



ABARUKAS

Yoshito Sakuraba
Artistic Director/Choreographer

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“Company Loaded with Talent”

- Oberon's Grove

“Breathtaking”

- Dance Enthusiast

“A True Work of Art”

- Juliane Pettorossi BWW



Photo by Anton Martynov

Yoshito Sakuraba

Artistic Director/Choreographer of Abarukas



He departed from Japan to New York at the age of 19 and started dancing a year later. He received B.A. in Dance as a scholarship student from Manhattanville

College. Then, he graduated from the Martha Graham School. He has shown his works for Jacob's Pillow Inside/Out Series, Reverbdance Festival, APAP at Peridance, Pushing Progress Showcase Series, The Dance Gallery Festival, Wave Rising Series, NYC10 Finale, Here Arts Summer Sublet Series, etc. He's also choreographed for plays and short films.

I am pleased to welcome you to my dance company Abarukas where our imagination comes alive through the eyes of the audience, through the motions of the dancers.

I hope that the enclosed materials will introduce you to an idea of the world we're inventing.

I look forward to sharing the world with you. Thank you very much.

Artistic Director -Yoshito Sakuraba-



Company Profile

Abarukas is a New York-based contemporary dance company founded by Yoshito Sakuraba. The company reestablished in 2012 with the dancers hail from across the United States, Chile, Spain, Taiwan, and China, with credits including Pilobolus, Australian Dance Theater and Cirque du Soleil.

The company had a sold-out successful 1st company season at Manhattan Movement and Arts Center in Aug 2013 with the full-length evening piece 'Lullaby to Mr. Adam,' which begins with a set of tableaux and serves to introduce the main character in a portrait of visceral despair. Mr. Sakuraba's choreography layers precise detail, intricate patterns, and emotionally evocative sound scores to create theatrical contemporary dance. He carefully builds mise en scène, which is fraught with tension and anxiety as every moment of the piece alternately, passes at odds with the sense of paranoia and peaked intrigue.

BWW quotes, "a true work of art...extreme creativity, fine detail, and high level dancing...Mr. Sakuraba's brilliant mind for choreography." Abarukas displays bold athleticism and movement aesthetic peppered with striking subtlety, and they offer a plentiful amount of storytelling with surprising twists.

Dancers

Adan Aguilar Jimenez The native of Reus Spain has danced in Barcelona with LaCompanyia, Zaragoza, Rosa Moreno, and M.A. Berna Company, as well as in musical theater productions of Fame, Spamalot, Saturday Night Fever, and Chicago. He appeared with Cirque Du Soleil in Zaragoza and was a choreographer and artistic director of the World Series of Freestyle, Espc Universo, N.Sansa and Filamax.

Caitlin Rose Cantrell graduated from UArts in Philadelphia, where she worked with choreographers Brian Sanders, Scott Jovovich and Anastasia Babeyva. The Baltimore native was a member of Michael Susten's Xhale Dance Company, and has also appeared in the lead role with "The Doors Project," a Brian Hissong work about Jim Morrison.

Erin Dillon is a teacher, and choreographer, currently appearing with Gehring Dance Theater, DOTA Dance Theater. She graduated cum laude from The Hartt School at the University of Hartford with a BFA in Ballet Pedagogy, and while there she performed in works by Limon, Balanchine, Tudor, and Martha Graham, among others. She has attended numerous summer intensives in the US and Amsterdam including Northwest Dance Project.

Guang-Lei Hui trained at the Russian National Ballet Academy and received second prize in the Russian International Dance Competition. Returning to China he danced with Guangdong Modern Dance Company, and served as assistant director of the Guangzhou Ballet Company. Guang-Lei moved to the U.S. after receiving an invitation to the American Dance Festival's Residency Program. He currently dances and tours with Shen Wei.

Jane Cracovaner graduated summa cum laude from the Hartt School at the University of Hartford with a BFA in dance performance under Stephen Pier. While there she had the opportunity to perform works by contemporary choreographers Gregory Dolbashian and Loni Landon, among others. She is currently appearing with CEMA Dance.



Photo by Anton Martynov

Kay Collymore recently joined Abarukas in December 2013 the same year she graduated from Rutgers University. She has worked with Stephen Petronio Company as an apprentice. Currently she works with Brian Brooks Moving Company as an understudy and also works with Houying Dance Theater in Beijing, China.

Luke Bermingham graduated magna cum laude from the Hartt School at the University of Hartford under the direction of Stephen Pier. While in school he had the opportunity to perform classic works created by Jose Limon, Martha Graham, Anthony Tudor, and Marius Petipa. He has also performed works by contemporary choreographers Gregory Dolbashian, Emery Lechrone, Pascal Rioult, Yin Yue, and Antonio Brown.

Oscar Santana was a dancer at the National Dance Company of Ecuador. He studied at the Ballet School of Teatro Municipal de Santiago in Chile. He appeared as a guest dancer for the Ballet de Santiago and the National Ballet of Ecuador. He featured workshops & festivals in China, France, Portugal, Chile, Venezuela, Mexico and Spain. He creates his own movement style called FOUR FEET, which is taught regularly in NYC.

Rebecca Quintrell received her B.F.A. from The Ohio State University cum laude with Distinction in Dance. Her interests focused on performance, dance dynamics, Labanotation, and body therapies including Yoga, Pilates, and personal training. She has had the pleasure of working with choreographers Bebe Miller, Ming Yang, Meghan Durham, and she is a rehearsal director of Dante Brown/Warehouse Dance.

Sean Nederlof graduated from University California Santa Barbara with a B.F.A. in Dance, Sean has had the privilege of studying under Christopher Pilafian, Nancy Colahan, and Alice Condedina. He participated in an outreach program to introduce dancing and performed various works while touring in Italy. He currently dances with H.T. Chen and Dancers.

Shawn A. Rawls studied martial arts and street dance in his native Ohio, and attended Cleveland School of the Arts. He danced with the Y.A.R.D. (Youth At Risk Dancing) and U.D.C. (Urban Dance Collective), where he studied Paul Taylor and Pilobolus techniques. His dancing jobs have taken him to Chicago to appear with Chicago Dance Crash and Lyric Opera, and to Houston to dance with Ad Deum and Son Kiss'd Hip Hop Company. He has toured with Pilobolus.

Tsai-Hsi Hung graduated from the Taipei National University of the Arts in 2009, and travelled to Australia as an exchange student for the Dept. of Dance at Queensland Technology U. She has worked with the Australian Dance Theater, Tad Dance Company, and Chunky Move Dance Company.



Photo by Mickey Hoelsher

touring program available for 2014-2015



The Master

Choreography: Yoshito Sakuraba

Length: 24min

Music: Pan Sonic, Senking, Aphex Twin, etc

Costumes: Yoshito Sakuraba

Lighting: N/A

Premier: July 10, 2014 at Jacob's Pillow In/Out Series

Dancers: 9



Lullaby to Mr. Adam

Choreography: Yoshito Sakuraba

Length: 60min (10min, 30min, 45min versions available)

Music: Murcof, Olafur Arnalds, Godspeed You! Black Emperor, etc

Costumes: Lui Konno

Lighting: David Ojala

Premier: August 7, 2013 at Manhattan Movement and Arts Center, NYC

Dancers: 8

"Knock me out"

Karen Shapiro, Wet Paint, Feb 2014

"Compelling"

Darrell Wood, NYC Dance Stuff, Feb 2014

"Breathtaking"

Theo Boguszewski, Dance Enthusiast, Nov 2013

"An enigmatic and powerfully danced piece"

Nellie Rainwater, Fit Engine, Nov 2013

"I witnessed a true work of art...Mr. Sakuraba's brilliant mind for choreography has captivated me... extreme creativity, fine detail, and high level dancing"

Juliane Pettorossi, Broadway Dance World, Aug 2013

"Company loaded with talent..., well-crafted and very finely executed"

Philip Gardner, Oberon's Grove, Aug 2013

"I was enthralled-held captive... I MUST give this performance my highest accolades"

Juan Michael Porter, Dance Enthusiast, Aug 2013

"The haunting two hour piece"

Indiadora Nicholson, Manhattanville College News, Aug 2013

"Dazzling... intense and compelling"

Nellie Rainwater, Fit Engine, Aug 2013



Photo by Michey Hoelscher

Performance History

- The Dance Gallery Festival, Huntsville TX and NYC, Oct 2014
- Jacob's Pillow Inside/Out Series, Becket MA, July 2014
- Pushing Progress Showcase Series, NYC, May 2014
- LaMama Dance Festival, NYC, May 2014
- APAP Showcase at Peridance, NYC, Jan 2014
- NYC10 Dance Initiative Finale Show, NYC, Nov 2013
- Wave Rising Series, NYC, Oct 2013
- Abarukas Company Season, NYC, Aug 2013
- Moving Beauty Series, NYC, Apr 2013
- APAP Reverb Dance Festival, Jan 2013

