

## Ray Sullivan Dance



**Ray Sullivan** has been in the dance world for thirty-five years. He enjoyed an international dance career, performing works by more than fifty choreographers in North America, South America, Asia and Europe. He was the founding artistic director of Miami Contemporary Dance Company in 2000 until 2015. Mr. Sullivan's performance credits include dancing with Argentina's El Ballet Contemporáneo del Teatro San Martín for five years, including as a guest soloist in Kuarahy in Buenos Aires with international ballet star Julio Bocca. He performed featured roles in Miami Contemporary Dance Company for 10 years. He performed with numerous other companies including, Armar Danza en Tango Científico and Animas, Connecticut Ballet, Zig Zag Ballet, Dance Esaias, and Les Ballets Grandiva. In Tokyo, Mr. Sullivan performed for Masako, Crown Princess of Japan and in Miami, as a guest artist in SPIEGELWORLD.

As a choreographer he has presented works in North America, South America and Europe, on main stages, festivals, and dance series. He has choreographed 52 world premieres to date. In his youth he performed with the Paul Hall Contemporary Dance Theater Company and, as a student, with New Haven Ballet Ensemble and the Purchase Dance Corps, where he was in the first American cast of Taiwanese choreographer Lin Hwai-Min's *Crossing the Black Waters*, in NY and Holland and also performed in Hong Kong. In his studies, he was the recipient of numerous merit scholarships. In New York he trained in the Martha Graham and José Limón Techniques, at the Paul Taylor School, the Joffrey Ballet School, the David Howard School, Broadway Dance Center and earned a B.F.A. in dance from State University of New York at Purchase. He began his training in his native New Haven, Connecticut, at The Educational Center for the Arts and New Haven Ballet School and continued, year round, in summer programs such as American Dance Festival, José Limón program, Center for the Creative Youth, Burklyn Ballet Theater, The Hartford Ballet School, and winter workshops at the Martha Graham and Merce Cunningham Schools.

Mr. Sullivan has taught modern dance and ballet for more than twenty years. During this time, he developed his own technique. He has taught master classes and workshops of Sullivan Technique of Contemporary Movement to members of the Ballet of the famed Colón Theater in Buenos Aires, El Ballet Nacional de Chile, El Ballet Contemporáneo del Teatro San Martín in Argentina, Balletto Dell'Esperia in Turin, Italy, at the School of the Municipal Ballet of Chile, the Educational Center for the Arts in New Haven, Connecticut, at New World School of the Arts in Miami, and at Festivals such as Ballet Intensive from Moscow in Michigan and Florida Dance Festival, as well as for Miami Contemporary Dance Center of Movement and Choreographic Studies. He has prepared dancers for international competitions in France, Argentina, Brazil, and the United States. From 2000 -2004, Mr. Sullivan was on faculty of Miami City Ballet School where he taught all levels, ages 8-18, as well as community classes.

In November 2004, Mr. Sullivan was presented with the Key to the City of Miami Beach at the Jackie Gleason Theater performance of his choreographic work *Tango Undressed*. Mr. Sullivan was awarded with the 2005 Dance Miami Choreographer's Fellowship from the Miami- Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs. In 2006, he was honored as one of the 100 Power Players by Florida International Magazine. In 2008, Mr. Sullivan was chosen to work as the national master teacher in choreography for the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. The Arts and Business Council honored Mr. Sullivan as the Miami Emerging Arts Leader 2007 and he was awarded the Miami Artzine Visionary Award in 2008. In 2009 he was named one of 3 Cultural Creators in the book, *The Spirit of Miami Beach*, along with Michael Tilson Thomas and Edward Villella. In 2011 he was awarded the Film Recording and Entertainment Council (FREC) award of Choreographer of the Year. In 2012 he was selected as an international judge for the IV Competition for Contemporary Dance Performers in Chile. In 2015 he was recognized with an award from MCDC in Miami for his acclaimed collaborations with New York composer Kevin Keller.

Currently he is the artistic director, co-creator and teacher for TANGO OUT and Conexion, Miami's first International Queer Tango Festival. Recently he also choreographed on teams for the National LGBT Task Force Gala, *The Golem of Havana* in Miami, "Simple Amore" a Tango Show, Florida All Night Milonga, Pulse Points at the New World Center, *The Haunted Ballet*, and the Daniel Lewis Dance Sampler in Miami. Mr. Sullivan is continually developing his body of work, receiving invitations to stage his work, choreograph, teach master classes, perform and teach at numerous tango festivals, and lecture nationally and internationally.