

5

DANCE

STEPHEN PETRONIO COMPANY

Through Nov. 4 at N.Y.U. Skirball,
Manhattan

For four decades, Stephen Petronio has been a mainstay in the New York dance world, primarily as a choreographer celebrated for his sensual virtuosity and frenetic beauty. A decade ago, he also embarked on the Bloodlines project, which preserves the legacy of significant American postmodern dance makers, including Rudy Perez, who died in September. As Petronio's company enters its 40th year, he is marking the anniversary with a new evening-length work at N.Y.U. Skirball called "Breath of the Beast," which draws on his long career.

His dance education includes studying the craft of improvisation and performing with several artists whose works are remembered through Bloodlines. During the pandemic, Petronio returned to those roots, generating a trove of physical material he then shared with his dancers, including the captivating guest artist Jeron Herman, in order to spur them to create movement for "Breath of the Beast" that reflects their own histories. For that work, Petronio also collaborated with the Grammy Award-winning violinist Jennifer Koh, who will perform live improvisations at each show.

Tickets to the shows, which start at 7:30 p.m., are \$40 at nyuskirball.org.

BRIAN SCHAEFER