

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

EN

(World Premiere – 2018)

Choreography: Jessica Lang

Assistant to the Choreographer: Kanji Segawa

Rehearsal Associates: Patrick Coker, Rachel Secrest

Music: Jakub Ciupinski

Set Concept: Jessica Lang

Set Design: Jessica Lang and Nicole Pearce

Costumes: Bradon McDonald

Lighting: Nicole Pearce



Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in Jessica Lang's *EN*. Photo by Paul Kolnik

Jessica Lang, a 2014 New York Dance and Performance “Bessie” Award and 2017 Arison Award recipient, makes her choreographic debut on the Ailey company with the world premiere *EN*, her 100th ballet. *EN* – whose multiple meanings in Japanese signify circle, destiny, fate and karma – is a celebratory ensemble work set to original music by composer Jakub Ciupinski, with costumes by Bradon McDonald. According to Lang, the work “reflects on the universal experience of coming full circle and, as time passes, we recognize the people we meet along life’s journey who play a part in the fate and destiny of our lives.” Artistic Director of Jessica Lang Dance since 2011, Lang has created original works for major companies around the world like American Ballet Theatre, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet, Joffrey Ballet and National Ballet of Japan. Lang’s choreography has demonstrated a breathtaking range of influences, including interests in visual art, theatrical lyricism, the geometry of the human body, and the nuances of bodily gesture.

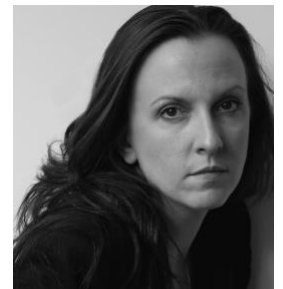
“It’s “*EN*,” by Jessica Lang, a **prolific choreographer... thoughtful craftsmanship...**” – *The New Yorker*

“... an exploration of time, moved the dancers across the stage like a vortex.” – *The New York Times*

““*EN*” does have a **painterly quality:** the dancers... conjure brush strokes as they **glide across the stage.**” – *The New York Times*

Jessica Lang

Jessica Lang is an American choreographer originally from Bucks County, PA. As one of the most celebrated choreographers of her generation, Lang choreographs and teaches throughout the world. Since 1999 Lang has created original works for companies including American Ballet Theatre, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet, the National Ballet of Japan and Joffrey Ballet, among many others. For Opera Lang was the director and choreographer of *Stabat Mater*, recently presented by White Lights Festival at Lincoln Center, as well as the choreographer for Francesca Zambello’s production *Aida* for San Francisco Opera, Washington National Opera and Seattle Opera. She is the recipient of a 2014 Bessie Award and the 2017 Arison Award. Lang is Artistic Director of Jessica Lang Dance, leading the creative vision of the organization that has garnered remarkable acclaim since the company’s founding in 2011. Lang is a graduate of the Juilliard School under the direction of Benjamin Harkarvy and a former member of Twyla Tharp’s company, THARP! Lang is married to Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater’s Kanji Segawa, who is serving as Assistant to the Choreographer for the creation of *EN*.



Jessica Lang. Photo by Kazu.

Jakub Ciupinski

Jakub Ciupinski is Polish composer living in New York City. His concert music has been commissioned and performed by institutions and ensembles including Birmingham Royal Ballet, Metropolis Ensemble, The New York City Ballet’s Choreographic Institute, Stamford Symphony, Sinfonietta Cracovia, The New Juilliard Ensemble, Sybarite5, among many others. His works have been performed at prestigious venues around the world such as Tonhalle in Zurich and Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, New York. He has collaborated with artists, musicians, choreographers and film directors, including Oscar-winning director Andrzej Wajda, and scored the music for United Nations documentary “Opening Doors.” He was a fellow of the Sundance Institute Episodic Story Lab 2016. Ciupinski studied

with Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Christopher Rouse at The Juilliard School, Zbigniew Bujarski and Krzysztof Penderecki at the Cracow Academy of Music, and with Edwin Roxbrough and Joe Cutler at the Birmingham Conservatoire. He teaches at Purchase College, State University of New York where he served as head of Studio Composition program as well as artistic director of Purchase Orchestra Electric.

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Music Credit Information

Original music written by: Jakub Ciupinski