



**Elijah Richardson** (San Jose, California) is a Filipino-American dance artist based in Chicago. Starting out as a figure skater, Elijah committed to dance at age 12 and joined his public school dance teams while extensively training in musical theatre and classical choir. He went on to earn his BFA in Dance Performance with honors from Chapman University in 2018, performing in works by Sean Greene, Julianne O'Brien, Ido Tadmor, and Jenny Backhaus. Elijah has received scholarships and participated in renown intensives including San Francisco Conservatory of Dance, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Zion Dance Project, and "One Body, One Career" Countertechnique Intensive in Amsterdam. Upon graduation, Elijah joined DanceWorks Chicago for three seasons, led by Julie Nakagawa, where he performed and mentored other young artists nationally and abroad. He has gone on to guest perform with Collage Dance Collective, The Cambrians, and Anaheim Ballet. He has originated featured roles in works by Charissa Lee Barton, Donald Byrd, Tsai Hsi Hung, Ron De Jesus, Joshua Manculich, Stephanie Martinez, Kia S. Smith, and Ido Tadmor. Additional repertory include Ohad Naharin, Bobbi Jene Smith, Alex Ketley, Frank Chaves, Shannon Alvis, Monique Haley, Crystal Michelle Perkins, Christian Spück, and George Balanchine among others. As an emerging choreographer, Elijah has presented works at Loyola University Chicago, Trifecta Dance Festival, South Chicago Dance Festival, Harvest Chicago Contemporary Dance Festival, Zion Dance Project, Chapman University, Iowa International ScreenDance Festival, Flatlands Dance Film Festival, and four times at Mobile Dance Film Festival. A sought out guest educator, Elijah has taught at institutions including University of Chicago, Chapman University, Common Conservatory, Northern Illinois University, Western Michigan University, and University of Michigan. In 2021, Elijah joined South Chicago Dance Theatre, where he is in his fourth season. A highlight of his career has been named Top "25 to Watch" in 2023 by Dance Magazine, expressing how he "pulls off impassioned lyricism and pinpoint precision as easily as slapstick comedy." [elijahrichardson.com](http://elijahrichardson.com)

Photo by Michelle Reid Photography