



## FALLING & LOVING to Make World Premiere with Peak Performances

by BWW News Desk Aug. 13, 2019



Tweet



Share



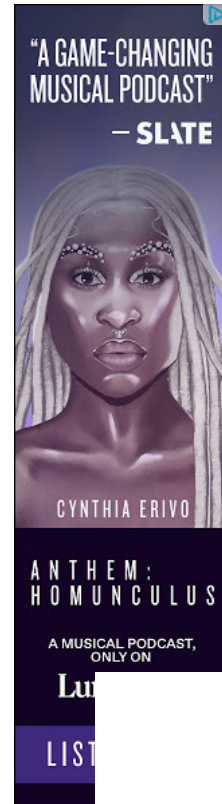
Peak Performances begins its 2019-2020 season with the joining of two revolutionaries of avant-garde performance, influential theater and opera director **Anne Bogart** and the pioneering choreographer **Elizabeth Streb**, in their first-ever collaboration, **FALLING & LOVING** (September 24-29). Co-produced by Peak Performances and created and performed by **Siti Company** (co-founded and co-artistic directed by Bogart) and **STREB EXTREME ACTION** (founded and

artistic directed by Streb), **FALLING & LOVING** kinetically interprets writing by playwright and SITI member Charles Mee. Six actors from **Siti Company** and six dancers from **STREB EXTREME ACTION** share the stage with a "Guck Machine," a contraption conceived by Streb featuring rings and buckets armed to continually release a variety of materials in cascades, performing what Streb describes as a "symphony of falling." Streb explores falling-in such varied forms-as Bogart uses Mee's Love Sonnets and plays as a springboard for accessing multiform expressions of loving. Artists, ideas, and objects collide in this radical new production.

**Elizabeth Streb** has, across her career, explored the vast potentials of the human body under and against the force of gravity; in 1985, she founded **STREB EXTREME ACTION** and, in 2003, opened **SLAM** (Streb Lab for Action Mechanics), a hub for artistic experimentation and exchange centered around the powerful force of action. Drawing on dance, theatre, and visual art, **Elizabeth Streb** creates an aesthetic of risk, velocity, and shock using the elements of gravity, centrifugal force, and balance/counterbalance. Manipulating these tools, Streb dares to dive into acrobatics in performances such as **FORCES** and **SEA** (Singular Extreme Actions), defy physics in works such as **Revolution** and **AIR**, and explode dance in works such as **Human Fountain**, **Gizmo**, and **Passage**. Such work recalls the energy vested in investigations of light, space, and time by visual art movements like Fauvism, Cubism, and Futurism. In conjunction with performances, the exhibit **Extreme: The Pop Action Performance Art of Elizabeth Streb**, displaying notebooks, videos, photographs, drawings, and equipment related to **Elizabeth Streb's** artistic creations, organized by **George Segal** Gallery interim Executive Director Dr. Ronald Sharps and the **STREB** team, will be on view at the **George Segal** Gallery and in the Alexander Kasser Theater Lobby at Montclair State University August 27 - September 29.

**Anne Bogart** is a two-time Obie-winning director; writer of **A Director Prepares** (of which **Backstage** writes, "Not since **Peter Brook's** **The Empty Space** have we had a text that so successfully addresses what theatre means today and what it has meant historically"), **And Then, You Act**, and **What's the Story**. She is the co-author, with **Tina Landau**, of the influential **The Viewpoints Book**, and co-founder, with Tadashi Suzuki, of the acclaimed **Siti Company**-as well as one of its three artistic directors.

Vivid and Sensual Dance Photography Takes Center Stage In Steve Vaccariello Exhibit At SOPAC



BroadwayWorld TV



Cariou, Bierko Explain What HARRY IS All About

### Hot Stories



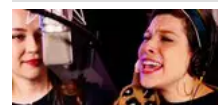
Blanchet to Lead Paper Moon CINDERELLA; Full Cast



Join the BroadwayWorld Staff: Regional Marketing, Junior Sales Associate



Review: **LAST DAYS OF SUMMER** - The New Musical at George Street Playhouse a Sure-Fire Hit



VIDEO: See **LOVE IN HATE** NATION Cast Record 'Revolution Song'

### NEW JERSEY SHOWS



#### Romeo and Juliet

The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey (10/16 - 11/1)



#### Evening With Stephen Crane

The Stephen Crane Theatre (11/17) PHOTOS

#### THE ADDAMS FAMILY

Wayne Valley High School (3/28)

#### 9 To 5, The Musical

West Hudson Arts Theatre



CHECK IT OUT

circles and been awestruck by each other's work, the idea of collaboration only recently started to take form, after **Charles Mee** brought them together to see if they might be interested in joining forces. Both artists, after all, have maintained keen focuses on- and developed groundbreaking approaches to-honing how bodies navigate the many challenges of performance, whether delivering complex texts while staying physically aware and hyper-specific and

connected to an ensemble (as in the world of Bogart with **Siti Company**) or leaping around pendulous cinderblocks and attempting flight (as in the world of STREB **EXTREME ACTION**). Both have placed immense emphasis on process and training-with Bogart's joining of The Viewpoints and the Suzuki method, now taught together in many acting schools nationwide, and Streb's PopAction technique, confronting falling and fear and posing unique challenges to dancers.

As these two artists momentarily join their groundbreaking performance vocabularies, **FALLING & LOVING** sets the stage for Peak Performances' 2019-2020 season considering ideas of language, translation, and exchange.

Says Bogart, "Elizabeth's courage and singular vision plus her great spirit as a person are what drew me to working with her. As the ensembles have come together, I think that the STREB dancers and Elizabeth have been surprised about how rooted and strong the actors are and how our Suzuki and Viewpoints have prepared them for this collaboration. The actors have been amazed at what the STREB dancers can do and are endlessly inspired by their courage, resiliency and generosity. They're learning how to adapt their own understandings of the theater to the phenomenon of physical impact and certain kinds of showmanship."

Streb adds, "I have been listening to and watching SITI's work for a long time, and I thoroughly relate our actions in the way they take no move and no sound for granted. It's how we at STREB must 'do the move in as much time as it takes you your body right now to do that move no more no less,' and then always go 'faster harder higher sooner,' leaving nothing unnecessary in the move. We drill down to discover the exact physical rhythm that holds the truth about action in some invisible secret caldron. And with this project with Anne, this is the first time I have come to the altar of believing that there is a place on earth for action and language sharing the same seconds."



Streb notes that the question of "how things fall" has always preoccupied her, and each material's cascade downward is the result of and a display of its particular physical nature. She says the Guck Machine (built by Hudson Scenic Studio) "tries to fill the 30 by 30 cubic foot square of ordinarily theatrically empty air with these falling substances...it's

Vivid and Sensual Dance Photography Takes Center Stage In Steve Vaccariello Exhibit At SOPAC

The Laramie P

Montclair Kimberley .  
5/9)

[VIEW ALL](#) [ADD A SHOW](#)



New Jersey Email Al

Get the latest news, photos

E-mail address

Sig

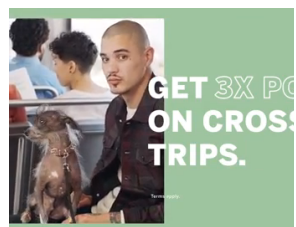
Ticket Central

Browse



- COME FRC
- WAITRESS
- KRISTIN CH
- ROSE TATT
- PHANTOM OPERA

Trending Now on BWV T



The Great Facts of THE GILDED AGE SOCIETY- Bob Moses [Go To...](#)

More Videos

Hot Stories



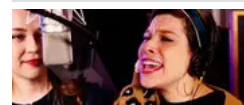
Blanchet to Lead Paper Moon CINDERELLA; Full Cast



Join the BroadwayWorld Staff: Regional Marketing / Junior Sales Associate



Review: LAST DAYS OF SUMMER – The New Musical at George Street Playhouse is a Sure-Fire Hit



VIDEO: See LOVE IN HATE NATION Cast Record 'Revolution Song'

Stars of T  
Share Th  
Favorite  
Turner...

Broadway  
Announce  
November  
Lineup

Bogart adds, "To me, the Guck machine is extremely metaphorical. As we live our lives, our lives get messy, we get covered with the guck of mistakes, mis-moves, attempts at loving, attempts at living, attempts of flourishing. We end up covered in guck, but how glorious!"

FALLING & LOVING is performed by [Siti Company](#) members [Akiko Aizawa](#), [Will Bond](#), [Ellen Lauren](#), Leon Ingulsrud, [Barney O'Hanlon](#), and [Stephen Duff Webber](#), and, from STREB EXTREME ACTION Kairis Daniels, Luciany Germán, Chance Hill, Julia Karis, Brigitte Manga, and Fabio Tavares. The creative team includes [James Schuette](#) (costume design); [Brian H Scott](#) (lighting design); in scenic design: [Elizabeth Streb](#), Matt McAdon (prototype), [Peter Dean](#) and Hudson Scenic Studio (design and engineering); [David Van Tieghem](#) (original music and sound design). The production staff includes [Peter Dean](#) (Director of Production), Aimee-Marie Holland (Stage Manager), Velani Dibba (Assistant Director), Fabio Tavares (STREB Assistant Director), [Zaire Baptiste](#) (Technical Director), and Michelle Preston (SITI Executive Director).



Vivid and Sensual Dance Photography Takes Centre Stage In Steve Vaccariello Exhibit At SOPAC

Performances of FALLING & LOVING will take place Tuesday, September 24-Friday, September 27 at 7:30pm, Saturday, September 28 at 8:00pm, and Sunday, September 29 at 3:00pm at the Alexander Kasser Theater at Montclair State University (1 Normal Ave, Montclair, NJ). Immediately after the Saturday, September 28 performance, the audience is invited to join [Anne Bogart](#), [Elizabeth Streb](#), and [Charles Mee](#) to share reflections and responses.

Tickets are affordably priced at \$30, and can be purchased at [www.peakperfs.org](http://www.peakperfs.org) or 973.655.5112. Tickets are always free for Montclair State students.

The exhibit Extreme: The Pop Action Performance Art of [Elizabeth Streb](#) will be on view at the Segal Gallery August 27 through September 29. For more information visit [www.montclair.edu/galleries](http://www.montclair.edu/galleries)

## Hot Stories



Blanchet to Lead Paper M CINDERELLA; Full Cast



Join the BroadwayWorld Staff: Regional Marketing Junior Sales Associate

## Recommended for You

### Related Articles

### View More New Jersey [Stories](#) [Shows](#)

NJSO Youth Orchestras Will Perform a Winter Concert This Month

Magician Mike Super and Scooby-Doo Live Go On Sale Friday at BergenPAC

Emmy Award-Winning Renée Taylor is Bringing MY LIFE ON A DIET to George Street Playhouse

Sebastian Arcelus, Jenny Bacon, Julia Coffey And Lynette Freeman Headline Preview Reading Of

### More Hot Stories For You

- [B.R.O.K.E.N CODE B.I.R.D SWITCHING Will Have Limited Workshop Engagement Through November](#)
- [LOVE ACTUALLY LIVE Cast Announced Including Rex Smith, Aubrie Sellers, Chris Mann, and More](#)



Review: LAST DAYS OF SUMMER – The New Musical at George Street Playhouse is a Sure-Fire Hit



VIDEO: See LOVE IN HATE NATION Cast Record 'Revolution Song'