

KEIGWIN + COMPANY

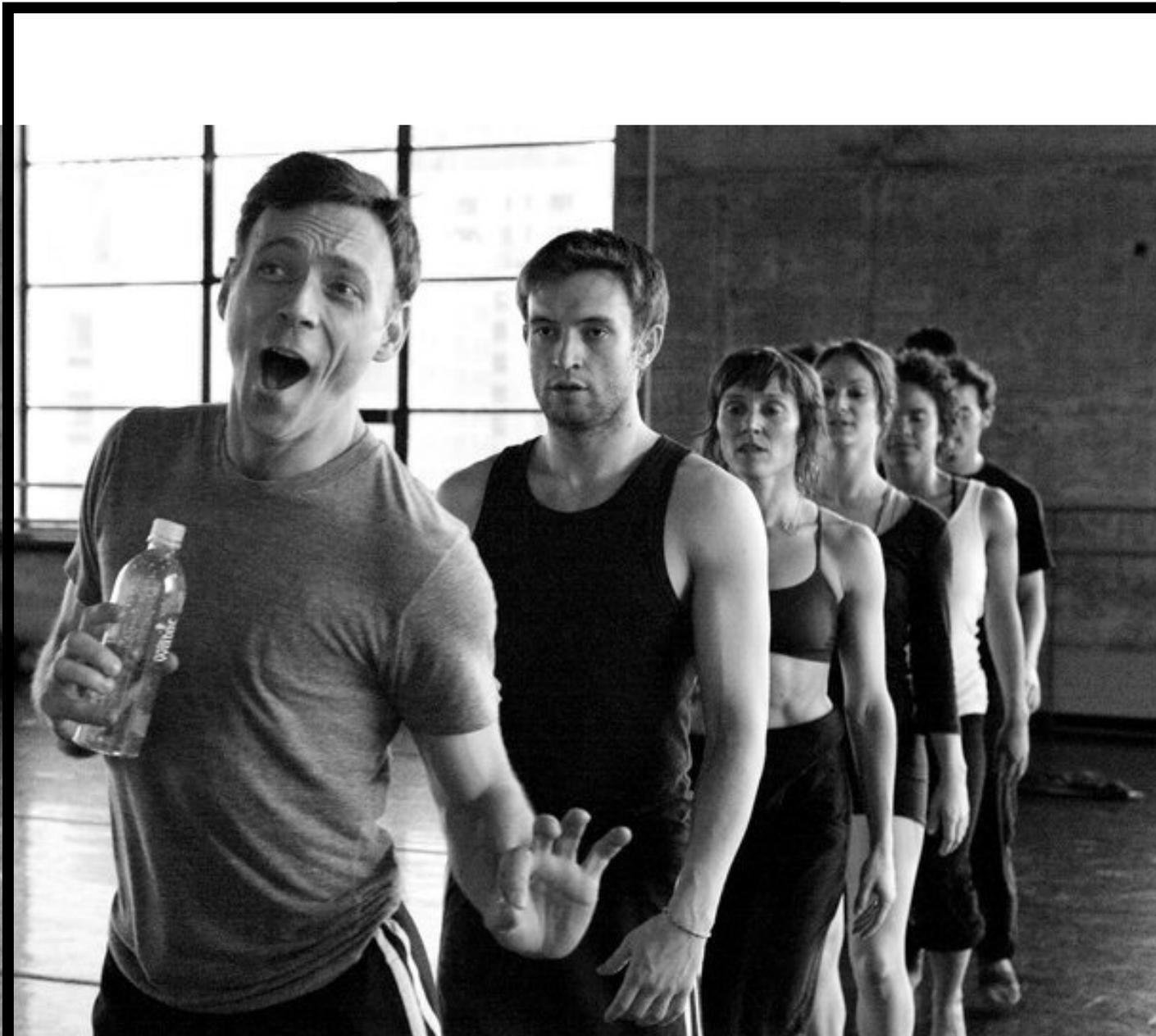


Photo by Whitney Browne

PRESS KIT

ABOUT

KEIGWIN + COMPANY

Founded in 2003 by Artistic Director Larry Keigwin and Associate Director Nicole Wolcott, **KEIGWIN + COMPANY** creates and presents Keigwin's electrifying brand of contemporary dance.

KEIGWIN + COMPANY's commitment to variety allows for cross-pollination of audiences and encourages harmony between uptown and downtown, professional and amateur, high-brow and low-brow, all while maintaining a vision of dance that is both artistically driven and entertaining.

K+C reaches national and international audiences and invigorates diverse communities with a refreshing vision of dance that embodies a theatrical sensibility of wit, style, and heart.

Since K+C's premiere performance at Joyce Soho in 2003, Keigwin has created 26 dances, including the acclaimed large-scale community project, *Bolero*, which has been commissioned in 11 communities across the country, and *Runaway* (2008), a fashion-inspired choreographic ride, proclaimed a "thrilling coup d'theater" by James Wolcott of Vanity Fair.

For 15 years K+C has invigorated dance audiences worldwide and has presented performances at venues including The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Summerdance Santa Barbara, New York City Center, The Joyce Theater, American Dance Festival, Bates Dance Festival, and more.

For more information, please visit: www.keigwinandcompany.com

ABOUT

LARRY KEIGWIN

Larry Keigwin is a native New Yorker and choreographer who has danced his way from the Metropolitan Opera to downtown clubs to Broadway and back. He founded KEIGWIN + COMPANY in 2003 and as Artistic Director, Keigwin has led the company as it has performed at theaters and dance festivals throughout New York City and around the world.

KEIGWIN + COMPANY presents Keigwin's electrifying brand of contemporary dance on a myriad of stages including, The Kennedy Center, The Joyce Theater, Works & Process at the Guggenheim, New York City Center, among others. Since his company's premiere performance at Joyce Soho in 2003, Keigwin has created dozens of dances for himself and his dancers, as well as for the Royal New Zealand Ballet, The Martha Graham Dance Company, New York Choreographic Institute, The Juilliard School, Vail International Dance Festival, and many others.

His work in musical theater includes choreography for the 2011 production of the musical *Tales of the City* at the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco, and the off-Broadway production of *Rent*, for which he received the 2011 Joe A. Callaway Award from the Stage Directors & Choreographers Foundation. In 2013, Keigwin choreographed the Broadway musical *If/Then*, starring Idina Menzel. He was most recently selected as one of the first choreographers to be commissioned by Paul Taylor's American Modern Dance.

Keigwin has designed and choreographed special events including Fashion's Night Out: The Show in New York, which was produced by Vogue magazine and featured more than 150 of the industry's top models. Keigwin has also mounted 11 versions of Bolero, his acclaimed large-scale community project that has been commissioned by communities across the country. Keigwin has created *Keigwin Kabaret*, a fusion of modern dance, vaudeville, and burlesque presented by the Public Theater at Joe's Pub and by Symphony Space.

As a dancer, Keigwin has danced at the Metropolitan Opera in Doug Varone's *Le Sacre Du Printemps* and Julie Taymor's *The Magic Flute*, in addition to his work with Mark Dendy (receiving a Bessie Award in 1998 for his performance in *Dream Analysis*), Jane Comfort, John Jasperse, Doug Elkins, Zvi Gotheiner, and David Rousseve. He appeared in the Broadway show *Dance of the Vampires*, the off-Broadway show *The Wild Party* and the Julie Taymor, Oscar-nominated film *Across the Universe*.

He is a co-founder of the Green Box Arts Festival in Green Mountain Falls, Colorado, a multi-disciplinary festival designed to increase cultural opportunities in the region, as well as provide creative residencies to young, emerging choreographers. Keigwin is a member of the Stage Directors & Choreographers Society.



ABOUT

NICOLE WOLCOTT

Nicole Wolcott (Co-Founder/Director of Education) Called “One of today’s finest dance comedians and a knockout dancer,” by the New York Times, Nicole has enjoyed a great career with dance companies, rock bands and video artists around the country and been the subject of a feature article in DANCE TEACHER magazine.

After meeting and creating Straight Duet together in 2002, Larry and Nicole co-founded KEIGWIN + COMPANY in 2003 and she was the Associate Artistic Director and a featured dancer until 2013. Nicole continues to assist Larry on a variety of projects outside of the company’s framework; most recently as the Associate Choreographer for the Broadway production of If/Then starring Idina Menzel, But, her favorite creations with him are the idiosyncratic Boleros they build in communities around the country, based on their signature work with 50 New Yorkers called “Bolero NYC”. Nicole also enjoys directing the KEIGWIN + COMPANY Summer Intensive at The Juilliard School each year.

In addition to dancing with KEIGWIN + COMPANY, other highlights of her career include performing at the Metropolitan Opera House under the direction of Mark Dendy, working with site-specific choreographer Noemie Lafrance; being a featured dancer in Doug Elkin’s original “Fraulein Maria”, appearing in music videos and concerts with FischerSpooners; and being a featured dancer in “Across the Universe,” an Oscar nominated film by director Julie Taymor. And once upon a time dancing with Gus Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago.

She enjoys teaching at private studios and universities in New York City including NYU and Princeton as well as traveling the country as a guest artist. Wolcott’s own independent choreography has been performed at a range of venues from Symphony Space to CBGBs with critical acclaim.



REPERTORY

STAGE DOOR



Runtime: 60 min

Touring party*: 2 dancers, 1 tech

****Performance features special guest artists and 10-25 local community performers.***

In true vaudevillian fashion, Larry Keigwin and Nicole Wolcott are joined on-stage by special guest artists and 10-25 local community players in this one-of-a-kind ensemble production of their acclaimed show *Places Please!*

Reimagined for the proscenium stage, Wolcott and Keigwin expand upon the universal themes of acceptance, aging, and finding your place in the world, through the lens of the audition. Starting with a week-long residency, Larry and Nicole recruit, rehearse and engage local community players – excavating personalities and possibilities for a fully realized theatrical production. Featuring K+C contemporary dance, local talent and signature acts by the specially curated guest artists, **Stage Door** celebrates the unifying power of live performance.

REPERTORY

PLACES PLEASE!



Runtime: 50 minutes

Touring Personnel: 2 Dancers/Performers + 1 Technical/Production

Longtime collaborators Larry Keigwin and Nicole Wolcott take audience members on a zany trip chock-full of playfulness and anxiety from life behind the scenes in **Places Please!**. Set backstage during the final moments before the curtain rises, this cabaret-style performance features a dance fanatic's dream music score, from Broadway classics to contemporary classical music to '80s pop hits. The result is a buzz-worthy cocktail of biting satire, quick-witted physical comedy and gentle moments of deep pathos - celebrating the duo's exuberant and dynamic relationship that served as KEIGWIN + COMPANY's foundation during its formative years.

Excerpt: <https://vimeo.com/225855818>

REPERTORY

BOLERO



Runtime: 15 minutes

Touring party*: 2 dancers, 1 tech

****Performance features up to 75 local community performers.***

Inspired by Maurice Ravel's iconic score, **Bolero** incorporates a cast of 50-75 community members and dancers into a tableau of a specific region, examining and deconstructing local traits and stereotypes. Bolero is the centerpiece of K+C's community outreach efforts and a collaborative process allows participants to reflect on their lifestyles and capture the uniqueness of each locale. Bolero has been done in 13 communities across the country including Santa Barbara, New York, Chicago, Palo Alto, Akron, Norfolk, and Denver, among others.

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/DnYeuJgk1VY>

TESTIMONIALS:

BOLERO

“Thank you for bringing such a dynamic, creative endeavor to the area. And for taking the time to inspire others.” – *Denise Roberts, Bolero Red Bank, 2012*

“I want to thank you for bringing the "Bolero Project" to the Two River Theater and giving the Red Bank area residents the opportunity to be a part of this legacy. It has been a privilege watching you create the ballet. Your willingness to accept the ideas of the group with patience and a sense of humor is a lesson we should all apply to our lives. Personally, the project has given me the opportunity to have a shared experience with my children, Amanda and Matthew. The memories from this event will now become part of our families' legacy.” – *Joanna Lidden, Bolero Red Bank 2012*

“Just in case I don't get the opportunity after the show tonight to express to each and every member of the Keigwin + Company how utterly impressed and moved I am not only by your individual and collective talents as performers, but the degree to which each of you has shared your creative energies and spirits with us "common folk." You made each one of us grow beyond our individual fears and egos to this wonderful place of synergistic participation. To hear the words of praise and feel the genuine excitement expressed by my family and friends about the KEIGWIN + COMPANY experience one might think we had performed on Broadway...heck, for some of us, we did!” – *David McDermott, Bolero Santa Barbara, 2010*

“Some 80 people spent more than 50 hours of rehearsing, sharing and creating something unique. In the process new audiences were made aware of the Performing Arts Center. Some came back after 20 years for the first time again! The children in our group had an experience that went far beyond the learning of listening to an adult giving directions. They learned cooperation, depending on one another and how to support each other so that the “whole” benefits and becomes a reality. And the adults made friends.”
– *Rudiger Guhl, Bolero Suburbia, 2010*



PRESS

QUOTES



PLACES PLEASE!

"...deeply poignant and intensely thought-provoking."

"...a sophisticated treat for savvy dance fans and newcomers alike."

- *Santa Barbara Independent*

"part silly fun, part rue/rumination, and all good."

"there is a power of soul that can build with age as well, and Keigwin and Wolcott are using humor and grace to find it."

- *offoffoff.com*

"The audience left dancing."

- *The News & Observer*

BOLERO

"Mr. Keigwin's uninhibited embrace of the theatrical is itself a form of high art."

"Mr. Keigwin is impeccably musical, with wide-ranging tastes and an unusual ability to make us hear unexpected rhythms and accents in even propulsively percussive scores."

"He is physically inventive, blending the stretched lines of ballet with the weighted qualities and downward accents of modern dance, and the agility of hip-hop, in a mix that never exactly surprises but always seems perfectly calibrated."

"His theatrical instincts are terrific, and his sense of pace and timing is almost always spot on."

- Roslyn Sulcas
The New York Times

OUTREACH +

RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES



Stage Door Residency

This one-week residency project incorporates a cast of 10-25 community members in an evening length dance theater work. Local community members may be pre-professional and professional dancers as well as musicians, actors, jugglers, you name it – all talents welcome! Working with the local community's individual talents, Wolcott and Keigwin will choreograph 2-3 short dances with pre-professional and professional artists while weaving community members and their talents into the fabric of the show.

Bolero Residency

Inspired by Maurice Ravel's score, Bolero is the centerpiece of K+C's community outreach efforts. This two-week residency project incorporates a cast of 50-75 community members in a 15-minute original dance piece.

Let's Make a Dance Community Workshop

Aimed at community members/non-dancers, this workshop guides participants through a choreographic process with Keigwin and his dancers using games and guided improvisation to enable individuals to discover their own creativity and physicality and transform themselves into performers. The goal for Let's Make a Dance is to harness the group's collective enthusiasm for dance through a combination of movement and imagination.

Master Classes

Classes are offered in modern dance technique, repertory or composition for intermediate/advanced dancers. Classes combine the athleticism and virtuosity of Artistic Director Larry Keigwin's work. With a sense of play, students are encouraged to discover authentic movement while fine tuning technique. All company members are highly skilled teachers.

Pre- and post-show discussions are available upon advance request.

CONTACT

KEIGWIN + COMPANY

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