

BIOGRAPHY

BODYTRAFFIC is a world-class contemporary dance company, known throughout the world for its Los Angeles-grown contagious vivacity. BODYTRAFFIC continues to push boundaries and establish Los Angeles as a city known for dance. Founders and artistic directors Lillian Rose Barbeito and Tina Finkelman Berkett maintain a deep commitment to BODYTRAFFIC being at forefront of the contemporary dance world.

Named “the company of the future” and “one of the most talked-about companies - not just in LA, but nationwide” by the Los Angeles Times, BODYTRAFFIC is internationally recognized for its high caliber work and palpable love of dance. BODYTRAFFIC is home to an exceptionally versatile family of world-renowned dancers who have trained with the likes of Mikhail Baryshnikov, The Juilliard School, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, and more.

BODYTRAFFIC’s diverse repertory includes original works by McArthur Fellow Kyle Abraham, Stijn Celis, Barak Marshall, Ohad Naharin, Matthew Neenan, Arthur Pita, Victor Quijada, Hofesh Shechter, Richard Siegal, and many more incredible choreographers. BODYTRAFFIC seamlessly pays homage to traditional styles and techniques, while forging the way for contemporary dance of today.

BODYTRAFFIC has performed for sold-out audiences at prestigious theaters and festivals around the world. In 2016, BODYTRAFFIC made its Hollywood Bowl debut with the Los Angeles Philharmonic. In 2017-2018, the company celebrated its 10th season with an international tour to more than 20 cities, including Moscow and St. Petersburg for the CONTEXT Diana Vishneva Festival, and The Hague, Netherlands for The Holland Dance Festival. The season culminated with performances at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts in Beverly Hills.

BODYTRAFFIC’s extensive outreach and education program touches lives at home in Los Angeles and throughout the world. The company’s artistic directors and dancers provide training opportunities for pre-professional and professional dancers, as well as, customized dance experiences for people of all walks of life, with an emphasis on sharing with underserved populations.

In 2015, BODYTRAFFIC was selected by the Obama Administration to be cultural ambassadors of the United States to Israel and Jordan via DanceMotion USASM, a dynamic cultural diplomacy program that supports United States foreign policy goals by engaging international audiences through educational opportunities, cultural exchange, and performance. Produced by BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music), DanceMotion USASM is a program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the US Department of State. BODYTRAFFIC has also served as cultural ambassadors of the United States in South Korea (2016), in Algeria (2017-2018), and in Indonesia (2018).

BODYTRAFFIC has received generous support from the New England Foundation for the Arts, Princess Grace Foundation, The Joyce Theater Foundation, The Sydney D. Holland Foundation, Mortimer & Mimi Levitt Foundation, The Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles, The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation, Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, American Jewish University, Loyola Marymount University, and The Agency.

www.BODYTRAFFIC.com

Artistic Directors

LILLIAN BARBEITO is Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director of BODYTRAFFIC. She is a native of Santa Fe, New Mexico, where she trained under Nancy Onizuka, Gloria De Santos Silver, and Gisela Genschow at The Santa Fe Dance Foundation and worked with The Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Southwest Ballet and the Santa Fe Opera. She received a BFA from The Juilliard School where she studied on a 4 year, full-tuition scholarship awarded by Tomorrow's Leaders of America. As a dancer, Lillian had an extensive performance career that took her to Europe, New York, and then finally to Los Angeles, where she founded BODYTRAFFIC with Tina Berkett. Lillian is one of 32 teachers in the world who is certified to teach Anouk van Dijk's groundbreaking Countertechnique. She has taught internationally for organizations such as CalArts, Idyllwild Arts Academy, L'Ecole de Danse de Quebec, Loyola Marymount University, Northwest Dance Project, San Francisco Conservatory of Dance, Southland Ballet Academy, The Wooden Floor, UCLA's Department of World Arts and Cultures and Westside Academy of Dance. She has choreographed over 50 works for high schools, universities, competitions, regional ballet companies and professional modern dance companies throughout the US and Canada. Lillian is deeply grateful to her family for their love and support.

TINA FINKELMAN BERKETT grew up in New York City. Under the tutelage of Michele Cuccaro Cain, she trained and learned to love dance. Tina attended Barnard College, Columbia University and graduated summa cum laude with degrees in math and economics. Upon graduation she joined Aszure Barton & Artists and performed with the company throughout the United States, including at Jacob's Pillow and Spoleto festivals. Tina became Aszure Barton's assistant and taught alongside Barton both in the US and abroad. She had the incredible honor of being a founding member of Mikhail Baryshnikov's Hell's Kitchen Dance, where she also served as the company's dancer liaison. In 2007, she moved to Los Angeles and founded BODYTRAFFIC with Lillian Barbeito. Tina often says BODYTRAFFIC is the dream come true, that she never knew she had. She is so thankful for the past decade and feels so in debt to all who have played a part in this incredible journey. In particular, Tina must thank her family and her son Jack for being her greatest inspirations and supports.