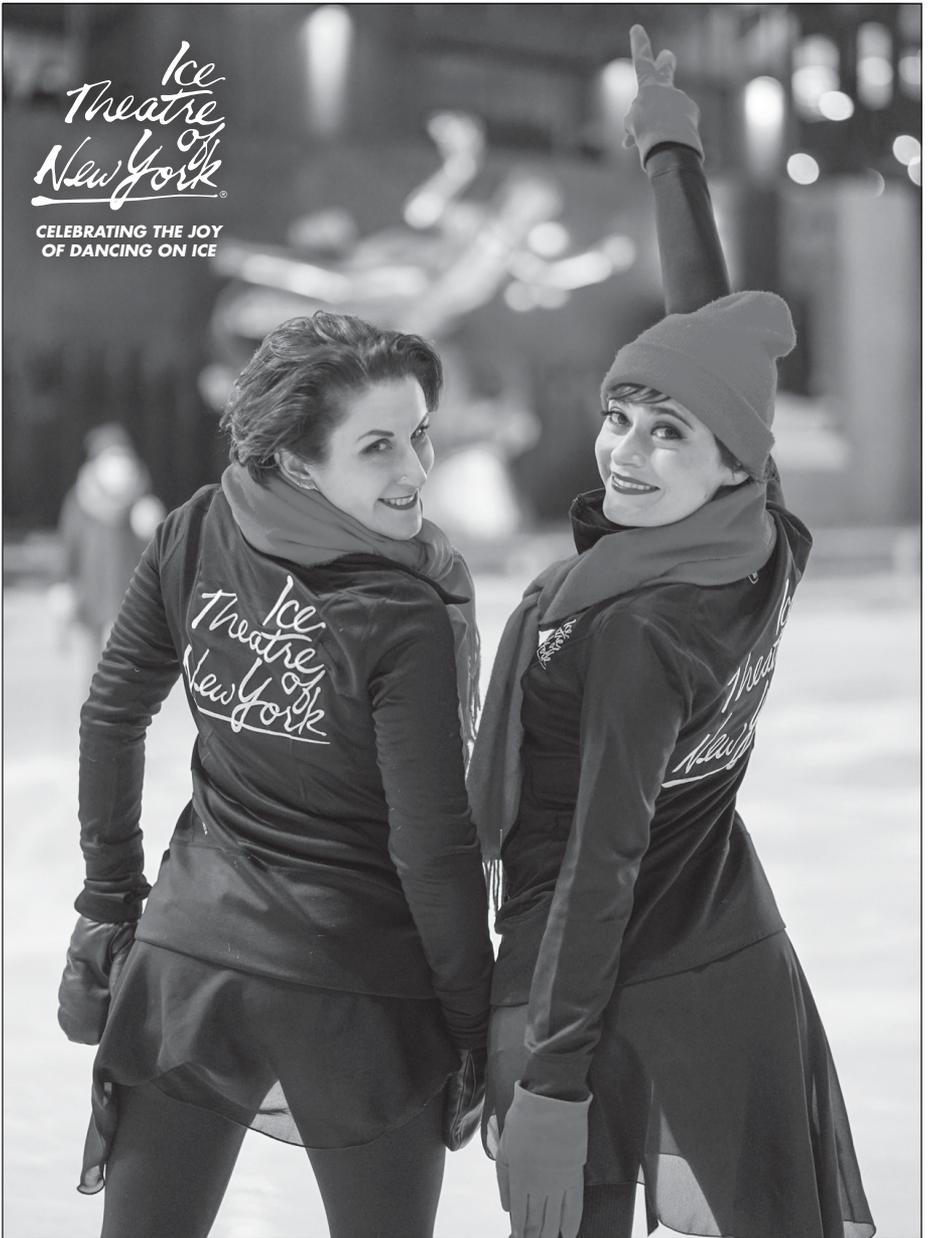
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