

Presented by Columbia Artists Theatricals, European Theatre Productions, LTD, and DaMoDa

AEROS

Friday through Sunday, January 17–19, 2003
Zellerbach Hall

Featuring athletes from
The Romanian Gymnastics Federation

Lucian Alexa, Mariana Apostu, Raluca Babaligea, Cozmin Bogdan, Madalina Cioveie,
Aurelia-Mariana Ciurea, Alina Dragan, Madalina Gogitu, Gabriela Hreban,
Isabela Lacatus, Daniela Maranduca, Cristina Marin, Cristian Moldovan,
Lacramiora Moldovan, Vasile Filip Muntean, Remus Nicolai, Mihaela Pohoata,
Bogdan Popa, Mirela Rusu, Claudiu Varlam

Lighting Design	Sound Design	Costume Design	Music Composition
Burke J. Wilmore	Shannon Slaton	Missoni	& Arrangement
			TTG Music Lab

Movement Coordinator	General Management
Maria Fumea	Columbia Artists Theatricals

Executive Producer
Aldo Scrofani

Directed and Choreographed by
Daniel Ezralow, David Parsons, Moses Pendleton

In collaboration with
Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas

From an original idea by
Antonio Gnechchi Ruscone

This performance will include one 15-minute intermission.

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The Visionary Sponsor, University of Florida Performing Arts.

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a federal agency that supports the visual, literary, and performing arts to benefit all Americans,
and the California Arts Council, a state agency.

Lucian Alexa (performer), age 23, has been practicing gymnastics since the age of five. He graduated from the National Academy of Physical Education and Sports in Bucharest in 2002. Alexa hopes to travel to India someday and would also like to drive a Formula One car.

Mariana Apostu (performer), age 28, graduated from the National Academy of Physical Education and Sports in Bucharest. She is a national champion in rhythmic gymnastics and was a member of the Romanian team from 1987 to 1992. Apostu also teaches this sport and trains athletes in classical ballet. She would like to continue working with her sister as a coach of rhythmic gymnastics.

Raluca Babaligea (performer) has been practicing sports aerobics for three years and has been a member of the Romanian national team since January 4, 2002. Babaligea competed at the world championships in Lithuania in July 2002, where the Romanian team won first place.

Cozmin Bogdan (performer), age 27, began studying gymnastics at the age of seven and is a national champion in artistic gymnastics. He graduated from the Cbackes School in Bucharest and is currently training with the aerobics team.

Madalina Cioveie (performer), age 19, is presently in her first year of college. She joined the Romanian national team in July 2001 and competed with the team at the 2002 world championships.

Aurelia-Mariana Ciurea (Relly) (performer), age 21, is currently studying at the University of Spiru Haret. Recipient of the second-place prize at the European championships, her dream is to become an Olympic champion.

Alina Dragan (performer) was a member of the Romanian rhythmic gymnastics team at the Olympics, and also participated at the European and world championships. She placed fourth at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles. Today, Dragan is the technical director responsible for sports aerobics with the Romanian Gymnastics Federation.

Madalina Gogitu (performer) was a 1997 national champion in sports aerobics and was part of the national team of aerobics in Bucharest. In 1999, she placed sixth in trio at the world championships in Germany, as well as earning the title of European Champion in group gymnastics. Gogitu was double champion in the world championships in 2002. She hopes to someday become an Olympic champion in sports aerobics.

Gabriela Hreban (performer), age 22, is a member of the national team of rhythmic gymnastics and participated at the European and world championships. She enjoys working with children and she likes ice cream.

Isabela Lacatus (performer), age 26, is a winner of the World Cup individual and mixed pairs in Rimini and the world games in Akita. She was also the 2001 European champion in individual and placed second in mixed pairs. This year, Lacatus became a silver medalist in individual and a bronze medalist in mixed pairs. She was also a world champion in Riesa in 2000.

Daniela Maranduca (performer) enjoyed great success in 2002: she became a double world champion in aerobics gymnastics, and she was married in August. She looks forward to becoming a mother one day. Maranduca was a European champion in 1999 and 2001 in group.

Cristina Marin (performer) became a double world champion this year. She is a third-year student at the Physical Education and Sports University. Marin enjoys travelling and would like to see the Great Wall of China and the pyramids of Egypt one day. She was a European champion in 1999 and 2001 in group.

Cristian Moldovan (performer) graduated from the National Academy of Physical Education and Sports in Bucharest and has won many titles, including gold medals in trio, 1996 and 1997; silver medals in trio, 1995 and 1998; a bronze medal in trio, 1999; fourth place in individual men, 1996, and in mixed pairs, 1999; and a gold in trio and a bronze in individual, 2000. Moldovan loves children and would someday like to work with them, teaching artistic gymnastics. His greatest wish is to win an Olympic medal.

Lacramiora Moldovan (performer) completed her studies at the National School of Trainers in Bucharest. She is a world-renowned figure in both artistic gymnastics and aerobics, having won numerous awards and medals, including second place with the team in the world championships in Stuttgart, 1989; and European champion in group, 1999. Moldovan wants to become a coach of artistic gymnastics and lead her athletes to an Olympic medal.

Vasile Filip Muntean (performer), age 24, is a 2002 graduate of the National Academy of Physical Education and Sports. Muntean has been practicing gymnastics since the age of five. Other interests include skiing and sky diving.

Remus Nicolai (performer) won a gold medal with the team at the 2002 world championships and a bronze medal in mixed pairs. In August 2002, Nicolai married fellow AEROS gymnast Daniela Maranduca; in the near future, they would like to have children. He is a double world champion in trio as well as a European champion.

Mihaela Pohoata (Miki) (performer), age 21, spends most of her time being a gymnast in the national team of sports aerobics. She is also a student of physical education and likes unusual things, dancing, children, and cosmetics. In 1999, with the group, she became European Champion. In 2001, she received the silver medal in Italy at the World Cup, and she became a double world champion with the group and with the team in Lithuania in 2002. In addition, she has also won the bronze medal in individual women's gymnastics.

Bogdan Popa (performer) joined the Romanian gymnastics team in September 2001 and participated in winning a gold medal with the team at the 2002 world championships.

Mirela Rusu (performer), age 24, is a 2001 graduate of the Physical Education and Sports University in Bacau. Rusu was a double world champion with the group and with the team in 2002. She loves cats and would someday like to be an actress. Rusu was a European champion in 1999 and 2001 in group.

Claudiu Varlam (performer) is a graduate of the National Academy of Physical Education and Sports in Bucharest and has achieved in the field of aerobics gold medals in trio, 1996 and 1997; silver medals in trio, 1995 and 1998; and a bronze medal in mixed pairs, 1998. He looks forward to being able to work with children in sport aerobics training and hopes someday to own a fitness center in Romania. Varlam is the second coach of the national sports aerobics team.

The Romanian Gymnastics Federation, founded in 1906 and affiliated with the International Gymnastics Federation in 1907, is one of the oldest and most prestigious sports federations in the world. In 1985, the RGF became affiliated with the European Union of Gymnastics, an organization created in 1982. Of the four internationally recognized disciplines comprising the Romanian Gymnastics Federation, three are Olympic sports: women's artistic gymnastics, men's artistic gymnastics, and rhythmic gymnastics. The relatively recent fourth discipline is sports aerobics gymnastics. An attractive new sport, it was integrated in the International Gymnastics Federation in 1994, with a perspective of future development. AEROS is comprised of members from each discipline.

In 1994, 1995, and 1996, the Romanian Gymnastics Federation was awarded the national prize for "the best sports federation from Romania" by the Youth and Sports Ministry. Most recently, in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, Andreea Raducan captured the Olympic women's gymnastics all-around gold medal; Simona Amanar and Maria Olaru took the silver and the bronze medals; and the Romanian team won the gold medal in women's team gymnastics. It was the first time a country had swept the all-around since the former Soviet Union did so in 1960. Controversy existed, however: Raducan was relieved of her medal, and Simona Amanar and Maria Olaru eventually took gold and silver, respectively.

Daniel Ezralow (co-director and choreographer) began dancing while at UC Berkeley and continued in New York as a dancer with Lar Lubovitch, Paul Taylor, and Pilobolus. He was one of the original dancer-choreographers of MOMIX, is a founding member of ISO Dance, and has created original works for the Paris Opera Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance Company, and Batsheva, among many others. Ezralow choreographed Julie Taymor's *The Green Bird* on Broadway, Ron Howard's film *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, the 1998 Academy Awards, and the 2000 Grammy Awards. He has created music videos for Andrea Bocelli, U2, David Bowie, Sting, and Ricky Martin. Ezralow is the recipient of the ACA Innovators Award, and an Emmy Award for the PBS special *Episodes*. He conceived and choreographed the award-winning dance special *Windows*, aired on BRAVO, and is the subject of a new feature documentary film exploring his solo multimedia show *Mandala*. Most recently, Ezralow co-created and staged the PBS *Great Performances* special *Josh Groban In Concert*, shown nationally. He also directed for MTV the Josh Groban performance of "Gira Con Me Questa Notte."

David Parsons (co-director and choreographer) has enjoyed a remarkable career as a performer, choreographer, teacher, director, and producer of dance. From 1978–1987, Parsons was a leading

dancer with the Paul Taylor Dance Company. He has made guest appearances with the New York City Ballet, the Berlin Opera, MOMIX, and the White Oak Dance Project. In 1987, Parsons founded The Parsons Dance Company with lighting designer Howell Binkley. Parsons has created over 60 works for The Parsons Dance Company. He has also choreographed works for the Paul Taylor Dance Company, American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, National Ballet of Canada, and Atlanta Ballet, among many others. Parsons choreographed and directed the dance elements for Times Square 2000, and was a recipient of the Dance Magazine Award for that year. He recently created a piece for American Ballet Theatre using the music of George Harrison that premiered in October 2002 at City Center in New York City.

Moses Pendleton (co-director and choreographer) was born and raised in northern Vermont. In 1971, he graduated from Dartmouth College and co-founded Pilobolus Dance Theater. In 1980, he choreographed the closing ceremonies for the Winter Olympic Games at Lake Placid and premiered his solo Momix, which became the name of the company he founded in 1981. MOMIX is a company of dancer-illusionists known internationally for presenting works of exceptional inventiveness and physical beauty. His film work includes Moses Pendleton Presents Moses Pendleton (1982) for ABC Arts, which won a Cine Golden Eagle award. Pendleton became a Guggenheim Fellow in 1977, won the Connecticut Commission on the Arts Governor's Award in 1998, and received Italy's Positano Award in 1999.

Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas (collaborating directors) are both self-taught musicians who worked in various theatrical and musical outfits in the UK throughout the 1980s. During this time, they worked together for several years as street musicians/performers across Europe. Continuing their partnership, they began STOMP in 1991. Since then, they have directed a series of award-winning commercials internationally, and received an Oscar nomination for their short film Brooms. Together, they composed the soundtrack to the Showtime movie Riot, and directed the Stomp Out Loud special for HBO, which received four Emmy nominations, including one for best direction. Cresswell's work as a percussionist and rhythm programmer includes Beats International, Bette Midler, Elvis Costello, and Bryan Ferry. He also received a JUBA special achievement award for his work in percussive dance from the Chicago Human Rhythm Project. Their latest project is PULSE, a visual exploration of global rhythm, which debuted in IMAX movie theaters earlier this year.

Burke J. Wilmore's (lighting design) design for dance includes works by David Parsons, Peter Pucci, and Karole Armitage. He is the resident designer for Battleworks (Robert Battle) and Patricia Kenney Dance Collection. His most recent theatrical project was This Is Our Youth at Berkshire Theater Festival. He has been the associate designer (with Howell Binkley) of many shows, including the Kennedy Center's recent Sondheim Celebration. Wilmore was an honors graduate of Wesleyan University and is a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829. He lives in New York City.

Shannon Slaton (sound design) has toured as an engineer with productions such as Grease, Jekyll & Hyde, and Cinderella. As a sound designer, he worked on the tours of Tap Dogs and Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk. He has also designed shows in New York, Seattle, and Dallas. Slaton just finished working on A Christmas Carol at Madison Square Garden. He lives in New York with his wife, Mollie.

Missoni (costume design), internationally acclaimed in the world of fashion design, gained cult status in the 1960s and 1970s with its rainbow colors and signature zigzag waves. The essential foundation of Missoni design is that colors and graphics take precedence, and that patterns provide the dimensional quality and intrigue. Over the past five decades, Missoni has gathered numerous fashion awards, including the Neiman Marcus Fashion Award (1973), the International Design Award from the Fashion Group International (1990), the Honorary Royal Designer for Industry in London (1997), and the Dallas Historical Society's Stanley Award for lifetime achievement in fashion design (1999). Missoni is among an elite group of designers who truly combine the worlds of art and culture with fashion. Missoni's debut in costume design was in 1983 for the production of Donizetti's Lucia di Lammermoor at the La Scala Theatre in Milan. Other works include Africa for the opening of the 1990 World Soccer Championship and, in 1994, Step Into My Dream for The Parsons Dance Company. "In creating the costumes for AEROS," says Luca Missoni, "we knit space-dyed stretch yarns in bright and vibrant colors to capture the speed of movement in the Energy and Fun themes; rich and soft colors to enhance the sensuality of movement in the Aesthetics and Magic elements of the show."

TTG Music Lab (music composition and arrangement) has been creating original scores for television, film, theater, and dance since 1994. Geoff Bennett, Longo Hai, and Ben Johannesen operate as a compositional team creating soundscapes for a wide range of artistic endeavors. In 2001, they won the award for Best Original Music Score for a Program or Mini-Series at the 16th Annual Gemini Awards for their score for director David New's film *Dinner At The Edge* (Sienna Films). They received another Gemini nomination in 2002 for their work on Q Films' documentary series *The Secret World of Gardens*. Other recent soundtracks for film and television include the documentary series *Going To Extremes* for National Geographic and Britain's Channel Four; the new HBO thriller *Say Nothing*, starring William Baldwin and Nastassja Kinski; Sienna Films' award-winning feature *New Waterford Girl*; and three Nelvana series—*George and Martha*, *Maggie and the Ferocious Beast*, and *Max and Ruby*. TTG's current catalogue of CDs includes *Music for Bipedal Movement* and *AEROS*, the original soundtrack of the 2001 United States tour.

Maria Fumea (movement coordinator), a native Romanian, attended the Institute of Polytechnics and the College for Trainers in Bucharest. She performed as a rhythmic gymnast for 18 years, winning first place in the national championships in 1975. As an athlete, she was featured in several books on rhythmic gymnastics and workout, published in Romania. Fumea has worked as a coach and choreographer since 1983, and has collaborated with many famous gymnasts, including Nadia Comaneci, Aurelia Dobre, Lavinia Milosovici, and Gina Gogean. Presently, she acts as head coach of the national team of sports aerobics, which was founded in 1994 as part of the Romanian Federation of Gymnasts. Since 1995, the Romanian team has won 33 medals (13 of them gold) in seven world and two European championships (in all categories). Fumea has also worked as a choreographer in women's artistic gymnastics in Great Britain, Turkey, and Greece. She has taken part in all of the world championships as a judge since 1995, and was elected a member of the European Commission of Sports Aerobics in October 1999. In November 2000, Fumea was elected member of the Technical Committee of the FIG in Sports Aerobics.

Aldo Scrofani (executive producer) is proud to be celebrating his 25th year in the theater. Scrofani began his career at Jujamcyn Theatres Corporation, where he served 13 years as executive vice president. In 1990, he joined Columbia Artists, and he is currently chief operating officer of Columbia Artists Theatricals LLC and senior vice president of Columbia Artists Management. Scrofani has co-produced or been associated with over 100 Broadway, national, and/or international productions, including *Bring In 'Da Noise, Bring In 'Da Funk* with Savion Glover, *STOMP*, *Tap Dogs*, Savion Glover in *Foot Notes*, *Sunset Boulevard*, The Royal National Theatre Production of *Carousel*, *Jelly's Last Jam*, *The World Goes Round*, *Grand Hotel*, *Gypsy*, *City of Angels*, *M. Butterfly*, *My One and Only*, *The Piano Lesson*, *Into The Woods*, *Big River*, and *Dracula*. He is a member of the board of governors of the League of American Theatres and Producers and a member of the Tony Awards Management Committee.

European Theatre Productions, LTD (producer), and its related companies, represented by Antonio Gnechchi Ruscone, were founded in 1989. It provides comprehensive service in the fields of consulting, study, research, publication, and promotion of all types of artistic expression (dance, music, theater) as well as acting as agent and assistant to third parties wishing to engage the services and performance of specific artists or groups of artists. ETP has produced and organized festivals and theatrical events, concerts, theater, and television performances and a variety of special events both in Italy and abroad, also taking on responsibility for corporate entertainment and, on request, providing press agencies and public relations offices for the events it organizes. ETP has also represented international dance companies in Italy and worked with classical music soloists and ensembles, individual musicians and light music groups, theater actors, and television productions, and has offered consulting services to companies working in various sectors of entertainment and fashion. Examples of its diverse activities include tours of soloists of the New York City Ballet; American Ballet Theatre; the Maryinski Theatre—Kirov Ballet of Saint Petersburg; White Oak Dance Project with Mikhail Baryshnikov; the Milan Summer Festival of opera, dance, and music; New Year's Eve 1999/2000 in Milan; the music video for "O Mare e Tu" by Andrea Bocelli; the BMW Convention at the Piccolo Teatro Studio in Milan; various Zegna Sport fashion shows; and an appearance of AEROS presided over by His Holiness Pope John Paul II and an audience of over two million people attending the Vatican's XV World Youth Day in August 2000. Last year, Antonio Gnechchi Ruscone was named among other producers to create a complete study regarding the global management of the second biggest theater in Milan, Teatro Lirico.

Columbia Artists Theatricals (producer and general manager) is represented by Gary McAvay and Aldo Scrofani. McAvay, president of Columbia Artists Theatricals, has represented numerous national tours, including Grease, Tru, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Master Class, Cats, Chicago, STOMP, Tap Dogs, Annie Get Your Gun, Ragtime, Copenhagen, South Pacific, and Jesus Christ Superstar. Co-producing credits include Bring In 'Da Noise, Bring In 'Da Funk, Born Yesterday, The King and I, Starlight Express, Fascinating Rhythm, and The Belle of Amherst. McAvay is a member of the League of American Theatres and Producers and the National Alliance of Musical Theatre. Scrofani, chief operating officer of Columbia Artists Theatricals, has co-produced and/or been associated with over 100 productions worldwide. He is executive producer of AEROS.

Staff for AEROS

Columbia Artists Theatricals, general
management
Tony Schondel, company manager
Christine Deitner, production stage manager
Howell Binkley, original lighting design
Eric Stahlhammer, sound engineer
Ron Vevivo, head carpenter
Jeremy Isaacs, head electrician
Amir Genovese, fly carpenter
Erin Stephens, wardrobe
GSD Productions, lighting company
Chippewa Trails, cast coach
Clarion Coach, crew coach
Janco, trucking

Staff for Columbia Artists Theatricals

Gary Mcavay, president
Aldo Scrofani, chief operating officer

PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT:

Aldo Scrofani, executive producer
Gary McAvay, producer
Paul M. Rambacher, general manager
Tara Troutman, production associate

SALES:

Larry Anderson, Matt Chinn, Kate Mussio, Jann Simpson, Josh Sherman, sales agents

ADMINISTRATION:

Elizabeth Brown, administrative assistant
Amber Phillips, receptionist

Staff for ETP European Theatre Productions

Antonio Gnechi Ruscone, director
Alessandra Radice, assistant