

**SPENCER GAVIN HERING** born in Munich, Germany, is the son of two professional ballet dancers. With a life immersed in the arts, Spencer eventually, at the age of 16, began training with his mother Cecilia Hering in Redlands, California. After two years at *Pacific Northwest Ballet School*, he joined *Ballet Pacifica* in Irvine, California and has since danced as a principal artist with *Maximum Dance Company/Ballet Gamonet*, *Dominic Walsh Dance Theater*, *Miami Contemporary Dance Company*, *State Street Ballet* as a Principal, *Hope Stone Dance Company* as a company member and *Island Moving Co.* as a principal artist. Mr. Hering currently dances as an principal artist and is a Co-Founding Director of *iMEE Dance Company*. His repertory includes principal roles by acclaimed choreographers that are both current and iconic: David Allan, George Balanchine, Maurice Causey, Anne Marie DeAngelo, Jimmy Gamonet, Choo-San Goh, Paola Georgudis, Jamie Hampton, Emily Johnson, Molly Lynch, Stephanie Martinez, Rick McCullough, Lindsey McGill, Michele Merola, Stephen Mills, Miki Ohlsen, Jerry Opdenaker, David Palmer, Yanis Pikieris, Peter Pucci, Andrea Dawn Shelley, William Soleau, Ray Sullivan, Robert Sund, Paul Vasterling, Raymond Van Mason, Dominic Walsh and Jane Weiner.

As a choreographer Mr. Hering has created original works for professional dance companies and festivals such as: *State Street Ballet*, *E.magine Dance Ensemble*, *O Dance*, *Houston Met Dance*, *FestOval of Dance*, *Triple Focus*, *palcoscenico danza*, *Island Moving Co.*, *the black box INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL THEATRE & DANCE*, *Festival Ballet Providence* and *iMEE* in Santa Barbara, CA, Irvine, CA, Houston, TX, New York, NY, Newport, RI, Turin, Italy and Plovdiv, Bulgaria. He has participated in Residencies and created original works for the dance programs at *Sam Houston State University* and *Salve Regina University (SRU.)* His work *Schone* was presented by SRU at the *American College Dance Association* in Providence, RI and received much praise from a distinguished panel of adjudicators. Mr. Hering has received many accolades for his dancing and choreography; including winning the "Outstanding Choreographer Award" for his work, *Dichotomy* at the *Youth America Grand Prix Ballet Competition* in Los Angeles, CA, awarded as a "Finalist" in the *17<sup>th</sup> Annual Choreography Festival* in Palm Desert, CA for his works *Elliptical Capture & Fibonacci* and winning "Second Place" in the *17<sup>th</sup> Annual Choreography Festival* for his work, *Fibonacci*. Mr. Hering was a Co-Founding member of the five week, summer dance festival, the *Houston Dance Festival: HERE & NOW* alongside *iMEE* Co-Director, Andrea Dawn Shelley, Light Designer, Jeremy Choate, *Hope Stone Dance* and *NobleMotion* Dance companies. Mr. Hering's most recent honor came in the form of his appointment to serve as *Island Moving Company's (IMC)* Associate Artistic Director, Resident Choreographer and Ballet Master for their 2013-2014, 2014-2015 seasons in Newport, Rhode Island. During his time with IMC, Hering created eight original works including *Brom Bones* a evening length, site specific work based on Washington Irving's classic tale "The legend of a sleepy Hollow" featuring an original score created in collaboration with Lewis Patzner & Sascha Jacobsen. Spencer draws inspiration from limitless possibilities, as well as, boundaries. To bring curiosity, to cause wonderment and to provoke different thought – is his arts' purpose. To share his love, his voice and his interpretation of the world, is ultimately what he wishes to reveal. Through his life experiences as a dancer, Spencer has found infinite inspiration from time shared with other dancers, choreographers and directors. "We dance to actively engage, and inspire the audience's mental perspective, to grow and evolve. The art of dance is primal, universal and can be voiced through an unlimited amount of movement... Infinite Movement Ever Evolving," -S.G.Hering

**ANDREA DAWN SHELLEY** born in Miami, Florida, received her classical ballet training predominately from Magdalena Maury & Magda G. Auñón. Ms. Shelley received additional training at summer intensives and workshops with the *Boston Ballet*, *Houston Ballet* and *Joffrey Ballet*. She studied dance at the *University of South Florida* and holds a *Bachelor of the Arts* degree in Dance Education from *Florida International University*. Andrea began her professional career with *Southern Ballet Theatre* as a member of the *corps de ballet* and has since danced as a *principal artist* with *Maximum Dance Company*, *Miami Contemporary Dance Company*, *Dominic Walsh Dance Theater* and as a company member with *State Street Ballet*. Ms. Shelley currently dances as a *principal artist* and is a Co-Founding Director of *iMEE Dance Company*. Her repertoire includes original and previously staged works by Julia Adam, Jean Christophe Blavier, Maurice Causey, Paola Georgudis, Spencer Gavin Hering, Lindsey McGill, Michele Merola, Enrico Morelli, Paolo Mohovich, KT Nelson, Jerry Opdenaker, David Palmer, Yanis Pikiaris, Daniel Rossel, Ivonice Satie, Leslie Scates, Ray Sullivan, Dominic Walsh and Jane Weiner. She has received numerous awards for her dancing; including placing "third" at the *National Society of Arts and Letters Ballet Competition*, named "runner-up" for *Best Female Dancer* in South Florida for two, consecutive years and being named *Best Female Dancer* in South Florida, by the *Miami SunPost*. Ms. Shelley was a Co-Founding member of the five week *Houston Dance Festival: HERE & NOW*, alongside iMEE Co-Director, Spencer Gavin Hering, Lighting Artist, Jeremy Choate, Hope Stone Dance & NobleMotion Dance companies. Shelley had the distinguished honor of serving as an annual preliminary panelist for the *National YoungArts Foundation*, *YoungArts* program in Choreography, Ballet and Modern for five consecutive years. For the past three years she taught as adjunct Dance Faculty at *Salve Regina University* in Newport, RI and assumed the roles of Resident Choreographer and Company Director for the University's junior company. Ms. Shelley is currently a guest teacher for various private dance schools/conservatories, Universities/Colleges and professional dance companies in Southern California, Texas and Rhode Island. iMEE Co-Founding Director, Spencer G. Hering and Shelley were recently brought on board to develop & direct the pre-professional dance program at *Mandelstam Dance* in South Miami, FL. This opportunity provides iMEE Directors the platform to share their love of ballet & movement with dance artists of all ages, as well as, implement their vision for training a well rounded young dancer equipped for today's professional dance standards.

As a choreographer, Shelley has created original works for professional dance companies and festivals such as: *iMEE*, *Ballet Florida*, *Miami Contemporary Dance Company*, *Dominic Walsh Dance Theater*, *State Street Ballet*, *O Dance*, *Ad Deum Dance Company*, *The Dance Gallery Festival*, *palcoscenico danza*, *METdance*, *Island Moving Co.*, *the black box INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL THEATRE & DANCE*, *Festival Ballet Providence* and *Bellingham Repertory Dance*. Her choreographic works have been presented throughout the United States and Europe; including California, Florida, Texas, New York, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Italy, Bulgaria and Mexico City. She has participated in Residencies and created original works for the dance programs at *Sam Houston State University*, *Salve Regina University*, *Providence College*, *Western Kentucky University* and *the High School of Visual & Performing Arts (PVA)*. Ms. Shelley has received numerous awards for her choreography; including being chosen out of 250 applicants to have a work commissioned by the *Dance Gallery Festival's* inaugural, "Level UP" in NYC and being awarded as a "Finalist" in the *15<sup>th</sup> Annual Choreography Festival* in Palm Desert, CA. Ms. Shelley was recently honored when she was selected as a Grantee of a *Project Grant for Individuals* from RISCA (Rhode Island State Council on the Arts) for the continued development and presentation of her choreographic work "the secret of life is to fall seven times & get up eight." "the secret..." has now been presented in Rhode Island, Mexico City and South Florida.