

**VALIA SEISKAYA**  
Artistic Director

**BESFI**  
**2022**

LONG ISLAND'S  
Master Summer  
Workshop July 11  
to August 19

Dancer  
Lara  
Caraiani



Faculty  
(dates in residence 2022)

- ❖ MARY CARPENTER (Jul 11-15)
- ❖ AMY RUGGIERO (Jul 11-15)
  - ❖ ERIC OTTO (Jul 18-29)
- ❖ RUSLAN SPRAGUE (Jul 18-29)
- ❖ RAMONA KELLY (Aug 1-5)
  - ❖ EVA TRAPP (Aug 1-5)
  - ❖ ERIC OTTO (Aug 8-19)
- ❖ JACE CORONADO (Aug 8-12)
- ❖ LAURA FEIG-OTTO (Aug 15-19)

**Classical Ballet Technique, Pointe, Character, Pas de Deux,  
Turns, Variations, Petite Allegro, Broadway Dance, Contemporary  
Repertoire, Yoga, Pilates and Grand Allegro**

— FSA Child Care Receipts On Request —

<b>2022 Workshop Fee Schedule</b>	<b>Advanced Program</b>	<b>Intermediate Program</b>
<b>Reservation Deposit</b> (Applicable toward tuition)	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$350</b>
<b>Six Weeks</b>	<b>\$2,060</b>	<b>\$1,620</b>
<b>Five Weeks</b>	<b>\$1,780</b>	<b>\$1,370</b>
<b>Four Weeks</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>	<b>\$1,120</b>
<b>Three Weeks</b>	<b>\$1,220</b>	<b>\$870</b>
<b>Two Weeks</b>	<b>\$885</b>	<b>\$620</b>
<b>One Week</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$350</b>
<b>Daily</b>	<b>\$120</b>	<b>\$ 85</b>
<b>Single Class</b>	<b>\$ 40</b>	<b>\$ 30</b>

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. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the program in 2022. The Program has been expanded back to six weeks, however the technique groups remain Advanced and Intermediate. No merit scholarships are available this year. Contributions collected since the beginning of the pandemic have been used to hold tuition costs in check. Two non-competitive male only work-fellowships are being offered again this year.

The 2022 workshop will be held from July 11 through August 19 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.

COVID-19 operating guidelines: students and staff do not need to wear masks; they are strictly optional. COVID-19 regulations can turn on a dime. Use common sense to minimize any possible unnecessary exposure. Whenever possible come dressed in ballet attire and bring your own water and note social distancing markers on the floor and walls of each studio. Bathroom breaks during class are disruptive and should be for emergency purposes only. We suggest students continue to use hand sanitizer upon arrival/departure from the studio. Kindly note that breaks between classes allow for precautionary cleaning. A current set of operating rules is posted in each studio.

As you can see from the staff credentials outlined below, under the Artistic Direction of Mme Valia Seiskaya, BESFI continues to attract an outstanding faculty of Master Teachers. The same care is taken in the selection of students.

### **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 under the artistic direction of Mme Valia Seiskaya 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. Eighty+ 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.

## BESFI SUMMER INTENSIVE (July 11-August 19)

### MARY CARPENTER (July 11-15)

Mary is on faculty at Steps on Broadway and is a former faculty of Barnard College and The Ballet Hispanico School. She danced for: The Metropolitan Opera Ballet, Ohio Dance Theater, Maryland Ballet, Charleston Ballet, and many others. Mary is a pointe shoe expert and has worked with dancers at ABT, NYCB, and The Royal Ballet. Her Youtube channel, Dancewithmary NYC, shares her knowledge and insights. She has directed ten ballet classroom CDs and three instructional ballet class DVDs. Additionally, she is certified in Pilates Mat and Progressing Ballet Technique.

### AMY RUGGIERO (July 11-15)

Amy Ruggiero trained under Mme Valia Seiskaya and graduated from Goucher College with a BA in Dance with Biological Sciences. She has performed with Ballet Austin, American Repertory Ballet, and Twyla Tharp Dance. Additional credits include: Carousel (Broadway), the 1st National/Japan Tour of Come Fly Away, Little Dancer (Kennedy Center), Manon (Metropolitan Opera), and ADM21 (Joyce Theatre). Last year, she was a featured performer in the Netflix limited series Halston and danced for Kate Spade's summer/fall campaigns. Recently, she was promoted to Assistant Dance Captain and Ensemble Swing at the Radio City Christmas Spectacular.

### ERIC OTTO (July 18-29) & (Aug 8-19)

Trained at SAB, Eric Otto danced professionally with NYCB, ABT, Metropolitan Opera Ballet and BalletX. His Broadway credits include lead roles in Come Fly Away, Movin' Out and The Phantom of the Opera. Eric also joined Twyla Tharp on her 50th Anniversary tour. His extensive repertoire includes works by Ashton, Cranko, MacMillan and Robbins. He has danced roles created for him by Tharp, Taylor, Taylor-Corbette and Neenan. An ABT Certified Teacher in Primary Level 6/7 and Partnering, Eric has served as Ballet Master, guest faculty and Artistic Director for several highly regarded companies and schools.

### RUSLAN SPRAGUE (Jul 18-29)

A New Englander, Ruslan was inspired to dance by the Albany Berkshire Ballet's Nutcracker. He trained at the Cantarella School of Dance under Madeline Culp and with Darrell Pucciarello. Summer Intensives followed at Boston Ballet and the Boston Conservatory which ignited a new passion working with choreographers Helen Pickett and Jorma Elo. A two-year traineeship with Ballet West launched his professional career. Successful stints with several regional companies led to him becoming a freelance guest artist/choreographer/teacher whose own choreography includes: The Girl from Ipanema, Astaire Tribute, Gymnopedie and Who's Lovin' You.

**Class assignments are subject to change.  
All students must exit each class during sanitization procedures.**

ADVANCED July 11-15						ADVANCED July 18-22						ADVANCED July 25-29					
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Advanced Ruggiero	Advanced Carpenter	Advanced Ruggiero	Advanced Carpenter	Advanced Ruggiero	9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Advanced Sprague	Advanced Otto	Advanced Sprague	Advanced Otto	Advanced Sprague	9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Advanced Otto	Advanced Sprague	Advanced Otto	Advanced Sprague	Advanced Otto
11:20 AM 12:20 PM	Dancers' Pilates Carpenter	Contemp Rep Ruggiero	Turns Carpenter	Pointe Ruggiero	Beats Carpenter	11:20 AM 12:20 PM	Adagio Otto	Repertoire Sprague	Pas de Deux Otto	Petite Allegro Sprague	Variations Otto	11:20 AM 12:20 PM	Petite Allegro Sprague	Variations Otto	Pas de Deux Sprague	Variations Otto	Neo-class Rep Sprague
1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Variations Ruggiero	Grand Allegro Carpenter	Contemporary Ruggiero	Variations Carpenter	Broadway Dance Ruggiero	1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Turns Sprague	Grand Allegro Otto	Adagio Sprague	Beats Otto	Pas de Deux Sprague	1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Class Rep Otto	Grand Allegro Sprague	Turns Otto	Contemp. Rep Sprague	Pas de Deux Otto
INTERMEDIATE July 11-15						INTERMEDIATE July 18-22						INTERMEDIATE July 25-29					
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Intermediate Carpenter	Intermediate Ruggiero	Intermediate Carpenter	Intermediate Ruggiero	Intermediate Carpenter	9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Intermediate Otto	Intermediate Sprague	Intermediate Otto	Intermediate Sprague	Intermediate Otto	9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Intermediate Sprague	Intermediate Otto	Intermediate Sprague	Intermediate Otto	Intermediate Sprague
11:20 AM 12:20 PM	Turns Ruggiero	Variations Carpenter	Broadway Dance Ruggiero	Port de Bras Carpenter	Contemporary Ruggiero	11:20 AM 12:20 PM	Adagio Sprague	Contemp Rep Otto	Petite Allegro Sprague	Variations Otto	Repertoire Sprague	11:20 AM 12:20 PM	Adagio Otto	Petite Allegro Sprague	Repertoire Otto	Variations Sprague	Contemporary Otto
1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Pte Shoe Fitting Carpenter	Broadway Dance Ruggiero	Turns Carpenter	Beats Ruggiero	Variations Carpenter	1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Turns Otto	Port de Bras Sprague	Adagio Otto	Turns Sprague	Beats Otto	1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Turns Sprague	Port de Bras Otto	Adagio Sprague	Turns Otto	Beats Sprague

ADVANCED Aug 1-5						ADVANCED Aug 8-12						ADVANCED Aug 15-19					
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Advanced Kelley	Advanced Trapp	Advanced Kelley	Advanced Trapp	Advanced Kelley	9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Advanced Coronado	Advanced Otto	Advanced Coronado	Advanced Otto	Advanced Coronado	9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Advanced Feig-Otto	Advanced Otto	Advanced Feig-Otto	Advanced Otto	Advanced Feig-Otto
11:20 AM 12:20 PM	Adagio Trapp	Broadway Rep Kelley	Yoga for Dancers Trapp	Contemp Rep Kelley	Variations Trapp	11:20 AM 12:20 PM	Repertoire Otto	Jazz Coronado	Pas de Deux Otto	Musical Theatre Coronado	Repertoire Otto	11:20 AM 12:20 PM	Adagio Otto	Variations Feig-Otto	Pas de Deux Otto	Broadway Dance Feig-Otto	Variations Otto
1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Neo-Class Rep Kelley	Variations Trapp	Neo-Class Rep Kelley	Grand Allegro Trapp	Contemp Rep Kelley	1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Intro to Tap Coronado	Repertoire Otto	Pointe Coronado	Repertoire Otto	Variations Coronado	1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Pointe Feig-Otto	Grand Allegro Otto	Broadway Dance Feig-Otto	Petite Allegro Otto	Contemp Rep Feig-Otto
INTERMEDIATE Aug 1-5						INTERMEDIATE Aug 8-12						INTERMEDIATE Aug 15-19					
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Intermediate Trapp	Intermediate Kelley	Intermediate Trapp	Intermediate Kelley	Intermediate Trapp	9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Intermediate Otto	Intermediate Coronado	Intermediate Otto	Intermediate Coronado	Intermediate Otto	9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Intermediate Otto	Intermediate Feig-Otto	Intermediate Otto	Intermediate Feig-Otto	Intermediate Otto
11:20 AM 12:20 PM	Variations Kelley	Stretch/Strengthen Trapp	Turns Kelley	Variations Trapp	Beats Kelley	11:20 AM 12:20 PM	Jazz Coronado	Variations Otto	Musical Theatre Coronado	Stretch/Strengthen Otto	Pilates Mat Coronado	11:20 AM 12:20 PM	Contemporary Feig-Otto	Petite Allegro Otto	Broadway Dance Feig-Otto	Variations Otto	Contemporary Feig-Otto
1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Yoga for Dancers Trapp	Contemp Rep Kelley	Port de Bras Trapp	Contemp Rep Kelley	Broadway Dance Trapp	1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Petite Allegro Otto	Intro to Tap Coronado	Grand Allegro Otto	Jazz Coronado	Port de Bras Otto	1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Grand Allegro Otto	Port de Bras Feig-Otto	Adagio Otto	Turns Feig-Otto	Beats Otto

All Advanced classes are held in Studio A. All Intermediate classes are held in Studio B. All Advanced pointe students must have 1 1/2 years of pointe and have sufficient usable pointe shoes for all classes that require pointe.

Proper foot care is important. Give your feet TLC. Tap classes may require character shoes or tap shoes (if you have them). Check with the instructor. Class assignments and instructors are subject to change at the sole discretion of management.

## BESFI SUMMER INTENSIVE (July 11-August 19)

### RAMONA KELLY (Aug 1-5)

Ramona began her training at Berkeley Ballet Theater and went on to earn a BFA in dance from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. She danced the principal role of 'Betsy' in Twyla Tharp's *Come Fly Away*, and with the Tharp company, created new roles as well as performing repertory works. She is a principal guest artist with Oakland Ballet and has also performed in Christopher Wheeldon's *An American in Paris*, Dance Lab New York, Minnesota Dance Theatre, Sidra Bell and *Phantom of the Opera* (25th Anniversary Tour) among others. Ramona has taught for PNB, is an adjunct ballet faculty at NYU's Tisch Dance, teaches open classes at NYC's Peridance and has taught master classes in Tharp technique across the country.

### EVA TRAPP (Aug 1-5)

Eva Trapp's early training was with Michigan Ballet Theatre, Gladisa Guadalupe, and the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School. She spent her summers with SAB, ABT and PNB. Eva started her professional career as a Principal with Ohio Ballet. She then joined Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre for eight seasons as a Soloist where she was the first American ballerina to perform the role of Blanche in John Neumeier's *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Eva concluded her career with Twyla Tharp Dance and had the honor of performing in the 50th Anniversary Tour. After retirement, Eva trained to become a Licensed Massage Therapist, Ayurvedic Body Worker and Yoga Teacher. She is an entrepreneur owning two companies in Pittsburgh, PA.

### JACE CORONADO (Aug 8-12)

A native Texan, Jace earned a B.F.A. in Dance and Vocal Performance from West Texas A&M University after a stint with the School of American Ballet. His credentials are replete with numerous performances as a guest artist with: Ballet Austin, Ballet Memphis, Les Ballet Trockadero de Monte Carlo, Neos Dance Theatre, New England Dance Theatre, Gleich Dances, Thomas/Ortiz Dance, Northeast Youth Ballet, Roxey Ballet, Ballet NY, Ballet Verite, and MorDance. A member of Actor's Equity, Jace has been in noted productions of *West Side Story*, Disney's *Aladdin*, *Guys & Dolls* and *An American in Paris* along with the *Merry Widow* and *Aida* at the Met.

### LAURA FEIG-OTTO (Aug 15-19)

A Seiskaya alum, Laura danced with the Atlanta Ballet where she spent ten years with the company, culminating in the rank of principal dancer. She has also performed as a member of the Metropolitan Opera Ballet, Morphoses/The Wheeldon Company, The National Ballet of Canada, BalletX, Chautauqua Ballet, and Ballet NY. Laura was an original Broadway cast member of the recent revival of *Carousel* as well as *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. Laura appeared in the Starz original TV series *Flesh and Bone* as a member of the company.



## SUMMER WORKSHOP INFORMATION

**ATTIRE:** Fully-functional dance clothing in good repair. All female dancers en pointe must have at least three pairs of pointe shoes in new or serviceable condition. Advanced students attending for four weeks or more - four pairs of pointe shoes. Character shoes are strongly recommended for those taking Tap classes.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Advanced and Intermediate levels are available in 2022. 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 (advanced only), as applicable. A placement audition by the director is required of all students who were accepted by other than an in-person audition.

**RESERVATION DEPOSIT:** In order to assure a place in the workshop, a NON-REFUNDABLE \$500/\$350 reservation fee, as applicable, must be deposited with BESFI. The early deposit is fully applicable towards tuition and must be received **NOT LATER THAN June 20, 2022**. 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. (Installment payments are available through pre-arrangement.) 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.**

### IMPROBABLE



The Time is Available  
The Cost is Manageable  
The Parent is Agreeable  
The Transportation is Reliable

The Teacher is Inspirational  
The Training is Exceptional  
The Talent is Coachable  
The Teamwork is Indispensable

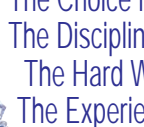


The Position is Desirable  
The Audition is Crucial  
The Scrutiny is Careful  
The Selection is Doubtful

The Line is Classical  
The Body is Pliable  
The Ear is Musical  
The Heart is Inexhaustible

The Technique is Forceful  
The Hand is Graceful  
The Eye is Fanciful  
The Movement is Lyrical

The Callback is Suspenseful  
The Outcome is Pivotal  
The Dream is Possible  
The Pinnacle is Attainable

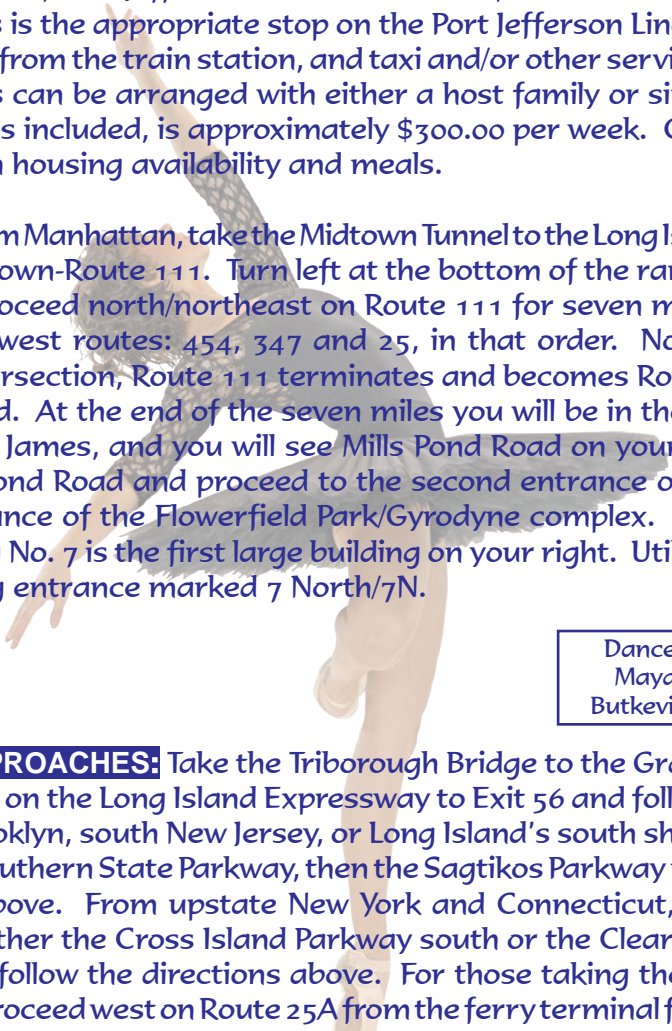


The Choice is Unquestionable  
The Discipline is Fundamental  
The Hard Work is Essential  
The Experience is Enjoyable

The Competition is Frightful  
The Quest is Endurable  
The Insecurity is Tolerable  
The Ego is Sustainable

- Just Maybe -  
The Dancer is Employable





**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, Port Jefferson 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 taxi and/or other services are available. Accommodations can be arranged with either a host family or similar facility. The fee, without meals included, is approximately \$300.00 per week. Contact BESFI for further details on housing availability and meals.

**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. Turn onto Mills Pond Road and proceed to the second entrance on your left 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.

Dancer  
Maya  
Butkevich

**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. Turn left and proceed as directed above.

**THE BALLET EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND, INC.**

P. O. Box 2146

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