



FEBRUARY DANCE
DANCE AT ILLINOIS

Thursday-Saturday, February 1-3, 2018, at 7:30pm
Colwell Playhouse

WELCOME TO FEBRUARY DANCE

Welcome to February Dance 2018.

Tonight froths over with a bounty of movement.

It seems as if there is a restless need to move energetically—perhaps in defiance, sometimes in pure joy, sometimes in remembrance, and always with a consciousness of time moving onward.

All of these premieres tonight are marking this moment in history. Contemporary Dance is an expression that can serve as an archive of the precise period in which it was made. What strikes me is that all of these works, in some way or other, are acknowledging current events and all are using movement to actively interact with their responses to what is happening.

Grace Courvoisier's *Mountain Dew Honey Spring* takes an ironic look at the female perspective on love and romance—always a potent topic, but maybe particularly so now as women are opening up about their experiences. C. Kemal Nance's *Terminal C* asks us to consider those affected by travel bans, a restriction currently being supported by the Supreme Court, while Linda Lehovec's *(My) Tom* memorializes the iconic American singer and songwriter Tom Petty who died this past October. Endalyn Taylor's *In the Fullness Thereof* abstractly pictorializes the chaotic experience of traumatic crisis (which we have had way too many examples of this year), and Leah Wilks' *Vestigial* invites us to consider, "What is our legacy? What do we leave behind in this world?"

Relish this opportunity to see a multifaceted reflection of our collective experience that has been choreographically re-considered, re-framed, and hopefully directed toward a new and better future!

—Sara Hook, professor and concert director

PROGRAM

FEBRUARY DANCE DANCE AT ILLINOIS

Sara Hook, Concert Director
Thursday-Saturday, February 1-3, 2018 at 7:30pm
Colwell Playhouse

MOUNTAIN DEW HONEY SPRING

Grace Courvoisier

TERMINAL C

C. Kemal Nance

(MY)TOM

Linda Lehovec

IN THE FULLNESS THEREOF

Endalyn Taylor

VESTIGIAL

Leah Wilks

This production includes haze effects.

MOUNTAIN DEW HONEY SPRING

CHOREOGRAPHY

Grace Courvoisier

MUSIC

Radiohead, Czech National Symphony Orchestra, Claude Debussy, Edward R. Murrow, Air Traffic Control, and *The Sound of Music*

SCENIC DESIGNER

Jaclyn Zimmerman

COSTUME DESIGNER

Kim Curtis

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Tony Rajewski

SOUND DESIGNER

Hayat Dominguez

DANCERS

Taylor Adams

Phoebe Ballard

Julianna Boylan

Colleen Brown

Krystal Collins

Mary Kate Ford

Okasana Kuzma

Danielle Mastricola (understudy)

Lauren Mendelson

Madeline Mellinger

Starlotta Milan

Tia Pruitt

Emmaline Rapier

Symone Sanz

Savannah Scarlett (understudy)

Natalie Stehly

Elizabeth Winegardner

Pause

TERMINAL C

CHOREOGRAPHY

C. Kemal Nance

MUSIC

Music: *One Nation Under a Groove* by the Funkadelics

A New Day by Louis Vega (featuring Caron Wheeler)

SINGERS

Brianna Tyler

Mikaela Odom

SCENIC DESIGNER

Jaclyn Zimmerman

COSTUME DESIGNER

Larissa Almanza

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Tony Rajewski

SOUND DESIGNER

Hayat Dominguez

DANCERS

Camilia Araque

Isiah Asplund

Simon Mampouya Balende

Clinae Campbell

Annabeth Cowsert

Kadesha Ellison

Kayla Goodloe

Chris Green

Jessica Ingalsbe

Tyjah Kelly

Ryan Luzzo

Francky Chloe Maemble

Lauren Mendelson

Star Milam

LaTavia Miller

Danyelle Monson

LaTosha Pointer

Estefanny Ruiz

Savannah Scarlett

Faith Stanton

Jeanette Williams

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I want to especially thank my dancers for their tolerance of my zany creative process. I extend a heartfelt dole to Linton Clarke, Clinae Campbell, and the Eclectic Dance Team at Urbana High School.

Terminal C is warmly dedicated to Patricia Abdul-Azziz.

Pause

(MY)TOM

CHOREOGRAPHY

Linda Lehovec, with generous contributions from the dancers

MUSIC

Melinda and *Alright for Now* by Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers

COSTUME DESIGNER

Kim Curtis

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Tony Rajewski

SOUND DESIGNER

Hayat Dominguez

DANCERS

Taylor Adams

Michelle Burns

Krystal Collins

Nina Crouchelli

Mary Kate Ford

Lindsey Jennings

Symone Sanz

Jenna Soldati

James Washington

Elizabeth Winegardner

NOTES

This dance is in honor of the musical and performative gifts of Tom Petty (1950 – 2017). After seeing Tom Petty and Heartbreakers during their 40th anniversary tour, I knew I had to make a dance to Tom's music thanking him for the 4 decades of thoughtful, heartfelt and rocking songs (many of which comprise the soundtrack of my life). He will be missed, but his music lives on!

20-minute intermission

IN THE FULLNESS THEREOF

CHOREOGRAPHY

Endalyn Taylor

MUSIC

Says by Nils Frahm

COSTUME DESIGNER

Melissa Hall

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Tony Rajewski

SOUND DESIGNER AND SCORE EDITOR

Hayat Dominguez

DANCERS

Kaleigh Dent

William Ervin

Grant Hill

Nicholas Hittle

Okasana Kuzma

Mya McClellan

Tia Pruitt

Emmaline Rapier

Ibrahim Sabbi

Alyssa Trelz

Jessica Ziegler

NOTES

The inspiration for this piece comes from the reaction of a community during crisis. The tendency in disasters is to band together and be kind to one another in order to survive. We often see the best of man during the worst of times and find that people coping with crises are quite altruistic.

The work is loosely based on the protestors of the Charlottesville Rally. The title represents the intent of the piece and is based on a biblical text quoted in a larger context by Sir Winston Churchill:

Hear this, young men and women everywhere, and proclaim it far and wide. The earth is yours and the fullness thereof. Be kind, but be fierce. You are needed now more than ever before. Take up the mantle of change. For this is your time.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I have to extend love, thanks and gratitude to my cast for all of their hard work and openness to go on this creative journey with me.

Pause

VESTIGIAL

CHOREOGRAPHY

Leah Wilks

REHEARSAL ASSISTANT/DRAMATURG

Julianna Boylan

MUSIC

Leah Wilks and Hayat Dominguez

COSTUME DESIGNER

Kim Curtis

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Tony Rajewski

SOUND DESIGNER

Hayate Dominguez

DANCERS

Erin Harvey

Jaelin Heavisides

Danielle Masticola

Madeline Mellinger

Jennifer Oelerich

Emily Schwartz

Danner Self

Sarah Stearn

Natalie Stehly

NOTES

[: remaining as the last small part of something that existed before]

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks to Jennifer Monson for her mentorship, to Kim Curtis for taking the extra time to deeply understand and help develop the visual aesthetic of the work, and to Julianna Boylan for her incredible organizational support and creative contributions throughout this entire process.

PROFILES

Sara Hook (Concert Director) has a performing career which includes dancing with Martha Graham luminaries Pearl Lang and Jean Erdman, touring the world as a member of *Nikolais Dance Theatre*, and being a frequent guest artist/collaborator with *David Parker and the Bang Group*. Her choreography has been produced in numerous New York City venues, in 18 American states, and in the Netherlands, Canada, Italy, Ecuador, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. She is currently touring with a project entitled *Dancing on the Ceiling*, a concert of solos by mature women, and collaborating with University of Illinois alumni Elizabeth Johnson and Betsy Brandt on a series of works looking at female iconography in Dance and Art History. Sara holds a BFA from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, an MFA from New York University, and is a certified movement analyst from the Laban Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies. She has toured widely as a guest artist and has taught at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center, Princeton University, Paul Taylor Dance Company Summer Intensives, and the Bates Dance Festival. She is currently a Professor of Dance at the U of I.

Grace Courvoisier (Choreographer), a native of Las Vegas, Nevada, is a bi-coastal performance maker and choreographer based in New York City and Los Angeles. Upon studying Graham, Horton, and Composition at the Las Vegas Academy of International Studies and Performing Arts High School, she also studied Vaganova technique with Nevada Ballet Theatre under the artistic direction of Bruce Steivel (for which she received the Nancy Houssel Scholarship). She went on to receive her Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Illinois. Grace has had the opportunity to

work with/perform the works of renowned choreographers including Tere O'Connor, Laurie Carlos, Catherine Cabeen, and Rebecca Nettle-Fiol. Grace was also selected to perform in the reconstruction of Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company's *D-Man In the Waters* (National Endowment for the Arts) in 2008. She created a number of works during her undergraduate career (including *Sister Republic*, which was invited for inclusion in the American College Dance Festival) and went on to be performed in Chen Dance Center's New Steps Choreographer's Series in New York City 2011.

Grace Courvoisier and Dance Company (GC&DC) was founded in September 2012. Grace believes the physicality of a woman's body can house historical and emotional landscapes. Often creating works that borderline between dance and theater, her NYC pieces have been performed for The Current Sessions at The Wild Project, CRAWL, The Invisible Dog Art Center, Bunker Dance, Symphony Space, Movement Research, Judson Church, The Secret Theater, and Issue Project Room. In her spare time, she can be caught at various museum exhibitions, reading Victorian British Literature, practicing/writing anagrams, and saving the world one sequin at a time.

Linda Lehovc (Choreographer) holds a BFA from The Juilliard School and an MFA from the University of Illinois, where she is currently an Associate Professor of Dance. Linda has danced in the works of many contemporary choreographers including Joe Goode, Ralph Lemon, Stephen Koester, Bill Young, Tere O'Connor, Renée Wadleigh, Sara Hook, and David Parker. Linda has been awarded two fellowships in choreography from the Illinois Arts Council, and her work has been performed nationally and internationally. Linda is a certified yoga instructor (E-RYT 200) and conducts teacher training workshops as well as hatha yoga classes. She and her husband recently opened a vegan restaurant, the Dancing Dog Eatery and Juicery, in downtown Urbana.

C. Kemal Nance ("Kibon," Choreographer), is an Assistant Professor in the University of Illinois Department of Dance and Department of African American Studies Departments, and a master teacher of the Umfundalai African dance technique. Some of his recent accomplishments include *Manifesto*, a new work he premiered at the Little Theater in Kingston, Jamaica, that featured a combined cast of Jamaican and American dancers; *Son Light*, an excerpt of *Manifesto*, in which he performed with a cast of British and American Black men in the Afro Dance Xplosion Performance Showcase in London, United Kingdom; and *Chalk Lines*, an older work he co-choreographed with Endalyn Taylor, in which he performed with an ensemble of New York- and Philadelphia-based dancers and U of I dance students for the American Dance Guild Festival in New York City. Nance holds a BA from Swarthmore College and an MEd and PhD in Dance from Temple University.

Endalyn Taylor (Choreographer) was a principal dancer with the Dance Theatre of Harlem. She has performed for dignitaries Coretta Scott King, Colin Powell, President Bill Clinton,

Princess Diana, and Nelson Mandela. Broadway credits include the original casts of *Carousel*, *The Lion King* and *Aida*; participation in the recording of Grammy nominated cast albums; and performance for the Tony Awards. As the Director of the Dance Theatre of Harlem School, her students were invited to the White House to participate in the arts initiative of the Obama's and perform for the First Lady and the wives of Heads of State's Luncheon in New York City. Recent projects include performing *Chalk Lines*, a 2016 February Dance work in New York City (to positive reviews) and a commissioned work for Collage Dance Collective in Memphis, Tennessee. Taylor is Assistant Professor of Dance at the U of I.

Leah Wilks (Choreographer) took her first dance class at the age of three, where she sat in the corner and sucked her thumb the whole time. Her mother promptly took her out. Somehow, through hours of practice banging on pots and pans in her parents' kitchen, she overcame her debilitating shyness and no one has been able to quiet her down since. Hailing from Durham, North Carolina, Leah is currently a second-year MFA candidate in Dance at Illinois, where she dreams and researches and creates all sorts of things. Mostly, these things have to do with reconfiguring how she thinks about classrooms, queer theory, decay/dying rituals, her extreme affinity for repetition, composing soundtracks in *Live*, and running backwards for extended periods of time.

Larissa Almanza (Costume Designer) is a first-year in the MFA costume design program at the University of Illinois. She is a native of the Rio Grande Valley in south Texas, and received her BFA in studio art and design from the University of Texas Pan-American. Prior to her arrival at the University of Illinois, she worked as a freelance designer in south Texas. She most recently worked as the Assistant Costume Designer and Head of Wardrobe for *In The Next Room* (Illinois

Theatre). This will be Larissa's debut as a costume designer at Krannert Center.

Laura Chiamonte (Visiting Media Coordinator) has been performing and producing work professionally for the past 20 years and has worked with celebrated companies and artists such as Foxy Shazam, Pat Graney, Julie and Nathan Gunn, Jyl Fehrenkamp, Andrew Harwood, Gina Jacobs, Rebecca Netti-Fiol, Kate Monson, Cynthia Pratt, Dansz Loop Chicago, Thread Meddle Outfit, Total Theater, Deke Weaver, Zephyr Dance, Molly Shanahan/Mad Shak, and Warner Brothers. In 2009, Laura received her MFA in Dance from the University of Illinois. She also teaches dance at Millikin University, as well as Alexander Technique.

Kim Curtis (Costume Designer), originally from San Francisco, California, designed and constructed costumes throughout the bay area and United States for over 15 years, including a six-year stint co-running the costume crafts department for the San Francisco Opera. At SFO, Curtis created armor, masks, jewelry, headdresses, and animals for some of the world's most renowned designers and performers. In 2003, she moved to Champaign and began a second career in painting. Her work can be seen in collections locally, stateside, and abroad. Kim is represented by Kasia Kay Art Projects in Chicago and Nancy Toomey Fine Arts in San Francisco. She holds a degree in history of art from UC Berkeley and a degree in painting from California College of the Arts. She continues to work in both theatre and fine art from her studio in Urbana while also teaching in the department of Theatre. She lives in Champaign with her husband John Randolph, a professor of Russian history in the U of I Department of History, and their two "spirited" young children Lula and Elden.

Hayat Dominguez (Sound Designer) is a first-year MFA audio design student at the U of I. This is Hayat's second sound design at the U of I (after co-designing [title of show] for Lyric Theatre @ Illinois in September). Though Hayat is originally from Kansas, she joins the Krannert Center family after freelancing for the past year in the Denver and Boulder areas of Colorado. Before that, Hayat obtained her BFA in theatre technology from the University of South Dakota and has had the opportunity to work as an electrician at the Black Hills Playhouse, as well as an assistant in audio/video for the Santa Fe Opera. Hayat looks forward to the adventures that await her during her time here.

Megan Dietrich (Properties Master) is the Krannert Center Prop Shop Foreman and a new member of the Krannert Center staff, but she is no stranger. She graduated in 2016 from the University of Illinois with an MFA in properties design and management for the Theatre and is so excited to be back in the building. Megan has also worked for the Chautauqua Theatre Company, The Kitchen Theatre, and the Pacific Conservatory for the Performing Arts. She received her Bachelor of Liberal Arts in 2010 from Whittier College.

Melissa Hall (Costume Designer) is in her first year of the MFA costume design program at the University of Illinois. She received her BA with Honors at The City of Glasgow College in association with The West of Scotland University. Her most recent work includes assistant costume designer for *Hansel and Gretel* for Lyric Theatre @ Illinois. Her previous works include *Dick McWhittington*, *The Addams Family*, *Grease: The Musical*, and *Jack and the Beanstalk* for UK Theatre School Performing Arts Academy, Scotland.

Shea Hittman (Stage Manager) is a first-year MFA stage management student at the U of I. She is an ensemble member at Theatre B in Moorhead, Minnesota. At the U of I, Shea has worked as the assistant stage manager on productions of *Hansel and Gretel* and *February Dance*. Other recent stage management credits include Theatre B's productions of *Equivocation*, *33 Variations*, and *Gruesome Playground Injuries*.

Lavine Leyu Luo (Production Stage Manager) is an international student in the stage management program here at U of I. Before she transferred to Theatre, Lavine received her Associate of Arts and Associate of Business from Pierce College in Washington state. Lavine has worked for professional touring productions such as the *Samajam* South China tour (Production Touring Manager), *42nd Street* National tour (ASM), *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* National tour (ASM), and Guangzhou Grand Opera (China) as a tech interpreter for international touring productions including *Sister Act*, *Wicked*, *Shrek*, *Swan Lake on Ice*, and *My Fair Lady*. Her other credits at the U of I include *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play* (SM); *Dontrell, Who Kissed the Sea* (ASM); *Kiss Me Kate* (ASM); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (ASM); *Henry V* (SM); and *The Other Shore* (PA).

Tony Rajewski (Lighting Designer) is a second-year MFA student in lighting design. Tony has designed primarily in the Buffalo area of New York, including a season-long residency at the American Repertory Theatre of Western New York. While there, he was nominated for a local award for best lighting design in the production *Shine*, and was part of the production team for *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, which won best production of a musical. Other works includes *The Giver* at Lexington Children's Theatre and *Studioball II* at the U of I. Tony is both excited and honored to be working with this diverse and talented collection of both choreographers and dancers in this production.

Bobby Reynolds (Technical Director) is a second-year MFA candidate in the scenic technology program. He hails from the flatlands of Ohio where he received his BA on the beautiful campus of Wittenberg University. Prior to his arrival at the U of I he has plenty of blood, sweat, and tears at Playhouse on the square for productions such as *Mary Poppins*, *Memphis*, *American Idiot*, and *Kiss me, Kate*. Bobby recently served as a carpenter for the Heritage Festival at UVA for the summer, and is thrilled to be back and a part of this production.

Nicole Zausmer (Costume Coordinator) is a third-year MFA costume design student at the U of I, who received her BA from Indiana University (2012). Recent designs include *In The Next Room, or the vibrator play* (Illinois Theatre), *Failure: A Love Story* (Illinois Theatre), *Mr. Burns: a post-electric play* (Illinois Theatre), *Man of La Mancha*

(Bigfork Summer Playhouse), *Boeing-Boeing* (Town Hall Arts Center), and *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein* (Oklahoma City Theatre Company). Thanks for coming and enjoy!

Jaclyn Zimmerman (Scenic Designer) is a third-year graduate student at the U of I. She most recently designed the sets for *The Christians*, *Party*, and *Marjorie Prime* at the Station Theatre in Urbana. She also designed *Mr. Burns, a post-electric play* and *All the King's Men* for Illinois Theatre.

PRODUCTION STAFF

CONCERT DIRECTOR

Sara Hook

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Lavine Leyu Luo

STAGE MANAGER

Shea Hittman

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Bobby Reynolds

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Kaetlyn Allen

Kayla Uribe

ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Naomie Winch

ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNER

Rae Melnik (*My(tom)*)

Samantha Padillo (*Mountain Dew Honey Spring*)

Will Sturman (*Vestigial*)

ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGNER

Kyle Condon

COSTUME COORDINATOR

Nicole Zausmer

DRAPERS

Sharné van Ryneveld

Jessica Hensley

Caitlin Leyden

HAIR/MAKEUP COORDINATOR

Samantha C. Jones

HAIR/MAKEUP ASSISTANT

Sharné van Ryneveld

MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Kiana Schalk

AUDIO ENGINEER

Brandon Reed

DANCE ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Stephanie Shaw

DANCE DEPT. MEDIA COORDINATOR

Laura Chiaramonte

COSTUME RUNNING CREW

Faith Brown

Alexia Van Skyock

Faith Stanton

Oksana Kuzma

LIGHTING BOARD OPERATOR

Brianna Undzis

SOUND BOARD OPERATOR

Alexis Miller

LIGHTING/DECK RUNNING CREW

Isabella Rosanova

Jeremy Taylor

Madisson Wohlwend

FLY RAIL OPERATORS

Sydney Hagerman

Jessica Ingalsbe

Khaylin Lyes

VIDEO CREW

Daisy Rueda

Reika McNish