

Chapman University

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Dance Programs

Department of Dance

9-9-2023

Masters at Chapman

Julianne O'Brien

Ido Tadmor

Dwight Roden

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MASTERS AT CHAPMAN

Featuring
**Doug Varone, Jackie Sleight,
Dwight Rhoden, Ido Tadmor,
Elijah Richardson
and Tawny Andersson**

Directed by Julianne O'Brien, Ido Tadmor
and Dwight Rhoden

September 9, 2023



CHAPMAN
UNIVERSITY

**College of
Performing Arts**
Department of Dance

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



Dear Friends:

Without you, our audience, the performance you are about to enjoy would be incomplete. On behalf of our students, faculty, and staff, thank you for supporting Chapman University's Department of Dance through your attendance at today's performance.

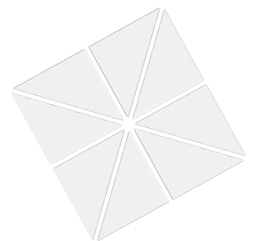
Our students are at the core of everything we do in the College of Performing Arts (CoPA), and we are passionately dedicated to providing them the best possible education. Our mission is to help them master their craft and prepare for today's performing arts professions by providing access to all the tools necessary to succeed.

Training artists and transforming lives: that's our focus each and every day. Our students have exceptional opportunities to learn; whether from master artists and residencies or experience performing in venues ranging from intimate studios to state-of-the-art facilities, thanks to the extended support of patrons like you. The end result is a strong record of alumni who have enjoyed rich and diverse careers in the performing arts around the world.

Please enjoy this performance and come back for another CoPA event soon! To view our full season of events, visit Chapman.edu/tickets-copa.

Giulio Ongaro, Ph.D.

Dean and Professor
Berteau Family Chair in Music
College of Performing Arts
Chapman University



**CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF DANCE PRESENTS**

MASTERS AT CHAPMAN

Featuring
**Doug Varone, Jackie Sleight,
Dwight Rhoden, Ido Tadmor,
Elijah Richardson
and Tawny Andersson**

Directed by Julianne O'Brien, Ido Tadmor
and Dwight Rhoden

September 9, 2023
7:30 p.m.

WALTMAR THEATRE

PROGRAM

FAST RIDE

Choreographer

Doug Varone

Dancers

Celia Rammel

Carys Nelson

Elle Holland

Grace Gontarek

Kaia Goddard

Macy Deppe

Mary Crum

Remington Christensen

Ryann Christensen

Vivian Unkart

Zach Buri

Music

Original music by David Van Tiegham

PROGRAM

WE'RE FUNKED

Choreographer	Tawny Andersson
Dancers	Bianca Capanna Braylan Enscoe Charlotte Foldes Cole Neville Grace Beach Kasey Latten Kate Constantini Marissa Rivera-Gebeau
Music	<i>And So On</i> by Spring Gang <i>Look Into My Eyes</i> by Greylyn Licensed from Epidemic Sound

HA-E 4 2

Choreographer	Ido Tadmor
Dancers	Elijah Richardson Ido Tadmor
Music	<i>On the Nature of Daylight</i> by Max Richter

PROGRAM

CLIPS

Choreographer Dwight Rhoden

Dancers Ande Godwin
Emerson Donohoe
Erin Wienke
Gianna Pascente
Julia Gaspari
Kam Funk
Mandy Fang
Mary Campbell
Matilda Reinhardt
Rosemarie Huntley

Music *Percussion Bed 9 + 10* by Enrico Cacace
I Am the Greatest by Leonard Ivan Beth

INTERMISSION

PROGRAM

IN PURSUIT OF

Choreographer Elijah Richardson in collaboration with the dancers

Dancers Chloe Libert
 Ethan Tram
 Isabella Piechota
 Kacie Collins
 Leeor Oshri
 Madison Juricic
 Nanea Yu
 Sarah Hart
 Maya Palmer

Music *Indian Bingo* and *The Seasoned Veteran*,
 composed and arranged by Albert Alva, with
 the University Jazz Ensemble:
 Sean Hoss, saxophone
 Caiden Craig, guitar
 Connor Low, bass
 Nathan Acupan, drums/percussion

NOCTURNE

Commissioned by Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival and premiered August 22, 2017.

Choreographer Doug Varone

Dancer Doug Varone

Music Nocturne in E minor by Frederic Chopin, Janusz
 Olenjniczak, pianist; licensed from SONY Classic

PROGRAM

KANSAS

Choreographer Jackie Sleight

Dancers Abbey Werner
Ava Vermillion
Bel Housner
Dallya Hashem
Grace Luiso
Lainey Myers
Lily Woodward
Riley Canterbury
Jaeden Gitsas

Music *Wait a Little While* by Kenny Loggins; licensed from Milk Money Music

PROGRAM

REMIX

Choreographers Julianne O'Brien, Dwight Rhoden, Ido Tadmor
and the audience

Dancers Elle Holland
Ava Vermillion
Bel Housner
Maya Palmer
Remington Christiansen
Ryann Christiansen
Marissa Rivera-Gebeau
Ande Godwin
Leeor Oshri
Kasey Latten
Macy Deppe

Q & A with Guests

CREATIVE & PRODUCTION TEAM

Co-Directors.....**Julianne O'Brien**
Ido Tadmor
Dwight Rhoden

Lighting Designer.....**Camille Roberts**

Projections Designer.....**Dani Mullan**

Stage Manager.....**Dani Mullan**

Assistant Stage Manager.....**Tess Drosman**

Light Board Operator.....**Lauren Derheim**

Sound Board Operator.....**Julia Deane**

Directors' Assistants.....**Audry Gonzales-Rutt**
Dimitri Goverten-Donaldson

Publicity.....**Tess Drosman**

Deck Crew.....**Tess Drosman**

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

Professor **JULIANNE O'BRIEN** (*Co-Director*) is chair of the Department of Dance at Chapman University and has a background in the field of dance as a performer, choreographer, academic leader and dance educator. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from Connecticut College, a Master of Fine Arts from The Ohio State University and is certified yoga instructor and Laban/Bartenieff Movement Analyst. Prior to joining Chapman, she served as the dean of the School of Dance at Dean College, MA, and as program director and professor at Eastern Michigan University. She teaches modern techniques, pedagogy, dance history, career seminars, yoga, Bartenieff Fundamentals, Laban movement analysis, improvisation and choreography. Julianne performed as a founding member and soloist for 14 years with the Peter Sparling Dance Company. While with Sparling, who was a member of both the Limon Company and the Graham Company, she had the opportunity to train deeply in two foundational modern techniques. She also had the privilege of performing with William (Bill) Evans, and in repertory by Isadora Duncan set by Lori Bellilove. She has choreographed more than 50 works that have been seen in venues across the U.S. and in El Salvador, received numerous grants and awards for choreography, including funding from the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador, and was selected for the 2016 American College Regional Dance Festival.

Chapman University Presidential Fellow in Dance **IDO TADMOR** (*Co-Director*) is an internationally acclaimed dancer-choreographer who has performed with legendary companies Bat Dor, Bat Sheva, Lar Luvovitch and Complexions. Ido is the 2011 winner of the highly respected Landau Prize in Israel for life achievement, and has represented the state of Israel around the world as the country's Ambassador of Dance for more than three decades, touring to Cyprus, Paris, Germany, Croatia, Brazil, California, Hong Kong, Netherlands, Poland, Korea, Angola, Poland,

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

Senegal and Lithuania. He was named one of the top-ten dancers in modern dance by the Vienna Committee and has worked with the National State Ballet of Turkey, the Bolshoi, the Israeli Ballet, the Polish National Ballet, The Dance Academy in Rome and Artemis in Amsterdam, among many others.

Professor **DWIGHT RHODEN** (*Co-Director*) is artistic dance faculty at Chapman University and the founding artistic director/resident choreographer of Complexions Contemporary Ballet Company, a leading dance company known for its multicultural, cutting-edge, and courageous programming. His work has been presented on five continents in over 20 countries, appearing in prestigious theatres across the globe, including The Joyce Theatre, Mariinsky Theatre, BAM and Cairo Opera House, to name a few. Rhoden was a principal dancer with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and has earned distinction from *The New York Times* as “one of the most sought-out choreographers of the day.” Mr. Rhoden has also directed and choreographed for TV, film, theater and live performances including *So You Think You Can Dance*, E! Entertainment’s “Tribute to Style,” Cirque du Soleil’s “Zumanity” and the feature film *One Last Dance*. He has collaborated with many high-profile artists including Prince, Lenny Kravitz, Kelly Clarkson, ELEW, David Rozenblatt, Nicholas Payton, The Drifters, Paul Simon, Billy Strayhorn, Nina Simone, Marvin Gaye, U2, The Turtle Creek Chorus and Patrick Swayze. Rhoden was commissioned to create a work for the centennial celebration of renowned collage artist Romare Bearden. Rhoden is a beneficiary recipient of various honors and awards including the New York Foundation for the Arts Award, The Choo San Goh Award for Choreography and The Ailey School’s Apex Award in recognition of his extensive contributions to the field of dance. www.complexionsdance.org/dwight-rhoden

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

CAMILLE ROBERTS (*Lighting Designer*) is a Los Angeles- and Orange County-based lighting designer. While she specializes in lighting for dance and theatre, she has experience in many facets of live production. She has recently designed the lighting for “iLuminate Las Vegas” at the STRAT Casino and Hotel. Ms. Roberts has worked on a multitude of productions, including events such as EDCLV with Insomniac Events, the Palm Desert Dance Festival at the McCallum Theater, Anne Frank at the Museum of Tolerance and many others. Camille graduated from Chapman University in 2021 with a BA in Theatre Technology, a BA in Economics and a minor in the Honors Program. During her time at Chapman, she worked on over 40 productions, and gained experience in programming, electrician work, video editing, sound production, carpentry and many other facets of live entertainment.

DANI MULLAN (*Projections Designer & Stage Manager*) is a contemporary/commercial artist and choreographer based in Los Angeles, CA. She earned her BFA in Dance Performance and BA in Educational Studies from Chapman University in Orange, CA. Her emphases were in mental health awareness, non-profit work, dance education and cinematic dance. She has worked with choreographers/artists such as Azuki Umeda, Will Johnston, Mo Goodfellow, Julianne O’Brien, Michael Getman, etc. She has also worked within the dance collective, Au.thenticity Dance Co, founded by Azuki Umeda, on multiple projects. She studied under the Launch Program in Brea, CA, as well, with the mentorship of Krista Miller. Her education has consisted of techniques of various genres, dance performances on film, concept creation, choreography, and more. Choreographically, she has created competition pieces as well as concert works presented at Chapman University. These works were presented on stages such as the Musco

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

Center for The Arts and Waltmar Theatre and include pieces such as "Otherworldly" and "Restriction." She has performed at events such as, Palm Desert Choreography Festival, Mashup's IWD Festival, Reconstruct Exhibition, IAF Choreographer's Exhibit and more. Dani looks forward to continuing story-telling through performance, choreography and education. She values artistic expression as well as cultivating a strong and connected community with emphases on mental health awareness and healing through dance.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Award-winning choreographer and director **DOUG VARONE** works in dance, theater, opera, film, and fashion. He is a passionate educator and articulate advocate for dance. By any measure, his work is extraordinary for its emotional range, kinetic breadth and the many arenas in which he works. His New York City-based company, Doug Varone and Dancers, has been commissioned and presented to critical acclaim by leading international venues for over three decades. Since its founding in 1986, Doug Varone and Dancers has commanded attention for its expansive vision, versatility, and technical prowess. On tour, the company has performed in more than 125 cities in 45 states across the U.S. and in Europe, Asia, Canada, and South America. Stages include The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), London's Queen Elizabeth Hall, Moscow's Stanislavsky Theater, Buenos Aires' Teatro San Martin, the Venice Biennale, and at Jacob's Pillow, American Dance Festival and Bates Dance Festival. Varone, his dancers, and designers have been honored with 11 New York Dance and Performance ("Bessie") Awards. In the concert dance world, Varone has created a body of works globally. Commissions include the Paul Taylor's American Modern Dance Company, The Limón Company, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Rambert Dance Company (London), Martha Graham Dance Company, Dancemakers (Canada), Batsheva Dance Company (Israel), Bern Ballet (Switzerland) and An Creative (Japan), among others. In addition, his dances have been staged on more than 75 college and university programs around the country. In opera, Doug Varone is in demand as both a director and choreographer. Among his four productions at The Metropolitan Opera are *Salome* with its "Dance of the Seven Veils," the world premiere of Tobias Picker's *An American Tragedy*, Stravinsky's *Le*

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Sacre du Printemps, designed by David Hockney, and Hector Berloiz's *Les Troyens*. He has staged multiple premieres and new productions for Minnesota Opera, Opera Colorado, Washington Opera, New York City Opera, and Boston Lyric Opera, among others. His numerous theater credits include choreography for Broadway, Off-Broadway and regional theaters across the country. His choreography for the musical *Murder Ballad* at Manhattan Theater Club earned him a Lortel Award nomination. Recent projects include directing and choreographing MASTERVOICES production of *Dido and Aeneas* at NY's City Center, starring Tony Award-winners Kelli O'Hara and Victoria Clark, and staging Julia Wolfe's Pulitzer Prize winning oratorio *Anthracite Fields* for the Westminster Choir and the Bang on a Can All-Stars. Varone received his BFA from Purchase College where he was awarded the President's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2007. Numerous honors and awards include a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, an Obie Award (Lincoln Center's *Orpheus and Euridice*), the Jerome Robbins Fellowship at the Bogliasco Institute in Italy, two individual Bessie Awards, a Doris Duke Artist Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Dance Guild.

JACKIE SLEIGHT is fearless. Her dedication to education in the dance industry has been endless. *Dance Magazine* quoted Jackie as being "the teachers' teacher," and she has received numerous awards honoring her commitment to the industry. She spent years choreographing and directing film, television, commercials, and live performances, all while training some of the biggest names in the industry. She is know for her dance convention, LA DanceMagic, which is 25 years strong, and recently, Jackie made a commitment to help maintain the legacy of jazz dance by establishing the Los Angeles Jazz Company.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

ELIJAH RICHARDSON (San Jose, CA) is a Filipino-American dancer, choreographer and educator based in Chicago. He began dancing at age 12 while also training in musical theatre and figure skating. He went on to earn his BFA in Dance Performance from Chapman University in 2018. Supplemental intensives include San Francisco Conservatory of Dance, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and Zion Dance Project. Upon graduation, Elijah joined DanceWorks Chicago for three seasons, performing and teaching nationally and internationally. Elijah has gone on to appear as a guest artist with Anaheim Ballet, The Cambrians and Collage Dance Collective. He has originated featured roles in works by Charissa Lee Barton, Ron De Jesus, Joshua Manculich, Stephanie Martinez, Sean Greene and Ido Tadmor. Additional repertory includes works by Dwight Rhoden, Ohad Naharin, Bobbi Jene Smith, Kia Smith, Alex Ketley and Demis Volpi. Elijah's choreography has been presented at Loyola University Chicago, Iowa International ScreenDance Festival, Second City Dance Ministry and four times at Mobile Dance Film Festival. He frequently teaches throughout the Chicagoland area and occasionally serves as a national competition adjudicator. Newly named "25 to Watch for 2023" by *Dance Magazine*, Elijah is currently in his third season with South Chicago Dance Theatre. elijahrichardson.com

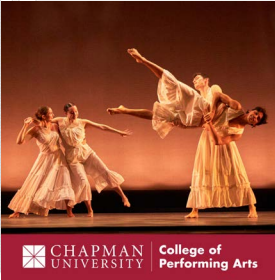
TAWNY ANDERSSON received her BA in Dance and BA Public Relations and Advertising from Chapman University. After graduating, Tawny signed with MSA dance agency and has been furthering her career in the commercial dance industry. Some of her work experience includes Ricky Martin's Vegas Residency "All In" (under direction of award-winning producer Jamie King), the Latin AMA's (choreographed and produced by Liz Imperio), the Latin Billboard Awards, Premois de la Radio, Redken Symposium and the Harley Davidson Industrial.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

She has also been featured in music videos for artists/bands such as Jennifer Lopez, Meghan Trainor, Midland and Kerria. Other artists Tawny has had the opportunity to perform live with include the rock star David Lee Roth, Thalia, Pitbull, Daddy Yankee, Yandel, Lil John and Paulina Rubio, Farruko, Jesse and Joy, Wisin and Fifth Harmony.

Professor **ALBERT ALVA** is director of the Chapman University jazz ensembles, including the Chapman Big Band and Jazz Combo. After graduating from Chaffey College, Mr. Alva attended and taught at the Los Angeles Jazz Workshop. After several years of cruise ship show bands, he became the conductor/arranger for the Pasadena Jazz Institute. He has toured with Ben Vereen, Leslie Uggams, Jerry Lewis, Michael Feinstein and Ken Peplowski. He has also played in various bands backing such artists as Mel Torme, Joe Williams, Diane Schuur, Barbara Morrison and The Captain & Tennile. Recording credits include Toni Tennile, Matt Catingub, Clark Terry, Louie Bellson and Rosemary Clooney's last studio recording, *Sentimental Journey*, for Concord Records. It was nominated for a GRAMMY Award. Albert is currently co-director of the Jazz Angels youth bands in the Long Beach, CA. Some of his proudest moments include working on music with Benny Carter, and a long association as librarian, copyist, arranger and saxophonist for jazz drummer, Louie Bellson.

COMING UP NEXT...



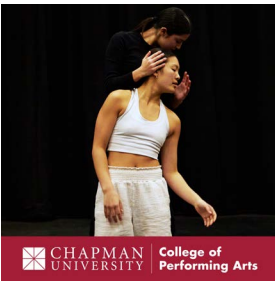
December 1 & 2, 2023

Fall Faculty Dance Concert

Directed by Jennifer Backhaus and Alicia Guy

An evening of choreography by faculty Liz Maxwell, Alicia Guy, Ido Tadmor, Dwight Rhoden, Zach Groenewold and guest artist Megan Doheny.

7:30 p.m., Musco Center for the Arts



February 2 & 3, 2024

Works in Progress

Three informal dance concerts of work by sophomore choreographers.

7:30 p.m. Feb 2 & 3 | 2 p.m. Feb 3

Sandi Simon Center for Dance



March 14 & 15, 2024

Concert *Intime*

An evening of new choreography by junior dance majors.

Waltmar Theatre | 7:30 p.m.



May 3 & 4, 2024

Spring Dance Concert

A concert of new choreography by senior dance majors.

Musco Center for the Arts | 7:30 p.m.

Chapman.edu/tickets-copa



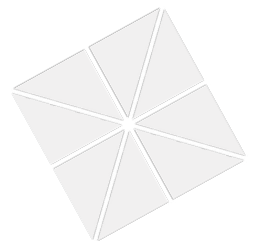
SUPPORT THE STARS OF TOMORROW

One of the best ways to help support CoPA students is to give to the **Fund for Excellence**. This invaluable program gives students access to a variety of high-caliber resources so they can create and perform their best work.

Every dollar donated to the Fund has an immediate impact on the performing arts student experience. Donations are used exclusively to help CoPA students through enhancement of student productions, recruiting professional artists for master classes and supporting touring student ensembles, to name a few. For example, the Fund allowed us to bring Complexions Contemporary Ballet to campus for a week-long intensive with our dance students, giving them a valuable opportunity to train with working professionals from an award-winning, internationally renowned company.

If you're already a contributor to our Fund for Excellence, THANK YOU! And if you haven't yet joined hands with others who support the performing arts at Chapman University, please, consider making a gift today. Any amount helps!

To learn more about how you can make a direct impact on our students' education, contact Bobby Reade at reade@chapman.edu.



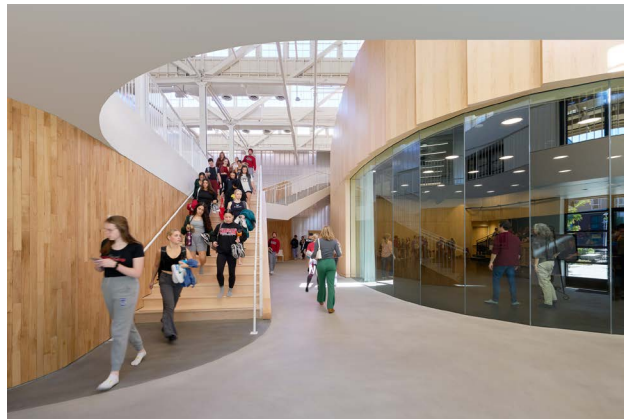
ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF DANCE

Consistently ranked “**Best College Dance Program**” by DanceUS.org, Chapman University’s Department of Dance is the artistic home of roughly 146 dance majors each year, supported by a team of expert dance faculty and renowned artists **Dwight Rhoden** and **Ido Tadmor**.

Our highly competitive program offers two degrees: the broad-based BA in Dance and the pre-professional BFA in Dance Performance. We also offer a Minor in Dance.

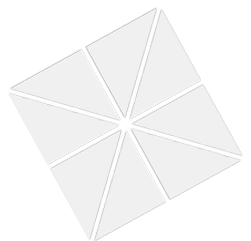
Dance students come to Chapman because they know they’ll receive diverse, rigorous training in award-winning spaces like the Sandi Simon Center for Dance and Musco Center for the Arts.

This training includes our core courses as well as masterclasses and residencies with artists and companies like **Pilobolus**, **Mark Morris Dance Group**, **Chloe Arnold**, **Doug Varone**, **Camille A. Brown & Dancers**, **Fatima Robinson**, **MOMIX**, **Hubbard Street**, **Diavalo**, and many more.



Sound exciting? [We invite you to tour the department](#) and the Chapman campus, either in person or virtually. We think you’ll understand why there’s so much excitement about Dance @ Chapman!

Chapman.edu/dance | dance@chapman.edu





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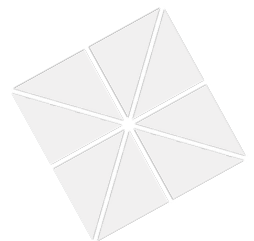
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Wilson Mendieta, Julianne O'Brien, Dwight Rhoden, Ido Tadmor**

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Manuel Macias, Charles Maple, Kimberly Olmos, Lawrence Rosenberg, Arushi Singh, Steven Sofia, Mariah
Spears, Tomas Tamayo, Jessica Torres, Azuki Umeda, Susanna Vaughan, Amanda Kay White**

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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Orlando Montes

ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Dayne Donnell

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Gavin Carsey

MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Janelle Asti

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Brianna Catlin, Kate Galleran, Daniel Macias,
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Jessica Shelton, Ethan Stoneham, Chase
Thayer, Alexander Verdi, Lauren Wiedman**

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Elise Hong, Carina Leland, Elsie Mader,
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Ruthe Brunner

COSTUME STUDIO ASSISTANT MANAGER

Christine Wille

LEAD COSTUME STUDIO TECHNICIAN

Leslie Acosta

COSTUME TECHNICIANS

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Brianna Eckhaus, Sara Egger,
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Korinne Melvin, Kendall Montunnas,
Ella Nelson, Judith Nowland,
Peggy Oquist, Barbara Phillips,
Katie Palino,**

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Ava Arteaga, Kylie Pickering