

# MEET THE CHOREOGRAPHERS



**RYAN BAILEY**



**JAMIE CHEN**



**MADELINE MAXINE  
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WALDERS**

**41ST ANNUAL  
CHOREOGRAPHER'S  
SHOWCASE**



# RYAN BAILEY

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**Parks &  
Recreation**  
M-N C P P C



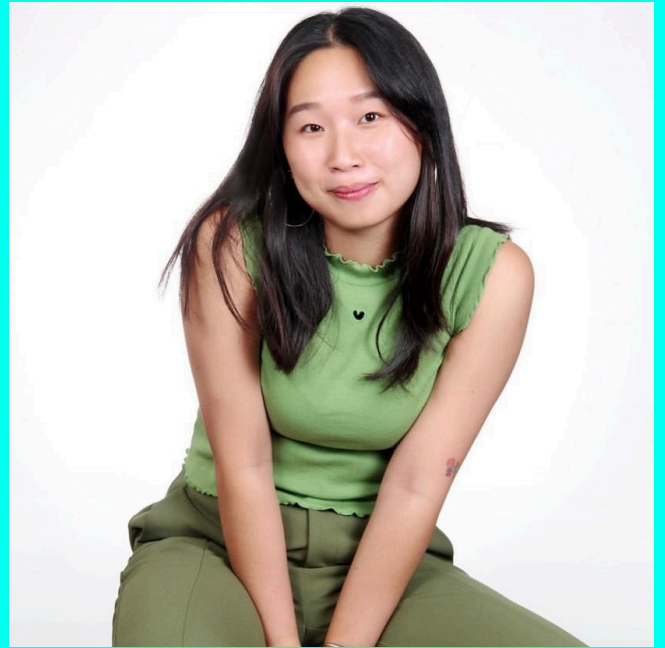
**Ryan Bailey** is a dancer and choreographer based in the DMV & NYC. Upon graduating with a BA in dance from UMBC in 2016, Ryan was granted outstanding senior in choreography and dance after he was awarded an American College Dance Association Gala Finalist. He then furthered his education by attending training programs with dance companies in Chicago, NYC, LA, Portland, and Tel Aviv. In 2017, Ryan premiered his company Pacing Bodies first evening length show funded by Earl and Darielle Linehan which premiered at UMBC. Ryan was featured on national television on season 14 of So You Think You Can Dance that same year. Ryan has danced professionally for MADBOOTS DANCE company on various projects and performances at Gibney Dance, New York Live Arts, and at the Joyce Theater in NYC. He has also had the opportunity to dance for Project 44 Dance Company, performing at the Jack Crystal Theater in NYC. Ryan has performed with Priore Dance directed by Robert Priore based in D.C. Ryan was also a background dancer for the music video “Moons” by Micah McLaurin. Currently, Ryan teaches and choreographs dance at various studios, conservatories, and universities. Recently Ryan set work for Peabody Dance Conservatory and Howard County Dance Company. In 2024, Ryan danced in a second evening length work for Haus of Pvmnt Dance Company in NYC at Abrons Art Center. Choreographically he presented a work in progress evening length piece for Baltimore Dance Project and ASCEND summer intensive at UMBC this past year.

# JAMIE CHEN

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**Jamie Chen**, a thinking artist raised in Taiwan, is currently pursuing a Dance MFA degree at the University of Maryland College Park. She loves comedy, crochet, colors, textures, philosophy, thrifting, and deeply cares about her research in choreography as a way to investigate her experience living in her parents' American dream. She sees dance as a way to live and experience life and through dance she gets to reflect upon the world that she sees.

# MADELINEMAXINE GORMAN

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**Madeline Maxine Gorman** is talkative and loud. That's partly due to being hard of hearing, but primarily because she embraces queer, disabled, and neurodivergent identity.

Featured in Dance Magazine's 25 to Watch, Max is the founder and Artistic Director of GRIDLOCK Dance in Washington, DC. Her choreography is "intellectually probing, politically minded, and personally revelatory" (Dance Magazine), "boldly explores technology's downsides" (Washington City Paper), and provides "a searing comment on how pervasive social media and mobile devices affect human behavior" (Arts ATL).

Gracing stages nationwide, Max's recent engagements include the Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center's Artist-in-Residence (MD), the Rutgers University's ChoreoLab (NJ), 40th Annual Choreographer's Showcase (MD), the Koresh Dance Showcase (PA), the SoloDuo Dance Festival at Dixon Place (NY), Dance Canvas at Georgia Tech (GA), the Atlas Arts Lab Fellowship (DC), and Dance Place's inaugural Dance and Disability Residency (DC). She graduated as commencement speaker from Towson University with degrees in dance and mass communication.



# ANGEL RAMIREZ

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**Angel Ramirez** is a dancer, artist and choreographer, from El Salvador, Central America and currently based in the D(M)V. Angel fluently speaks both English and Spanish. His dance physicality and movement are shaped by the prestigious CityDance Conservatory in Bethesda MD, where he had training by Lorraine Spieler, Stanislav Issaev, Robert Prior, Keith Thomas, and others. In May of 2023, he earned a diploma as a professional choreographer from the ICONS Choreographic Dance Institute at ATLAS in Washington, DC after premiering, “Renacimiento,” a one act contemporary ballet.

Angel has had the privilege of performing works from some of the most renowned dance companies, including Bruce Wood Dance, Koresh Dance, YY Dance, and Alex Neoral's Focus Cia de Dança Company. Additionally, Angel has performed works by choreographers Willy Tsao, Earl Mosley, Wang Yuanyuan, Micah Geyer, Robert J. Priore, Sarah J. Ewing, Bayardo Jr Martinez, Millie Parker, Therese Gahl, Gabriel Mata, Shu-Chen Cuff and more.

With a deep passion for dance and choreography, Angel has already made a name for himself in the local dance community, helping coach Latin dance to Blake High School, allowing them performance and competition opportunities. He has set pieces at the coveted Kennedy Center, Strathmore Arts Center, Atlas Performing Arts Center, Capital One Hall, Dance Place and has worked with several local dance studios in the DMV. After graduating from the ICONS choreographic institute, Angel continues to be inspired to create for local performing opportunities and is driven to inspire the next generation as well as many others.

# DR. JANAKI RANGARAJAN

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**Dr. Janaki Rangarajan** is an accomplished performer who has performed across many national and international platforms to critical acclaim. She is known for her precision in Nritya, outstanding flexibility and graceful and convincing Abhinaya, which reflects a rare depth. She is also an accomplished dance choreographer and teacher. A recipient of many awards, Janaki received the "Kala Rathna" award from Cleveland Thyagaraja Aradhana in 2013 and MetroDC Dance award in 2012. Janaki has performed in the USA, Canada, India, UK, Australia, Argentina, France, Germany, Sweden, Holland, Latvia, Egypt, Chile, Brazil, Peru, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Thailand, Malaysia, and South Africa. She trains scores of students in the US and around the world through her dance school, Nrityaniketan ([www.nrityaniketan.com](http://www.nrityaniketan.com)). For extensive information about Janaki, please visit <https://drjanakirangarajan.wixsite.com/dr-janaki-rangarajan>

# ERIC RIVERA

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A native of Puerto Rico, **Eric Rivera** earned his MFA in Choreography from SUNY Purchase College. During his performing career, he danced with Ballet Hispanico of New York for 13 seasons, where he helped create over 20 original works. He performed with Minnesota Ballet as a principal dancer, Ballet Theater of Pennsylvania, Ballet Teatro Municipal de San Juan P.R., Danza Jazz de San Juan, and West Side Story's European tour. He has appeared as a guest artist in companies such as Connecticut Ballet, Thomas Ortiz Dance, Ballet Concierto de Puerto Rico, Bradley Shelver Contemporary Dance Theater, Westchester Ballet, and Brooklyn Ballet. Eric had the pleasure of performing choreographies of Ann Reinking, Mark Morris, José Limon, Kenneth McMillan, Margot Sappington, Graciela Daniel, Kevin Wynn, Vicente Nebrada, Talley Beatty, and George Balanchine.

His works have been presented by Ballet Contemporáneo de Camagüey in Cuba, EDANCO Dance Festival in the Dominican Republic, Ciudad Interior in Mexico, Dance Iquail, Ashani Dance, Convergence Ballet, Owensboro Dance Company, CSU Fullerton, University of Mississippi, Western Kentucky University, University of Richmond, Orange County College, Purchase College, Goucher College, W&L University, Jacksonville University, Northwestern State University, Virginia Commonwealth University, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, L2 Dance Theater, New England Dance Theater, ACDA South, ACDA Baja Region, ACDFA Gala at Little Rock, AR, NY Summer Stage, and the show They Called it Rock. His television appearances include PBS' Setting the Stage, NBC's 20th Hispanic Heritage Awards, Hispanic Day Parade with Brenda Blackmon, Puerto Rican Day Parade with Ernie Anastos, and the documentary "Pedro Ruiz Home Coming," among others. Mr. Rivera was awarded Best Ballet Choreography 2019 and Best Choreographer of the Year 2021 by RVA Dance Awards. In his creative work and teaching, he continuously explores ways to share his Hispanic heritage.

# MALCOLM SHUTE

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**Malcolm Shute**, MFA, CMA, founded Human Landscape Dance ([hldance.org](http://hldance.org)) in 2006, and has since brought contact choreography around the world. Specializing in artist partnerships, Human Landscape Dance has given performances, held workshops, and shot video footage in Europe, Asia, and South America, as well as cities across the US and Canada. Noted for “...ingenious choreography and staging...” by the Washington Post, Shute’s dances are characterized by intimate portraits of people using touch to communicate, bodies molding to create a collage of images. Shute teaches in the Dance Department of Towson University.



# ANGELA SMITH

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Originally from the small Pacific Northwest town of Moscow, Idaho, **Angela Smith** (she/they) is a queer dance artist and current MFA Dance candidate at the University of Maryland. Her work crosses between dance and experimental theater, positing the stage as a canvas for queer visions and imaginations. A classically trained musician, Angela weaves narrative details into the melodic soundscapes that accompany her dances. She earned her BFA in dance at Brigham Young University where she discovered her love for modern dance and dance theater and met many influential mentors and collaborators. She has since shown her choreography throughout the US and internationally, including with Sarasota Contemporary Dance Company in Sarasota, Florida, Repertory Dance Theater in Salt Lake City, Utah, and at The World Dance Movement in Castellana Grotte, Italy.

# CONNOR VOSS

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**Connor Voss** has been called "elfin and placid, almost alien-like" (New Yorker), "a constructivist swan queen" (Financial Times) and "not unlike Andy Kaufman" (New York Times). Voss has danced in original work with Rebecca Patek, Athena Malloy, RoseAnne Spradlin, Kota Yamazaki, Heather Kravas, Juliana May, Mina Nishimura, Vanessa Anspaugh, Raja Feather Kelly, Neil Greenberg, Anna Azrieli, Miguel Gutierrez. Performance work with Greenberg and Anspaugh has been nominated for New York Dance and Performance "Bessie" Awards. He has created costumes for Nicole Mannarino, as well as Spradlin, Azrieli, and Gutierrez. His own work has been presented by CPR, Movement Research, Open Look Festival, Gibney Dance Center, Cathy Weis Studios, The Invisible Dog, The Brick, Abrons Arts Center and Dance Place. He has a private practice in DC teaching the Feldenkrais Method with weekly classes online and quarterly workshops with a dance focus. [www.vossfeldenkrais.com](http://www.vossfeldenkrais.com)

# ZOE CUSHMAN WALDERS

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**Zoe Cushman Walders** (she/her) is an MFA Dance candidate at the University of Maryland. Originally from Rochester, NY, she received her BA in Dance from SUNY Potsdam. She has performed works by Kendra Portier, Adriane Fang, Brit Falcon, Rebecca Steinberg, Mariah Maloney, Frazee Feet Dance, Create A Space NOW, and PUSH Physical Theater. Other choreography credits include Jumpsuit Suite at the Rochester Fringe Festival (2023), guest alumni choreographer at SUNY Potsdam's Faculty Dance Concert (2022), Wake Forest Dance Festival (2019, 2023), Doug Varone Devices Choreographic Intensive (2023), Frazee Feet Dance's SHIFT and In Process of Being (2020, 2021), and the Rochester Vision of Sound Festival (2020).