

## STACEY CALVERT



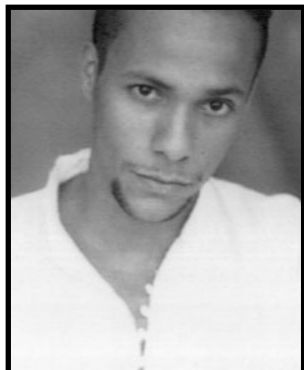
**Stacey Calvert** was born and raised in Columbia, South Carolina, and began her ballet training at the Calvert-Brodie School of Dance, studying with her mother and godmother. In 1980, Ms. Calvert entered the School of American Ballet, the official school of the New York City Ballet (NYCB), remaining there for three years. She joined New York City Ballet's corp de ballet in 1983. In 1992, Ms. Calvert joined William Forsythe's Frankfurt Ballet. She returned to New York City Ballet in the winter of 1993 and was promoted to the rank of

Soloist in 1994.

Since joining the New York City Ballet, she has danced numerous featured roles including George Balanchine's *Apollo*, *Ballo della Regina*, *The Four Temperaments*, *The Nutcracker (Hot Chocolate)*, *Stars and Stripes*, *Symphony in C*, Tchaikovsky's *Piano Concerto No. 2*, *Western Symphony*, and *Who Cares?*, as well as Jerome Robbins' *The Four Seasons (Winter)* and *Interplay*. Additionally, she has been featured in Peter Martins' *Ash* and Barber *Violin Concerto* as well as William Forsythe's *Herman Schmerman*. During the inaugural season of NYCB's Diamond Project in 1992, Ms. Calvert originated a principal role in John Alleyne's *Bet Ann's Dance*. During the company's 1994 Diamond Project, she originated principal roles in Lynne Taylor-Corbett's *Chiaroscuro*, John Alleyne's *The New Blondes*, Trey McIntyre's *Steel and Rain*, and Kevin O'Day's *Viola Alone . . . (with One Exception)*. For the Diamond Project in 1997, Ms. Calvert originated principal roles in O'Day's *Open Strings* and Angelin Preljocaj's *La Stravaganza*. Additionally, she originated principal roles in Mr. O'Day's *Huoah*, Dvorak *Bagatelles* and *Badchonim*. Ms. Calvert has danced in Europe with a touring group and has traveled extensively in the United States and abroad with the New York City Ballet.

In the spring of 2006, 2007 and 2008, she presented for the University of South Carolina (USC) Ballet Stars of New York with principal dancers from the New York City Ballet Company including Wendy Whelan, Albert Evans, Nilas Martins, Tom Gold, Nikolaj Hubbe, and Yvonne Borree and the USC Dance Company. The 2006 star-studded evening included *Apollo*, *Agon*, and *Tarantella*, all works by the legendary choreographer George Balanchine. This gala evening has become an annual event for the USC Board of Dance.

## DUNCAN COOPER



**Duncan Cooper** considers himself a native of both New York City and San Francisco. He received most of his training in the San Francisco Ballet School and later spent 5 years dancing with the company. He joined the Dance Theatre of Harlem as a Principal Dancer in 1995 until 2004. He has danced notable leading roles such as Balanchine's *Apollo*, *Prodigal Son*, *Agon*, *Allegro Brillante*, Albrecht in *Giselle*; Robbins' *Fancy Free*; Ashton's *Thais*, Glenn Tetley's *Sphinx and Dialogues* and Smuin's *A Song For Dead Warriors*, to name a few. His list of guest artist appearances includes lead roles for New York City Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet, Washington Ballet and more. Most recently in September of 2007, he was invited to dance a new work for the 12<sup>th</sup> International Ballet Festival of Miami. Mr. Cooper continues to travel nationally and internationally as a guest teacher in addition to choreographing and dancing for various projects he finds interesting. Currently, he is deeply committed to the national outreach program for kids at risk, Athletes For Kids, for which he helped create and is the assistant director.

## TODD FOX



Throughout his professional career **Todd Fox** has danced as a Principal Dancer with leading dance companies around the world including South Africa's Ballet Theatre Afrikan, Ireland's Cork City Ballet, Yugoslavia's Serbian National Theatre Ballet, Scotland's Ballet West, Venezuela's Ballet Metropolitano de Caracas, Ballet Concierto de Puerto Rico, Isle of Man's Manx Ballet Company, and the Cleveland Ballet. In 1998, Mr. Fox was invited by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton to perform for the White House Millennium Counsel's Save America's Treasures' campaign.

Mr. Fox has appeared as a guest artist with many companies in the United States and abroad, including Toronto's Xing Ballet, Dance Galaxy, Fugate/Bahiri Ballet New York, the Pasadena Dance Theatre, Dances Patrelle, Sante Fe Opera, Syracuse Symphony, Roxey Ballet, New Jersey Ballet, City Ballet of Houston, the

Eglevsky Ballet, Columbia City Ballet, the Festival Ballet of Rhode Island, Neglia Ballet Artists, Boca Ballet Theatre, Cleveland Opera, Central Oklahoma Ballet and the West Florida Ballet.

Quoted by the New York Times' Jack Anderson as "most notable for his effortless jumps," Mr. Fox's vast performance repertoire includes Prince Desiree and the Bluebird in Petipa's *The Sleeping Beauty*, Franz in Igor Youskevitch's *Coppelia*, the Cavalier in Hector Zaraspie's *The Nutcracker*, Albrecht in Adam Lavrosky's *Giselle*, Stanton Welch's *Orange*, the Angel in Rudolph Van Dantzig's *Four Last Songs*, Pas de Cinq in Rudolph Nureyev's *Sleeping Beauty*, George Balanchine's *Apollo*, *Valse Fantasie*, and Tchaikovsky's *Pas de Deux*, Escamillo in Roland Petit's *Carmen*, Gerald Arpino's *Kettentanz*, Antony Tudor's *Continuo*, Robert Joffrey's *Spring Waters*, Prince Alexis in Dennis Nahat's *The Nutcracker*, the title role in *Le Sylphide*, *Le Corsaire Pas de Deux*, Sigfried in *Swan Lake*, William Dollar's *Le Combat*, Rachel Butler's *Restless Sleep*, Damien Woetzel's *Shostakovich Suite*, Daniel Pelzig's Overture to *Countess Maritza*, Robert North's *Death and the Maiden*, and David Allen's *Cinderella*.

Theatrical credits include the off-Broadway production of *Life's Too Short to Cry*, National tours include *Dreamgirls*, *Cinderella* starring Phyllis Diller, the *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Out of Their Shells* tour, and in the Spring of 2005 as Police Chief Louis Renault in Warner Brothers Theatre Ventures' production of John Clifford's *Casablanca the Dance*. Mr. Fox has also appeared on such television shows as *Live with Regis and Kathy Lee*, *The Drew Carey Show*, the original PBS Emmy nominated cast of Dennis Nahat's *Blue Suede Shoes*, and most recently in the 2009 Irish television series *Ballet Chancers*.

Mr. Fox presently serves as a Master Class Instructor for many institutions in the United States and abroad including Hamilton University, the West Virginia Dance Festival, Scotland's Ballet West Academy, Miami Dade College, South Africa's School of Ballet Theatre Afrikan, Lone Star Ballet Academy, Los Angeles Classical Ballet Academy, West Florida Ballet, LaGrange Ballet, Ireland's Cork City Ballet and Irish Russian Youth Ballet, and Neglia Ballet Artists.

## LORRAINE ELIZABETH GRAVES



**Lorraine Graves** was born in Norfolk, Virginia, and began her classical training at the Academy of the Norfolk Ballet under the direction of the late Gene Hammett. In later years she was awarded full scholarships to the School of American Ballet and the American Ballet Center. Upon graduation from high school, she attended Indiana University at Bloomington completing a four year program in three years earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Ballet with Distinction.

Ms. Graves began her professional career with the Dance Theatre of Harlem (DTH) rising to the rank of Principal Dancer within one year. Three years later, Ms. Graves became Ballet Mistress in addition to her duties as a dancer.

Ms. Graves' performance credits with DTH included *Giselle*, *Firebird*, *Footprints Dressed in Red*, *The River*, *Toccata E Due Canzoni*, *Etosha*, *Serenade*, *The Four Temperaments*, *Agon*, *Allegro Brillante*, and the role of the Siren in George Balanchine's *The Prodigal Son*. She also had leading roles in Frederic Franklin's stagings of *Pas de Dix*, *Prince Igor* and *Scheherazade* and Arthur Mitchell's *Rhythmetron*, *Holberg Suite* and *Fete Noire*.

Television credits include the role of Myrta in NBC's airing of Dance Theatre of Harlem's *Creole Giselle*; the Princess of Unreal Beauty in the PBS production of John Taras' *The Firebird*; and the closing ceremonies of the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles, California.

Ms. Graves' guest appearances include performances with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic's Young People's Concert Series, the Norfolk Civic Ballet, the River City Ballet, the Northwest Florida Ballet, Virginia Ballet Theatre at the 1996 International Azalea Festival and Dance Theatre of Harlem's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at New York's City Center.

Ms. Graves has extensive teaching experience including the North Carolina School of the Arts; the Governor's School for the Arts in Virginia; the Virginia School of the Arts in Lynchburg, Virginia; the Cornish Institute in Seattle, Washington; the Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute; the South Carolina Governor's School of the Arts; DTH's Kennedy Residency Program (now the Pre-Professional Program),

Virginia Ballet Theatre, Flint Institute of Music, and the Southeastern Regional Ballet Association (SERBA).

Ms. Graves is permanent guest faculty for the Virginia School of the Arts and is on the master teacher faculty at Dance Theatre of Harlem. She is an invited guest teacher for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre and is also lead adjudicator for the West Virginia Dance Festival.

Ms. Graves returned to her hometown where she is currently on the faculty of the Governor's School of the Arts. She is also the chairman of the Norfolk Commission on the Arts and Humanities, a member of the Mayor's Downtown Task Force, a member of the Links, Inc., a member of the Todd Rosenlieb Dance Company board and is secretary/treasurer of her family's business, Graves Funeral Home.

Ms. Graves is listed in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in Entertainment*, *Who's Who Among Women*, and *Marquis' Who's Who*.

## CRISTIAN LAVERDE KÖNIG



**Cristian Laverde König** was born in Cali, Colombia, and received his training at the Incolballet and Cuba's National Ballet School under full scholarship. He danced as a Soloist with the National Ballet of Cuba, Ballet de Cali, Hartford Ballet and Ballet Internationale. Additionally, he performed as a Principal Dancer with the Maximum Dance Company and the Milwaukee Ballet. Mr. König was a finalist at the 7<sup>th</sup> USA International Ballet Competition in Jackson, Mississippi. Also, the governor of his home state in Colombia honored him in 2003 with an award for "Outstanding Achievements in the Arts Abroad." Mr. König's repertoire includes principal roles in classical ballets such as Basilio in *Don Quixote*, Franz in *Coppélia* and Siegfried in *Swan Lake*, and the Grand Pas de Deux from *Corsaire*, *La Bayader*, *The Flames of Paris*, *Spartacus*, *Romeo and Juliet*, among others. He has performed pieces by choreographers such as George Balanchine, Twyla Tharp and Martha Graham, and works by Alberto Mendez, Ivonice Satie, KT Nelson and Dominic Walsh. He also has created principal roles on pieces by choreographers such as Lila York, Petr Zahradnicek, Ivo van Zwieten, Paolo Mohovich, Jean Christophe Blavier, among others. Mr. König

has appeared as a guest artist in Costa Rica, Japan, Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala and Panama, as well as at ballet festivals in Italy, Hungary, Scotland and Cuba. Currently, Mr. König is an international guest artist based in the city of New York.

## RONI MAHLER



**Roni Mahler** is a former ballerina who performed principal roles with American Ballet Theatre and the National Ballet of Washington DC. She currently is the Artistic Associate for Ballet San Jose and also teaches in her native New York City at the Juilliard School, where she is a member of its permanent faculty, and Ballet Academy East.

Ms. Mahler began training with the renowned Maria Yurieva Swoboda at six years of age. Her extensive repertoire has included Myrta, Queen of the Wilis in *Giselle*, Swanilda in *Coppelia*, Odette/Odile in the full-length *Swan Lake*, the Flower Girl in *Gaite Parisienne*, the Female Matchmaker in *Les Noces*, the Elder Sister in *Pillar of Fire*, Emilia in *The Moor's Pavane* and, more recently, the Countess in *District Storyville*, Juliet's Nurse and Lady Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet* and Her Stepmother in *Fall River Legend*. She also danced leads in *Les Sylphides*, *Raymonda*, *The Four Temperaments* and *Serenade*.

Following appearances as a guest artist with Australia's Sydney Festival Ballet and at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Ms. Mahler spent six years as Director of Dance at Kansas State University (1974 - 1980). She initiated their dance degree program, co-founded and co-directed the Kansas State University Dance Workshop, received an Outstanding Teaching Award in 1975 and was selected as an Outstanding Young Woman of America for the year 1978. She is the creator of a series of educational recordings and manuals devoted to ballet technique, as well as a program entitled "*Ballet Movement for the Athlete*" which she eventually customized for the Cleveland Browns of the National Football League.

She has been Ballet Mistress for Cleveland/San Jose Ballet and in 1988, Ms. Mahler choreographed for Cynthia Gregory and Fernando Bujones at New York's City Center. She subsequently served as Artistic Advisor for Ms. Gregory and Company during their 1992 Taiwan tour.

Roni Mahler is the recipient of the 2003 President's award from the Dance Masters of America, the 1992 Dance Educators of America Award and the 1994 Artistic Achievement Award from the Chicago National Association of Dance Masters. In 1996, she received the first annual Roni Mahler Award, established by Kansas State University and presented each year to honor outstanding efforts on behalf of dance in the Manhattan community. In 1999, the university named a new ballet facility the Roni Mahler Studio.

Ms. Mahler is the creator of three ballet instructional videos: "*How To Improve Your Ballet Technique*," "*How To Improve Your Pirouettes*" and "*How To Improve Your Pointe Technique*." Her fitness video entitled "*Stretch It!*" improves flexibility and range of motion.

Since 1993, Ms. Mahler has been an annual instructor at the acclaimed Rancho La Puerta Spa in Tecate, Mexico, where she is the guest presenter each year for its two ballet weeks. She continues to teach master classes and seminars in this country and abroad. In 1996, she served as guest teacher-in-residence for the inaugural semester of School of Ballet San Jose.

## GINGER THATCHER



**Ginger Thatcher** began her professional dance career as an apprentice with the Houston Ballet. She later joined the Cincinnati Ballet and in 1981 joined the Cleveland Ballet, dancing with this company for ten years as a Soloist/Principal.

From 1991 - 1993, Ms. Thatcher danced with the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company and danced roles in *American Gesture*, *Concerto 622*, *Symphonie Concertante*, *Waiting For The Sunshine*, and *A Braham's Symphony*.

Teaching credits include: Norwegian National Ballet, Ballet Academy East, Steps, Cleveland Ballet Academy, Houston Ballet Academy, Joffrey New School, Minnesota Ballet, USDAN, PeriDance, University of Michigan, and Oakland University.

Ms. Thatcher was the re-creator of the National Tour of *Oklahoma*. She has created works for Oregon Ballet Theatre, Louisville Ballet, Sarasota Ballet (Triple Circle Choreographer Award), Minnesota Ballet, American Repertory Ballet, Virginia Ballet Theatre, and Fugate/Bahiri Ballet New York at the Joyce Theater in New York City. She has self produced her own evening of work at Lincoln Center and was a founding director of New Steps Choreography Project in Cleveland, Ohio, which she received an Achievement in the Arts Nomination.

Broadway credits as Associate Assistant and Resident Choreographer include: *The Red Shoes*, *Carousel*, *Big*, Matthew Bourne's *Swan Lake*, *Oklahoma*, *A Year with Frog and Toad*. Other credits include PBS's *Dance in America*, *Othello* (American Ballet Theatre, San Francisco Ballet, Joffrey Ballet), *The Red Shoes* (American Ballet Theatre, National Ballet of Canada), *A Brahms Symphony* (American Ballet Theatre), and Disney's *Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Berlin*, all with Lar Lubovitch, *But Not for Me* (Martha Graham Dance Company), *Take Five . . . More or Less* (Pacific Northwest Ballet), both with Susan Stroman.

As a dancer/actress: Cleveland Ballet (Soloist/Principal), Lar Lubovitch Dance Company. Theatre: *Oklahoma* (Broadway), *Phantom*, *Showboat*, *My Fair Lady*, *West Side Story* (Jerome Robbins), *Kiss Me Kate*, *Peter Pan*, *Woman of the Year*, *Evita*. T.V./Film: *Blue in the Face*, *As the World Turns*, *Another World*.