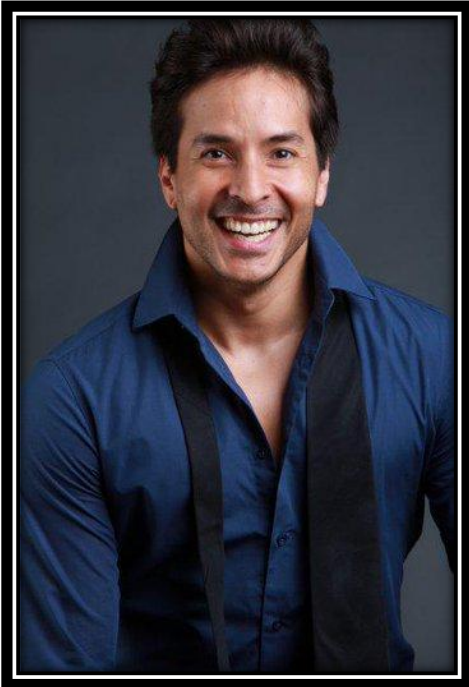


Damien Diaz



Damien Diaz was born in Monte Bello, California and began his first ballet training in Miami, Florida with Thomas Armour and Renee Zingraft. He was a full scholarship student at the North Carolina School of the Arts, The School of American Ballet in New York City, the Alabama School of Fine Arts and the Houston Ballet Academy. At the age of seventeen, Damien performed his first professional full length *Swan Lake* as Prince Siegfried as well as the Cavalier in *The Nutcracker* and Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet* with Ballet South under the direction of Dame Sonia Arova. He then accepted a corps de ballet contract with the Zurich Ballet of Switzerland under the direction of choreographer Uwe Scholz. After the fall of the Berlin wall, Damien followed director Uwe Scholz to the Leipzig Ballet, Germany, where he became a soloist and later a principle dancer. His roles with the Leipzig Ballet where Prince Desire in the full length *The Sleeping Beauty*, the lead male dancer in *Symphonie Fantastique*, the lead male in Beethoven's *7th Symphony*, Adam in Haydn's *The Creation*, and the lead male of *Bach Creations*. Damien has danced as a guest artist with the Stuttgart Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Tokyo Ballet, Dallas Ballet, Tuzer Ballet, Warsaw Ballet, Dance Theatre of Vienna, Clair Obscur Dance Company and the world renowned Ballet Trockadero de Monte Carlo in New York City. He was resident choreographer for the California Riverside Ballet and has choreographed the musical event *The Silence Is Broken* at the Saban Theatre in Los Angeles. Damien currently lives in West Hollywood, CA and is the Artistic Director of Ballet d'Hommes, an all-male ballet company of men who dance on pointe, and teaches ballet at the Edge Performing Arts Center in Los Angeles.

