



VITACCA BALLET

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MEDIA CONTACT: SHAUNA TYSOR, PR@VITACCADANCE.COM

VITACCA BALLET'S SOWN FEATURES *GREY HORSES* BY RENOWNED CHOREOGRAPHER ROBYN MINEKO-WILLIAMS

Grey Horses Originally Premiered at
Hubbard Street Dance Chicago

Founder and Director of Robyn Mineko Williams & Artists (RMW&A)



HOUSTON, TEXAS [October 3, 2023]: Vitacca Ballet opens its 2023-2024 Season with a triple-bill titled *SOWN* (October 20-21 at 7:30pm at MATCH in Matchbox 2) featuring an exciting remount of *Grey Horses* by choreographer [Robyn Mineko-Williams](#) originally created for Hubbard Street Dance Chicago (2013), a brand-new pointe creation from H el ene Simoneau, and the thrilling extension of *Hypnotic Forces* from brilliant [Resident Choreographer Garrett Smith](#).

[Artistic Director and Founder Kelly Ann Vitacca](#) comments, "Having Robyn set *Grey Horses* on Vitacca Ballet is a pivotal point in our history and artistic growth. To be trusted with the revitalization of this work originally created on Hubbard Street Dance Chicago is truly an honor. Her approach in the studio is extremely detailed and we're enjoying her subtle moments of reimagine specific to our company artists."

Robyn Mineko-Williams is a director, interdisciplinary artist, dancer, and producer. She works and creates within the lanes and intersections of performance, design, culture, and place. She is the founder and director of Robyn Mineko Williams and Artists (RMW&A)



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and has received commissions from Pacific Northwest Ballet, Royal New Zealand Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, and Malpas Dance Company among others. Robyn has been in residence at Baryshnikov Arts Center and is a 2023 Artist-in Residence at the Chicago Cultural Center. Named one of “25 to Watch” by [Dance Magazine](#) in 2014, she is a 2023 Dysart Award winner and Princess Grace Foundation-USA Fellowship grant recipient. In tandem with her creations for the stage, Robyn works as a creative director and movement consultant on an array of projects including immersive experiences, film, installation, pop-up performances and music videos.

Vitacca Ballet’s ability to bring international and vast artistic talent to the stage in Houston makes it a regional stand out. Ms. Vitacca states, “The company is grateful to have been welcomed with open arms into the greater Houston dance community allowing us to enter our third and most ambitious season yet. The countrywide community support has been tremendous, leading to our growth on and off stage. Now with 14 professional Company Artists our company embarks on another season of approachable, contemporary ballet. We are thrilled to bring the collective contributions of our incredibly diverse 2023-2024 Season Guest Choreographers to stage.”

Vitacca Ballet brings five world premieres, plus two unique Houston premieres and a film for dance to stage throughout the 2023-2024 Season. This season strives to meld patron and artist with a mutual experience on and off the stage to further explore the symbiotic relationship of life and art. Ms. Vitacca remarks, “Vitacca Ballet focuses on creating world premiere contemporary ballets that are thought provoking and allow patron and artist to share in a relatable experience. This provides a rebirth of dance awareness and the progression of ballet for all. Our goal is to root our company into the Houston dance community while we grow and mature along with our patron base.”

This season brings diverse, artistic minds together with the exciting growth of our company including the return of our beloved company artists, [Maddie Medina](#), [Coltin Snyder](#), [Fiona Dorr](#), [Jordan Hooks](#), [Joshua Ponton](#), , [Elissa Fonesca](#), International Guest [Khen Kurulkar](#) and new company artists [Megumi Nishimori](#), [Aidan Wolf](#), [Nikolas Darrough](#), [Elena Damiani](#), [Ava Dempster](#), [Zephaniah Casey](#), and [Carrington Moser](#).

About Vitacca Ballet

Founded in 2020 Vitacca Ballet (VB) is a creation-based repertoire company in the Houston area. As the pandemic brought artists home to Houston, Ms. Vitacca strived to keep artists employed, and the Houston arts scene alive with project-based work. This experience laid the framework for the launch of VB in 2021, which now works diligently to operate a 34-week season and employ local, national, and international artists.

Vitacca Ballet has had the honor to work with regional and international choreographers including Tina Kay Bohnstedt, Sean Aaron Carmon, Andrea Dawn Shelley, Garrett Smith, Autumn Eckman and Madison Hicks. Vitacca Ballet has been seen on stage within



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performance and outreach community events such as Night at the Ballet, San Antonio Dance Gala, Contemporary Dance Choreography Festival in Florida, Versatility Dance Festival in Utah, Bailindo Dance Festival, ANDIOMO presented by Charles Bender Performing Arts Center, Trees of Hope Gala as 2022 Entertainment Sponsor, LAUNCH at Match Houston, Connec(TX)ions Austin collaboration, and Red Rock Dance Festival in Utah.

Vitacca Ballet is a proud recipient of the Dance Source Houston Groundwork Grant and is proud to be a fiscally sponsored project through [Fractured Atlas](#). This allows tax-deductible donations to be made toward VB's vision and artistic growth.

For more information about Vitacca Ballet, visit www.VitaccaBallet.org.

Vitacca Ballet SOWN Performance Information

Tickets: www.VitaccaBallet.org
\$20-\$40
All ticket holders invited to post performance mixer held in onsite gallery.

Date & Time: October 20 7:30pm | Performance + Mixer
October 21 7:30pm | Performance + Mixer

Venue: MATCH - Midtown Arts and Theater Center (Matchbox 2)
3400 Main St., Houston, TX 77002
[Location & Parking](#)

Questions: Contact Vitacca Ballet at 713.205.0355 or
Info@VitaccaBallet.org

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Photo by Chloe Hamilton