

# ILLUSIONS

## SPRING DANCE CONCERT

### ABOUT THE ARTISTS



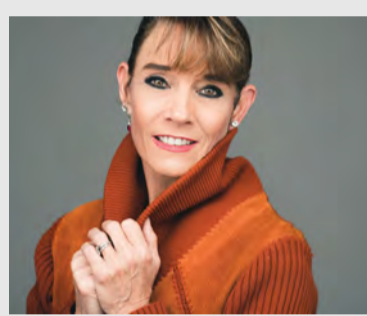
#### Marisa Dolan

Marisa started her dance training in Jacksonville FL, training in all styles. She pursued her BFA in Dance and Graphic Design at Jacksonville University before continuing her training in New York City at Gelsey Kirkland Academy of Classical Ballet and Broadway Dance Center. Marisa has performed in numerous shows and companies in NYC and Orlando, and while she continues to perform, her main focus is teaching. Her professional experiences made her realize that dance training alone is not enough to prepare young dancers for the professional dance industry. She wanted to help create the Dancelook Apprentice Program that teaches young dancers essential information about life as a working dancer, how to book jobs, and to keep persevering. She continues to teach this way to others as she travels and teaches throughout the east coast.



#### Carlos Garland

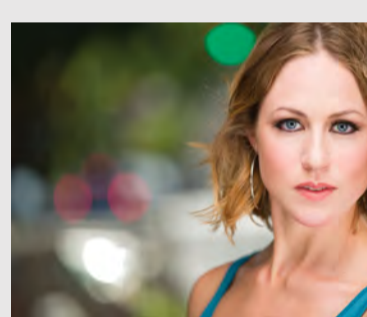
Before Carlos started his dance training, his structure for movement came first as a martial artist in Taekwondo. In this martial art form he is a 2nd degree black belt. Carlos attended performing art schools his entire educational journey, studying dance and other arts. Ending that journey at Jacksonville University, he double-majored in Dance and Computer Science. With his extensive experience as a dance artist, Carlos created the company Dancelook LLC to help provide the performing arts community and businesses with innovative dance-art related services.



#### Dominique Angel

A native of Washington D.C. Dominique Angel began her ballet training with Ballet Russe premiere danseur Oleg Tupine and his wife Tania Rousseau, after receiving a full time scholarship at age fourteen. Ms. Angel moved to New York City where she continued her studies at the Joffrey Ballet School ultimately joining the Joffrey II Dancers under the direction of Sally Brayley Bliss and The Joffrey Ballet under the direction of Robert Joffrey. While with The Joffrey Ballet Ms. Angel danced in works choreographed by Paul Taylor, Frederick Ashton, Agnes DeMille, Mark Morris, Jiri Kylian, John Cranko, Pilobolus, and resident choreographer Gerald Arpino. In 1987 Edward Villella invited

Ms. Angel to join his newly founded Miami City Ballet. During this time, Ms. Angel's repertoire included roles in George Balanchine's "Apollo," "Serenade," "Square Dance," "Scotch Symphony," "Jewels," and "Divertimento #15." Following her career on the stage Ms. Angel became a faculty member of The Miami Conservatory, and The New World School of the Arts in Miami, Fla., The Virginia School of the Arts and Randolph College in Lynchburg, Va., and has been a faculty member of The Department of Theatre and Dance at Troy University in Troy, Al. from 2014 until the present. Ms. Angel is grateful to have had the good fortune to work with and study under many creative and inspiring artists and finds great joy in relating this experience to her students in hopes that they too will continue this tradition.



#### Adrienne Hicks

After high school in 2006, Adrienne entered the Ailey/Fordham BFA program in New York City. Approached by Dr. Jack Hawkins in 2007, she transferred to help bring dance to Troy University and became one of six who laid its foundation. Graduating Summa Cum Laude 2011, Adrienne moved to Atlanta, signing with Xcel Talent Agency, became a member of Project 7 Contemporary Dance Company, and was cast in America's Got Talent group, iLuminate. She performed in multiple world tours with the company before she danced off-Broadway in iLuminate's Artist of Light for three years, where she served as dance captain. In 2015, Adrienne joined Bad Boys of Dance in their European

Tour of Romeo and Juliet. So far, Adrienne's dance career has taken her to 16 countries and 5 continents. She is on faculty for Manhattan Dance Project, Beyond the Stars, and Impact Dance Adjudicators, and is thrilled to have come full circle and joined the Department of Theatre and Dance faculty at Troy University. She graduated May 2019 with her MFA in Choreography and continues to travel the world performing, teaching and choreographing.



#### Jamal White

Jamal White (Birmingham, AL) was raised in Atlanta, GA and began his training at and Dance Makers of Atlanta under the direction of Denise and Lynise Heard. He studied as a scholarship student at Ballethnic Dance Academy, Virginia School of the Arts and trained in intensive programs at Kirov Academy of Ballet, Nashville Ballet, Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance, Dance Theatre of Harlem, and London Contemporary Dance School. In 2011, Mr. White received a B.F.A. in Dance Performance from Southern Methodist University, since he has performed works by choreographers such as Nicolo Fonte, George Balanchine, Dwight Rhoden, Alvin Ailey, Stijn Celis, Richard Siegal, and Hofesh Shechter. He has also performed in Rasta Thomas' Rock the Ballet, Missouri Ballet Theater, Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, Alvin Ailey II, Collage Dance Collective, and currently BODYTRAFFIC. Jamal has made creations at Southern Methodist University, Dean College, London Contemporary Dance School, Troy University, BODYTRAFFIC, Deeply Rooted Youth Ensemble and The Ailey School. Jamal has also taught and created for many arts exchange and outreach programs in the United States and abroad such as Steps on Broadway, Trinity Laban Conservatory of Music and Dance, and the Ailey School. He's had the pleasure of creating a

new work for Company D; A Memphis based contemporary dance company for adults with down syndrome. Jamal is currently on the ballet faculty at Celebrity Dance Convention, Artistic Fellow at BODYTRAFFIC, one of the founding members of The Black Artists Dance Collective, and studying at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in the M.F.A Choreography program.



#### Daryl Gray

Daryl Gray, trained in a full Dance curriculum at the Harkness, ABT, SAB schools and under David Howard. He debuted as a professional actor at age 14, was a Broadway cast member in Bob Fosse's *Dancin'*, *On Your Toes* and other shows. Gray was also a principal guest artist with Ballet companies in the US and abroad. His musical stagings have been seen at both the Koch Theater and Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center, Miami's Coconut Grove Playhouse, California Musical Theatre, Playhouse 91, Santa Fe Festival Theater, Playwrights Horizons, Ailey Theater, Brooklyn Academy of Music, St. Louis Muny Opera, Chicago Civic Theater and on CBS and PBS television. Director/Choreographer credits: The NY G & S Players, "Carmen" at the NYC Opera, NY Ice Theater, High Fashion shows, a Disney extravaganza, Celebration of the American Musical televised "Live from Lincoln Center" and *Kiss Me Kate* at the Palladium theater. He has created over 70

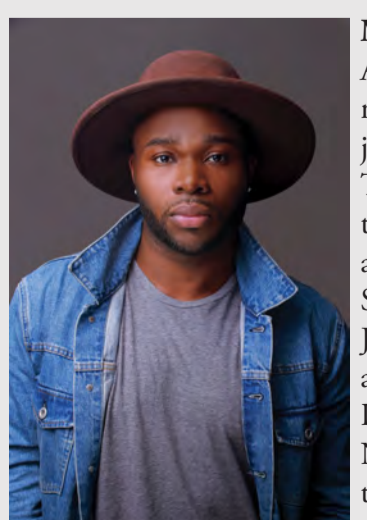
Dance works on 5 continents for such companies as; The Joffrey Ballet, Bejart, Les Ballet Jazz de Montreal, Batsheva Dance Company of Israel, Ballet de France, Royal Ballet Of Belgium, Britain's Northern Ballet Theater, Australia's Queensland Ballet and more. Recent stagings: *The Tales Of Hoffman*, *The Merry Widow*, *Jeckyll & Hyde* and Handel's opera *Semele*. Pre- COVID: Conceiver, Director/Choreographer of slated London/West End production of *PIRATES! The Dance Musical*. Author of an upcoming musical, "A Bowler Hat". Teaching credits include; Harvard, Vassar, USF, St. Louis, Washington Universities, numerous Ballet Companies, the United Nations and more.



#### Kelsey Metz

Kelsey Metz is a Dancer, Teacher, and Choreographer from Phoenix, Arizona. Her dance education growing up had strong focuses in Jazz, Ballet, Lyrical, Tap, and Hip Hop at Dance Connection, Master Ballet Academy, and The Arizona School for the Arts. Throughout her career as a Dancer, Kelsey has gathered career experiences in both Commercial and Concert dance, choreography, and videography working with many artists including Mandy Moore, Peter Chu, Liz Imperio, Jess Hendrix, Ray Leeper, and Jaci Royal. Kelsey has performed around the country in theaters such as the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, the El Portal, New York Civic Center, the Roseland Ballroom, Majestic Theatre, and several other local theaters in AZ. She currently performs with the Bread Dance Contemporary Company ran out of Phoenix, AZ, and is working her 10th season teaching and directing at the Conservatory of Dance. Kelsey enjoys sharing her passion for dance with the community and continues to expand her own personal Dance Education. Kelsey has completed various professional dance trainings throughout the past few years including education in Counter technique and Gaga movement language. She recently completed her certification in Progressive

Ballet Technique and Giordano Jazz Technique. Kelsey hopes to never stop developing her own personal movement and is excited to share her knowledge and love of Dance.



#### Marcus Allan Cobb

A proud native of Capitol Heights, MD, Marcus was introduced to the entertainment industry shortly after receiving his B.S. in Family and Consumer Sciences at North Carolina A&T State University. He began his journey in Atlanta, GA where he worked with the group iLuminate, from the hit tv show, America's Got Talent. With the success of the show, he relocated to New York City where his choreography was first seen in the off-broadway show, "Artist of Light". His commercial career started with Bloc Talent Agency, where he is a resident Dancer/Choreographer/Instructor. He has worked with renowned choreographers, such as, Tanisha Scott, Rich & Tone Talauega, and Gil Duldulao to name a few. Credits include Janet Leeper, Rihanna, Jennifer Hudson, Mariah Carey, and many more. He has been featured in the hit movie "Isn't It Romantic", alongside Rebel Wilson, the American Musical film "In The Heights", the Netflix Original Series: The Get Down, Bravo Tv series "Odd Mom Out", Grammy Awards, MTV Video Music Awards, ABC, BET, and CBS Networks. Marcus dedicates his passion for entertainment to his mother, Ola Kelly-Avant. May she continue to watch over him and celebrate his success.