

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

Blink of an Eye

(2011; 2025 Company Premiere)

Choreography: Medhi Walerski

Staging: Valentina Scaglia

Music: Johann Sebastian Bach, performed by Itzhak Perlman

Costumes: Medhi Walerski

Costumes Redesigned by: Jon Taylor

Original Lighting Design: Nicole Pearce

A moment—brief yet infinite. *Blink of an Eye* explores the fragile boundary between presence and absence, change and stillness. Echoing Bach's 'Partitas for Solo Violin', the work traces a dialogue between rigor and freedom, structure and emotion, the earthly and the divine. Through movement that flows like sound, it reflects on how everything can shift, disappear, or begin again in the blink of an eye.



Photo by Michael Slobodian

Medhi Walerski

Medhi Walerski is currently the Artistic Director of Ballet BC. Raised in France, Walerski danced at the Paris Opera Ballet and the Ballet du Rhin before joining the Nederlands Dans Theater in 2001. For more than a decade, he was an integral part of the company, contributing to the creative, innovative style for which NDT is famous. Walerski was awarded the prestigious Dutch dance prize VSCD Zwaan in 2013.

Walerski has worked closely with many renowned choreographers, creating alongside and performing works by Jiří Kylián, William Forsythe, Ohad Naharin, George Balanchine, Rudolf Nureyev, Paul Lightfoot and Sol Leon, Crystal Pite, Johan Inger, and Wayne McGregor, among others. Walerski's choreographic debut was in 2008 for NDT 2. Since then, he has created numerous acclaimed works for NDT and Ballet BC including *Petite Cérémonie* (2011), *Chamber* (2012), *GARDEN* (2016), *Silent Tides* (2021), *just BEFORE right AFTER* (2022), *Pieces of Tomorrow* (2024), and *Last light* (2025), as well as works for Bern Ballet, Goteborg Ballet, the Ballet State of Georgia, StaatBallet Hannover, Staattheater Wiesbaden, and Charlotte Ballet.

J.S. Bach

Johann Sebastian Bach had a prestigious musical lineage and took on various organist positions during the early 18th century, creating famous compositions like "Tocatta and Fugue in D minor." Some of his best-known compositions are the "Mass in B Minor," the "Brandenburg Concertos" and "The Well-Tempered Clavier." Bach died in Leipzig, Germany, on July 28, 1750. Today, he is considered one of the greatest Western composers of all time. ([Biography.com](https://www.biography.com))

***Blink of an Eye* Music Credit Information:**

"Partita for Solo Violin N2 in D Minor BWV 1004: I. Allemande", "Partita for Solo Violin N1 in G Minor BWV 1001: I. Adagio", and "Partita for Solo Violin N1 in G Minor BWV 1001: IV. Presto" written by Johann Sebastian Bach, performed by Itzhak Perlman from the album, *Bach: Sonatas & Partitas for Solo Violin*

The company premiere of *Blink of an Eye* is supported by commissioning funds from New York City Center.

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