

# Annual Report 200

# About the Performance Garage.

The Performance Garage is dedicated to nurturing and supporting dance artists, companies, educators, and choreographers.

Founded in 2000 by Jeanne Ruddy and Victor Keen, the Performance Garage is housed in a historic 19th-century building that was originally a horse stable. Since 2002, the façade and interiors were renovated, and the space was transformed into supportive non-profit dance studios hosting residencies, educational programs, and a 105-seat dance theater.



### Hello Friends, Colleagues and Community,

As with many performing arts organizations having reopened after the pandemic, it has been both heartening to feel the excitement of our audiences viewing live performances again, but also challenging to experience the reduced number of audience members as social habits and preferences have changed because of the long and difficult time of separation and closure. There are still folks who are being careful about their health or others who have gotten out of the habit of going out to see live performances. However, happily, the artists who work and create under our roof are just as vital and eager as before the pandemic closure.

This annual report documents 2022, the first full year back with the Performance Garage being fully open for programming. We have been able to hire staff to bring us back to our former level, save for one more position that we hope to fill in the next year. In 2022, we had 14,083 people pass through our doors to either take class, go to workshops or auditions, make videos, visit our programs, or come see performances.

With our Phase II capital renovations completed in 2020, our new bathrooms, improved Vick-Stack studio lobby, and new theater chairs have continued to delight everyone who enters. Our 2021 mutually beneficial relationship with the Philadelphia Ballet has continued into 2022 with their return for rehearsals and workshop rentals.

Our familiar programs of *DanceVisions, HubChats, DanceFilms, DanceSpace* have reblossomed and have been enjoyed by hundreds of audience members and online followers. We have been thrilled to support master teachers in Ballet, Aerial, Egyptian, Contemporary dance, and Yoga.

In addition, we've resumed our *YouthMoves* community engagement partnership with the Franklin Learning Center high school providing weekly free dance classes (35 over 35 weeks.) We've conducted this program with our surrounding neighborhood schools and throughout the Philadelphia area since 2004.

In September, we showcased three performances of our 2021-2022 *DanceVisions* Resident Artists, yaTande Whitney Hunter, and Jude Sandy's *Walk The (Pink) Elephant*, supported in part by Independence Blue Cross and the National Endowment for the Arts. They partnered with two organizations that work with HIV populations: Colors and the Mazzoni Center.

Our 2022-2023 *DanceVisions* Resident Artist Weiwei Ma is currently in the middle of her year-long residency with the theme of the Chinese calendar's 24 Solar Terms found in nature. She began her exploratory research in September 2022 and will premiere her new choreographic work in May 2023. She was selected by a nationally recognized panel led by Jeanne Ruddy, with Joan Myers Brown and Kun-Yang Lin.

I am grateful for the hard work of our staff to bring the Performance Garage back to full speed after the pandemic closure. Thank you to our returned and new sponsors. And a huge thank you to Victor Keen, Co-Founder and Board President, and the incredible Performance Garage Board for their dedication and belief in the mission of the Performance Garage.

Executive Artistic Director/Co-founder/Resident Artist

Jeanne Ruddy

# Impact.

In 2021, the Performance Garage was a Shuttered Venue due to COVID. Happily, our close relationship with the Philadelphia Ballet yielded a year-long exclusive mutually beneficial partnership to use our space for a total of 250 Classes | 242 Rehearsals | 18 Virtual Performances.

# Organized by Performance Garage in 2022.



## 2022 BY THE NUMBERS

Beginning in January 2022, Performance Garage was able to resume its regular programming, opening its doors to outside companies, dancers, choreographers, and groups to rent our space (on a sliding scale) for a full range of activities including classes, rehearsals, and performances.

283 classes

6 workshops

182 rehearsals

2 film sessions

50 performances

1 summer camp

Conducted by Outside Groups/Renters, including Philadelphia Ballet, Kulu Mele African Dance & Drum Ensemble, Chocolate Ballerina Company, Alexei Charov Ballet, Zecheng Liang, BSwan Dance Co, Gwendolyn Bye, Habiba, Creative Expressions Dance Camp, Project Moshen, Alexei Borovik, Leaders & Legends Performing Arts, Shero Dance Co, Reckless Kicks Hip Hop, Bryan Koulman, Grounded Aerial, Yoga Habit, among others.

### + annual report 2022

# Thank you to our generous donors.

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Suzanne F. Roberts Cultural Development Fund

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Executive Artistic Director, Resident Artist

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