

BALAM Dance of the Gods

DANCE THEATRE

Founding Director, Islene Pinder | Artistic Director, Carlos Fittante

BALAM Dance Theatre, a contemporary dance company inspired by Balinese theatre, explores sacred sensibilities in a Western context and presents a vision of contemporary-world dance.

BALAM celebrates its 25th anniversary, featuring:

3 Premieres

The Haunting of Lady Macbeth

Kacapi

Bali-Bolero

Live Music

Gamelan Son of Lion

Guest Artist

Judith Robinson, Actor

with...

Actors from the Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute

Yuki Kawahisa, Giovanni Lopez, Jack Murrin, & Monica Walter

and...

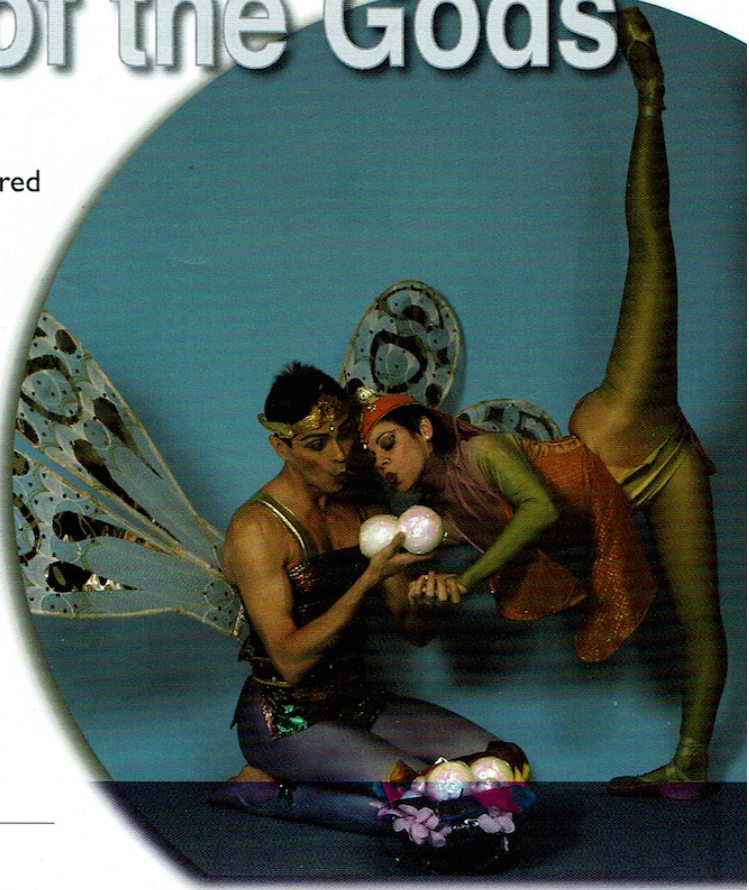
BALAM Dancers

Kristina Berger, Carlos Fittante, Robin Gilbert, & Toshinori Hamada

"...creating an effect entirely magical." – Valerie Sudol, *The Star Ledger*

"...there were many fantastic images!" – Jack Anderson, *The New York Times*

"...(BALAM) succeeds in casting the kind of spell that must have affected those masters." – Joyce Caruso, *Other Stages*



Silver Jubilee 25th Anniversary Season



WHITE WAVE John Ryan Theatre November 4-6, 2005

Located in D.U.M.B.O.

25 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

(from Manhattan take the "F" train to York Street, or "A" and "C" trains to High Street and walk towards the East River)
Tickets are \$20 (\$15 students & seniors). General seating; tickets are purchased at the theatre prior to the performance.

Program A

Friday & Saturday, November 4 & 5 at 7pm

Ramayana-Abduction of Sita

The Haunting of Lady Macbeth

Eden

Hanuman the Monkey King

Kacapi

Bali-Bolero

Descriptions...

Bali-Bolero (premiere), an ensemble work inspired by Ravel's score and the sun salutation from yoga.

Coyote Stories, a shadow puppet play performed by Gamelan Son of Lion with music by Lou Harrison

Eden, innocent lovers lost in Tantric ecstasy.

Hanuman the Monkey King, a beloved character from the Ramayana known for his strength & playful antics.

The Haunting of Lady Macbeth (premiere), a tragic journey that ranges from heroic potential to mad revenge.

Kacapi (premiere), an ethereal masked solo inspired from a poem by Sitor Situmorang with music by Lisa Karrer.

Ramayana-Abduction of Sita, an action packed story ballet inspired by the Hindu epic.

Tigerlily & the Dragonfly, a fairy tale love duet en pointe.

Program B

Sunday, November 6 at 3pm - Family Show

Hanuman the Monkey King

Tigerlily & the Dragonfly

The Haunting of Lady Macbeth

Kacapi

Coyote Stories

Bali-Bolero

Ramayana-Abduction of Sita

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BALAM's Silver Jubilee 25th Anniversary Season celebrates our unique aesthetic and ongoing contribution to the dance community.

Program A

Friday & Saturday, November 4 & 5 at 7pm

Ramayana-Abduction of Sita

-pause-

The Haunting of Lady Macbeth (premiere)
Eden

-10 minute intermission-

Hanuman the Monkey King
Margapati (musical selection)
Kacapi (premiere)
Bali-Bolero (premiere)

Program B

Sunday, November 6 at 3pm

Hanuman the Monkey King
Tigerlily & the Dragonfly

-pause-

The Haunting of Lady Macbeth (premiere)

-5 minute intermission-

Kacapi (premiere)
Coyote Stories (shadow puppet play)
Bali-Bolero (premiere)

-10 minute intermission-

Ramayana-Abduction of Sita

This Season's Repertoire

Ramayana-Abduction of Sita

Fight Scene — Toshinori Hamada & Carlos Fittante

Music — a compilation of Balinese gamelan music and vocals arranged by Pinder/Fittante, performed by Sangga Semara Ratih with an excerpt created and performed by Gamelan Son Lion

Premiered July 7, 2000 at the International Bali Arts Festival hosted in Denpasar, Bali.

Costume — variations after traditional Balinese designed Islene Pinder and built in Bali
Set/Props — Jana Rosenblatt-Larsen, Zoe Pettijon, Anom Tilem of Ubud, Bali

Dancers — Robin Gilbert- Sita (*the princess*)

Carlos Fittante- Rama (*the prince*)

Toshinori Hamada - Rahwana (*the demon*)

Kristina Berger - Golden Deer (*the demon's accomplice*)

First conceived in 1990 this action packed story ballet has become BALAM's signature work. Inspired by the Hindu epic, *Ramayana* depicts a timeless struggle between good and evil enacted by four mythic characters.

Synopsis — Rama and Sita, unjustly banished from their kingdom, enter the forest where they dance, and lovingly build a house of branches. Sita, spotted by the evil demon Rahwana, is lured away and abducted by his accomplice the beautiful Golden Deer. Rahwana tries to break Sita's spirit and possess her. Sita, desperate, prays as Rama finds her clue on the forest floor. Rama meditates and invokes Bayu, the god of inspiration, who shows Rama where Sita is imprisoned. Rama rushes to rescue Sita, and must battle the mighty Rahwana. Their struggle is tremendous, and with the last of his strength and blessed by the gods, Rama crushes Rahwana with an arrow shot from his magic bow.

The Haunting of Lady Macbeth (premiere)

A theatrical collaboration

Conceived by — Judith Robinson

Verse Collage — Christopher Cartmill

Staging & Direction by — Carlos Fittante, Judith Robinson

Music — Kidung Wargasari

Costume — Jessica Jahn (Lady Macbeth), KL Fredericks (Spirits)

Masks — Ida Bagus Anom

Actors — Judith Robinson (Lady Macbeth)

Yuki Kawahisa, Giovanni Lopez, Jack Murrin, Monica Walter (Spirits)

This piece emanates from the intuition of an actor and represents an imagined and expanded life in the evolution of Shakespeare's character.

Eden

Music — Vivaldi's Largo in C Major for piccolo recorder and Brazilian rhythmic Jazz ensemble, Uakti II

Premiered December 12, 2003

Costumes — Angela Kostritzky-Haws
Dancers — Robin Gilbert, Carlos Fittante

An adagio of innocent lovers in Tantric ecstasy.

Hanuman the Monkey King

Music — Semara Gita by award winning Balinese composer, I Nyoman Windha
Premiered December 12, 2000

Costumes — Casandra Saulter

Headpiece — I Wayang Tabih from Sukawati, Gianyar, Bali

Mask — I. Nyoman Renu from Singapadu, Bali

Dancer — Kristina Berger

Hanuman is a beloved character from the *Ramayana* and embodies a tender heart combined with unlimited strength.

Margapati

Performed by Gamelan Son of Lion

A piece from the traditional repertoire of Balinese gamelan angklung, which is in slendro tuning with only four notes per octave; used for ceremonies, parades and dance.

Kacapi (premiere)

Choreography & Costume — Carlos Fittante

Music — *Kacapi* is an excerpt from a full length multi-media piece, *Woman's Song-The Story of Roro Mendut* created, composed and sung by Lisa Karrer

Poetry — Sitor Situmorang

Mask — I. Nyoman Renu from Singapadu, Bali

Body Art — Ken Baldwin, Temptu Artist

Kacapi is a Javanese stringed instrument and also a type of music that incorporates strings, zither, gamelan and vocalists used to create moods of reflection and contemplation.

Kacapi text — by Sitor Situmorang, arranged by Lisa Karrer, translated by Harry Aveling

Demikianlah kisah cinta kami	(This is the story of our love)
Yang bermula di pekan kembang	(Which began in the flower market)
Kini	(and the room glowed)
Ternyata masih menyala	(with the brightness of your body)
Bila semua dah lupa berduka	(When all have forgotten how to mourn)
Serahkan pada jendela terbuka	(Surrender to the open window)
Di mana aku berada kau ada	(I used to think that like my shadow)
Bayangan satu-satunya, demikian kurasa	(You would always be with me)

Bali-Bolero (premiere)

Conceived by — Toshinori Hamada

Choreography — Carlos Fittante

Music — an arrangement by Gamelan Son of Lion of Maurice Ravel's Bolero

Costumes — KL Fredericks

Dancers — the company

A celebratory ensemble work inspired by Ravel's *Bolero* and the Sun Salutation from yoga.

(SUNDAY ONLY)

Tigerlily & the Dragonfly

Music — I Ketut Carter commissioned by BALAM and recorded in Bali.

Premiered July 7, 2000 at the International Bali Arts Festival hosted in Denpasar, Bali.

Costumes — Jana Rosenblatt-Larsen, Kate McDonald

Set/Props — Anom Tilem of Ubud, Bali

Dancers — Robin Gilbert (Tigerlily)

Carlos Fittante (Dragonfly)

Tigerlily & the Dragonfly is a fantasy love duet en pointe inspired by the popular Balinese dance, *Oleg Tambulilingan*.

Coyote Stories

Music — Lou Harrison performed by Gamelan Son of Lion

Puppeteer — Barbara Benary

Vocals — Jodi Kruskal

About Us

BALAM Dance Theatre (BALAM) is a unique chamber sized dance ensemble that fuses Balinese and contemporary dance styles. This aesthetic alchemy represents a convergence of esoteric and modern sensibilities and presents a vision of Contemporary-World dance.

Founded by Islene Pinder, a CUNY professor of dance and choreographer, and later joined in 1990 by choreographer/dance-artist, Carlos Fittante, BALAM's fusion repertoire is derived from the skills of its artists. BALAM's dancers embody an eclectic cross-section of New York's diverse dance community including Ballet, Baroque, Lester Horton, Martha Graham, Noh and Karate movement techniques synthesized with Balinese dance.

Known for its "taksu," or mesmerizing performing quality, Balinese dance possesses a special radiance that originates from a deep cultural regard for the relationship between the spirit and corporeal worlds. The Balinese perceive the dancing body as the consummate physical expression for mystical forces, feelings and imagination. BALAM acknowledges and embraces this viewpoint in its working process and performances. This perspective adds a subtle and profound resonance for both the performer and audience.