



*a community in motion...*

Matt Pardo holds a Masters of Fine Arts degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (2016) and an advanced honors B.F.A from the University at Buffalo (2007). He has danced for the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, Groundworks Dance Theater, RG Dance Projects, and the River North Chicago Dance Company (apprentice). He was recognized as one of the “Top 100 Dancers in the World for 2010-2011”, one of 10 Americans, by Dance Europe Magazine. Pardo is a co-founder of the Pittsburgh-based organization The Blanket, which has been featured in *Dance Magazine-online*, *Departures Magazine* (American Express), *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, and the *US News and World Report*. The Blanket has been funded by The Heinz Endowments, The Pittsburgh Foundation, Opportunity Fund, Arts Equity & Education Fund, PNC Charitable Trust, and The William and Catherine McKinney Charitable Foundation, as well as by private donors. Publications include an article in the *Journal of Dance Education* exploring how to develop a practice of performance and an insert in the *Genius Guide to College Dance Programs* by Angela Carter. Pardo is also an assistant professor of dance at James Madison University.

Desmin Taylor is a dancer, teacher, and choreographer based in Richmond, Virginia who began his dance journey late, starting in 2014. He quickly developed a passion for taking class throughout the DMV and North Carolina dance community participating in many classes, intensives, and workshops in various styles of dance including hip hop, urban, modern, contemporary, jazz, and more. Desmin has trained and performed with various dance crews such as Blank Canvas of VCU, Pace Setters Dance, and Studio 4 Dance Agency. He currently teaches at 4 different dance studios in Virginia, while currently in his 7th professional season with RVA Dance Collective, a premier modern dance company based in Richmond. He is also the founder of RVA Dance Life which is a workshop series that gives different teachers a chance to share their movement and knowledge with the Richmond dance community and is now finishing off its 4th successful season.

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For more information and tickets, please visit [www.dogtowndancetheatre.com/dps21](http://www.dogtowndancetheatre.com/dps21). Virtual performances will be available beginning May 5, 2021 on Dogtown STREAM at [www.dogtown.vhx.tv](http://www.dogtown.vhx.tv) and on iOS applications and Roku.

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