

Arc and Sound of Dance

Logline: An Oscar-nominated composer, a renowned prima ballerina turned actor, and an international star choreographer suddenly agree to lead a hero's journey of 15 locally celebrated but not yet globally known dancers each competing to appear in an improbable "film-first" modern dance premiere. No one realizes until the very end how their unusual choreography and camerawork will revolutionize the way dance will forever be captured on film.

Series Format: 8 hybrid episodes capturing first-ever collaboration to create a digital masterwork everyone believes impossible, including 1) documentary footage as they create, practice, perform, film and edit the "impossible" immersive video; 2) personal commentary about their agony and ecstasy and 3) their backstories.

Concept Summary: A human story of emotion, ambition, identity, high-stakes creativity, and technology turned on its head: freelance dancers competing to co-create a new-form screen-native work with an award-winning composer, a world-class choreographer and a prima ballerina already featured in an Amazon Prime series. They're fighting for authorship, visibility, and the chance to define the future of contemporary dance. The series tracks the entire creative arc, the dancers' selection, the choice of the composer's music, new choreography, tough rehearsals, and the filming of a ground-breaking "film-first" immersive dance piece. Everyone's tensions and creative breakthroughs are part of the larger story, especially the dancers who're staking everything on a chance to be seen and innovate in the unforgiving, incredibly competitive landscape of ballet and contemporary dance.

Key Characters and Talent:

- Jordan James Bridge, multi award winning and nominated choreographer / performer, emerging from Studio Wayne McGregor and now acclaimed for creating dance for stage, screen & fashion, "...breathtaking in both his innovation and interpretation..." (BachTrack, Deborah Weiss)
- Constance Devernay-Laurence, featured in Amazon Prime's "Etoile", known for stunning movements in classical ballets like Swan Lake, Mayerling, Coppélia, Snow Queen and contemporary works including the phantasmagoric Scottish Ballet productions of "Crucible" and "Odyssey".
- Oscar-nominated Pulitzer Prize winning composer David Lang, one of America's most performed composers, who brings together a passion for invention with a deep understanding of the classical tradition. "...once a postminimalist enfant terrible, he has solidified his standing as an American master..." (The New Yorker)
- Anastasiya Kharchenko, Ukrainian choreographer/dancer/filmmaker, still working out of Kyiv, chosen by Elton John and Britney Spears for their 2022 "Hold Me Closer" video.

Core Freelancer Cast: Dancers Manon Servage (Paris/London), Maddie Burnett (Vancouver/NYC), Joan Dwiartanto (Singapore, NYC), Isabelle Nelson (New Zealand/London), Emma Watson (Dallas), Felicity Chadwick (London), Sofia Naumenko (Bucha/Kyiv) and more.

Tone & Style: Think sensuality of bodies in motion, a world of heat, tension, and storytelling without words, tone and style drawn from the crisp minimalism of Beyoncé's "Homecoming" and dreamlike fluidity of Wim Wenders' "Pina", with the camera weaving and breathing with the dancers. Stark interviews offset by shots of movement in progress, backstories replete with pivot points, flashes of breakthrough and collapse, and sound design playing a key role: breath, footfalls, creaking floors pulling viewers into each body's pressure and presence.

Why A Streamer Like Netflix or Hulu: A front-row seat both to the making of art and the making of artists' dreams come true, Arc and Sound of Dance taps directly into the premium docuseries storytelling that Netflix helped define: emotional, cinematic, and immersive. It is a hero's journey speaking to the "Shark Tank Phenomenon", the thrill when people watch someone takes a leap, pitches themselves, and puts it all on the line. It's what drew audiences to "The Apprentice", to "Cheer", and to "Next in Fashion". Like "Chef's Table" and "Move", it offers beauty and discipline. Like "Drive to Survive", it turns a niche world into a universal drama. And like "America's Sweethearts", it introduces a cast of unknowns who audiences will root for fiercely in a world where movement is the language and risk is the rhythm.



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Devernay-Laurence in Scottish Ballet's "Odyssey" filmwork. © Scottish Ballet