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Winthrop Dance Theatre 2016

Are You Listening?

Choreographer

Bethany Tuffy

Music

Unaccompanied Cello Suite No. 1 in G Major, BWV 1007: Prelude by Johann Sebastian Bach performed by Yo-Yo Ma

Dancers

Rachel Trotter, Erika McClendon (US)

“One of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say.”

Bryant H. McGill

This piece uses movement to explore the concept of *hearing* vs. *actually listening* to what someone has to say. In conversations do you just hear others or truly listen? *“Hearing is simply the act of perceiving sound by the ear. If you are not hearing-impaired, hearing simply happens. Listening, however, is something you consciously choose to do. Listening requires concentration so that your brain processes meaning from words and sentences.”*

All Sorts

Choreographer

Lauren Skrabalak

Music

“Ethna” by Klement Bonelli

Dancers

Marie Guzzardo, Jessica McFarland*, Anna Grace McLaughlin, Alexis Sharpe

This piece was an original work for Bodiography in 2006. It is a movement tapestry inspired by the music, the fusion of ballet and jazz, plus utilization of light cues to enhance the piece.

Sometimes I am scared to stand on one leg.

Choreographer

Emily Morgan, in collaboration with the dancers and Iris Myers

Music

Whispering by Emily Morgan, “Soldier’s Song” by Béla Bartók, “Time Loops” by Maya Beiser

Dancers

Mikaela Laxton (Friday evening and Sunday matinee performances), Hannah Price (Thursday evening, Friday morning and Saturday evening performances), Rachel Trotter (all performances)

While my grandmother’s life did not inspire this dance, she was someone I could lean on throughout my life. These performances are dedicated to Bernice “Bunny” Morgan, September 19, 1921–November 8, 2016.



Ashley Suttlar Martin is an independent artist and educator with a M.F.A. in dance from Temple University and a B.F.A. in dance performance and choreography from Virginia Commonwealth University. She danced professionally for companies based in Philadelphia and New York City. Martin’s creative works have been acclaimed and presented nationwide. She is director of 4thrightdance, designer of Embellish handcrafted design and founding co-producer of FRESH, a touring performance series. She developed the dance minor curriculum at Morehead State University (KY), was guest faculty at QCC - City University of New York, has served on faculty at Central Piedmont Community College (NC), Coker College (SC) and Winthrop University (SC). Martin has also worked in various arts integration programs as a Teaching Artist and at the Governor’s School of Arts & Humanities (SC). Martin’s passion has led her to exploring many avenues as an artist, educator, administrator and advocate. She has obtained dance fitness teaching credentials and most recently, earned certification as an Instructor of the Umfundalai Contemporary African Dance Technique. Currently, Martin teaches dance and fitness for various outreach programs, private studios and universities across the Carolinas



Stacy Garrett McConnell, native of Greenville, South Carolina, holds a B.A. in dance education: K-12 certification and B.F.A. in dance performance/choreography from Columbia College and a M.F.A. in dance performance and choreography from Florida State University. In addition to her training at CC and FSU, she has studied at The Ailey School’s (official school of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater) Summer Intensive and American Dance Festival’s six week school. As a performer, she has had the opportunity to work with a variety of artists and companies, as well as interned with Urban Bush Women directed by Jawole Zollar. Since joining Winthrop University’s Department of Theatre and Dance in 2002, McConnell has taught a range of courses from Dance Pedagogy, Dance Kinesiology, Modern Technique, and Musical Theatre Dance Forms. Several of McConnell’s contemporary choreographic works including *Classic (For You)*, *Feelodin*, and *Suite Dean* have been performed at an array of venues across the east coast. In addition, she has choreographed a variety of musicals including *Oklahoma* and *Fame*. She continues to choreograph for contemporary project-based company Woodward Street Dance Project, of which she was co-founder and co-artistic director.



Meg Schriffen (Dance Program Director) holds a B.A. in dance education from Winthrop University and an M.F.A. in performance and choreography from Florida State University. After graduating from Winthrop, Meg taught dance at Camden Elementary of the Arts and later became head of the Dance Department at Thomas Sumter Academy in South Carolina. While teaching, she also performed and choreographed for the Sumter Civic Dance Company and performed with The Power Company in Columbia, South Carolina. Notable achievements while at Florida State included performing in master works such as Martha Graham’s, *Steps in the Street*, from *Chronicle*, and being appointed rehearsal director and a performer in Paul Taylor’s, *Esplanade*. She was also involved in Dance Repertory Theatre and assisted director Lynda Davis, as well as performed in pieces by many guest choreographers including Terry Creach, Bruce Wood, Jawole Zollar, Gerri Houlihan, and Dr. Nancy Smith Fichter. She also performed works by FSU faculty, Lynda Davis, Anthony Morgan, Patty Phillips, and Rick McCullough. After her active involvement in FSU’s Dance Department, Meg returned to Rock Hill and was a member of Charlotte-based contemporary dance company, Caroline Calouche and Company. Other credits include performing and choreographing for the American College Dance Festival, The Charlotte Dance Festival, North Carolina Dance Festival, South Carolina Dance Festival, Florida Dance Festival, Staibdance Summer Intensive, and several Piccolo Spoleto Festivals. From 2010-2013, Meg was on faculty for Staibdance Summer Intensive in Sorrento, Italy, where she took Winthrop dance students each summer. She was also a long-time faculty member in dance for the ST-ARTS program, hosted at Winthrop each summer for gifted and talented middle school students. Meg is in her tenth year of teaching dance at Winthrop University.



Kelly Ozust earned her M.F.A. at The University of North Carolina, Greensboro where her thesis concert, which explored the narrative possibilities of the body, was nominated for best thesis work of 2011. Her work explores the intersection of dance and social justice by joining traditional elements of dance and theatre to create new embodied narratives. She has worked as a choreographer for musical theater, opera, and theater for youth productions in North Carolina and Georgia, and her contemporary dance works have earned multiple choreography awards from regional competitions. She is interested in pairing dance and technology, and her most recent dance for film was honored with the Kress Award from the Georgia Museum of Art. She teaches modern, jazz, hip hop, and musical theatre dance styles in the Department of Theatre and Dance.

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Bethany Tuffy was born and raised in Las Cruces, New Mexico where she trained for 13 years with Michele and Kevin Self. As a member of the Las Cruces Chamber Ballet she danced various leading roles in both classical and contemporary ballets. Graduating Summa Cum Laude Bethany earned a B.F.A. in ballet and a minor in psychology at Texas Christian University. Upon graduation she was invited by Fernando Bujones to join Southern Ballet Theatre, now Orlando Ballet. Under his artistic direction, Bethany danced professionally with the Orlando Ballet for four years, performing a vast repertoire of classical, contemporary and world premiere ballets. She had the honor of working with such choreographers as Fernando Bujones, Peter Stark, Elizabeth Gillaspay, Maria Julia Landa and Bruce Wood. Bethany's

teaching career began even before her professional dancing career after completing a two-year dance teacher-training program. She has since taught students ages 3 through adult in pre-professional, academic and recreational settings. She has an expansive range of teaching that includes Creative Movement, Ballet, Pointe, Variations, Perfecting Technique, Conditioning, Stretch, Musical Theatre Dance, Tap, Jazz and Modern. Bethany has been a part of the Winthrop faculty for almost eleven years. She and her wonderful husband are the proud, lucky parents of two amazing daughters.



Lauren Sufita Skrabalak graduated cum laude and earned her B.F.A. in ballet performance and pedagogy from the University of Utah in 2002. While on scholarship, her undergraduate performing career included a guest artist role with Ballet West and dancing with the Utah Ballet. This allowed for an opportunity to travel abroad to Taipei, Taiwan performing a soloist role in Balanchine's famed ballet Concerto Barocco. She also danced on the Medals Plaza stage during the 2002 Salt Lake Winter Olympics. After graduation, Skrabalak performed, choreographed, and taught for Bodiography Contemporary Ballet in Pittsburgh. As a principal dancer, she was privileged to have worked with such choreographers as: Ze'eva Cohen, Emeritus Chair of Princeton University's Dance Department, Tony-nominated Lynne Taylor-

Corbett, and former principal dancer for the American Ballet Theatre Johan Renvall, this in addition to a vast array of original works by Maria Caruso, Bodiography's founder and artistic director. During her tenure with the company she held multiple roles as rehearsal director, as well as the assistant director of the conservatory. Her choreographic works have appeared at the Byham Theater, Kelly-Strayhorn Theater, as well as Johnson Theatre, and she has extended her teaching talents to the following schools: University of Utah, Point Park University, Carnegie Mellon University, West Virginia University, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Washington & Jefferson College, McDaniel College, La Roche College, Northwest School of the Arts, and Winthrop University where she is an adjunct professor within the Department of Theatre and Dance. Mrs. Skrabalak earned her M.F.A. in performing arts and dance at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and graduated spring 2013 with honors. She is a certified Pilates mat instructor, and currently working towards her apparatus certification while teaching locally at Iron Butterfly Pilates. Presently, Skrabalak is on faculty at the Charlotte Ballet Academy, Open Door Studios, sits on the Advisory Board for the Charlotte Dance Festival, and is an active Bodiography rehearsal director who is committed to preserving Ms. Caruso's repertoire across the country.



Emily Morgan is an assistant professor of dance at Winthrop University. She taught at the University of Texas, El Paso; El Paso Community College; University of North Carolina, Greensboro; Elon University; the North Carolina Governors School; and at a public arts magnet high school in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Emily has performed with members of Lower Left Performance Collective in Texas and New Mexico, with Sebastian Prantl in Krems, Austria, Daniel Aschwanden in Vienna, and in work by Stephan Koplowitz, Ellen Cornfield, Martha Connerton, Jan Van Dyke and BJ Sullivan. Emily studied extensively at the Merce Cunningham Studio, as well as at the Trisha Brown Studio and the Limón Institute in New York City. She received her M.F.A. in dance/choreography from UNCG and her B.A. in dance from Denison University in Ohio. She is also a registered yoga teacher.

The Color of Malice

Choreographer

Ashley Suttlar Martin

Music

"Feed" by The Acid

Dancers

Natalie Bradley, Sydney Carr, Midori Darr, Uriah Huffman, Mikaela Laxton, Megan Long, Hannah Potter, Alexis Sharpe, Rachel Trotter

The Color of Malice depicts unjust loss from the surviving parent's point of view.

**- There will be a five minute pause-
c'est**

Choreographer

Stacy Garrett McConnell

Music

**"Bistro Fada" by Stephane Wrembel,
"Dernière Danse" by Indila**

Dancers

Katelyn Arledge, Marie Guzzardo, Uriah Huffman, Jennifer Kight, Ali Kister, Alexis Sharpe, Kylie Smith, Billy Thompson, Brooke Tindal

A park, a garden, Neverland, our backyards are all places of wonder to be danced in, around and through! "it is..."

Wavering Cohesion

Choreographer

Meg Schriffen

Music

"A1" by Olafur Arnalds

Dancers

Midori Darr, Sarah Golzari, Jessica McFarland*, Hannah Price, Carly Thompson*

This contemporary pointe piece explores the impact the group dynamic can have on an individual. The choreography is meant to convey the idea of individuals considering or attempting to leave the comfort and security of the group, but ultimately returning.

In compliance with Winthrop University policy, we ask smokers to use the designated area across the driveway from the front of Johnson Hall.

The Stair Dance

Choreographer	Bill “Bojangles” Robinson (1932)
Restaged by	Kelly Ozust
Music	Rearranged and recorded by Zinorl Broñola
Dancers	Megan Long, Jessica McFarland*, Erika McLendon, Morgan Nawrath, Carly Thompson*, Katie-Laken Weeks

Bill “Bojangles” Robinson (1878-1949) was an iconic American dancer and entertainer who refined and popularized his signature style of tap dancing on the Vaudeville circuit. He reached international fame on Broadway and in film, and his tap dance legacy lives on, particularly through National Tap Dance Day which falls on May 25, Robinson’s birthday. Though many may recognize a simplified version of this dance from the Shirley Temple film, *The Little Colonel*, the Stair Dance predates the 1935 film by more than a decade. Today you will see a version recreated from one of the only existing videos of Bojangles’ original choreography.

Artistic Staff

Director	Meg Schriffen
Scenic Designer	Biff Edge
Lighting Designer	Anna Sartin
Costume Designer	Janet Gray
Costume Studio Supervisor	Amy Turner Thompson
Sound Engineer/Technical Director	Biff Edge

Winthrop University Department of Theatre and Dance

Degrees Offered:

B.A. in Theatre, with concentrations in

Performance

Design/Technical Emphasis

Musical Theatre

B.A. in Theatre with Teacher Certification (K-12)

B.A. in Dance

B.A. in Dance with Teacher Certification (K-12)

Production Staff

Stage Manager	Aisha Addison*
Assistant Stage Manager	Stephanie Schley*
Light Board Operator	Deonte Streeter
Sound Board Operator	Thomas Dyar
Fly Operator	Isaiah Vorderstrasse
Stagehands	Taylor Beth Walker, Brian Drescher*, Carley Tomlinson
Scenic Studio Assistants	Aisha Addison*, Mariah Barrie, Brandy Brogden*, Alexa Cibarelli, Bina Cummings, Brian Drescher*, Madia Medico*, Hannah Potter, Stephanie Schley*
Scenic Construction/Lighting Crew	Aisha Addison*, Emily Campbell, Alexa Cibbarelli, Bina Cummings, Megan Edwards, Ashley Jensen, Melanie Magee, Zachary Morrison, Hannah Potter
Costume Studio Assistants	Lauren Landers*, Zachary Morrison, Sarah Stewart, La’ Raine Turlington
Costume Construction Crew	Lauren Abercrombie*, Brandy Brogden*, Ashley Jensen, Shelby Lewis, Dani Lilley*, Sarah Stewart, Cynthia Stowe
Box Office Staff	Sarah Bruce*, Caitlin Bryant*, Dylan Carpenter*, Dani Lilley*, Phylisha Mace*, Madia Medico*, Michelle Perri*, Titus Quinn, Garrett Whiffen*, Tessa Zimmerman*
House Manager	Sarah Provencal
Poster Designer	Kristin Streetman

*Denotes membership in Alpha Psi Omega, the National Honorary Theatre Society

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