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FALL DANCE SHOWCASE

2022

THURSDAY,
NOV. 17
THROUGH
SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 19
@ 7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 20
@ 2 P.M.

JOHNSON
THEATRE



TICKETS:



PRELUDE TO A PAUSE

Choreographer: Sandra Neels

Music: "Rachmaninov"

Dancers: Madalin Beam, Elloise Bethea, Steffan Mayrides-Jolon

Lighting Designer: John P. Woodey

A prelude to a pause refers to the time spent in reflection prior to a pause taken before a decision.

Y2K

Choreographer: Rachel Stevenson (Senior)

Music: "Lady Marmalade" by Christina Aguilera; "Baby One More Time" by Britney Spears; "Lose My Breath" by Destiny's Child; "Maneater" by Nelly Furtado; "Shut Up and Drive" by Rihanna; "Crazy in Love" by Beyoncé ft. Jay Z; "Damaged" by Danity Kane; "Fergalicious" by Fergie ft. Dr. Sheppard

Dancers: Keyshaun Britt, LeNyah Bryan, Amaya Thomas

Lighting Designer: Haylee Green

I want to foster an appreciation for jazz dance and how it has evolved as an art form since the early 2000s to bring individuals together.

Warning: Strobe lighting is used in this piece.

Misery Song

Choreographer: Madison Syswerda (Senior)

Music: "Litost" by X Ambassadors edited by Destiny Fair

Dancers: Mackenzie Joy, Steffan Mayrides-Jolon

Lighting Designer: Sebastian Liafsha

There are times that we do not think we can leave behind the things that hurt us, and sometimes they get the best of us.

TRIGGER WARNING: Abuse and addiction.

Pen(Insula)

Choreographer: Jaiden Mosley (Senior)

Music: "and so I come to isolation" by Moses Sumney, performed by Taiye Selasi; "Cat and Mouse Race" by Shinichi Osawa; "Yo Ma" by Astrolith; "frc" By Kensuke Ushio; "sus" by Kensuke Ushio
Dancers: Morgan Belton, Alena Brown, LeNyah Bryan, Miracle Etheridge, Jaliyah Knapper, Tymia Lamb, Kaitlin Metts
Lighting Designer: Diamond Fulwood

"You are one person, but when you move, an entire community walks alongside you." — Rupi Kaur. This piece explores the idea of feeling isolated even when being among the many; you are not alone, and you are loved.

Tangos Para Ti

Choreographer: Meg Schriffen

Music: "Libertango" by Astor Piazzola; "Caro Tango" by Castellina-Pasi
Dancers: Kayla Alexander, Madalin Beam, Caroline Bergvist, Elloise Bethea, RJ Lee, Steffan Mayrides-Jolon, Trinity Robinson, Rachel Stevenson, Madison Syswerda, Brooke Trigg, Kayelyn Wilburn, Molly Wilson
Lighting Designer: John P. Woodey

I was inspired to create this piece based on the original costume made by Professor Janet Gray, for "Tango Tiempo," choreographed by faculty member, Bethany Tuffy in the fall of 2008. Although some tango partnering is used, I hope to capture the essence of the tango with quick travel patterns, fast footwork, sharp accents and dramatic sophistication performed by the ensemble and small groups. I also was excited to showcase this style on pointe, character and jazz shoes to highlight the strengths of the variety of dancers in our department.

Intermission

Sandbox

Choreographer: Gabrielle Tull

Music: Playground Score - "Journey in Satchidananda" by Alice Coltrane (feat. Pharoah Sanders)

Dancers: Madalin Beam, Skyler Leary, RJ Lee, Joshua Pringle, Taylor Rawlinson

Lighting Designer: John P. Woodey

This work explores the lives of children at the playground as they navigate boundaries, commonalities, and freedom.

Spotlight

Choreographer: Caroline Bergvist (Senior)

Music: "Toxic" by Archimia; Spotlight sound effect;

"Toxic" by 2WEI (instrumental)

Dancers: Keyshaun Britt, Kaitlin Metts, Brooke Trigg

Lighting Designer: Diamond Fulwood

"Stay true in the dark, and humble in the spotlight." ~ Harold B. Lee

Eden

Choreographer: Justin Angel Tillman (Senior)

Music: "Would you mind" by Janet Jackson, Rockwilder, Jimmy Jam, and Terry Lewis; "Rock the Boat" sung by Aaliyah and remastered by JELANI.

Dancers: Morgan Belton, Alena Brown, Alyssa Boyd, Miracle Etheridge, Jaliyah Knapper, Amaya Patterson, Josh Pringle

Lighting Designer: Sebastian Liafsha

Tears are words that have yet to be written. When a wave of tears collects they consume their surroundings. What happens when your tears have overtaken your innocence? Do you have anything left? Once you have let the pain and anger of society take you, all that is left is darkness.

The Possibilities of Thread: Past and Present

Choreographer: Kelly Ozust

Music: "The End," "Glass Boxes," "Ephemeris," and "Discovery" by Nicholas Britell; "Rinse & Repeat" by Riton ft. Kah-Lo; Text excerpted from "The Way It Is" by William Stafford with additional text by Kelly Ozust

Dancers: Keyshaun Britt, Alena Brown, LeNyah Bryan, Shaniah Gibson, Hannah Hayman, Kelliann Jones, Tymia Lamb, Kaitlin Metts, Jaiden Mosley, Madison Syswerda, Amaya Thomas, Brooke Trigg, Lina Winterhoff

We interact with textiles in so many ways: a grandmother's carefully crafted quilt, the sweater knit by a close friend, a little girl's dress hand sewn from a beloved pattern. These cherished items are contrasted by the fast fashion we are accustomed to in our modern lives. This piece explores the juxtaposition of old and new, cherished and convenience goods.

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Sandra Neels Since leaving her ten-year performance career with the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, Ms. Neels has choreographed more than 200 works in a variety of settings. In Canada, she choreographed for The Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Le Groupe de la Place Royale, Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers, the Canadian Cancer Society, the Manitoba Opera Association (AIDA), The Young People's Theatre, The Bathurst Street Theatre, Brian Glow the Magician, the Winnipeg Figure Skating Club, and the Manitoba Rhythmic Gymnastic Association. She has taught at the University of South Florida in Tampa, York University in Toronto, the Harvard Summer Session in Cambridge, Hampshire College in Amherst, the Connecticut College Summer Session, the California Institute of the Arts (where she received the Faculty of the Year Award in 1983), the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's Company, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts, Spartanburg Ballet, and Ballet Hawaii in Honolulu. She has been an adjudicator for the Canada Council, the Ontario and Manitoba Arts Councils, the North Carolina Arts Council, and the South Carolina Arts Commission, as well as an artistic coach and judge for the Canadian Rhythmic Gymnastics. In 2003, she reunited with the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, teaching company classes and coaching the dancers for their 2004 Lincoln Center performances. Since then, she has reconstructed many of Cunningham's works for the company as well as studio workshops in New York. For ten years, she choreographed contemporary solos for a number of dancers to compete in the Youth America Grand Prix. In 2006 and 2007 she was the choreographer for the Brevard Music Festival in North Carolina. Dance Magazine has published three of her "Teacher's Wisdom" interviews on Stanislav Issaev, Robert Barnett and Eva Evdokimova, as well as several articles. She has written three handbooks for Winthrop students: Keys to Understanding and Appreciating Dance, A Theatre and Dance Student's Handbook for Breaking into the Business, and Choreography By Chance. She recently completed a research grant to document "The Evolution of the Merce Cunningham Dance Technique," for the Cunningham Trust. At Winthrop, she is presently the faculty advisor for the Winthrop Gospel Choir. She has taught at Winthrop, helping the department to form the dance degrees, since 1990.

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Rachel Stevenson is a senior dance education major here at Winthrop University. Rachel will be graduating in the spring of 2023, earning her K-12 certification in dance to spread the love and joy of dance by teaching in public schools. Rachel is from Lexington, South Carolina. She trained at Dance World from ages 9-19. She has been involving herself in various dance forms and productions. Rachel is the president of the National Dance Education Organization. Rachel is also a member of the Delta Zeta Lambda Sigma Chapter here at Winthrop where she serves as the vice president of membership. She is very excited to perform and share her piece with all of you and hopes you enjoy the show!



Madison Syswerda is a senior B.A. dance major with a human nutrition minor. She began her dance career at age two with Emerald City Dance Explosion in Greenwood, South Carolina. Syswerda has had six professional contracts with Carowinds Amusement Park in Charlotte spanning the past two years. After finishing her degree she plans to continue professional work and teaching at a competitive studio.

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Jaiden Keiontré Mosley is a third-year senior at Winthrop University, where they are pursuing a B.A. in dance while minoring in educational studies. Jaiden is a South Carolina native, raised in the small rural town of Santee, where they began formal training under the mentorship of Winthrop alumna Cassie Graham-Rodgers. Throughout their dance training, Jaiden has been able to diversify their dance repertoire to include various dance forms but retains a preference for genres such as jazz, hip-hop, and auxiliary. As an undergraduate student, Jaiden has taken an interest in research surrounding the cultural and social importance of dance and music in the African diaspora—specifically (American) Southern Black identifying communities—and has even received literary recognition for such research. Upon graduation, they are looking forward to using their degree to obtain their Master of Arts in Teaching with a secondary dance concentration from Winthrop University, through an accelerated graduate program known as “MAT-5”. Jaiden aims to leave Winthrop University as a dance educator who is prepared to pursue their goal of making dance more accessible in the same type of community in which they were raised: low-income, rural communities. This is their first choreographed piece here on the Johnson Theatre stage, and they hope you enjoy it and every other performance as well!

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Meg Schriffen is the dance program director at Winthrop University. She began her early dance training in Ashland, Ohio, at Opus II Dance Studio and with the Opus Dance Company (now Ashland Regional Ballet), under the direction of Hellie Schussler. She performed principal roles in *The Firebird*, *The Nutcracker*, *The Rite of Spring*, and *The Sleeping Beauty*. After her graduation from Winthrop with a B.A. in dance education, Meg taught dance at Camden Elementary of the Arts for two years before becoming head of the dance program at Thomas Sumter Academy. While teaching, she also performed and choreographed for the Sumter Civic Dance Company. She also was a member of the Power Company in Columbia, South Carolina, where she performed works by Lisa Wheeler, Sean Curran, Alison Tipton, and Martha Brim. While pursuing her M.F.A. at Florida State University, she was an active member of Dance Repertory Theatre (DRT) and performed in pieces by many guest choreographers including Terry Creach, Bruce Wood, Jawole Zollar, Gerri Houlihan, and Nancy Smith Fichter. She also performed works by Lynda Davis, Anthony Morgan, Patty Phillips, and Rick McCullough during her time at FSU. Meg also had the distinct honor of working closely with Dan Wagoner as one of her mentors for her thesis concert, and performed in master works including Martha Graham's "Steps in the Street" from *Chronicle*. She also served as rehearsal director and a performer in Paul Taylor's *Esplanade*. Meg has performed and had her choreography showcased at the American College Dance Association conference, the Charlotte Dance Festival, and in several Piccolo Spoleto Festivals. She serves on the board of the American College Dance Association. Meg has also been on faculty for the Staibdance Summer Dance Intensive in Sorrento, Italy, teaching, choreographing and performing with the Staibdance Company. She is a member of Bodiography Contemporary Ballet Charlotte and performs annually in Charlotte and Pittsburgh. She is also certified in Bodiography Fitness and Strength Training system designed for dancers, and has recently completed her 200-hour yoga teacher certification.

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Gabrielle A. Tull is an assistant professor of dance and coordinator for dance education at Winthrop University. She is a 2020 M.F.A. dance graduate from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. As a previous high school dance director and curriculum curator, she received a Master of Education in divergent learning at Columbia College, South Carolina. Artistically, she has performed and collaborated with professional companies and artists including BJ Sullivan, Janet Lilly, Brian Sanders, City Modern Ensemble, The Power Company, Argentine Tango Troupe, and Terrance Henderson Dance Inc. Her recent scholarship in Afro Diasporic and Afro Cuban foundations in Jazz technique and performance was awarded through the Artist Express Grant, funded by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. Additionally, she was a lead presenter for the 2021 National Association of African American Studies International virtual conference and the 2022 Collegium for African Diaspora Dance Conference at Duke University. Additionally in 2022, Gabrielle was a lead presenter at the American College Dance Association southeastern regional conference, and the South Carolina Dance Association state conference.



Caroline Bergvist is a senior dance major and film production minor at Winthrop University, and she is from Fort Mill, South Carolina. She has been dancing since the age of two and competing since the age of five. She was also on the Fort Mill High School Dance Team for four years and was captain her senior year. She has also won many regional titles including Teen Miss and Miss Dance of Southern Council with Dance Masters of America, where she went on to compete for Teen Miss and Miss Dance of America in Orlando, Florida. She started her college career at the University of Louisville, where she was a part of the Louisville Ladybirds for two years and won a Division 1A National Championship with them. Caroline has also been in multiple dance showcases at Winthrop. She looks forward to continuing to work with the incredible faculty and her peers at Winthrop University, as well as earning her Bachelor of Arts in dance and continuing her dance career.

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Justin "Angel" Tillman was born in Winnsboro, South Carolina, and hails most recently from Miami, Florida. He is an alumnus of South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities in Greenville, South Carolina. He has trained in classical & neoclassical ballet, contemporary, and various modern techniques. Mr. Tillman has trained at New World School of the Arts in Miami, Florida and is a dance major with a minor in arts management at Winthrop University. Mr. Tillman has experience in South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, and Florida as a freelance dancer, instructor, and choreographer with a variety of schools, companies, studios.



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 theatre, opera, and theatre 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.

PRODUCTION & CREW

Director	Meg Schriffen
Stage Manager	Jada Brown
Assistant Stage Manager	Haylee Green
Costume Designers	Janet Gray, choreographers & dancers
Costume Shop Supervisor	Cheralyn Lambeth
Technical Director	John P. Woodey
Assistant Technical Director	Erica Meece
Box Office Supervisor	Chris Brown
Scene Shop TAs	Ami Hughey*, Sebastian Liafsha, Annika Phillips*
Costume Shop TAs	Mary Garber*, Carrington Wigfall
Box Office TAs	Danielle Banks, Cooper Beck*, Beca Nimmons*, Emma Parker*
Costume Construction Crew	Will Elliott, Diamond Fulwood, Emma Parker*, Malia Santiago, Cameron Vipperman
Scenic Construction/ Lighting Crew	Marshall Baldoni, Cooper Beck*, Mary Garber*, Melodi Marston*, Rollins Mosley, Kaymin Robinson, Vanessa Shanks*, Jonathan Ward
Running Crew	Aspen Beeman, Brio Brown, Taylor Burrows, Kenay Dixon, Ashley Donaldson, Kameron Gwin, Kiernan Hedlund, Miyah Stackhouse
Poster Designer	Cian Gareau

*Denotes students who are members of the Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honor Society.