

# Powers of Two



June 12 & 13, 2015

Natasha Carlitz Dance Ensemble  
with the music of Mike Coffin

Dance Mission Theater, SF  
plus ArtistEDGE and guests

# Natasha Carlitz Dance Ensemble

with

# ArtistEDGE

2 collaborators  
Mike Coffin  
Val Esperanza Ge

4 choreographers  
Natasha Carlitz  
Jeannine Charles  
Maggie Hurd  
Thea Patterson

8 company dancers  
Julia Canavese  
Natasha Carlitz  
Maggie Hurd  
Thea Patterson  
Alyse Romano  
Jessica Stucke  
Deanna Woodman +  
Julianna Woodman +

+ member, ArtistEDGE

\* alumna, NCDE

guest dancers  
Helena Birecki  
Keryn Breiterman-Loader \*  
Rebekah Brown \*  
Jeannine Charles +  
Elizabeth Doggett +  
Genevieve Hand  
Cheshire Hardcastle +  
Megan Hoarfrost +  
Laura Zweig

# Concert Program ❖

## Principles of Magnetism 2003

choreography Natasha Carlitz

music Robert Hohner Percussion Ensemble, "Crates"  
King Crimson, "B'Boom"

costumes Natasha Carlitz & Vince Gabrielsen

dancers Keryn Breiterman-Loader, Rebekah Brown, Julia Canavese,  
Natasha Carlitz, Maggie Hurd, Jessica Stucke, Julianna Woodman

## Scaled To Fit Page 2014

choreography Maggie Hurd

music Jose Gonzalez, "Down the Line"

dancers Alyse Romano & Genevieve Hand

## Euclidean Plane 2015

choreography Natasha Carlitz

music Mike Coffin, "Prelude in A"

dancers Julia Canavese, Maggie Hurd, Alyse Romano, Deanna Woodman,  
Julianna Woodman

## unwound 2014

choreography Thea Patterson

music Quartetto d'Archi Di Torino, "Dell'Albero"

dancer Thea Patterson

## Four Winds 2015

choreography Natasha Carlitz

music Mike Coffin, "Fugue for Winds"

costumes Karen McWilliams

dancers Julia Canavese, Maggie Hurd, Alyse Romano, Deanna Woodman,  
Julianna Woodman

## Inconceivably Found 2012

choreography Natasha Carlitz  
music Mike Coffin, "NP Complete"  
dancer Helena Birecki

## Echo Lake 2015

choreography Natasha Carlitz  
music Mike Coffin, "Echo Lake"  
costumes Natasha Carlitz with Julia Canavese, Monika Chock, Maggie Hurd,  
Thea Patterson, Alyse Romano, Jessica Stucke, Deanna Woodman  
dancers Julia Canavese, Maggie Hurd, Thea Patterson, Alyse Romano,  
Jessica Stucke, Deanna Woodman, Julianna Woodman

... Intermission ...

## Esperanza: ForeverME 2015

choreography Jeannine Charles, ArtistEDGE  
poetry Val Esperanza Ge  
music Loopa Scava meets Cayetano, Jennifer Thomas, Peter Gregson,  
2CELLOS  
dancers Jeannine Charles, Elizabeth Doggett, Cheshire Hardcastle,  
Megan Hoarfrost, Deanna Woodman, Julianna Woodman  
understudies Monika Chock & Clara Yang

## Waiters' Waltz 2015

improv structure Natasha Carlitz  
music Mike Coffin, "Jordan Pond"  
dancers Maggie Hurd, Thea Patterson, Alyse Romano, Jessica Stucke

## Flamingo Free 2015

choreography Natasha Carlitz  
music Mike Coffin, "Time Off"  
dancers Julia Canavese, Deanna Woodman, Julianna Woodman

## Turnabout 2015

choreography Natasha Carlitz  
music Mike Coffin, "Spinster"  
costumes Natasha Carlitz  
dancers Maggie Hurd & Alyse Romano  
alternate cast Thea Patterson & Jessica Stucke

## Bookworms 2002

choreography Natasha Carlitz  
original concept Natasha Carlitz, Amber Johnson, Wendy Parkman  
music Erik Satie, selections from "4 Mouvements en forme de poire"  
set Barbara Carlitz & Paul Colley  
painted by Natasha Carlitz & Vince Gabrielsen  
costumes Natasha Carlitz & Vince Gabrielsen  
dancers Helena Birecki, Julianna Woodman, Laura Zweig  
...with thanks to Rachel Mudge

## Point, Counterpoint, Tangent / Arc 2014

choreography Natasha Carlitz  
music Bach, Brandenburg Concerto #3 in G, 3: Allegro  
costumes Karen McWilliams  
dancers Keryn Breiterman-Loader, Rebekah Brown, Julia Canavese,  
Natasha Carlitz, Maggie Hurd, Thea Patterson,  
Deanna Woodman

## Secant Recant Descant Descartes 2014

choreography Natasha Carlitz  
music Penguin Cafe Orchestra, "Perpetuum Mobile"  
costumes Karen McWilliams  
dancers Keryn Breiterman-Loader, Rebekah Brown, Julia Canavese,  
Natasha Carlitz, Maggie Hurd, Deanna Woodman,  
Julianna Woodman

# About the Artists ❖

Founded in 2005 and celebrating its tenth anniversary this fall, the Natasha Carlitz Dance Ensemble performs an annual San Francisco season as well as appearing in group concerts and festivals around the Bay Area. Athletic and spirited, NCDE dancers bring both strong technique and emotional depth to their performances.

The Dance Ensemble uses a wide variety of music, from classical to contemporary rock, and for its inaugural concert in 2006 partnered with the California Guitar Trio, internationally acclaimed musicians; since then Carlitz has collaborated with CGT's Bert Lams on a piece with a commissioned score. She is now creating new work in partnership with Mike Coffin, Composer in Residence. Critics have commented on the company's tight coordination of shape, colour, and musicality: "Serious and graceful work... displays creativity and talent that are worth seeing... One of the really successful features of Carlitz' work is that the selected music and choreography fit so well together," writes Michael Phelan of *baydance.com*.

In 2010, NCDE was invited to represent the United States at the Egyptian International Modern Dance Festival, performing evening-length concerts in Cairo and Alexandria. "Last week the Natasha Carlitz Dance Ensemble presented a breathtaking show," wrote Rania Khallaf for Cairo's *Al-Abram Weekly*. "A choreographer and dancer, Carlitz imbued the stage with a spirit of enthusiasm, romance and joy. The ensemble... resonated with a sense of ecstasy and challenge."

## ArtistEDGE

Jeannine Charles started her first company, VogtART, in 1995 and evolved this into ArtistEDGE Dance. The mission of the company is to find new edges in the creation of dance inspired by other artistic mediums while remaining accessible to a broader audience. Some of the artists that Jeannine has collaborated with are Martin Filiatrault (original drum music for her work "Twisted 6") and Daniel Canogar, world-renowned Visual Multimedia Artist, for a project at Villa Montalvo. She has also worked with Trey Knight, World Ranked Artistic Roller Skater and Stilt Dancer, for projects in San Francisco, one of which involved a contortionist, a hoop and a stilt dancer! She recently worked on choreography for dance sequences for Dr. Paul Davies' opera "Carlota," directed by Daniel Helfgot, and is excited to be collaborating with poet Val Ge to bring her emotional poetry alive with dance.

## Carlitz Dance Ensemble

HELENA BIRECKI has been moving to music (and silence) since her third Christmas when her parents put on a record of the Nutcracker and she lost all interest in the presents. She later earned a BFA in dance from the University of Michigan. Since moving back to the San Francisco area, she has had the pleasure of performing with groups including number9/kelly kemp, David Herrera Performance Company, Lizz Roman and Dancers, and High Release Dance, and has presented her own choreography at West Wave Dance Festival, Collaboration! Music and Dance, and the San Jose Choreographer's Project. Helena is thrilled to be performing again with the Natasha Carlitz Dance Ensemble. When not in the dance studio, you are likely to find Helena teaching Pilates, hiking, or volunteering at the animal shelter.

KERYN BREITERMAN-LOADER was born in Melbourne, Australia and grew up in Miami Beach, FL, where she trained at the Miami City Ballet School, attending summer programs at ABT and the Joffrey Ballet. In 2013 she graduated from Stanford University with distinction and honors, receiving degrees in Psychology and Dance. In addition to NCDE, she also dances with Alma Esperanza Cunningham Movement and has danced with Garrett+Moulton Productions, Ultimate Alliance, Scratch Dance, and with Hannah Rose as a part of the Resident Artist Workshop at the Garage.

REBEKAH BROWN, originally from Ashland, OH, started dancing at age seven at Opus II Dance Studio, where she received training in ballet, modern, jazz, and tap and was a member of the Ashland Regional Ballet Company for five years. Rebekah attended the State University of New York at Buffalo where she performed and choreographed for Zodiaque Studio Dance Ensemble, Dancer's Workshop, and Emerging Choreographer's Showcase. As a senior, Rebekah pioneered a dance study abroad program between SUNY Buffalo and the University of Chichester in England. She graduated summa cum laude in 2010 with her BFA in Dance Performance. After a year off, Rebekah returned to studying at Mills College in Oakland, CA, where she danced with the Mills Repertory Dance Company and had the chance to explore and develop her interest in lighting design, graduating in 2013 with her MFA in Dance Performance and Choreography. Rebekah also has an interest in visual arts; her curiosity for painting influenced her written and choreographic thesis work and continues to be a strong component of her creative work. A founding member of Scratch Dance led by Artistic Director Erica Pinigis, Rebekah continues to add stage managing and lighting experiences to her repertoire and is also the Catering and Special Events Coordinator at Stonebrae Country Club in Hayward, CA.

JULIA CANAVESE has been an active member of the Silicon Valley arts scene for over 20 years. Graduating from Santa Clara University with a BA in Theatre Arts with a Dance Emphasis, Julia studied primarily Horton technique, although she also has training in Graham, Cunningham, and Lewitzky, as well as jazz, tap, ballroom, and folk dance. In 2012, Julia participated in a two-week dance intensive at the Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London where she studied a mix of contemporary technique, contact improvisation, choreography, and Flying Low technique. She is honored to be a member of NCDE and High Release Dance. In addition to dance performance, Julia is a passionate arts administrator. Recently stepping into the role of Brand Manager for Silicon Valley Creates (formerly Arts Council Silicon Valley), she will be working on web content and social media for the organization, including content for LiveSV, Content Magazine, and genARTS Silicon Valley. She also serves as a Steering Committee Member for genARTS Silicon Valley, which is a network of emerging arts professionals. Volunteer activities include being on the Board of Directors for PUSH Dance Company and being on the staff of Anime's Black & White Ball (an annual ballroom dance event for around 2,500 attendees). Julia enjoys every opportunity she can to engage in meaningful expression through the arts and is committed to the growth of the arts sector as a whole.

NATASHA CARLITZ began her dance training in Palo Alto nearly 40 years ago with Grace Butler, a former Nikolais dancer, and performed as a child and young adult with CHORD (Children's Original Repertory Dance) and SMDC (the Saturday Morning Dance Company). She has studied dance in California, London, Amsterdam, Massachusetts, and Maine—including improvisation and choreography workshops with Pilobolus founder Jonathan Wolken and aerial dance in the Sierras with Bandaloop. For the past 20 years, Natasha has choreographed and performed around the Bay Area, both independently and as a member of the collective High Release Dance (1998 through 2005 and 2011 through the present). Natasha has shown her choreography in a variety of festivals and showcases, including productions by sJDANCEco, ODC, and Dance Mission. After presenting concerts of her own work in 2002 (San Jose) and 2005 (Palo Alto), in fall 2005 she founded NCDE to bring her work to new audiences. Under Natasha's direction, the company produces an annual concert in San Francisco as well as making appearances throughout the region. At the Egyptian International Modern Dance Festival in 2010, Natasha led a modern master class with Egypt's national dance company; she now teaches on occasion, and works at Google to support her dance company, her garden, and her cat, Perboly.

JEANNINE CHARLES started dancing as soon as she could walk. Early training included years of ballet with Kip Watson, former New York City Ballet dancer, at the School of Performing Arts in Orlando, FL, and training in Belgium at Mercador Ballet School, affiliated with the London Royal Ballet. At 16 she won a national title for tap dance at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas after winning 2nd place in Vancouver, Canada. She graduated from the University of Washington, majoring in Performance/Choreography and receiving Choreography Awards two years in a row as well as the National Dance Association's Dance Major of the Year Award. Before choosing any other class, she registered for Dance Composition with Joan Skinner, who opened her eyes to the fulfillment of bringing feelings and ideas to life through movement. During her college career, Jeannine was accepted for a six-week intensive at Harvard and the Limon Workshop at San Jose State, and began her professional career when she was hired to dance at musician William O'Farrell's concert in Seattle, receiving critical acclaim in the local paper, as well as working under contract for Richard Jessup's Jazz Dance company as a soloist. After university, Jeannine relocated to the Bay Area and has performed with sJDANCEco (founding member and choreographer), Company Chaddick/SF, Nina Galin Music & Dance, Margaret Wingrove Dance Company, Dancing Sun, Jose Ibarra, Maria Basile, Gary Masters, Heather Cooper, Lisa Burnett, and Ehud Krauss, among many others. Jeannine has taught at American Musical Theater, San Jose City College, Dancing Sun, San Jose State, and Beresford Rec, and is currently teaching on Wednesday nights at 7:30 at Zohar in Palo Alto.

MIKE COFFIN started playing classical guitar in grade school and began writing guitar music soon after. Thankfully, most of his early music has been lost. In the last few years he has begun composing for other instruments and ensembles as well. His new music sounds as if it might have been written by one of the slower-witted students of J. S. Bach, though he also sprinkles in bits of flamenco, jazz, and blues. You can hear more of his compositions at <https://soundcloud.com/mhcoffin>.

ELIZABETH DOGGETT, originally from Boulder, CO, began dancing at young age and focused mainly on jazz dance as a member of her high school dance team. At the University of Colorado, she fell in love with modern dance and completed a minor in dance in addition to a BA in molecular biology. Dancing continues to be an integral part of her life and is her ultimate source of release, vitality, and connection. She continues to develop her understanding of modern dance with ArtistEDGE and currently teaches middle school science.

VALENTINE GE, a Florida native, has been engaged in creative endeavors since youth with a particular focus on poetry and has produced well over 500 pieces of work chronicling most of her trials, marrows and joys of Life. She enjoys composing and playing classical music on her guitar as a living component of her meditation and prayer practices. Following many years of alcohol abuse arising out of her gender dysphoria, she has not only achieved 22 months of sobriety but also completed her full gender transition in May 2015. Her artistry includes hundreds of works in wood, clay, bisque, glass, and welded metal. Her given spiritual name is Esperanza ("Hope") and she is a proud member of the All Nations Church. Her love and passion is her comedy and she is a rising star in the Orlando comedy scene, anticipating a regional presence in the next few years. Her goal is simply to be a guest on the Ellen DeGeneres show!

GENEVIEVE HAND began her training in ballet, jazz, and tap at Stage One Dance Center, a small studio in her home town of Benicia, CA, and later studied at City Ballet of San Francisco and Contra Costa Ballet of Walnut Creek. She has attended summer intensives including Alonzo King's LINES Ballet, City Ballet, and Boston Ballet. Genevieve graduated from UC Santa Barbara in June 2013 with a BFA in Dance and BA in Physical Anthropology. She was selected to be a member of the 2012-2013 UCSB Senior Dance Company, with whom she toured New York and Italy, performing works by such artists as Jose Limon, Donald McKayle, and Peter Pucci. She joined Nebula Dance Lab for their 2013 season, performed with Soulskin for their 2015 season, and was a guest artist for Bay Pointe Ballet's New Works Series. Currently she is a satellite member of Selah Dance Collective and is thrilled to be guest-performing with NCDE!

CHESHIRE HARDCASTLE has been dancing since kindergarten, but started to get serious in 6th grade when she began ballet with her friends. After six years performing classical ballet and jazz in annual shows at Enterline Dance Center in Mifflinburg, PA, she went to the University of Cincinnati to graduate in 2013 with a BA in Psychology and a Minor in Biomedical Humanities. In her freshman year she studied classical ballet with Steve Beirens at the College Conservatory of Music, then started studying modern dance at the Contemporary Dance Theater (CDT) in Cincinnati and was hooked on the free movement, a stark contrast to classical ballet. At CDT, she was in the Performance and Time Arts show. After moving to California to pursue a job in a Neuropsychology research lab at Stanford University, Cheshire began studying and performing modern at DanceVisions and Zohar School of Dance, joining High Release Dance in fall 2013 and ArtistEDGE in 2014.



MEGAN HOARFROST grew up in Portland, OR, where she trained in ballet, jazz, tap, hip hop, modern, and acrobatic dance. She attended Stanford University, where she studied chemical engineering and continued to dance. This included being a Stanford Dollie and performing around the country with the renowned Leland Stanford Junior University Marching Band. Later, while in graduate school at UC Berkeley, she performed with the Berkeley Dance Project and trained at the Shawl-Anderson Dance Center. After graduation, she lived briefly in Minnesota, continuing her dance training at the Zenon Dance School. She is now thrilled to be back in the Bay Area, where she works as a research scientist at a large electronics company, and is very excited to be working with ArtistEDGE.

MAGGIE JANE HURD grew up in Milpitas, CA, and began dancing at age three. She studied many different styles of dance at the Adage School of Performing Arts and in 2005 she became a member of Teen Dance Company of the Bay Area. In 2012 she received a BFA in Dance from University of California, Santa Barbara. Upon graduating she was awarded Emerging Choreographer as well as an Honors Distinction in the major for her work on a co-lead honors project. Her past performing experience includes dancing for Scratch Dance, Blind Tiger Society, and ka-nei-see | collective. Maggie is currently working as a senior care rehabilitation aide and is beginning the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Long Island University this July. Maggie is thrilled to be dancing with NCDE for her second year!

THEA PATTERSON, from Oakland, CA, began dancing at the Conservatory of Classical Ballet in San Leandro under the direction of Ann Fisher-Ratto, performing an array of classical ballet repertoire such as Giselle, Swan Lake, and La Bayadere. During this time she was fortunate to perform original works by noted Bay Area choreographers Carlos Carvajal and Michael Lowe. From 2009-2013 she attended UC Irvine's Claire Trevor School of the Arts, where she continued her training in ballet as well as modern, jazz, and improvisation and performed in a variety of choreographic works, ranging from contemporary ballet to modern house dance. After graduating Cum Laude with degrees in Dance and English, Thea apprenticed for Peninsula Ballet Theater for their 2013 Nutcracker season. Over the years she has attended various summer intensive programs including the Bartholin International Ballet Seminar in Copenhagen, the Jose Limon Workshop in Fullerton, and the Impulstanz International Dance Festival in Vienna. Most recently Thea performed live with Sarah Bush Dance Project in a piece commissioned for singer Cris Williamson. Thea is honored and thankful to be dancing with NCDE.

ALYSE ROMANO began dancing at age four at Pacific Ballet Academy where she continued her ballet training throughout high school. Along the way she attended summer intensives with American Ballet Theater in Alabama and Texas as well as with the Joffrey Ballet in New York. She went on to major in dance at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she was introduced to modern dance, improvisation, and choreography. In her fourth year at UCSB, Alyse was grateful to become a member of the UCSB Dance Company and have the opportunity to go on tour throughout California, New York, and Italy. After graduating from UCSB with a BFA in Dance, Alyse returned to the Bay Area where she has been teaching ballet to children and adults and has performed principal roles in Pacific Ballet Academy's productions of the Nutcracker and Swan Lake. She recently traveled to New York as an Arnhold Scholar to attend the Dance Education Laboratory at Harkness Dance Center and to perform with Selah Dance Collective. Alyse is excited and honored to work with NCDE.

JESSICA STUCKE grew up in San Mateo, doing gymnastics and competitive cheerleading, but it wasn't until she joined her high school's dance ensemble that she discovered dance. She continued to study dance at UC Santa Barbara where she spent her time refining her modern and ballet technique and exploring her own choreography interests. During her senior year, she was given the opportunity to join the UCSB Dance Company, which spent the entire year learning repertoire from prestigious guest artists and faculty, culminating in an international performance tour throughout California, the Czech Republic, and Italy. Aside from performing, Jessica is an emerging choreographer and was awarded the UCSB Sherrill C. Corwin-Metropolitan Award for her BFA senior project, as well as being competitively selected to self-produce a research-based Honors Project entitled "The Body as a Metaphor" in collaboration with one of her classmates. In 2014, Jessica graduated from UCSB with a BFA in Dance and has since returned to the Bay Area in search of more dance opportunities, including becoming a member of NCDE. She is extremely honored and excited to be working with the company this upcoming season!

DEANNA WOODMAN, born in the Bay Area, began her dance training at the age of three. She has trained and worked with choreographers such as Gregory Dawson, Brian Fisher, Kara Davis, Stacey Printz, Mona Khan, Sidra Bell, Lizz Roman, Jennifer Backhaus, Gary Masters, and Yannis Adoniou. In 2011, at the age of seventeen, she started her professional dance experience performing in Mark Foehringer Dance Project's "Nutcracker Sweets." In 2012, Deanna performed with Nhan Ho's dance

company in San Francisco. In 2013, Deanna was a part of Lee-Anne Payne's Choreography Project. Most recently, Deanna has performed with ArtistEDGE and the Foley Project in various festivals around the Bay Area, as well as joining NCDE in 2014. When Deanna is not dancing, you can find her at one of her other four jobs or at school where she is studying Political Science and Economics. During the little spare time she has, Deanna loves to hike, write in her journal, and go on adventures with her friends.

JULIANNA WOODMAN, born in the Bay Area, began her dance training at the age of six. In 2012 she had her first professional experience when she was invited to perform in Jose Limon's "Missa Brevis" with the company sjDANCEco. In 2013 she had the honor of performing as a soloist in Nahn Ho's original work "Bridging the Gap 2." In 2014 she was blessed with the opportunity to perform in Adrienne Foley's original trio "Hit 'Em Up Style," along with original work by Jeannine Charles. She is excited to be a member of both NCDE and the newly formed company ArtistEDGE. She loves performing because it gives her the opportunity to express herself and demonstrate one of her passions. Another passion involves helping people by touch therapy. She has recently graduated from National Holistic Institute where she earned her license to work as an Advanced Neuromuscular Massage Therapist. She is currently a TA and an Ambassador at NHI. When she is not dancing, teaching, or treating people, she enjoys hiking, reading, and going on adventures with her boyfriend, friends, and family.

LAURA ZWEIG began dancing at the age of four, has continued dancing for the past 62 years, and has no intention of stopping. Growing up in New Haven, CT, she had the good fortune to study Humphrey/Limon technique with Ernestine Stodelle. Laura currently choreographs, performs, and teaches children's and adult classes at DanceVisions studio in Palo Alto. She is also a preschool teacher and parent educator.

# Production Crew ❖

director & producer	Natasha Carlitz
lighting designer	Harry Rubeck
sound technician	Reese Bullen
graphic designer	Natasha Carlitz
wardrobe mistress	Karen McWilliams
rehearsal assistant	Elena Grindley
stage manager	Genevieve Hand
theater manager	Stella Adelman
ushers	Howard Coffin & Louis Coffin

With great thanks to the dancers, who have embodied the term "ensemble" as we put together the new dances and costumes, and who have made me leave every rehearsal smiling.

Thanks to DanceVisions / Laura Zweig for their support; to our volunteers, families, and friends, especially faithful Elena Grindley and the enthusiastic Monika Chock; and to Harry Rubeck and the helpful crew at Dance Mission.

Thanks to Mike Coffin for his music, encouragement, and inspiration, and for keeping me fed and sane, and thanks, always, to Grace Butler.

— Natasha

[www.carlitzdance.org](http://www.carlitzdance.org)



photo by Lynne Fried