



COLORADO DANCES

Sunday, August 9, 2026
Vilar Performing Arts Center

*Generously Underwritten by Jane & Skip Netzorg,
additional support provided by Alexia & Jerry Jurschak.*

THE OPEN DOOR

Choreography by Lil Buck

Music: Original composition by the Mulherin brothers

Lighting Design by Anastazia Coney

MICHAEL BATTLE CAELI BLAKE TORI CARTER

ADRIAN DOMINGUEZ JASMINE FRANCISCO

COREY JAMEL GABRIELA MADURO

MAX NELSON-STEINHOFF LAMAR D. ROGERS

LAUREN SLAUGHTER

Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble

Cleo Parker Robinson Dance World Premiere January 2026

The title of this work is a nod to legacy and how Memphis Jookin became an open door into the Arts, combining all I now know with how the dancers approached learning a new way of movement, walking through that open door, allowing other cultures and dances to be a part of their DNA. - Lil Buck

PAUSE

S. RACHMANIOFF

Music by Sergei Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2

Choreography by Yoshihisa "Yoshi" Arai

COLORADO BALLET

1ST MOVEMENT

MARIO LABRADOR

KENNY ALLEN JOSHUA ALLENBACK CATO BERRY

LEOPOLD FOSTER TATE RYNER JUSTIN PIDGEON

2ND MOVEMENT

EVER LARSON

MARIO LABRADOR

LIAM HOGAN

3RD MOVEMENT

LILY BINES LILY HAGAN CHLOE KINZLER

EVER LARSON ARIEL MCCARTY

CATHERINE MCGREGOR STEFANEE MONTESANTOS

KENNY ALLEN JOSHUA ALLENBACK CATO BERRY

LEOPOLD FOSTER LIAM HOGAN

MARIO LABRADOR JUSTIN PIDGEON TATE RYNER

Generously underwritten by Victoria and Sam Phares.

INTERMISSION

Excerpts from **INTERNAL LANDSCAPES**

Music by Henning Fuchs

Choreography by Winifred R. Harris

Costumes by Winifred R. Harris, DeBorah Powell

CLEO PARKER ROBINSON DANCE ENSEMBLE

Freedom / Flight

COREY JAMEL

Listening / Knowing Moving

MICHAEL BATTLE CAELI BLAKE TORI CARTER

ADRIAN DOMINGUEZ JASMINE FRANCISCO

COREY JAMEL GABRIELA MADURO

MAX NELSON-STEINHOFF LAMAR D. ROGERS

LAUREN SLAUGHTER

Cleo Parker Robinson Dance World Premiere Spring 2024. Look deep or scratch the surface; our internal landscapes are a tranquil, peaceful place or a land mind of emotions. Explosive warm drops of sadness or a internal sight signing of the soul. Yet, all at once, maybe something seeps in that was said or thought. Our eyes open projectors of our surroundings and our inter thoughts. We may shield ourselves for “safety” or open to experience. Note your reaction to the shifting foundation of current knowing and change?

Can you take ownership of your joy or discomfort? In the multitude of textures that appear in on and around us all. Our Internal Landscapes don’t necessarily appear one at a time or move us with the energy that is the same as the person next to us. Yet there is always a fountain of Joy that can help replenish us at any time we choose to drink from it.
- Winifred R. Harris

PAUSE

CAN’T STOP THE FEELING

Music: “Can’t Stop The Feeling!” by Justin Timberlake

Choreography by Sandra Brown

Costumes courtesy of Colorado Ballet

EVER LARSON PATRICK MIHM

Colorado Ballet

UPROOTED: PERO REPLANTADO

Music by Lila Downs (Excerpts from "Border")

Choreography by Donald McKayle

Interpreteur by Stephanie Powell

Costumes Design by Kathryn Wilson

Costume Adaptation by Alex J. Gordon

Lighting Design by Kenneth Keith

Lighting Adaptation by Anastazia Coney

CLEO PARKER ROBINSON DANCE ENSEMBLE

Mi Corazon Me Recuerdo

MICHAEL BATTLE CAELI BLAKE TORI CARTER

ADRIAN DOMINGUEZ JASMINE FRANCISCO

COREY JAMEL GABRIELA MADURO

MAX NELSON-STEINHOFF LAMAR D. ROGERS

LAUREN SLAUGHTER

El Feo

ADRIAN DOMINGUEZ COREY JAMEL

LAMAR D. ROGERS

La Nina

JASMINE FRANCISCO

Sale Sobrando

CLEO PARKER ROBINSON DANCE ENSEMBLE

Pastures of Plenty / This Land is Your Land

CLEO PARKER ROBINSON DANCE ENSEMBLE

KABRIA HOLLAND*

*Apprentice to the Ensemble

World Premiere University of California, Irvine 2015

Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Premiere 2018

CLEO PARKER ROBINSON DANCE ENSEMBLE

CLEO PARKER ROBINSON

Founder & Artistic Director

WINIFRED R. HARRIS

Associate Artistic Director

MICHAEL BATTLE CAELI BLAKE TORI CARTER

ADRIAN DOMINGUEZ JASMINE FRANCISCO

COREY JAMEL GABRIELA MADURO

MAX NELSON-STEINHOFF LAMAR D. ROGERS

LAUREN SLAUGHTER

Celebrating its 56th Anniversary Season, the renowned Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble brings the power, passion, and beauty of modern dance rooted in African-American traditions and legacy. Holding the works of master choreographers of American modern dance in its repertoire including Katherine Dunham, Donald McKayle, Eleo Pomare, and Talley Beatty, the Ensemble's performances encompass both the iconic and the innovative. Touring over 40 countries, 100 original works produced & commissioned, Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble presents dance as a universal language of movement, transcending boundaries of culture, class, and age while honoring diversity and inclusiveness throughout the global community.

COLORADO BALLET

GIL BOGGS

Artistic Director

SAMEED AFGHANI

Executive Director

KENNY ALLEN JOSHUA ALLENBACK CATO BERRY

LILY BINES LEOPOLD FOSTER LILY HAGAN LIAM HOGAN

MARIO LABRADOR CHLOE KINZLER EVER LARSON

ARIEL MCCARTY CATHERINE MCGREGOR PATRICK MIHM

STEFANEE MONTESANTOS JUSTIN PIDGEON TATE RYNER

Based in Denver, Colorado Ballet inspires audiences through exceptional classical ballet and innovative contemporary dance, performances, training, education, and community engagement. Founded in 1961 by Lillian Covillo and Freidann Parker, the non profit organization is celebrating 65 years of excellence. A world-class professional company serving more than 100,000 patrons, it presents 58 annual performances at the 2,000-seat Ellie Caulkins Opera House. The roster includes 42 professional dancers and 20 studio company members. Led by Artistic Director Gil Boggs, the company stages classical masterpieces, full-length story ballets, and the annual MasterWorks repertory program, spanning neoclassical pieces to world premieres. The Raydean Acevedo Academy serves more than 1,200 students, while Education and Community Engagement reaches 25,000 people and 200 organizations each year.

THANK YOU

The Vail Valley Foundation extends its sincere gratitude to all patrons whose commitment has made it possible for the 2026 Vail Dance Festival to achieve an extraordinary level of success, with special thanks to:

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Tina & David Wilson and The Carol F. Storr Endowment for Classical Ballet

SEASON PRESENTERS

Priscilla Brewster; Jonna Mackin, Ph.D; Marge & Phil Odeen;
Oscar Tang & Agnes Hsu-Tang, Ph.D.

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* Since July 4, 2026

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JOIN US FOR CLOSING NIGHT

MONDAY // AUGUST 10 // 7:00PM

NOW: Premieres

Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater, Vail

Tomorrow marks the closing night of the season, with the extraordinary stars of Vail Dance Festival joining together for an unforgettable celebration of creativity on the stage. Featuring 12 striking world premieres, the evening showcases bold new voices, extraordinary artistry, and the spirit of discovery.

Join us for a joyful finale culminating the 2026 season with new works by a selection of today's most in-demand and innovative choreographers, all performed by the brilliant dancers who have been performing on International Evenings of Dance and other Festival performances.

VISIT **VAILDANCE.ORG** FOR TICKETS

UPCOMING VILAR PERFORMANCES

AUG. 28 | TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY

FEB. 20 | ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

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