

IN THIS LIFE

Directed by BAT-SHEVA GUEZ

Starring ROBBIE FAIRCHILD

Written by ROBBIE FAIRCHILD & BAT-SHEVA GUEZ

"In This Life is a mere 11 minutes long, but the wordless personifications of shock, anger, desperation, depression, and surrender that are wrought through movement and image create an extended emotional experience that transcends time."
- Los Angeles Review of Books



EXPLORING THE LANGUAGE OF LOSS - IN FIVE ACTS

Grief is unavoidable. It is an intensely physical experience, one where words are often inadequate to convey loss or to comfort it.

In This Life is a short film that explores the language of loss using narrative scenes, dance, and performance art to illustrate the five stages of grief, navigating the relationship between art and mental wellness.

"The thematic and cinematographic elements of IN THIS LIFE show Guez's outstanding talent for making pathos come to life. I recommend watching this film twice, then even a few more times."

- Agnes Films

BAT-SHEVA GUEZ

DIRECTOR | WRITER | PRODUCER

Guez has directed over a dozen short films, received multiple awards, and screened at prestigious festivals worldwide including the Hamptons International Film Festival, the Rhode Island Film Festival, the Brooklyn Film Festival and more. She is the recipient of the JT3 Artist Award for Screenwriting & Directing and has been awarded screenwriting residencies by New York Stage and Film, the Lighthouse Film Festival and the Nostros Screenwriting Retreat in Tuscany.

Awards include Best Director at the Art of Brooklyn Film Festival, Best Short Film at the Moondance Film Festival, the Panavision Grant for Best Cinematography at the Rhode Island Int'l Film Festival, Best Experimental Film at the Brooklyn Film Fest and Best Musical at the Rhode Island Int'l Film Fest among others.

She is a member of FilmmakeHERS and the Directors Collective, and directs branded content for major brands and nonprofits. Guez has been invited to speak on panels for Film Fatales and the NYC Mayor's Office of Media & Entertainment, as well as Santa Monica College and NYU.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

A man in a white shirt is seen from behind, looking into a mirror. He is holding a sword vertically in front of him. The scene is lit with a cool, blueish light, creating a dramatic and contemplative atmosphere. The man's reflection is clearly visible in the mirror, showing his face and the sword he is holding.

I've always been incredibly passionate about dance filmmaking. So much of the world's most beautiful choreography remains trapped on a stage, unavailable to audiences who may not always be able to access it there. Dance filmmaking allows viewers new ways to access the art form, helping to build new audiences for dance that can sustain it for the future.

My work liberates dance from the confines of the theater and reimagines it in the world, setting it in a location that adds depth and subtext to the story. I choreograph the camera with as much intention as the dancers, adapting camera techniques from narrative film storytelling.

My drive as a dance filmmaker is to go beyond the flat documentation of a performance, and instead to create a work of art in and of itself so that the viewers will have an emotional and visceral response to the power of the movement.

- Bat-Sheva Guez

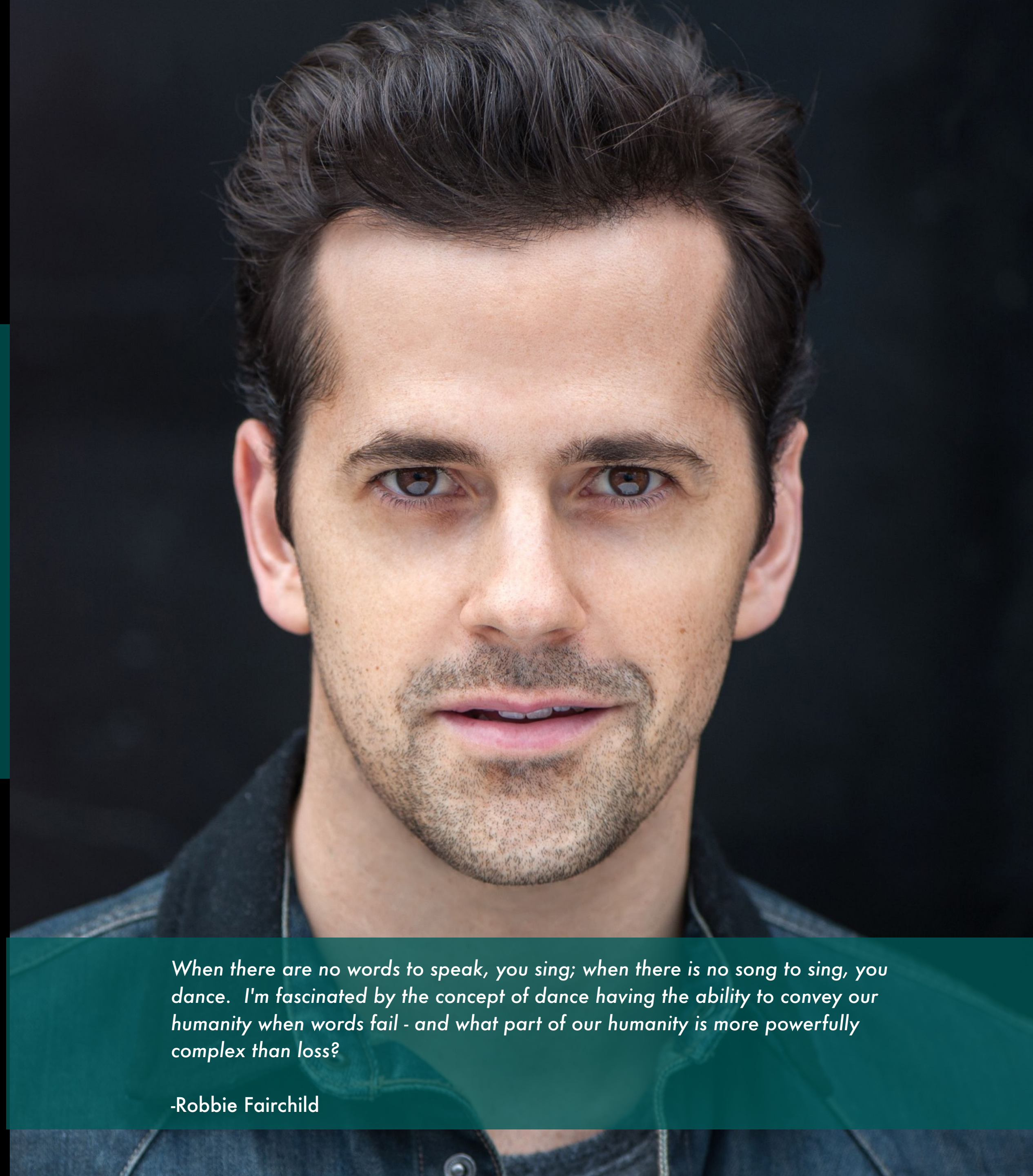
ROBBIE FAIRCHILD

PRODUCER | PERFORMER | WRITER |
CHOREOGRAPHER

One of the world's preeminent dancers, Robbie Fairchild is known for his work as a Principal Dancer for the New York City Ballet. He then made his Broadway debut as Jerry Mulligan in *An American in Paris* and was nominated for a Tony Award for the role. Robbie portrays Munkustrap in the film adaptation of *CATS* for Universal Pictures.

His many awards include the 2015 Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards for Outstanding Actor in a Musical, the 2015 Astaire Award for Best Male Dancer, and the 2015 Theatre World Award.

His theater credits also include *Mary Shelly's Frankenstein* at Signature Theater, *Brigadoon* at New York City Center, and his tv credits include *Soundtrack* on Netflix, and *The Chaperone* on PBS among others.



When there are no words to speak, you sing; when there is no song to sing, you dance. I'm fascinated by the concept of dance having the ability to convey our humanity when words fail - and what part of our humanity is more powerfully complex than loss?

-Robbie Fairchild



CHRISTOPHER WHEELDON CHOREOGRAPHER

Christopher has created productions for all the world's major ballet companies including: New York City Ballet, The Royal Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, San Francisco Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, Dutch

National Ballet, Royal Swedish Ballet, Bolshoi Ballet, the National Ballet of Canada and the Metropolitan Opera. In 2007, Wheeldon founded Morphoses/The Wheeldon Company and was appointed an Associate Artist for Sadler's Wells Theatre in London. He also choreographed ballet sequences for the feature film *Center Stage* (2000) and *Sweet Smell of Success* on Broadway (2002).

In 2014 Christopher directed and choreographed *An American In Paris*. The Broadway production won Christopher the 2015 Tony Award for Best Choreography and Outer Critics Award for Best Choreography and Direction.

His awards include the Martin E. Segal Award from Lincoln Center, the American Choreography Award, a Dance Magazine Award, the London Critic's Circle Award for best new ballet for *Polyphonia*. In 2013 his production of *Cinderella and The Winter's Tale* won the Benois De La Danse. For *Aeternum* he won the Olivier award, and for *A Winters Tale*, he won the 2014 Leonard Massine Prize for Choreography.



ANDREA MILLER CHOREOGRAPHER

Andrea Miller, Artistic Director & choreographer of GALLIM, is a perpetually groundbreaking artist who brings unbridled empathy and intimacy to her work.

Miller was named 2017/2018 Artist in Residence at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Miller's highly acclaimed works and commissions have been performed worldwide including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Frieze Festival, Art Basel, *Carmina Burana* at Lincoln Center and The Kennedy Center, *BAM Next Wave*, *The Joyce*, *Jacob's Pillow*, *Spoletto USA*, *Theatre National de Chaillot*, *Grec Festival de Barcelona*, *The Grand Theatre de la Ville de Luxembourg*, *Theaterhaus Stuttgart*, and *Canal Madrid*.

Miller's choreography for GALLIM has been commissioned and performed nationally and internationally, including by The Kennedy Center, *Peak Performances* at Montclair State University (NJ), and *Dancers' Workshop* — Jackson Hole, *Nederlands Dans Theater 2*, *Ballet Bern* at the Royal Opera House of London, *Noord Nederlands Dans*, and *Phantom Limb's* production *69° South* for *BAM's Next Wave* (2011).





JAMES ALSOP

CHOREOGRAPHER

James is a moving force of uniqueness in art, and talent. She has a role in the acclaimed independent feature musical *Leave it on the Floor*, and Bravo's, *Step it Up and Dance*.

Most recently you can see her work as choreographer for the critically acclaimed series *Maya & Marty* on NBC and the Netflix Musical series *Soundtrack*. James' work has attracted the attention of Artists such as Beyonce, Jennifer Lopez, Kelly Rowland, and more. She co-assisted in choreographing Beyonce's videos for the multi platinum selling records "Who Run the World (Girls Anthem)," the sexy, "Dance For You" video and Billboard hit "Love on Top."

She also assisted in choreographing the mega hit music video, *Booty* by Jennifer Lopez and worked for Oscar-nominated director Paul Thomas Anderson for the HAIM music video *Just A Little of Your Love*.

Eventually she broke into TV sitcoms, choreographing season 3 of the Emmy nominated series *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt* and other shows on networks such as Showtime, NBC and more.

She teaches around the world educating young artists and dancers to be who they are in their art form and love it.



WARREN CRAFT

CHOREOGRAPHER

Warren Craft is a New York City tap dancer and a founding member of Dorrance Dance. He trained in ballet at ABT and SAB.

He learned the fundamentals of tap improvisation from Ayodele Casel at Fazil's. Most importantly, lessons from the late, great, Ko Murobushi inspired years of experimentation in Warren's improvisations, and under the direction of Michelle Dorrance, Warren has developed a tap dance style in the vein of Butoh Dance/Theatre.

Warren has been a member of Brenda Bufalino's New American Tap Dance Orchestra and Max Pollak's RumbaTap as well as an original member of the Tap City Youth Ensemble. Warren has toured in Japan with a brilliant group consisting of dancer Reona Otsuka, and bassists Takashi Seo and Masao Tajima. He has taught at the Sapporo Tap Festival and ARTN in Tokyo.

Warren's first solo choreographed work, *Hayden*, was set on dancer Rena Kinoshita and performed at ATDF's Rhythm in Motion in April 2016.



JEANETTE BONNER

PRODUCER

Jeanette Bonner is an award-winning producer in NYC who works in narrative film, theater, digital content, reality and podcast. She began her producing career with her semi-autobiographical solo show *Love. Guts. High School.* which premiered at New York's Midtown International Theatre Festival (nominations for Best Actress and Best Solo Show), and later went on to the Chicago Fringe Festival (*Time Out Chicago Critic's Pick*) and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

She is the Executive Producer and Creator of comedic series *Ghost Light* (Official Selection Miami, UK, Austin Web Fests with nominations for Best Comedy, Best Supporting Actor, and Best Editing) and *The Scoop*, a hybrid talk show featuring conversations with creatives over independent NYC ice cream, in addition to *#single*, a feminist podcast about navigating online dating.

The Scoop was a Final Selection for Bravo TV's Pitch & Development Lab at ITVFest in Manchester, VT, and winner of the Real Pitch TV Format Competition, and received distribution with Films Media Group. *Ghost Light* is partnered with the digital platform Seed & Spark for streaming and distribution.

