



presents

## **Entity**

### **WAYNE MCGREGOR | RANDOM DANCE**

**Concept and Direction:** Wayne McGregor

**Choreography:** Wayne McGregor in collaboration with the dancers

#### **Dancers**

Catarina Carvalho  
Michael-John Harper  
Paolo Mangiola  
Daniela Neugebauer  
Anna Nowak

Benjamin Ord  
Davide Di Pretoro  
Fukiko Takase  
Alexander Whitley  
Jessica Wright

**Friday, November 11, 2011, 8pm**

**Saturday, November 12, 2011, 8pm**

**Novellus Theater at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts**

There is no intermission for this performance.

**Joby Talbot** Original Music 1

**Jon Hopkins** Original Music 2

**Lucy Carter** Lighting Design

**Ravi Deepres** Digital Video Design

**Patrick Burnier** Set and Costume Design

**Christopher Charles** Technical Director

**Odette Hughes** Rehearsal Director

**Colin Everitt** Technical Manager

**Michael Smith** Production Electrician

**This performance is made possible in part through the generous support of  
Larissa Roesch and Jason Crethar.**

ENTITY is co-commissioned by Het Muziektheater, (Amsterdam); Sadler's Wells, (London); Biennale de la Danse (Lyon); DanceEast (Ipswich) and Swindon Dance / Bath University ICIA / Wyvern (HST) (Swindon/Bath) and supported by The Linbury Biennial Prize for Stage Design, The Estate of Sir John Drummond, The Quercus Trust, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, University of California San Diego and PRSFoundation for new music.

Wayne McGregor | Random Dance is supported by Arts Council England, and is Resident Company of Sadler's Wells, London and Associate Company of DanceEast, Suffolk. Wayne McGregor is the Resident Choreographer of The Royal Ballet, Covent Garden.

Wayne McGregor | Random Dance is represented in North America by Cathy Pruzan  
4709 Paradise Drive, Tiburon, CA | [www.cathypruzan.com](http://www.cathypruzan.com)

## **Artist Profiles**

*This is Wayne McGregor | Random Dance's first performance with San Francisco Performances and their Bay Area debut.*

**Wayne McGregor | Random Dance** was founded in 1992 and became the instrument upon which artistic director Wayne McGregor evolved his drastically fast and articulate choreographic style. The company became a byword for its radical approach to new technology incorporating animation, digital film, 3D architecture, electronic sound and virtual dancers into live choreography. Collaborations with leading multi-disciplinary artists enriched the company's futurist aesthetic and dramatically enlarged the possibilities of dance. In 2002, Wayne McGregor | Random Dance was invited to become Resident Company at Sadler's Wells.

Technology has also been crucial in Wayne McGregor | Random Dance's aim to deliver dance to the public in new ways. Among the company's groundbreaking projects have been webcasting live performances, and exploring broadband (ATM) bi-directional performance where two companies perform simultaneously in different parts of the world. It has also incorporated technology into its outreach work, which is high on the creative agenda.

In 2004, McGregor was appointed Artist-in-Residence at the Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Cambridge. From this unique position, a select group of scientists and he conducted the background research into the relationship between dance and the mind from which *Ataxia* (2004) arose. The research and creation process behind *Amu* (2005), *Entity* (2008), *Dyad 1909* (2009) and *FAR* (2010) continue the company's association with interdisciplinary art and science collaborations, which is now consolidated under R-Research.

Regularly supported by the British Council, Wayne McGregor | Random Dance tour frequently to some of the most prestigious world theatres such as Het Muziektheater, Amsterdam; Tel Aviv Opera; Lincoln Center, New York and Dansens Hus, Stockholm. The company's European tours have ranged from Ireland, France, Germany, Belgium and Holland to Poland, Hungary, Cyprus and Turkey. Wayne McGregor | Random Dance has also performed in Russia, Israel, Japan, China, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Colombia, North America and Australia. In 2002 it became the first British dance company ever to tour central Asia and the Caucasus. Wayne McGregor and company have also made several film and

television appearances including Fred Wiseman's *La Danse* and *Wayne McGregor: Going Somewhere*—a creative documentary by Catherine Maximoff.

Wayne McGregor | Random Dance is Resident Company of Sadler's Wells, London and Associate Company of DanceEast, Suffolk. Wayne McGregor CBE is also the Resident Choreographer of The Royal Ballet, Covent Garden. For more information visit [www.randomdance.org](http://www.randomdance.org).

## Dancers' Biographies

### Catarina Carvalho

Catarina was born in Lisbon, Portugal in 1982, where she began her dance training with teacher Anna Mascolo. In 1994, she went to France, to continue her training, for six years, at the École Supérieure de Danse de Cannes Rosella Hightower, with a scholarship from the Ambrosoli Foundation, Zürich. In 2000, Catarina joined Ballet du Rhin as an apprentice and performed works by the director Bertrand d'At. In 2003 she worked with Javier de Frutos, in Companhia Instável's project, *Portugal*. The same year, Catarina joined Companhia Portuguesa de Bailado Contemporâneo, where she worked with choreographers Vasco Wellenkamp and Benvindo Fonseca among others. In 2006 Catarina performed works by Rui Horta and in 2007 worked with Portuguese choreographers César Moniz and Rita Judas. Catarina joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2008.

### Davide Di Pretoro

Davide Di Pretoro was born in 1983 in Colferro, Rome, Italy. He started to dance in 1996 in a small dance school in his hometown and in 1999 he went to the National Academy of Rome where he trained in Classical Ballet and Cunningham Technique. Davide completed his studies in Balletto di Roma and AID (Associazione Italiana Danzatori) also in Rome. In 2002 he won a scholarship to go to New York to study in Merce Cunningham Dance School and in the same year worked with Compagnia Danza Prospettiva in Rome under the direction of Vittorio Biagi. Then, in 2003, Davide moved to France to work as a freelance dancer with Compagnie Yvann Alexandre and Compagnie Georges Momboye. In 2005-2006 he worked with Compagnie Thor of Thierry Smits in Bruxelles. The season after Davide joined Ballet Preljocaj where he stayed until 2009 performing Angelin Preljocaj's works. In 2009-2010 he moved to The Netherlands to



join Dans Groep Amsterdam under the direction of Itzik Galili and Kriszina De Chatel. Davide joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2010.

### Michael-John Harper

Michael-John Harper was born on the island of Jamaica in 1987, and moved to Florida at the age of eight. He was an avid Musical Theatre student in high school where under the direction of Lori Sessions his dance talent was uncovered. He pursued his passion for dance and began his training at Michael's Academy for the Performing Arts and after graduating high school in 2005, attended New World School of the Arts in Miami, Florida as a scholarship student and graduated in 2009 with a BFA in dance. He then joined the Alvin Ailey II Junior Dance Company in New York with appearances in Innsbruck, Austria and the United States. His dance experience also includes creative residency at the Palucca Schule in Dresden, Germany with focus on William Forsythe improvisation techniques; Scholarship student at the Alonzo King Lines Ballet in San Francisco, California; and performances at the 2009 Contemporary Dance Festival in New York with the Thang Dao Dance company. Michael-John joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2010.

### Paolo Mangiola

Paolo Mangiola was born in 1978 in Reggio di Calabria, Italy, studying dance from a very young age. In 1997 he moved to Milan, Italy, where he won a scholarship at the School of Art, Milan, under the direction of Susanna Beltrami. There he trained in classical ballet, Cunningham technique and improvisational dance theater. On completing his studies in 2001, Paolo joined the company Aterballetto, under

the direction of Mauro Bigonzetti. He stayed there for 4 years, dancing repertory by the likes of Mauro Bigonzetti, William Forsythe, Jacopo Godani and Fabrizio Monteverde. In September 2005 Paolo moved to Germany and joined the Tanztheater-Nürnberg, under the direction of Daniela Kurz, staying there for 3 years and dancing in works by choreographers Daniela Kurz, Rui Horta, Jorma Elo, Andres Gringras and Stjein Cellis. As a choreographer, Paolo has created work for Atterballetto in 2005 and work for the Tanztheater-Nürnberg's "next generation" program, in 2008. Paolo joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2008.

### Daniela Neugebauer

Daniela was born in Switzerland. She started her professional dance training at the Ballettschule der Hamburgischen Staatsoper under John Neumeier and continued at the Dansacademie, Rotterdam. She has been involved in several projects and has worked with Ballet Gulbenkian under artistic director Paulo Ribeiro and Dance Works, Rotterdam under Ton Simons. Daniela has performed in works by Paulo Ribeiro, Ton Simons, Dana Caspersen, Stephen Petronio, Vaclav Kunes, Bruno Listopad and others. She received three scholarships from the Migros-Genossenschafts-Bund between 2000 and 2003. Daniela joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2010.

### Anna Nowak

Anna Nowak was born in 1982 in Lodz, Poland. From 1991-2000 she studied in the National Ballet School in Lodz. She was awarded the Special Prize for the Best Absolvent of Ballet Schools in Poland in 2001 as well as a Science Scholarship for being one of the highest achieving students in the same year. She grad-

uated after a five year program in the National Music Academy of F. Chopin with honors, taking a degree in Art with specialization in Dance Teaching. From 2001-2007 Anna danced with the National Opera in Warsaw, Poland, with repertory by Jiri Kylian, John Cranco, George Balanchine and Jacek Przybylowicz; taking solo roles in classical repertoire like *Swan Lake*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *La Bayadère*, *La Fille Mal Gardée*, *The Nutcracker* and *Romeo and Juliet*. In 2007 she joined the Gran Canaria Ballet where she danced the principal role in *Jenuhomme* by Uwe Scholz. Anna joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2008.

## Benjamin Ord

Benjamin was born in Auckland, New Zealand. He completed his dance training at the University of Auckland under teachers Timothy Gordon, Juliet Fisher and Mary-Jane O'Reilly and obtained a Bachelor of Performing Arts. In 2006 Benjamin joined Auckland-based Company Z winning "Best Male Dancer" in the Tempo New Zealand Dance Festival. Benjamin has since worked with Curve Foundation Dance Company, Royal New Zealand Ballet, Marc Brew Company and Hubert Essakov Dance, among others. In 2010 Benjamin was the recipient of a Creative New Zealand Grant to take part in a professional development trip to New York where he undertook intensive study at Movement Research at the Merce Cunningham Studio.

He has worked with visual artist Sriwhana Spong on two major video installation works, *Costume for a Mourner* and *Lethe-wards*, which have been shown internationally and are featured in the permanent collection at Te Papa, Museum of New Zealand and Auckland Art Gallery. Benjamin joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in the fall of 2011.

## Fukiko Takase

Fukiko was born in New York in 1984 but raised in Japan by her mother, Takako Takase, a well-respected dancer in Japan. Under the tutelage of acclaimed dancer, dance teacher and choreographer Katsuko Orita as well as her mother, Fukiko has been dancing since the age of two. She eventually became a freelance dancer and choreographer in Japan and was a recipient of a three-year Cultural Affairs Fellowship from the Japanese government to study at the Codarts Rotterdam Dance Academy and London Contemporary Dance School. In 2006 she gained a Certificate in Contemporary Dance from the LCDS; she completed her Post-Graduate Diploma Program in Contemporary Dance in 2007. From 2006-2010, Fukiko worked for Henri Oguike Dance Company, assisting Henri Oguike with *Tread Softly*, a commission for Rambert Dance Company, and *Da Gamba*. She has also worked for Darshan Singh Bhuller, Darren Johnston and Russell Malliphant as a freelance dancer. Fukiko's choreographies include *Landing*, a

full-length work for Theatre X cai in Japan, and *Autumn Hunch*, for the National Theatre, Tokyo. Fukiko Takase joins Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in the fall of 2011.

## Alexander Whitley

Born in Penrith, U.K. Alexander Whitley trained at the Royal Ballet School. He joined Birmingham Royal Ballet in 2000, promoted to first artist in 2002. His repertoire included *Widow Simone* in *La Fille Mal Gardée*, Kangaroo Rat in *Still Life at the Penguin Café* and *Seminarian* in David Bintley's *Carmina Burana*. He choreographed for two of BRB's workshop seasons.

Alexander joined Rambert Dance Company in August 2004 and has worked with choreographers such as Darshan Singh Buller, Wayne McGregor, Rafael Bonachela, Christopher Bruce, Javier de Frutos, Siobhan Davies, Garry Stewart, Karole Armitage and Michael Clark. Alexander received a nomination for the Spotlight Award in the 2008 Critics' Circle Awards. In 2010 he joined Sydney Dance Company for six months and has recently joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance.

Alexander has choreographed five pieces for Rambert Seasons of New Choreography: *From Two to Two Ones* (2005), *Tipping Point* (2006), *Solo?* (2007), an extended version of *Solo?* (2008) and *Iatrogenesis* (2009). In 2008 *Solo?* was taken into Rambert's repertoire. He has also shown work at the Royal Opera House's Summer Collection program in 2009.

Alexander has also choreographed for a Discovery Channel film directed by Tim Meara and a short film made with London film collective DuckEye. In summer 2008, Alexander joined Michael Clark Company as a guest artist for its New York tour. Alexander joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2010.

## Jessica Wright

Jessica was born in Nottingham and trained at Central School of Ballet, London. She went on to work with "theensemblegroup" and Mobius Dance. In 2005 she was selected as an apprentice for D.A.N.C.E. (a new interdisciplinary program under the direction of Wayne McGregor, William Forsythe, Angelin Preljocaj and Frédéric Flamand). During this time she performed as a guest dancer with the Forsythe Company in *Human Writes* and with the Ballet Preljocaj in an installation at the Centre Pompidou, Paris, and danced in two new creations, *Memeri* by McGregor and *A Success Story* by Flamand, in Europe and at Sadler's Wells in June 2007. Since 2005 she has also been collaborating with Morgann Runacre-

# Batsheva Max

Thursday–Saturday

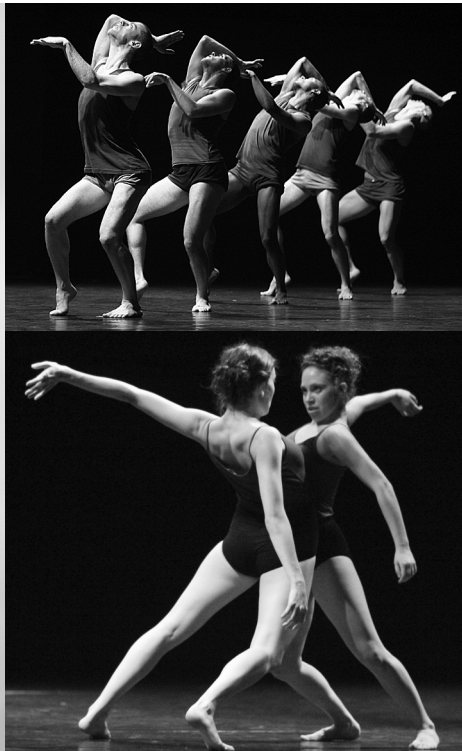
February 23–25

8pm

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Temple, creating dance films and interactive performances. Their work has been screened at The Portabello Film Festival and The Scottish Dance Film Festival; *Out of Hand* (2006) was selected for the final of The Cobravison Short Film Competition. Jessica joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in 2008.

## Odette Hughes: Rehearsal Director

Odette Hughes joined Wayne McGregor | Random Dance in June 1997 following a dance and technology residency with Wayne McGregor in Berlin, becoming the company's Rehearsal Director in 2000. Odette is responsible for the every day artistic supervision of the company, overseeing all performances and directing all rehearsals. Odette was First Assistant Choreographer on the fourth Harry Potter Film, *The Goblet of Fire* (2004) and in 2006 she was Movement Coach on the fifth Harry Potter film *Order of the Phoenix*. She acted as Rehearsal Director for the Royal Ballet's *Engram*, choreographed by McGregor, and also for The English National Opera's production of *Salome*. She assisted McGregor on his production of *Dido and Aeneas* at La Scala, Milan in June 2006 and then in August of the same year she assisted McGregor with the restaging of his Ballet, *Eden/Eden* onto the San Francisco Ballet, in which she returned in February 2008 to rehearse *Eden/Eden* for the 75th anniversary of the San Francisco Ballet. She was Rehearsal Director for Michel Ocelot's Musical, *Kirikou*, directed and choreographed by McGregor. She was appointed Wayne McGregor | Random Dance Associate Director in January 2007.

## Program Notes

Wayne McGregor | Random Dance's production of *Entity* thrilled Sadler's Wells audiences at its world premiere in 2008. It now arrives at Novellus Theater after sell-out shows at the Venice and Lyon Biennales and wide critical acclaim.

Performed against a pounding soundscape by Coldplay and Massive Attack collaborator, Jon Hopkins and award-winning composer Joby Talbot (*The Divine Comedy*), *Entity* is a staggering blend of bodies, lights, technology and film, which confirms McGregor's place at the cutting edge of contemporary culture. Technically astonishing, emotionally uncompromising and hard-hitting, McGregor's work defies categorization.

A prolific dance maker, in the past year Wayne McGregor has created new work for the Bolshoi Ballet, New York City Ballet, Paris Opera Ballet and The Royal Ballet. He has directed opera at La Scala, Milan and recently choreographed for Radiohead and Elton John.

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