

Elizabeth Parkinson

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Profile

Elizabeth Parkinson is currently the Co-Artistic Director of FineLine Theatre Arts, New Milford, CT., Artists in Motion, Youth Ballet Company, Vineyard Arts Project Musical Theatre Lab, and the Director of The Broadway Commercial Dance Lab and Summer Professional DAnce Studies at The University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Her duties include developing the curriculum, hiring faculty, teaching, mentoring, and administrating. She recently traveled to Moscow in a cultural exchange program with the American Embassy in order to share her knowledge of theatre dance with Russian professional actors and performers in training. Elizabeth is an adjunct professor at Western Connecticut State University where she helped develop the dance curriculum for the musical theatre BA and BFA degree program. Her teaching credits include but are not limited to The West Coast Dance Explosion, North Carolina School of the Arts, and Joffrey Ballet Summer Intensives. Elizabeth's Broadway and national tour credits include Movin' Out (Original Broadway Cast, Tony nomination for Best Actress in a Musical, Astaire Award for Best Female Dancer on Broadway), Fosse (Outer Critics Circle Nomination for Best Featured Actress, FANY Award for Best Broadway Debut), Andrew Lippa's The Wild Party (Pre Broadway workshop), the national tour of the Lincoln Center production of *Carousel*. Singin' In The Rain (St. Louis MUNY, girl in the green dress), Donald Byrd's The Harlem Nutcracker (Sugar Rum Cherry), and Billboards, a full length ballet to the music of Prince. She has appeared in the films *Every* Little Step, Romance and Cigarettes, and Stay. Elizabeth studied in depth Fosse repertory and style with Gwen Verdon and Ann Reinking. In 2014 Elizabeth appeared opposite Bernadette Peters in the City Center/ Lincoln Center Jazz production of A Bed and A Chair, directed by John Doyle. Elizabeth 's concert dance credits are extensive including The Joffrey Ballet, Feld Ballets NY, Donald Byrd/The Group, and Twyla Tharp and Dancers. Most recently Elizabeth was awarded the Kennedy Center College Musical Theatre Festival Award for best choreography for the WCSU production of *Parade* in 2015 and the WCSU production of *The*

Drowsey Chaperone in 2016. Elizabeth is married to Broadway performer Scott Wise. They live in Sherman, CT with their son James.

Performance Experience and Training

2014 THE CONSENSES FESTIVAL, OBERON THEATRE AT ART, BOSTON, DIRECTED BY SALLY TAYLOR, PERFORMING *THE RAPTURE*, CHOREOGRAPHY BY WES VELDINK

2014 THE CONSENSES FESTIVAL, MARTHA'S VINEYARD, DIRECTED BY SALLY TAYLOR, PERFORMING *THE RAPTURE*, CHOREOGRAPHY BY WES VELDINK

2013 A BED AND A CHAIR, PRINCIPAL DANCER OPPOSITE BERNADETTE PETERS, COPRODUCED BY CITY CENTER AND LINCOLN CENTER JAZZ, DIRECTED BY JOHN DOYLE, CHOREOGRAPHED BY PARKER ESSE

2010 A NIGHT WITH CLINT HOLMES, CARNEGIE HALL, PRINCIPAL DANCER

2009 THE GARDEN OF EARTHLY DELIGHTS, AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL, DIR. MARTHA CLARKE

2008 CHASE BROCK EXPERIENCE, NYC, GUEST PERFORMER

2007 *KISMET*, CITY CENTER ENCORES, NYC, DIR. LONI PRICE, CHOR. SERGIO TRUJILLO, FEATURED DANCER

2006 MOVIN' OUT, NATIONAL TOUR, BRENDA, DIR. TWYLA THARP

2005 IGAL PERRY AND DANCERS, GUEST PERFORMER WITH JOSE CARRENO

2002 - 05 *MOVIN' OUT,* ORIGINAL BROADWAY CAST, BRENDA, DIR. TWYLA THARP. TONY AWARD NOMINATION FOR BEST ACTRESS ON BROADWAY, DRAMA DESK NOMINATION FOR BEST ACTRESS ON BROADWAY, ASTAIRE AWARD FOR BEST FEMALE DANCER ON BROADWAY

2001-02 TWYLA THARP DANCE, PRINCIPAL DANCER

2001 RYTHMEK, JACOB'S PILLOW, DIRS. ELIZABETH ROHAS AND KARINE PLANDIT, CHOREOGRAPHY BY ULYSSES DOVE AND MIA MICHAELS. PRINCIPAL DANCER

1998-2001 *FOSSE,* ORIGINAL BROADWAY CAST, FEATURED DANCER, DIR. RICHARD MALTBY. OUTER CRITICS CIRCLE NOMINATION FOR BEST

FEATURED ACTRESS ON BROADWAY, FANY AWARD FOR BEST BROADWAY DEBUT, ASTAIRE AWARD NOMINATION FOR BEST FEMALE DANCER ON BROADWAY

1998 *FOSSE* PRE-BROADWAY NATIONAL TOUR, FEATURED DANCER, DIR. RICHARD MALTBY

1998 FOSSE WORKSHOP, TORONTO, DIR. CHET WALKER

1997 ANDREW LIPPA'S, *THE WILD PARTY*, PRE-BROADWAY WORKSHOP, DIR. GABE BERRY. CHOR. MARK DENDY. FEATURED DANCER

1997 FOSSE TRAINEE WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED BY CHET WALKER, GWEN VERNON, AND ANN REINKING

1997 MARK DENDY AND DANCERS, GUEST ARTIST, NYC SUMMER STAGES

1997 CAROUSEL, NATIONAL TOUR, DIR. NICHOLAS HITNER

1995-97 *THE HARLEM NUTCRACKER*, SUGAR RUM CHERRY, DIR./ CHOR. DONALD BYRD

1995-97 DONALD BYRD/THE GROUP, NYC, PRINCIPAL DANCER

1995 SINGIN' IN THE RAIN, ST. LOUIS MUNY, DIR. CHARLES REPOLE, CHOR. LINDA GOODRICH, GIRL IN THE GREEN DRESS

1995 IGAL PERRY AND DANCERS, GUEST PERFORMER, KOREAN TOUR

1994 *BILLBOARDS*, A FULL LENGTH BALLET TO MUSIC BY PRINCE, PBS GREAT PERFORMANCES, PURPLE RAIN, CHOR. CHARLES MOULTON

1992-94 PRINCIPAL DANCER, THE JOFFREY BALLET, DIR. GERALD ARPINO, PURPLE RAIN SOLO AND OTHER ROLES IN NATIONAL TOUR OF BILLBOARDS. A FULL LENGTH BALLET TO MUSIC BY PRINCE

1990-92 PRINCIPLE DANCER, THE FELD BALLETS/NY, DIR. ELIOT FELD

1984-90 PRINCIPAL DANCER, THE JOFFREY BALLET, DIR. ROBERT JOFFREY AND GERALD ARPINO. PERFORMED ROLES CREATED BY MASTER CHOREOGRAPHERS SUCH AS SIR FREDRICK ASHTON, JIRI KYLIAN, MARK MORRIS, PAUL TAYLOR, ROBERT JOFFREY, GERALD ARPINO, JOHN CRANKO, WILLIAM FORSYTH, CHARLES MOULTON, MARGO SAPPINGTON, LAURA DEAN, NAJINSKA, NAJINSKI

1988 *A NIGHT AT THE JOFFREY*, PBS GREAT PERFORMANCES, *MONOTONES II*, CHOR. FREDRICK ASHTON, *LE SACRE DU PRINTEMPS*, CHOR. NAJINSKI, *LOVE SONGS*, CHOR. WILLIAM FORSYTHE

1982-84 THE JOFFREY II DANCERS, TRAINEE

1977-82 JOFFREY BALLET SUMMER INTENSIVES, DIR. ROBERT JOFFREY, STUDENT

1980-82 THE TAMPA BALLET, SOLOIST

1978-80 THE TAMPA BALLET, CORPS DE BALLET

1977-82 TAMPA BALLET ARTS, DIR. ANZIA ARSENAULT, STUDENT

Teaching and Choreography Experience

1995 Dance Educators of America, Ballet

1995-97 Donald Byrd/The Group, Ballet, Modern, and Repertory at various community venues

2001-03 Twyla Tharp Dance, Repertory workshops at Jacob's Pillow and other community venues; Broadway Dance Center, NYC, Theatre Dance; School of Performing Arts, New Milford, CT, Fosse and Tharp Repertory

2009-10 Joffrey Ballet Summer Intensive, Ballet, Fosse Repertory

2010 North Carolina School of the Arts, Guest Teaching Artist, Staging West Side Story and Original Musical Theatre Staging

2006-present Co-owner, Co-director FineLine Theatre Arts, a performing arts conservatory, New Milford, CT. Ballet, Pointe, Jazz, Theatre Dance, Original Choreography

2006-present West Coast Dance Explosion Convention Tour, Ballet, Ballet Pedagogy, Partnering, Theatre Dance

2007-present Co-director Vineyard Arts Project Musical Theatre Lab, a preprofessional summer intensive hosted by Vineyard Arts Project, Movement for Actors, Ballet, Modern, Theatre Dance, and Musical Theatre Repertory

2011 Assistant choreographer, *SKBSTRD*, a new musical by Bruce Hornsby, Dir. John Rando, Chor. Scott Wise, Virginia Stages

2011-present Director, Artists in Motion (AIM), a not for profit youth ballet and preprofessional training company, Ballet, Modern, Original Choreography

2012-present Adjunct Professor Western Connecticut State University, teaching ballet, jazz, and theatre dance

2015 Choreographer WCSU production of *Parade*, Kennedy Center College Musical Theatre Festival Award for Best Choreography

2016 Choreographer WCSU production of *The Drowsey*Chaperone, Kennedy Center College Musical Theatre Festival

Award for Best Choreography

2017 Co director/choreographer of *Crazy for You* at the Boris Tchukin Theatre in Moscow

2017~2018 Adjunct Professor of Ballet, Manhattan School of Music

2017 Choreographer WCSU production of *Dancing at Lugnasa*

2018 Choreographer WCSU production of *Company*

2018 Director Broadway Commercial Dance Lab at University of North Carolina School of the Arts

2018 Choreographer WCSU production of A Wild Party

2019 Director/choreographer WCSU production of Crazy for You

2019 Choreographer WCSU production of A Little Night Music

2019 Associate Director Summer Dance at University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Director of Summer Dance Professional Studies.

2020 Director/choreographer WCSU production of *Tommy*

Education

Acting, Alan Savage, NYC, HB Studios NYC

Voice, Joan Lader, NYC

Theatre Dance, Chet Walker, Ann Reinking, Gwen Verdon

Ballet, Gabrielle Darvash, Maggie Black, David Howard, Wilhelm Burman, NYC

1978-83 Joffrey Ballet Summer Intensives with Robert Joffrey, Tampa Ballet Arts

1982 Graduated Berkeley Preparatory School, Tampa, FL.

Class Valedictorian, Harvard Award for Scholastic Excellence

Elizabeth deferred her acceptance to Princeton University but never attended due to her successful career as a dance artist.

Referrals

Donald Byrd, dansbyrd@aol.com

Mark Redanty, BRS Talent Agency, mark@brsagency.com

Dan Goble, Director of School of Music, Theatre, and Dance at Colorado State University, dangoble@mac.com

Ethan Stiefel, Dir. New Zealand Ballet, former Dean North Carolina School of the Arts, thantiefel@hotmail.com