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5 Dance Performances to See in NYC This Weekend

By Brian Schaefer

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Our guide to dance performances happening this weekend and in the week ahead.

AMERICAN BALLET THEATER STUDIO COMPANY at Ailey Citigroup Theater (April 17-18, 7 p.m.). Before they hit the big leagues, <u>catch the next generation of ballet stars</u> in intimate environs as <u>Ballet Theater's junior ensemble</u> presents a mixed bill of classical and contemporary work. The program includes August Bournonville's "William Tell" pas de deux and an excerpt from the Romantic staple "Giselle" as interpreted by Ethan Stiefel and Johan Kobborg. "Untitled" by the young British choreographer Liam Scarlett and new works by Marco Pelle and Lauren Lovette, a principal ballerina at New York City Ballet, will also be featured. *abt.org*

BROOKLYN BALLET at the Actors Fund Arts Center (April 19-20, 8 p.m., through April 22). The lineup for Brooklyn Ballet's spring performances is practically a tour of 20th-century dance history. It begins with a juxtaposition of modern dance pioneer Isadora Duncan's "Chopin Dances" with Michel Fokine's important 1909 ballet "Les Sylphides." Two more giants follow: George Balanchine, represented by "The Four Temperaments" (three of which will be shown), and modern master Merce Cunningham, represented by a duet from "Landrover" (1972). Lynn Parkerson, Brooklyn Ballet's founding artistic director, also includes two new works of her own. *brooklynballet.org*

LAR LUBOVITCH DANCE COMPANY at the Joyce Theater (April 17-18, 7:30 p.m., through April 22). One of the most enduring names in American modern dance, Lar Lubovitch has been choreographing for half a century. He will honor that remarkable milestone this week with three programs spanning more than 30 years, from "A Brahms Symphony" (1985), performed by students, to the premiere of a new work. Members of the Martha Graham Dance Company will join the anniversary celebration with performances of Mr. Lubovitch's "The Legend of Ten," as will dancers from the Joffrey Ballet with a selection from Mr. Lubovitch's full-length "Othello." His acclaimed, tender exploration of masculinity in dance, "Men's Stories: A Concerto in Ruin," anchors each program.

212-242-0800, joyce.org

LIL BUCK AND JON BOOGZ at N.Y.U. Skirball (April 14, 3 and 7:30 p.m.). The mesmerizing performers Lil Buck and Jon Boogz believe dance can make a substantive social impact, and they founded Movement Art Is to spread that message. On Saturday, they bring to New York "Love Heals All Wounds," a vaguely narrative work that touches on police brutality and champions empathy and inclusion. Issues are evoked and emotions conveyed, with the help of a talented ensemble, through the duo's unique physicality, which mimics stop-motion animation and uses uncanny slow-motion techniques to imbue their work with a cinematic sense of tension, urgency, vitality and grace. 212-998-4941, nyuskirball.org

THE V.4 DANCE FESTIVAL at N.Y.U. Skirball (April 19-20, 7:30 p.m.). The Visegrad group is the political alliance of the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia. This week they form a dance alliance as well with a two-day festival showcasing one artist from each country. On April 19, Vera Ondrasikova from the Czech Republic presents "Guide," an audiovisual experience featuring lasers, and Paweł Sakowicz from Poland performs "Total," a satirical look at virtuosity in dance. On April 20, the Debris Company from Slovakia offers "Wow!," a surreal portrait of humans and the environment, while Laszlo Fulop and Emese Cuhorka of Hungary tackle the concept of boredom in "Your Mother at My Door." 212-998-4941, nyuskirball.org

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