BESFI 2016

Dancer: Jenna Lee

LONG ISLAND'S Master Summer Workshop July 18 to August 26

VALIA SEISKAYA Artistic Director

Faculty (dates in residence 2016)

- ❖ VASO KIKNA (Jul 18-Aug 26)
- **❖ DARREN MCINTYRE (Jul 18-22)**
- ❖ MARIANNA TCHERKASSKY (Jul 18-22)
 - **❖ IAN POULIS (Jul 25-29)**
 - **❖ MARY CARPENTER (Jul 25-29)**
 - **❖ ALEXANDRA BERGMAN (Aug 1-5)**
 - **❖ YANN IRLINGER (Aug 1-5)**
 - **❖ ELIZABETH MCGRATH (Aug 8-19)**
 - **❖ BOYKO DOSSEV (Aug 8-12)**
 - **❖ LAURA FEIG (Aug 15-19)**
 - ELEANOR D'ANTUONO (Aug 22-26)
 - **❖ RHODIE JORGENSON (Aug 22-26)**

Classical Ballet Technique, Pointe, Turns, Beats, Pilates, Pas de Deux, Variations, Theatrical Dance and Contemporary

Daily transportation to and from the LIRR St. James Station is provided free. Housing for out-of-area students is available.

| 2016 Workshop | Advanced | Advanced | Intermediate 2CI/3CI Prgm |
|---|----------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Fee Schedule | Program | Intermediate | |
| Reservation Deposit (Applicable toward tuition) | \$275 | \$275 | \$200/\$275 |
| Six Weeks Five Weeks Four Weeks Three Weeks Two Weeks One Week Daily Single Class | \$2,000 | \$1,750 | \$890/\$1,305 |
| | \$1,690 | \$1,490 | \$765/\$1,115 |
| | \$1,380 | \$1,225 | \$635/\$925 |
| | \$1,070 | \$950 | \$505/\$735 |
| | \$755 | \$675 | \$375/\$535 |
| | \$430 | \$380 | \$215/\$305 |
| | \$ 92 | \$ 83 | \$45/\$68 |
| | \$ 33 | \$ 30 | \$ 25 |

Created in 1981, the BESFI Summer Workshop is designed to provide professional training for serious students of ballet. The Ballet Education and Scholarship Fund, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization, one of whose purposes is to provide the highest quality training at an affordable price which now includes, for the Advanced and Adv./Inter. programs, an optional evening class Monday-Thursday 7:00-8:30PM.

As you can see from the staff credentials outlined below, BESFI continues to attract an outstanding faculty of Master Teachers. The same care is taken in the selection of students. Again this season, a special effort is being made to attract male dancers in order to take full advantage of the teaching staff and pas de deux classes. Three dedicated male tuition scholarships have been set aside to fulfill our goal.

Over the past thirty-five plus years, the BESFI summer program has stressed a full range of classwork. Although varying slightly year-to-year, courses offered include classical technique with specialized classes in variations, pointe, beats and turns, character ballet, pas de deux, port de bras, contemporary/modern dance and theatrical dance. Detailed scholarship information on competitive scholarships appears on the inside back cover of this brochure. For further information call: (631) 584-0192.

The workshop will be held from July 18 through August 26 at the Seiskaya studios located at 7 Flowerfield, Suite 16, St. James, Long Island, New York 11780, (631) 862-6925. Class size is limited. Both large, air-conditioned studios feature resilient composite flooring, mirrors and dressing rooms with showers. Daily transportation to and from the St. James railroad station, which is on the L.I.R.R. Port Jefferson Line, will be provided on request at no cost.

Under the artistic direction of Mme. Valia Seiskaya, the BESFI Summer Program has attracted a prominent staff of instructors. Each staff member brings a broad range of dance experience and expertise. Although generally favoring the Vaganova teaching method, the staff will offer a varied approach, as indicated by their backgrounds.

VALIA SEISKAYA Artistic Director

Mme. Seiskaya was with the Greek National Opera for seventeen years and, as a featured soloist, toured Europe and Russia. In 1974, she established the Seiskaya Ballet School and, in 1981, the Seiskaya Ballet Academy, which has national recognition as an outstanding professional preparatory program. Seiskaya-coached dancers have captured numerous regional and national titles, including a Presidential Scholar in the Arts citation. Students have competed with notable merit in ten international ballet competitions, placing as semi-finalists and finalists and capturing three gold medals and a bronze. Over seventy students have opted for professional careers in major companies, such as American Ballet Theatre (5), Royal Swedish Ballet, Boston Ballet (2), Pittsburgh Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Ballet West, Atlanta Ballet (2), Fort Worth Ballet, Tulsa Ballet, Eliot Feld Ballet, Hartford Ballet (2), Milwaukee Ballet (3), Washington Ballet, State Ballet of Missouri, Ballet Memphis, Louisville Ballet (2), Ballet Austin, Momix (2), Tennessee Ballet, Alabama Ballet (2) and New Jersey Ballet.

SUMMER PROGRAM STAFF

VASO KIKNA (July 18-August 26)

Born in Poland of Greek lineage, Ms. Kikna studied at the Academy Poznan. She joined the Polish State Opera Brotslaf, and in 1983, continued her career with the Greek National Opera in Athens as both a performer and assistant choreographer. She has staged several works at the new Grand Concert Hall Athenon in Athens. A classicist, she has staged Le Corsaire, Nutcracker, La Sylphide, Napoli, Flower Festival, Pas de Quatre, Don Quixote and Coppellia for which she was recognized by the Bureau of Humanities of Greece.

DARREN MCINTYRE (July 18-22)

Presently a danseur with the City Ballet of San Diego, Mr. McIntyre also travels the world as a freelance performer, choreographer, and Ballet Master. He received his Advanced Diploma of Dance from the Australian Ballet School and went on to tour extensively throughout the United States, Australia, Asia, Canada, Europe, and South America performing with both classical and contemporary companies including the Ajkun Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet and Montgomery Ballet. In 2015 he served as Artistic Director, Ballet Master, and resident Choreographer of the Lake Erie Ballet.

MARIANNA TCHERKASSKY (July 18-22)

Marianna Tcherkassky began her training under the tutelage of her mother, Lillian Oka Tcherkassky. Her studies continued at Washington School of Ballet and then SAB. She joined ABT in 1970 and was elevated to principal in 1976. Hailed as one of the world's leading ballerinas, reviewer Anna Kisselgoff of the NY Times described her as "one of the greatest Giselles that American ballet produced." Retiring in 1996, she received an Honorary Doctorate of Performing Arts from the University of Cincinnati in 1999 and is currently Ballet Mistress of the Pittsburgh Ballet.

IAN POULIS (July 25-29)

Seiskaya alum Ian Poulis is currently the Artistic Director of the Peoria Ballet in Peoria, IL. After a 12 year career dancing for the Kansas City Ballet, Louisville Ballet, Ballet Arizona, Ballet Met and Ballet Internationale-Indianapolis, Ian has been able to tour China, Taiwan, Canada and much of the United States. He has been a sought out guest teacher both in the US and abroad in Paraguay. Ian has danced several soloist and principal roles by Balanchine, Bournonville, Petipa, Andersen, Caniparoli, Whitener, Aliev among others. After studying with master teacher, Valia Seiskaya, he was accepted to the Kirov Academy.

MARY CARPENTER (July 25-29)

Mary is on faculty at Barnard College, The New School University, and Steps on Broadway. She trained at the Cincinnati Ballet School, Butler University, and David Howard Dance Center on scholarship. Mary is a much sought after pointe shoe expert for Chacott by Freed of London in NYC, and has over twenty years of experience working with principal dancers at ABT, The Royal Ballet, and NYCB to name a few. Ms. Carpenter has directed nine ballet classroom CDs and three instructional DVDs. In addition to ballet, she is also a Pilates mat instructor.

ALEXANDRA BERGMAN (August 1-5)

A Seiskaya alum, Swedish born Alexandra began her career at Tulsa Ballet as an apprentice and retired a principal dancer in 2013. Her extensive repertoire includes principal roles in the Rite of Spring, Val Caniparoli's Lambarena, Ma Cong's Carmina Burana, The Great Gatsby, La Sylphide, Theme and Variations, Push Comes to Shove and Carmen. In addition, several roles were created specifically for her. Alexandra has staged works for Ballet Des Moines, at Kansas City Dance Festival and for Tulsa Ballet. She is on faculty with Tulsa Ballet and continues to teach master classes across the US.

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| Time Adv. | Monday Advanced | Tuesday Advanced | Wednesday Advanced | Thursday | Friday Advanced | Monday | Tuesday Advanced | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday Advanced | Friday |
| 11:00 AM 1 | McIntyre | Tcherkassky | Kikna | Advanced Tcherkassky | McIntyre | Advanced Poulis | Carpenter | Advanced Kikna | Advanced Carpenter | Advanced Poulis | Advanced Bergman | Advanced Irlinger | Advanced Kikna | Irlinger | Advanced Bergman |
| 11:15 AM CL | Pointe | Choreography | Pointe | Strengthening | Pointe | Pointe | Repertoire | Variations | Pas de Deux | Pt. Shoe Fitting | Repertoire | Pointe | Pas de Deux | Contemp Rep | Beats |
| 12:15 PM 2 | Kikna | McIntyre | Tcherkassky | McIntyre | Tcherkassky | Kikna | Poulis | Carpenter | Poulis | Carpenter | Irlinger | Bergman | Irlinger | Bergman | Irlinger |
| 1:35 PM CL | Pas de Deux | Turns | Beats | Variations | Career Lecture | Pas de Deux | Pilates | Turns | Variations | Repertoire | Contemp Rep | Turns | Jumps | Pas de Deux | Variations |
| 2:35 PM 4 | McIntyre | Tcherkassky | Tcherkassky | Tcherkassky | McIntyre | Poulis | Carpenter | Poulis | Carpenter | Poulis | Bergman | Irlinger | Bergman | Irlinger | Bergman |
| Time A.I. | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 9:30 AM CL 11:00 AM 1 | Adv. Inter. Tcherkassky | Adv. Inter. McIntyre | Adv. Inter. Tcherkassky | Adv. Inter. McIntyre | Adv. Inter. Tcherkassky | Adv. Inter. Carpenter | Adv. Inter. Poulis | Adv. Inter. Carpenter | Adv. Inter. Poulis | Adv. Inter. Carpenter | Adv. Inter. Irlinger | Adv. Inter. Bergman | Adv. Inter. Irlinger | Adv. Inter. Bergman | Adv. Inter. Kikna |
| 11:15 AM CL 12:15 PM 2 | Beats Tcherkassky | Variations Kikna | Pas de Deux McIntyre | Variations Tcherkassky | Port de Bras Kikna | Contemporary Poulis | Variations Kikna | Pas de Deux Poulis | Pt Shoe Fitting Carpenter | Turns Kikna | Variations Kikna | Turns Kikna | Port de Bras Bergman | Variations Irlinger | Pointe Bergman |
| 1:35 PM CL 2:35 PM 4 | Variations Kikna | Choreography McIntyre | Strengthening McIntyre | Choreography McIntyre | Pointe Tcherkassky | Variations Carpenter | Turns Poulis | Pointe Kikna | Beats Poulis | Pilates Carpenter | Beats Irlinger | Variations Bergman | Pas de Deux Irlinger | Jumps Bergman | Turns Irlinger |
| Time Int. | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 12:25 PM CL 1:25 PM 3 | Intermediate McIntyre | Intermediate Tcherkassky | Intermediate McIntrye | Intermediate Kikna | Intermediate McIntyre | Intermediate Kikna | Intermediate Carpenter | Intermediate Poulis | Intermediate Kikna | Intermediate Poulis | Intermediate Bergman | Intermediate Irlinger | Intermediate Bergman | Intermediate Kikna | Intermediate Irlinger |
| 2:45 PM CL 3:45 PM 5 | Repertoire Tcherkassky | Port de Bras Kikna | Turns Kikna | Beats Kikna | Repertoire Kikna | Repertoire Carpenter | Turns Kikna | Repertoire Carpenter | Beats Kikna | Repertoire Kikna | Turns Kikna | Port de Bras Kikna | Repertoire Kikna | Theatrical Dance Kikna | Repertoire Kikna |
| August 8-12 | | | | | August 15-19 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | August 8-12 | | | | | August 15-19 | | | | | August 22-26 | 3 | |
| Time Adv. | Monday Advanced | Tuesday Advanced | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday Advanced | Monday Advanced | Tuesday Advanced | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday Advanced | Monday Advanced | Tuesday Advanced | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday Advanced |
| Time Adv. 9:30 AM CL 11:00 AM 1 | Monday Advanced McGrath | Tuesday Advanced Dossev | | _ | Friday Advanced McGrath | Monday Advanced McGrath | Tuesday Advanced Feig | | | Friday Advanced McGrath | Monday Advanced D'Antuono | Tuesday Advanced Jorgenson | | | Friday Advanced D'Antuono |
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SUMMER PROGRAM STAFF (Con't.) YANN IRLINGER (August 1-5)

Trained at the Conservatoire National de Danse d'Avignon, Mr. Irlinger graduated with a silver medal. Later, studying with Rosella Hightower, he went on to two separate tours with Roland Petit's National Ballet of Marseille, bracketing a three year stint with the Metz Opera Ballet. American engagements included the Sacramento Ballet, Ballet Chicago, Cincinnati Ballet and finally the Tulsa Ballet. He has taught at company-affiliated schools at Metz Opera Ballet and Cincinnati Ballet and the Tulsa Ballet.

ELIZABETH MCGRATH (August 8-19)

Joining Seiskaya Ballet Academy at age 6, Elizabeth earned six BESFI Summer Intensive scholarships. She garnered double gold at the inaugural Youth American Grand Prix sweeping both classical and contemporary medals. A finalist in the 8th Concours International de Danse de Paris at 15, she was a semi-finalist at the 13th IBC at Varna, Bulgaria. She joined Ballet West in 2001 rising to the rank of 1st Soloist. Her extensive repertoire includes principal roles in Swan Lake, Serenade, Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella, Don Quixote and Concerto Barocco.

BOYKO DOSSEV (August 8-12)

A Gold Medal winner, both in '97 at the Bulgarian National Competition, and in '02 at the 20th Varna IBC Varna, Bulgaria, Mr. Dossev earned acclaim for his blistering technique. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree and his Masters at the National Music Conservatory in Sofia. His professional training began at the Jeune Ballet de France, then in Semperoper Dresden, followed by the Hamburg Ballet. In 2006, he joined the Boston Ballet and was featured in their premiere of Polyphonia by Christopher Wheeldon. He has also choreographed ballets performed in Germany, Greece and the USA.

LAURA FEIG (August 15-19)

A Seiskaya alum, Laura began her career with the Atlanta Ballet where she spent ten years, becoming a principal dancer with the company. She has also performed as a member of Morphoses/The Wheeldon Company, The National Ballet of Canada, BalletX, Chautauqua Ballet, and Ballet NY. Currently, Laura is performing as an original Broadway cast member in Christopher Wheeldon's "An American in Paris". She has also toured the US, Canada, and Japan starring in Twyla Tharp's "Movin' Out" in the role of Judy. Recently, Laura appeared in the Starz original series "Flesh and Bone" as a member of the company.

ELEANOR D'ANTUONO (August 22-26)

Regarded by many as America's most versatile ballerina, Ms. D'Antuono had a brilliant performing career, highlighted by her many years as a principal ballerina at American Ballet Theatre (ABT). In 1979, she toured the U.S.S.R. and became the first American ballerina to appear as a guest artist with Soviet companies. In 1980, she again achieved this unique distinction with Chinese companies. Ms. D'Antuono has been Director of the New York City International Ballet Competition since 1997. A Master Teacher, she is in demand with both dance companies and summer programs.

RHODIE JORGENSON (August 22-26)

Rhodie Jorgenson received her training at NYCB's School of American Ballet and at the ABT School. She danced professionally with ABT and now teaches at the Maryland Youth Ballet. A noted coach, she has prepared several successful candidates for the International Ballet Competitions in Varna, Bulgaria and Jackson, MS and was one of the Master Teachers at the International School for the USA – IBC last June. Currently, the Children's Ballet Mistress in Washington D.C. for the Joffrey Ballet, she recently set children's roles for ABT's Sleeping Beauty and Ballet West's Nutcracker at the Kennedy Center.

SUMMER WORKSHOP INFORMATION

ELIGIBILITY: Ballet students must be at least at the Intermediate technique level. Students must either audition in-person, have the strong recommendation of their current teacher or provide a recent videotape of a classical variation being performed en pointe, as applicable. A placement audition by the director is required of all students who were accepted by other than an in-person audition.

CLASS SECTIONS: There are three basic levels offered: Advanced, Advanced/Intermediate and Intermediate. The Intermediate Level is available in two formats. For those students en pointe and strong enough to take three classes daily, class period 2 from the Advanced Intermediate schedule is added to the two Intermediate classes (periods 3 & 5) on the Intermediate schedule. The appropriate tuition for each program is on the cover of this brochure.

RESERVATION DEPOSIT: In order to assure a place in the workshop, a NON-REFUNDABLE two hundred & seventy-five (\$275) dollar reservation fee must be deposited with BESFI. The deposit is fully applicable towards tuition and must be received **NOT LATER THAN June 5**, 2016 for qualified students competing for a scholarship and June 15, 2016 for all others. For students accepted and registering for the workshop after June 30th, the total tuition is due in advance upon registration. For students with a reservation deposit, total tuition is due on the first day of class unless other arrangements have been made in advance. A complete listing of all tuition fees is on the front panel of this brochure. ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE AND ARE DUE AS NOTED.

SCHOLARSHIPS: A limited number of merit scholarships are available to Suffolk County residents who are committing to a minimum of four weeks. Scholarships are awarded through an open competition adjudicated by a select panel of Ballet Masters. Requirements for applicants: AGE - must have reached their 10th, but not their 19th birthday, by December 31, 2015. RESIDENCY - must be a Suffolk County resident during the full preceding year. FINANCIAL COMMITMENT - must be enrolled for a minimum of four weeks. FEES - reservation deposit must be received by the scholarship competition date. The competition will be held on June 5, 2016 at the Seiskaya Studios with ages 10-13 at 1:00PM and 14 & up at 2:15PM. Dancers should arrive 1/2 hour early. For information: BESFI Info, P.O. Box 2146, St. James, NY 11780, or e-mail info@besfi.com. Remember: THE RESERVATION DEPOSIT MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE A STUDENT MAY COMPETE FOR A SCHOLARSHIP. Results will be posted and winners' names released to the press.

ATTIRE: Fully-functional dance clothing in <u>good repair</u>. All female dancers en pointe must have at least <u>three</u> pairs of pointe shoes in new or serviceable condition. Advanced students attending for more than four weeks - four pairs of pointe shoes.

TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING: The town of St. James is located on Long Island, approximately fifty miles east of midtown Manhattan. Rail transportation is via the Long Island Railroad, North Shore Line, which terminates in Port Jefferson. St. James is the appropriate stop on the Port Jefferson Line. The studio is a five-minute drive from the train station, and a car will be available for shuttling students. Accommodations can be arranged with either a host family or similar facility. The fee, without meals included, is \$275.00 per week. Contact BESFI for further details on housing availability and meals.

Dancer: Diana Atoian

DIRECTIONS: From Manhattan, take the Midtown Tunnel to the Long Island Expressway to Exit 56, Smithtown-Route 111. Turn left at the bottom of the ramp to head north on Route 111. Proceed north/northeast on Route 111 for seven miles, intersecting three main east-west routes: 454, 347 and 25, in that order. North of the Route 111-Route 25 intersection, Route 111 terminates and becomes Route 25A East. No turns are involved. At the end of the seven miles you will be in the hamlet of Head of the Harbor/St. James, and you will see Mills Pond Road on your right-hand side. There is in fact a pond on the right corner. Turn right, and proceed to the second gated entrance which is the main entrance of the Flowerfield Park/Gyrodyne complex. Turn left into the complex; building No. 7 is the first large building on your right. Utilize the burgundy canopied building entrance marked 7 North/7N.

ALTERNATE APPROACHES: Take the Triborough Bridge to the Grand Central Parkway, then go east on the Long Island Expressway to Exit 56 and follow the directions above. From Brooklyn, south New Jersey, or Long Island's south shore, take the Belt Parkway to the Southern State Parkway, then the Sagtikos Parkway north to the L.I.E., and follow the above. From upstate New York and Connecticut, take the Throgs Neck Bridge to either the Cross Island Parkway south or the Clearview Expressway to the L.I.E., and follow the directions above. For those taking the Bridgeport-Port Jefferson Ferry, proceed west on Route 25A from the ferry terminal for approximately seven miles until you see Mills Pond Road on your left.

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