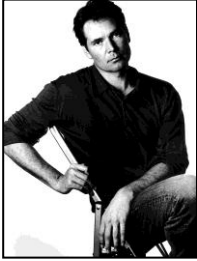


PARSONS DANCE BIOGRAPHIES



DAVID PARSONS (Artistic Director/Co-Founder) has enjoyed a remarkable career as a performer, choreographer, teacher, director, and producer of dance. Mr. Parsons was born near Chicago and raised in Kansas City. He was a leading dancer with The Paul Taylor Dance Company, where Mr. Taylor created many roles for him in works such as *Arden Court*, *Last Look* and *Roses*. He is a recipient of the 2000 Dance Magazine Award, the 2001 American Choreography Award, as well as, the 2001 American Choreography Award, as well as, the 2011 Dance Masters of America Award. Mr. Parsons has created more than 80 works for Parsons Dance. He has received commissions over the years from The American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the American Dance Festival, Jacob's Pillow, the Spoleto Festival, and Het Muziektheater in Amsterdam, to name a few. His work has been performed by Paris Opera Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Nederlands Danse Theatre, National Ballet of Canada, Hubbard Street Dance, and Batsheva Dance Company of Israel, among many others. In the July 27, 2007 edition of *The New York Times*, Jennifer Dunning called David Parsons "one of the great movers of modern dance."



ELIZABETH KOEPPEN (Associate Artistic Director) was born and raised in Virginia Beach, Virginia, where she began her training with Judith Hatcher and Darlene Kelly. She continued her education at SUNY Purchase where she received her B.F.A. under the instruction of Gayle Young, Larry Clarke, Kevin Wynn, Rosanna Seravalli, and Betti-Jane Sills. Teaching credits for Parsons Dance include SUNY Purchase, The Juilliard School, NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, The 92nd Street Y, the New Arts Festival, Baltimore School of the Arts, Peridance, and Dancespace. Ms. Koeppen has staged works by Mr. Parsons on numerous companies, including the Milwaukee Ballet, Dallas Black Dance Theater, Repertory Dance Theater, New York City Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, Les Ballet Jazz de Montreal, Louisville Ballet, and Roland Petit's Ballet National de Marseille. She would like to thank her family and friends for their love and support. Ms. Koeppen joined Parsons Dance in 1989.



SARAH BRAVERMAN (Dancer) is Chicago born and California raised. She trained extensively in the Royal Academy of Dance, under the direction of JoAnna Jarvis and Bernadette Hill, completing all examinations up to advanced II with distinction. In 2006, she became a founding member of NYC based modern company, AM Dance Project. Sarah graduated cum laude from Marymount Manhattan College in 2008 under the direction of Katie Langan and had the honor of performing works by David Marquez, Robert Battle, David Parsons, Graham Lustig, Stephen Petronio, and Joao Carvalho. Sarah joined Parsons Dance in 2008.



STEVEN VAUGHN (Dancer) was born in Iowa City, IA and grew up dancing all over the Midwest. Steve graduated in May 2009 from the University of the Arts with a B.F.A. in Modern Dance. While attending the University of the Arts in Philadelphia he was given the opportunity to perform works by Silvana Cardell, Martha Graham, and Twyla Tharp, among others while allowing him to present his own choreography. His college career also afforded him the privilege of working professionally with Diane Sharp-Nachsin's SHARP Dance Company, Scott Jovovich in Brandywine Ballet Theater, Zane Booker and his Smoke, Lillies, Jade Arts Initiative, and Brian Sanders' JUNK. Steven joined Parsons Dance in June 2008 as an apprentice and became an official company member in August 2009.



CHRISTINA ILIJISE (Dancer) graduated summa cum laude from Marymount Manhattan College in 2007 with a B.F.A. in Dance. Her choreographic work, *Naked Branches*, was bestowed the Alpha Chi award. Upon graduation she became a company member with Buglisi Dance Theatre, where she performed and instructed company outreach. Christina also danced with Maxine Steinman & Dancers and as a guest artist with Take Dance and Shen Wei Dance Arts. Her choreographic work has been presented at St. Mark's Church and The Hatch. Currently accompanying her dance conditioning, she teaches a barre based fitness class, Figure 4, at Pure Yoga NYC. On her own accord, she writes about her passions on her blog, *Living Dance* (www.living-dance.com) and inaugurated Ballet Blast a modern-inspired ballet class combining her love for fitness and dance. Christina joined Parsons Dance in 2010.



JASON MACDONALD (Dancer), an Orlando native, began his dance training with Melissa Stokes and later with Alberto Alonso, Alora Haynes and Sonia Calero at Santa Fe College. He has performed with the New York City Opera and Alabama Ballet Company under Artistic Director, Wes Chapman. His repertoire includes *Don Quixote*, *Firebird*, *Cinderella* and George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker* and *Serenade*. He graduated with a B.F.A. in Dance and a B.S. in Finance from The Florida State University. Jason joined Parsons Dance in August 2010.



IAN SPRING (Dancer) is originally from Middletown, OH where he began his training under the direction of Phyllis DeWeese-Morgan. After graduating from high school, Ian attended Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA. While at Point Park, he had the honor of performing pieces by Robert Battle, Martha Graham, and Kate Skarpetowska among others. Ian graduated with summa cum laude with his B.A. in Dance. Ian has also worked with Dayton

Contemporary Dance Company 2. Ian joined Parsons Dance in August 2010.



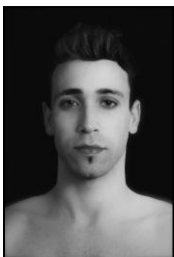
ELENA D'AMARIO (Dancer) was born in Pescara, Italy. She studied modern, ballet, contemporary, and tap at various schools throughout Italy, most prominently at New Step Art Studio. Over the years, she has won multiple festivals and competitions including the Pescara Dance Festival, the International Expression Dance Competition in 2008, and the International TipTap show in 2007 and 2009 in Rome. Elena has appeared on multiple

TV shows including "Oscar TV", "The Best years" and "Il ballo delle debuttanti". She auditioned for the most popular Italian talent show "Amici di Maria De Filippi," which led her to winning the opportunity to apprentice with Parsons Dance for the 2010-2011 season. Elena joined Parsons Dance in August 2011.



GEENA PACAREU (Dancer) began dancing in her native Tarragona, Spain, at Artemis Dansa, at an early age, and continued her training in The Royal Professional Conservatory of Dance "Mariemma" in Madrid, where she graduated in 2011 in classical dance. She also studied contemporary dance at various schools, including Laban Trinity in London, during intensive summer courses and workshops. Before graduating she was accepted as a fulltime

Trainee in Ajkun Ballet Theatre in New York City and promoted to Company Artist in 2012. During her training Geena assisted numerous workshops and intensive courses all over the world. She was featured as a cast member in numerous performances and has won multiple festivals and competitions. Geena joined Parsons Dance in August 2013.



OMAR ROMAN DE JESUS (Dancer) of Bayamón, Puerto Rico, began his formal training at School for the Performing Arts and Julian E. Blanco School in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico. He has received scholarships to the Ailey School and has attended summer intensives at Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Gallim Dance and Keigwin + Company. Omar has performed with Balletteatro Nacional de Puerto Rico, Dance Iquail and Taira School in Japan. He won the Championship Cup and Gold

Medal at the National Dance Competition in Puerto Rico. He has presented his choreography at Peridance Capezio Center and the Ailey Citigroup Theater. Omar joined Parsons Dance in August 2013.



JOHN KRASNO (Executive Director) a seasoned arts administrator with extensive business experience. Krasno joins Parsons Dance after a three-year tenure with the Oklahoma City Ballet as Executive Director. He has spent his career primarily in the arts, with special expertise in improving the financial well being of creative companies. He was Chief Operating Officer of the Drama

Department, a New York-based theater company, rescuing them from imminent bankruptcy and paving the way for their subsequent dynamic growth, including the Tribeca Theater Festival produced with Robert DeNiro's Tribeca Institute. Mr. Krasno was also President and Chief Operating Officer of Stick Figure Productions, a forward-looking documentary and television production company that produced highly regarded films shown at festivals including Sundance, Tribeca, and Edinburgh, as well as on HBO and PBS. For more than a decade, Mr. Krasno was a Vice President and General Manager at Panavision, the leading manufacturer and distributor of camera equipment and lenses for the motion picture industry. During his tenure, he took the company's unsuccessful CinePro Division and turned it into Panavision Hollywood, an internationally well-regarded multimillion-dollar business unit. He also provided strategic leadership to both domestic and international business units, mentored directors, producers and cinematographers, and helped to make hundreds of independent films. Mr. Krasno holds a B.A. in English from UCLA.

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Ian Spring
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Geena Pacareu
Omar Roman de Jesus

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