

PERFORMANCE GARAGE ANNOUNCES 2025-2026 DANCEVISIONS CHARLES ASKEGARD'S ARTIST RESIDENCY



For immediate release

Philadelphia, PA – August 19, 2025 – Performance Garage is proud to announce Charles Askegard as the 2025–2026 *DanceVisions* Resident Artist. A former Principal Dancer with New York City Ballet, Soloist with American Ballet Theatre, and current Rehearsal Director at

Philadelphia Ballet, Askegard brings decades of performance, choreographic, and leadership experience to this prestigious residency.

"I'm honored to be this year's DanceVisions Resident Artist," said Charles Askegard. "This opportunity allows me to create an evening of dance that explores major themes of life and of love. My goal is to bridge neo-classical form with contemporary themes, grounded in the richness of American music and storytelling. Nowhere else, other than the Performance Garage, would this be possible for me, and I am immensely grateful for the opportunity and look forward to sharing my work with the city of Philadelphia."

After retiring from the stage, Askegard co-founded the company Ballet Next, serving as both director and choreographer, and had successful seasons at the Joyce Theatre in NYC, and at BAM Fishman. In 2015, he was appointed Rehearsal Director of Philadelphia Ballet, working closely with Artistic Director Angel Corella. His choreography has been presented by Philadelphia Ballet, American Repertory Ballet, Nevada Ballet Theatre II, Columbia Ballet Collaborative, Ballet Academy East in NYC, and more. He was selected for the 2024 National Choreographers Initiative in Irvine CA. His choreographic work is most recently a subject of a documentary by Adrenaline Films entitled *Pas De Deux* which details the process behind the making of *Air On the G String (For Ukraine)*.

As the 2025-2026 *DanceVisions* Resident Artist, Askegard will develop an evening of three new works set to powerful music spanning a century, by Philip Glass, William Grant Still, and Florence Price, and performed live by musicians from Curtis Institute of Music. The evening, entitled *Live, Life, Love*, premieres in May 2026 and will explore themes of life, love and unity. Featuring dancers from Philadelphia Ballet, the work takes on added significance as part of the *America250* celebration, highlighting inclusive American voices through music and movement.

Performance Garage's Executive Director Jeanne Rudy shared, *"Charles Askegard exemplifies the caliber of artistry we strive to support through the DanceVisions Residency. His vision for this new work is ambitious, thoughtful, and profoundly relevant. We are thrilled to provide the space and support for its creation and look forward to bringing his voice to our community."*

MasterClass – October 28, 2025

Askegard will lead a *MasterClass* for Dance Majors participating in Performance Garage's *YouthMoves* program at Franklin Learning Center high school.

DanceFilm – November 6, 2025

An evening of film and conversation, featuring Adrenaline Film's documentary of *Air On the G String (For Ukraine)*, a behind the scenes look at the making of the *Pas De Deux*, followed by a live performance with Oksana Maslova and Sterling Baca, Principal Dancers of the Philadelphia Ballet. Q&A to follow.

HubChat – March 12, 2026

A panel discussion moderated by Beatrice Jona Affron, Music Director of Philadelphia Ballet. Joined by Askegard, the conversation will explore the legacy and impact of composers Florence Price and William Grant Still, and their evolving place in American musical history.

DanceVisions – May 15–17, 2026

World premiere of Askegard's evening of works in a three-performance concert season at Performance Garage, including post-show talkbacks and reception. This culminating event promises to be a centerpiece of Philadelphia's spring arts calendar.

About DanceVisions

Launched in 2017, *DanceVisions* is the Performance Garage's signature residency program designed to support choreographers in creating ambitious, well-developed new works. Each year, one artist is invited to participate, receiving mentorship, marketing, rehearsal space, and performance support. The goal is to provide the time and resources necessary to craft deeply considered dance works that reflect the artists' vision and voice.

For more information, please visit:

www.performancegarage.org/dancevisions

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