Canadian choreographer Aszure Barton is one of the most sought-after of her time. By simultaneously respecting and dismantling classical and contemporary forms, she presents a dynamic, intricate, and layered movement vocabulary that expresses the vulnerability, power, and complexity of the human body. Her coveted choreography, BUSK, was created in 2009 as a full-length work with her own company, Aszure Barton & Artists. The English verb "to busk" means to perform on the street or in other public areas in the form of music, song, juggling, or magic to collect money from passersby. The title also refers to the word's Spanish root, "buscar," which means "to seek." Based on this form of performance, the choreography traces the relationship between performers and audience, presenting the full range of movement of the dancers' bodies.

"...her intensity and originality are always worth watching... not just the large-scale group actions but the moving little gestures, the human gestures, that catch your eye..." – Observer (in reference to Barton’s choreography style)

“To busk is to entertain with the body. And so Aszure Barton’s exquisite work did just that...” – Medium

Aszure Barton

Aszure Barton received her formal dance training from Canada’s National Ballet School, where she helped originate the Stephen Godfrey Choreographic Showcase as a student. She has been creating dances for over 25 years and has collaborated with celebrated dance artists and companies including Mikhail Baryshnikov, Teatro alla Scala, English National Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Nederlands Dans Theater, National Ballet of Canada, Martha Graham Dance Company, Bayerisches Staatsballett, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Sydney Dance Company, and Houston Ballet, among others. Her works have been performed on countless international stages including the Palais Garnier, Mariinsky Theater, The Kennedy Center, The Alicia Alonso Grand Theater, and Lincoln Center. She has received accolades and honors including the prestigious Arts & Letters Award, joining the ranks of Oscar Peterson, Karen Kain, and Margaret Atwood. She was the first Martha Duffy resident artist at the Baryshnikov Arts Center and is an official ambassador of contemporary dance in Canada. She is the founder of Aszure Barton & Artists, an inter-disciplinary international dance project. As an educator, Aszure is regularly invited to collaborate with and give workshops at universities and art institutions around the globe.

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Additional support also provided by White Oak Conservation Center, the Howard Gilman Foundation, and The Canada Council for the Arts.

**BUSK Music Credit Information**
(in order as you hear them in the ballet)

**Song: “Euridice”**
Words & music by: Marcus Vinicius da Cruz de M. Morales

**Song: “Ett Bondbrollop”**
Composed by: August Soderman

**Song: “Plume”**
By: Lev “Ljova” Zhurbin

**Song: “Kung Liljekonvalje”**
Composed by: Camille Saint-Saëns

**Song: “Queen Elizabeth Whistle”**
Composed by: Moondog

**Song: “All is loneliness”**
Composed by: Moondog

**Song: “Amusements”**
Composed by: Daniel Belanger

**Song: “Salterelle”**
Composed by: Camille Saint-Saëns