

# Keith Young

## **Creative Director/Choreographer**

Keith Young is one of the most versatile creative director/choreographers working in the industry today. Keith received a Bachelor of Science degree in Arts Education from Miami University. Although his primary focus was in painting and sculpture, Keith was drawn to the all-encompassing expression that dance allows. Following college, he danced with numerous notable dance companies in New York and joined Twyla Tharp's company as a principal dancer. He later became her assistant on Milo Forman's acclaimed film *AMADEUS*. He also served as rehearsal director in the staging of *THE SINATRA SUITES*, featuring Mikhail Baryshnikov, for American Ballet Theater.

## **FILM:**

*GONE WITH THE BULLETS* directed by the highly acclaimed director Jiang Wen,

the first Chinese film using 3D, employing an American choreographer, for which Keith won the 2015 World Choreography Award. Other film credits include *THE SMURFS MOVIE*, directed by Raja Gosnell, as well as multiple films for director Nancy Meyers such as *IT'S COMPLICATED*, *THE HOLIDAY*, and

*SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE*. Keith also created the very memorable dance scene with Mel Gibson in *WHAT WOMEN WANT*. Keith is particularly proud of his choreography on the feature film *RENT*, directed by Chris Columbus. His choreography for *RENT* won an award at The Choreography Media Honors.

## **TELEVISION:**

*DANCING WITH THE STARS*, *SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE*, *HARRY'S LAW*, *RULES OF ENGAGEMENT*, *THE EMMY AWARDS*, *THE 78th ANNUAL ACADEMY AWARDS* on which he choreographed a performance for the Oscar winning song, *IT'S HARD OUT HERE FOR A PIMP* from the movie *HUSTLE and FLOW*, to name a few. Keith received an EMMY AWARD NOMINATION for his work on *THE DREW CAREY SHOW*.

## **THEATRE:**

Keith recently directed and choreographed the critically acclaimed production of *FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE*, at the Nate Holden Performing Arts Center, starring Obba Babatunde, *SAMMY*, a musical based on the life of Sammy Davis Jr., also starring Obba Babatunde at The Old Globe Theater for which he received the San Diego Critics Choice Award for Best Choreography. *ROBESON*, (starring Keith David), *GOSPEL AT COLONUS* for the Ebony Repertory Theater and *CROWNS*, for the Ebony Repertory Theater and Pasadena Playhouse, as well as the Broadway Musical *ON THE TOWN*, directed by George C. Wolfe.

**COMMERCIALS:**

Keith has lent his considerable talents to such commercial campaigns ads *FACEBOOK MESSENGER, RAY BAN, TROP 50, KIA, GAP, OLD NAVY, TOYOTA, BLACKBERRY*, multiple *SUPER BOWL SOBE LIFE WATER* spots with NFL Players and with Naomi Campbell and some very talented lizards, *PEPSI* and many more.

**TOURS/VIDEO:**

Keith has directed and choreographed tours and videos for music artists such as *BABYFACE, MADONNA, OUTKAST, JOSH GROBAN, EARTH WIND & FIRE, GLADYS KNIGHT, THE ISLEY BROTHERS, TONI BRAXTON, PRINCE ROYCE, BETTE MIDLER, RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS, and THE CHEMICAL BROTHER*