

CORPS
DE BALLET



STYLE
&
DANCE
A Virtual
Celebration



YOU MAKE IT MAGIC

It's our mission to support our communities by igniting the extraordinary in every individual through creativity and in cultivating a sense of belonging. We salute the **ATLANTA BALLET** for its 91-year commitment to the art of dance, which delivers empowerment to so many.

♡
THE HEART OF
NEIMAN MARCUS FOUNDATION

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CORPS DE BALLET



Georgia Dermatology Center is a proud Sponsor of the Corps de Ballet's *Style and Dance/ A Virtual Celebration*.

Congratulations to the Atlanta Ballet's Corps de Ballet, and to Neiman Marcus on their 10th year of partnership. Thank you to both organizations for being a strong base of cultural life in our city.

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To our Atlanta Ballet Family,

Michelle and I are thrilled and honored to have co-chaired this year’s unique event. We, along with the Corps de Ballet Board of Directors and Chair Doug Weiss felt it was very important to stay in touch with all of you in light of having to cancel this year’s Corps de Ballet Fashion Show & Luncheon. With a little ingenuity and a lot of Zoom calls, we are here to present to you **Style & Dance, A Virtual Celebration!**

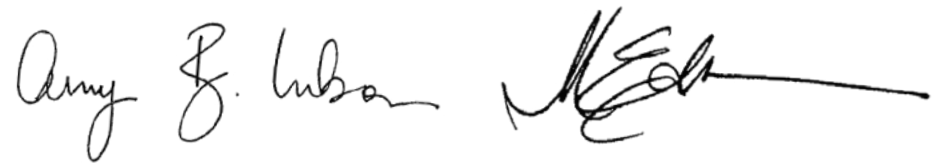
We want to take a moment to thank everyone who made this special evening possible. Thank you Neiman Marcus, who has been our Presenting Sponsor for ten years and a true, all-in partner! Thank you so much to Veronica Beard, who graciously donated their time to be our highlighted designer and for generously donating an auction item for the event! To our sponsors, VIP guests and donors, thank you, thank you! An immense thank you to the Corps de Ballet Board and our Chair extraordinaire who have been so supportive and have helped to get this event off the ground! To Lyla Lila and Craig Richards, who joined us as our VIP takeout restaurant for the evening, thank you! Thank you to Matt and Active Productions, who pulled all of our elements together to make this experience possible and provided a quality product for guests to enjoy! And to Mary Grace Herrington and Sherren Sandy of Atlanta Ballet Advancement team, we thank you for being there for us every step of the way. Sherren, your planning and late night/early morning emails made us realize just how committed you are to this organization. We thank you so much for your tireless work!

Without further ado, please enjoy this special evening of fashion and dance! As you peruse this beautiful digital lookbook and view the event, there are several opportunities to support Atlanta Ballet tonight and beyond.

We all miss live performances now more than ever! This is our time to give back. Michelle and I urge you to give generously as we continue to work towards getting our Atlanta Ballet dancers safely back to the stage.

Thank you for joining us! We appreciate all of you and all that you do to support Atlanta Ballet and the Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education.

Love,



Amy & Michelle

2020 CO-CHAIRS
STYLE & DANCE | A VIRTUAL CELEBRATION

Vibrant, energetic, and passionately committed to the success of Atlanta Ballet, the Corps de Ballet is a group of dedicated individuals who support our mission through advocacy, volunteerism, and fundraising.

Corps de Ballet members experience an insider’s perspective on what it takes to produce world-class performances. This close and personal relationship with Atlanta Ballet aims to educate and enrich members’ understanding of dance as an art form.

Each year, the Corps de Ballet raises vital funds for Atlanta Ballet and the Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education.

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CORPS
DE BALLET



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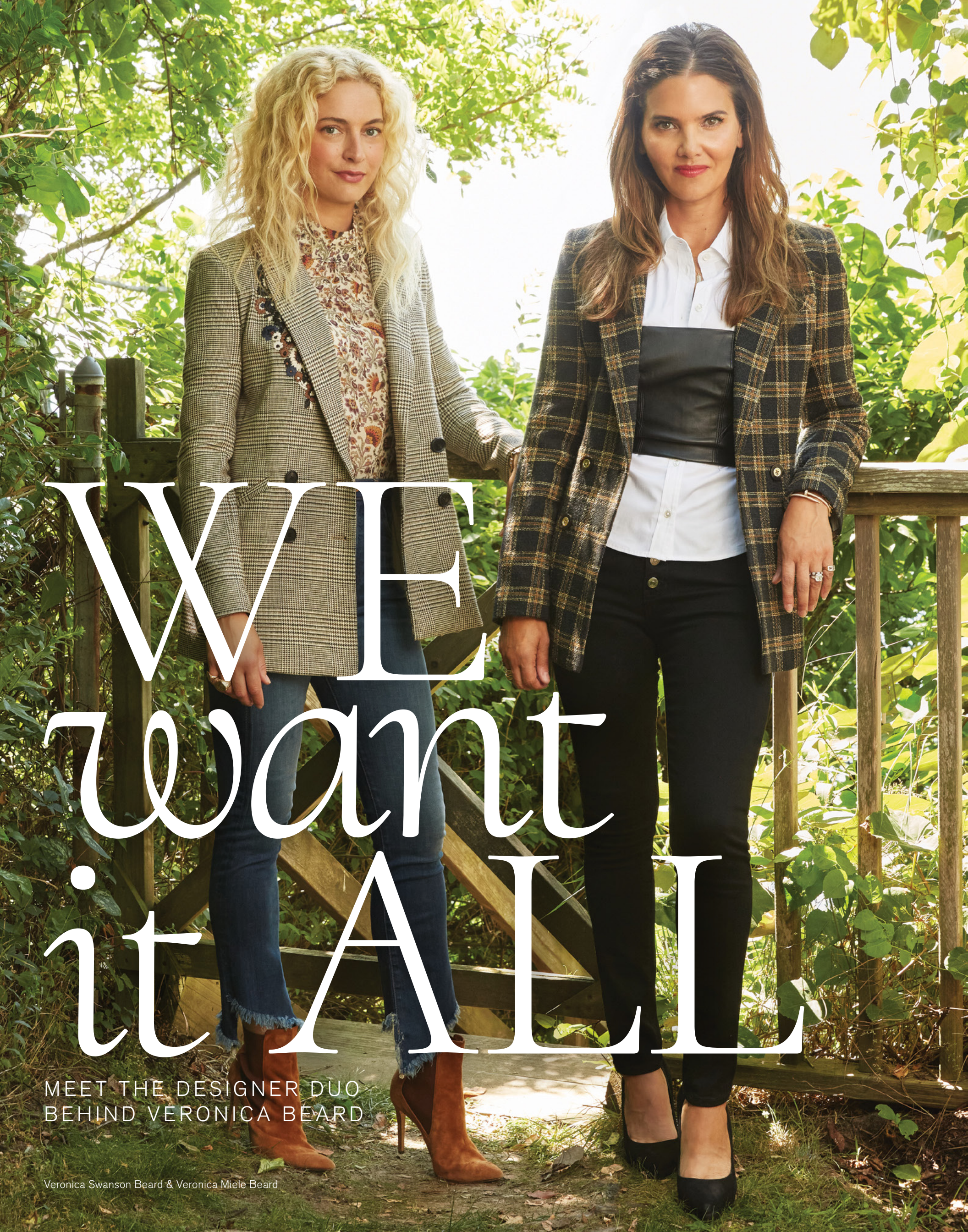
Dottie Smith
Patti Dickey

Jenny McElligott
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Keisha Noel
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Amy Nelson



MEET THE DESIGNER DUO
BEHIND VERONICA BEARD

Veronica Swanson Beard & Veronica Miele Beard

BY EMILY FARRA, COURTESY OF VOGUE RUNWAY,
FEBRUARY 2020



What merits a runway show after years of presentations and appointments? A decade in business is a pretty good place to start. Veronica Miele Beard and Veronica Swanson Beard went all-out for their catwalk debut, filling the entrance of their show space with balloons and blaring remixes of feminist anthems like Dolly Parton’s “9 to 5” and Carly Simon’s “You’re So Vain.” The festive atmosphere wasn’t a departure for the Veronicas; their presentations usually feel more like after-parties, complete with DJs and cocktails. They didn’t want to do a “runway collection” of capital-F fashion either. The change was more to solidify Veronica Beard’s place in New York fashion—and to suggest an even brighter decade ahead.



The impulse for most designers who graduate to the runway is to overcomplicate and over-style the clothes. There’s pressure to deliver something major when you’re filling a pit with photographers and asking busy editors to spend an hour at your show. Ironically, the Veronicas did just the opposite. [...]In contrast, Fall 2020 was more or less a study of what VB does best: tailored jackets, dickeys, novelty knits, and printed dresses. There was a touch of a ’70s spirit in the scarf prints and suede-fringed blazers, but on the whole, things were pretty simple and American.

Backstage, the Veronicas said their underlying message was “We want it all,” a motto they’ve strung in neon lights in every VB store. As working mothers, their greatest pleasure of the past 10 years has been dressing women of all ages, sizes, and tastes for their “real lives” with straightforward clothes that excite rather than intimidate.

“We are sisters-in-law married to brothers, but it was a true friendship and a love for fashion that inspired us to create Veronica Beard. We believe in building a collection that is inclusive of women everywhere and makes them feel confident every single day. We are mothers, entrepreneurs, sisters, friends—and we are our customer. Our motto: **Look good, feel good, and do what you love.**”

— VERONICA MIELE BEARD & VERONICA SWANSON BEARD



“We’re embracing more of an off-duty message in our overall branding. It’s about making women feel both confident and at ease, from Monday to Sunday, in all the different ways we live our lives. We are inspired by and design for real life, all parts of it—our collection is for the women who chase after their passions, who are out there, getting things done, making things happen.”

— VERONICA MIELE BEARD & VERONICA SWANSON BEARD



**BACK
TO THE
STAGE**

THE CAMPAIGN FOR
ATLANTA BALLET

While this is the most difficult time in the history of Atlanta Ballet, we must not lose focus.

The Back to the Stage Campaign for relief and recovery is a \$5 million initiative that will enable us to stabilize operations, return to the stage, and advance our vision—to be celebrated globally as one of the premier companies in the world of dance, recognized for our distinctive dancers, rich and diverse repertoire, respected stature in the Atlanta region, abiding commitment to diversity and inclusion at all levels of our organization, and notable impact on dance appreciation and education throughout the community.

We make no secret of our ambitions. Our goal, even in the most trying of times, is to consistently produce powerful and provocative performances of extraordinary works, seek and retain the best dancers, commission new ballets, and reinforce our commitment to live music. We want to tour and perform before the great ballet audiences of the world and become the company where the best choreographers want to premier their best works. We want our Centre for Dance Education to teach at the highest levels and expand our outreach in the city whose name we bear.

Your gift today will help Atlanta Ballet overcome the challenges due to the coronavirus pandemic and make a grandiose return to the stage in 2021.

LEARN MORE

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Make a donation at
ATLANTABALLET.COM/SUPPORT
or text
ABDONATE to 72727



Airi Igarashi & Sergio
Masero-Olarte in
Yuri Possokhov's *The
Nutcracker*. Photo by
Gene Schiavone.

MEET ATLANTA BALLET'S CHOREOGRAPHER-IN-RESIDENCE
CLAUDIA SCHREIER



Claudia Schreier's first commission, of a three-year commitment that includes world premieres for the Company and Atlanta Ballet 2, will debut in winter 2021. "I was impressed by Claudia's sense of musicality and structure in her first work for Atlanta Ballet, *First Impulse*," says Gennadi Nedvigin. "I was intrigued by the choices she made and the way she prepared for the creation, and I look forward to seeing her develop even further while working with our dancers. Getting to know them on a deeper level will allow her to expand her own creative boundaries. I am excited to go on this artistic journey together."

Schreier's world premiere for Atlanta Ballet, *First Impulse*, was named a Standout Performance of 2019 by *Pointe Magazine*. A Princess Grace Award for Choreography recipient, Schreier is praised for her distinctive choreographic voice, which fuses neoclassical technique with a contemporary vocabulary. She has choreographed over 30 ballets and has been commissioned by companies and organizations including Dance Theatre of Harlem, Miami City Ballet, Vail Dance Festival, American Ballet Theatre Studio Company, Juilliard Opera, New York Choreographic Institute and Joffrey Winning Works.



This page:
Jacob Bush & Sujin Han
in Claudia Schreier's *First
Impulse*. Photo by Kim
Kenney.

Opposite page:
Claudia Schreier working in
the Atlanta Ballet studios.
Photo by Jeremy Harwell.

Atlanta Ballet Company
dancers. Photo by
Kim Kenney.

“I was looking
[to create] a piece
that was *rhythmically
interesting &
driving*, but also had
emotional fluidity.”

Midway through Claudia Schreier's *First Impulse*, the women of Atlanta Ballet stole the show with simple bourrées. One at a time, they traversed the stage backwards on pointe, at warp speed. The effect was cinematic and magical, the audience gasping in disbelief. The dancers appeared to be floating, defying all rules of physics and gravity.

But this was just one moment inside of an incredibly dynamic and rhythmic neoclassical work, made possible by the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation. Set to the music of Eino Tamberg, the moods and meters changed quickly and often, showing off both the speed of Schreier's imagination and the energetic command of the Atlanta Ballet artists. The stark, modern costumes designed by Sylvie Rood and set by Nicole Pearce were made all the more pleasing by the fantastic tableaux that the 16 dancers created to begin and end the work.

Schreier's movement feels like architecture in motion, making all kinds of steps, even bourrées, seem wondrous and new. Perhaps this is due to her ability to inject her own subtle subtext, and loads of historical research, into one of the most abstract of art forms. The result was more than just another successful debut for this emerging choreographer; *First Impulse* presupposed that the future of ballet is well and alive.



WATCH AN EXCERPT
FROM *FIRST IMPULSE*

ATLANTA BALLET'S PARTNERSHIP WITH SÓ DANÇA USA

In June of 2018, Atlanta Ballet joined the national Equity Project, a partnership among 21 major dance companies in the U.S. and Canada, to support the advancement of people of color in all areas of the ballet industry. Keeping in line with our commitment to Diversity & Inclusion initiatives, the Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education has been working on providing a new line of products since 2018, and we are excited to announce the expansion of shoes and tights that represent all of our students and embrace the current and future generations of dancers of color. We are thrilled to collaborate with Só Dança USA on this new project to have these new products available to students to begin 2021 classes in January.

Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education students were all smiles modeling this new line of shoes and tights during a photo shoot at the Michael C. Carlos Dance Centre.

We look forward to opening our doors and sharing our new products in our three Centre Boutiques. Until then, all Centre for Dance Education uniforms and accessories, along with other logo merchandise and gifts, are available to order from our online store. Shoe-fittings are by appointment. Contact the Boutique manager at boutique@atlantaballet.com.



Atlanta Ballet Centre for
Dance Education students.
Photos courtesy of Só
Dança USA.



SoDanca



Left: Atlanta Ballet Centre for
Dance Education students.
This page: Atlanta Ballet 2
dancer Dominique Morel.
Photos courtesy of
Só Dança USA.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VIP GUESTS

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GINNY BREWER
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DAWN TRESH
DANA UGWONALI
KRISTANN VOYLES
DOUG WEISS
JANET WESTMORELAND

AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2020



ATLANTA BALLET

GENNADI NEDVIGIN • ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Atlanta Ballet's mission is to enrich our community by sharing the power and joy of dance, inspiring our audiences with the highest caliber of artistic excellence on stage, empowering our students through superior dance education, and broadening the reach and impact of dance through active community engagement.

atlantaballet.com

Emily Carrico. Photo by Gene Schiavone