

PHOTO BY NATALIE FIOLE



**NOVEMBER DANCE 2020**

**DANCE AT ILLINOIS**

Thursday-Sunday, November 5-8, 2020, at 7pm and 9pm

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# WELCOME

Why do humans tend to carry on no matter what? Despite multiple pandemics colliding and the numerous obstacles in our way . . . we are moving forward because it's in our blood. These limitations have been frustrating and exhausting, but have also filled us with gratitude knowing that the practice of being in the body and listening and creating from its vast resources is, simply put, . . . precious. We invite you to enjoy these dances that are a result of the strange yet wonderful moments together this fall.

Due to the tragic cancellation of performances at Krannert Center, we had unprecedented access to the Krannert stages, which provided an unexpected opportunity. What if we “flipped the script” and asked our extraordinary team of Krannert Center set designers to build something that provided a COVID-safe environment to dance? The lighting, costume, and sound designers joined in and set the stage for how the dances were to be made. That is not how it usually happens! Even though each of the choreographers are responding to the same prompts, each artist has made a very different dance.

Graduate students Kayt MacMaster and Sarah Marks Mininsohn are collaborating on a piece that evokes mythic folklore—drawing on an eclectic mix of imagery from cowgirls, herding, and minotaurs to teacups and nests. Professor Sara Hook's work *Cedar Closet* has been wrestled together from remnants of old dances that now

collide and catalyze into a fresh archive of this present moment. Professor Endalyn Taylor's work *Boxed* asks us to reflect and reconsider our perceptions of not only ourselves, but also the identities we form in relationship to our race, gender, age, ability, and country. Graduate student and choreographer Bevara Anderson will offer a meditation of quietude, a welcome gift for this unsettled world. This dance will be performed by our first-year students, a new Dance at Illinois tradition, which will enable our audiences to get to know our initiates from their first performance to their last senior concert!

We are excited for audiences to engage with this work through a combination of a live experience and technology spinoffs. Each piece will be livestreamed twice, at 7pm and 9pm over four consecutive nights. Fewer than 50 students will attend the live performances, thus energizing the performers and the audiences. Each night, there will be an interactive experience for the audiences and the artists to talk, discuss, and share the unique journey they took in making the work.

Whether you are interacting with the work from down the block or from your home 3,000 miles away, we hope that the spirit and grit of making work during this difficult time will inspire you to connect with the preciousness of life. As long as the heart beats, the blood surges. Enjoy!

—Jan Erkert, concert director

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# PROGRAM

## **NOVEMBER DANCE 2020**

### **ILLINOIS THEATRE**

Jan Erkert, concert director

Thursday-Sunday, November 5-8, 2020, at 7pm and 9pm

#### ***herd tale***

Sarah Marks Mininsohn and Kayt MacMaster

#### ***Cedar Closet***

Sara Hook

#### ***Boxed***

Endalyn Taylor

#### ***Stages Of***

Bevara Anderson

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# *herd tale*

## **CHOREOGRAPHY**

Sarah Marks Mininsohn and Kayt MacMaster

## **COMPOSER/MUSIC**

Daniel Massey

## **MEDIA DESIGNER**

John Boesche

## **COSTUME COORDINATOR**

Vivian Krishnan

## **LIGHTING DESIGNER**

Gryffon Cloud

## **SOUND DESIGNER**

Daniel Massey

## **STAGE MANAGER**

Greg Mueller

## **DANCERS**

Sydney Hagerman

Kate Henderson

Rachel Maramba

Annie Morgan

Izzy Seegers

Aliah Teclaw

Sydney Tschosik

Jessica Ziegler

Cassidy Zins

## **NOTES/ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

*herd tale* was created in collaboration with the dancers. Their labor and choreographic contributions make the work possible.

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# Cedar Closet

## **CHOREOGRAPHY**

Sara Hook

## **MUSIC**

Musical performance by Chip McNeill  
and Saori Kataoka

## **COSTUME COORDINATOR**

Vivian Krishnan

## **LIGHTING DESIGNER**

Gryffon Cloud

## **MEDIA DESIGNERS**

John Boesche  
Laura Chiaramonte

## **SOUND DESIGNER**

Daniel Massey

## **STAGE MANAGER**

Mary Kate Baughman

## **DANCERS**

Melanie DuBois  
Noa Greenfeld  
Jacob Henss  
Jakki Kalogridis  
Kayt MacMaster  
Mya McClellan  
Sarah Marks Mininsohn  
Rachel Rizzuto  
Kristen Whalen  
Cassidy Zins

## **NOTES**

This work was built using movement material from my large repertory of solos, some of which were made as far back as 1994. Each dancer learned a different solo or solos from archival footage. We then worked together to wrangle the dances into a new entity by experimenting with various proximities to each other, borrowing moments and flavors from each other, augmenting, multiplying, and exaggerating some movements, and creating spatial and rhythmic relationships between the soloists. We have sought to embrace the contemporary moment while we revisit these works, combing backwards in order to move forward with safety and with conscious optimism. We have also sought to let the work of each of the designers affect the shape, content, and experience of the work.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

I want to thank the cast who all worked independently and in concert with each other with the utmost professionalism and dedication to this process. They have approached unearthing these works with intense respect, grit, enthusiasm, and commitment. They have also taken full advantage of the lessons contained within these solos while adding their own indelible stamp to the original material and to this group incarnation.

I would also like to thank the many soloists in the past who have inhabited and vivified the original works in performance over the past decades: Racy Brand, Mary Cochran, Esteban Donoso, Emilie Plache Flink, Alexander Gish, Claire Happel, Rebecca Hutchins, Elizabeth Johnson, Lindsey Marlene, Angela, Fledderman Miller, Cara Newman, Kendra Portier, Denise Posnak, Erika Randall, Amber Sloan, Endalyn Taylor, Luc Vanier, Katie Williams

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# Boxed

## CHOREOGRAPHY

Endalyn Taylor

## COMPOSER/MUSIC

Daniel Massey

## ADDITIONAL MUSIC CREDIT

"Star Spangled Banner," Artist Unknown

## POETRY CREDIT

"If The World Was A Movie" by Hannah Flores,  
Spoken Word Competition Winner

## MEDIA DESIGNERS

John Boesche  
Zia Fox

## MEDIA ILLUSTRATOR AND ANIMATOR

Priyanka Krishnan

## COSTUME COORDINATOR

Vivian Krishnan

## LIGHTING DESIGNER

Gryffon Cloud

## SOUND DESIGNER

Daniel Massey

## STAGE MANAGER

Matthew Rohan

## DANCERS

Bevara Anderson  
Faith Brown  
Jasmine Chavez  
Anabelle Clark  
Jaylen De'Angelo Clay  
Kymani Davis-Williams  
Elsa Gaston  
Jordyn Gibson  
Laini Gorgol  
Allie Green  
Kate Henderson  
Ely London  
Anne Morgan  
Jade O'Connor  
Derrick Rossbach

## NOTES/ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I'd like to thank the dancers for co-creating this piece with me. Thank you for the vulnerability, resilience, and courage you demonstrated throughout this process.

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# Stages Of

## **CHOREOGRAPHY**

Bevara Anderson

## **COMPOSER/MUSIC**

Daniel Massey

## **COSTUME COORDINATOR**

Vivian Krishnan

## **LIGHTING DESIGNER**

Gryffon Cloud

## **SOUND DESIGNER**

Daniel Massey

## **STAGE MANAGER**

Grecia Bahena

## **DANCERS**

Landon Allender

Prishina Coleman

Juliann Craft

Jaymes Crowder-Acres

Margeret Daniels

Jenna Dike

Andrew Johnson

Haley Krause

Genesis Medious

Isabella Saldana

Kennedy Wilson

## **NOTES**

Does your mind wander in different junctures of meditation?

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# PROFILES

**Jan Erkert** (Concert Director) has been the head of the Department of Dance at University of Illinois from 2006 to present. As artistic director of Jan Erkert & Dancers, she created over 70 works that received recognition from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Illinois Arts Council. Erkert's current research explores leadership from an artist's perspective. She has been awarded three major awards from the University of Illinois: the Executive Officer Distinguished Leadership Award (2020), the Public Voices Fellowship (2020), and the Larine Y. Cowan Make a Difference Award for Leadership in Diversity (2014) for her outstanding academic leadership and vision. Erkert is a Fulbright Scholar awardee and a nationally renowned teacher having conducted guest artist residencies throughout the United States, Mexico, Europe, and Asia. She is the author of *Harnessing the Wind: The Art of Teaching Modern Dance* (2003), and she received the 1999 Excellence in Teaching Award from Columbia College Chicago.

**Bevara Anderson** (Choreographer/Dancer), 24, is a professional dance artist from the Washington, DC, area. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Temple University in 2018. She is currently pursuing her Master of Fine Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Anderson focuses on the movement styles of *umfundalai*, house, ballet, Horton, and Dunham and is currently rendering dance work based in narrative, epic memory, and self-preservation.

**Sara Hook** (Choreographer) toured the world with Nikolais Dance Theater, danced for Martha Graham luminaries Pearl Lang and Jean Erdman, and has been a frequent guest artist/collaborator with David Parker and the Bang

Group. Her choreography has been produced in numerous New York City venues, including DTW (now NYLA), Danspace, Dixon Place, Symphony Space, DanceNowNYC's Series at Joe's Pub of the Public Theater, among others, and in venues across 25 American states and in the Netherlands, Canada, Italy, Ecuador, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. Hook was the first American representative to the American Dance Festival's International Choreographers' Residency Program and received the Scripps/ADF Humphrey-Weidman-Limón Fellowship for Choreographers. She holds a BFA from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, an MFA from New York University, and a certification as a movement analyst from the Laban Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies. Hook has taught at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center, Princeton University, Paul Taylor Dance Company Summer Intensives, and the Bates Dance Festival and is currently professor of dance at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

**Kayt MacMaster** (Choreographer/Dancer) is a dancer and performance maker. She has worked mainly in New York City, and her research has been deeply influenced by the work of K.J. Holmes, Janet Panetta, Johanna Stevens Meyer, Nia Love, Julie Atlas Muz, Peter Schumann, and Dany's "La Mora" Perez. In addition to performing and making dances in the United States, MacMaster has worked internationally with Duende School of Ensemble Physical Theatre in Greece, OBRA Theatre Company in France, Daniela Pucci and Luis Bianchi in Argentina, and Saakumu Dance Troupe in Ghana, West Africa. She is a current MFA candidate in dance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



**Sarah Marks Mininsohn** (Choreographer/Dancer) is pursuing her MFA in dance at the University of Illinois. Originally from Maryland, she received her BA in dance and sociology at Wesleyan University and was based in Philadelphia where she choreographed, performed, and taught. She self-produced multiple site-specific works including *Noogie*, *Tables*, and *Cabbage Head*. Her pieces have been presented at Marsh STL, Icebox Project Space, FringeArts, Leah Stein Dance Company, Headlong, and the Wesleyan University Zilkha Gallery. She has also performed in works by Headlong, Leah Stein Dance Company, Dance Exchange, and Nicole Stanton. In addition to dance and choreography, she practices writing and dramaturgy and enjoys cooking and exploring the landscape of Central Illinois.

**Endalyn Taylor** (Choreographer) began training at age seven. She studied at the Dance Theatre of Harlem School before joining their company in 1984, becoming a principal in 1993. Broadway credits include *Carousel*, *The Lion King*, and *Aida*. Taylor was the director of the Dance Theatre of Harlem School and has taught masterclasses and conducted workshops throughout the United States and abroad. Her students were invited to participate in a new arts initiative of the Obamas and performed for the Heads of State's Luncheon at the Studio Museum in Harlem. Recent commissions include choreographed works for Collage Dance Collective and an upcoming work for Dance Theatre of Harlem. Taylor was featured in the Emmy-winning special, *Illinois Artists—Endalyn Taylor*, a documentary short chronicling her storied career, research, and community engagement. Taylor is an associate professor and Dean's Fellow for Black Arts Research at the U of I.

**Landon Allender** (Dancer) is currently a freshman pursuing a degree in dance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is from Springfield, Illinois, and has danced since he was seven years old. He will make his debut performance in the Repertory Company.

**Faith Brown** (Dancer) is currently a senior at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign pursuing a BFA in dance, a minor in business, and a yoga and leadership certificate. She's performed in numerous departmental dance concerts in the choreography of Endalyn Taylor, Renée Wadleigh, Jennifer Monson, Linda Lehovc, and Kemal Nance. Additionally, her choreography, including a self-performed solo, was selected for the Studiodance II concert at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. In the summers of 2018 and 2019, Brown had the pleasure of working in various arts administrative roles within New York City dance organizations such as the José Limón Dance Foundation, Gibney Center, and MOVE(NYC). She currently serves as president of an RSO on campus known as Fine and Applied Arts Black and also leads a group she founded in the summer of 2020 known as the Black Advocacy Team within the Department of Dance.

**Anabelle Clark** (Dancer) is from Macomb, Illinois, and is currently a sophomore studying both dance and East Asian languages and cultures at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her recent Dance at Illinois performance includes the BFA Senior Thesis Concert in 2019 (Dancer). Before attending the University of Illinois, Clark studied ballet with Arlene Smith at Dancers' Studio in Monmouth, Illinois, and has performed at the Orpheum Theatre and Monmouth College in roles such as Stepsister in *Cinderella*, Odile in *Swan Lake*, and The Lilac Fairy in *Sleeping Beauty*. In addition to performing locally, she has also participated in dance exchanges and collaborations between Dancers' Studio and Just Arts and Management Performing Arts School in Miami, Florida.

**Jaylen De'Angelo Clay** (Dancer), a native of Atlanta, dances and also makes dance, theatre, and performance art. An award-winning fellow and creative artist, he has been invested in engaging diverse communities abroad and in the United States. Clay enjoys collaborating with various interdisciplinary artists of color. His directing, performing, and teaching speak to the expanse of black contemporary art, utilizing techniques drawn from the African diaspora, disability queer culture, post-modern, and conceptual social forms. Clay is newly a recipient of the Mary Jane Neer and Live Mas Scholarship, which are prestigious awards given for excellence in academic achievement and leadership. He is also an artist in residence at Driven to Reach Excellence for the Academic Achievement of Males (DREAAAM). Clay is a graduate of Alabama State University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in dance. He trains in ballet, modern, jazz, ballroom, hip hop, West African, heels, step, and tap dance. In college, he performed works by Robert Battle, Gary Jeter, Michael Medcalf, Dinita and Kyle Clark, Endalyn Taylor, DeShona Pepper Robertson, and Sidra Bell.

**Prishina Coleman** (Dancer) is the artistic director of Divine Purpose. Being an alumna member of the organization, she has learned and experienced coaching as well as mentorship. This has helped her to succeed in her dance career. Her motto is "Changing Lives Through Dance One Person at a Time." Coleman is not only an instructor, she is also an artist. Her styles of dance are African, modern, contemporary, and hip hop. She is a dance major and is currently in the BFA dance program at the University of Illinois. Coleman transferred from Harry S. Truman College majoring in business. She has performed in various dance concerts and competitions and had the opportunity to perform a dance piece for the Bud Billiken Parade. She started a dance club teaching at Truman College, performing for halftime games and a dance concert. She was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois.

**Juliann Craft** (Dancer) is a freshman at the University of Illinois pursuing her BFA in dance. This is her first performance with Dance at Illinois. She has experience in the performing arts world as a competitive dancer and also as an assistant choreographer for her high school's rendition of the musical *Anything Goes*.

**Jaymes Crowder-Acres** (Dancer) is a current freshman pursuing a BFA in dance at the University of Illinois. His debut performance at Illinois will be with the Repertory Company led by Bevara Anderson. He began his dance career in 2017 at Lindblom Math and Science Academy in Chicago at age 16 being trained primarily in jazz and modern. He has since gone on to become a student teacher at Lindblom and to dance for Forward Momentum Chicago and The Afterschool Matters Dance Ensemble where he was also a choreographer before arriving at the U of I.

**Margaret Daniels** (Dancer) is currently a freshman pursuing a BFA in dance. Originally from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, she started dancing at her local middle school and then eventually joined the RACE (Radical Application of Creative Energy) Dance Collective. There, she performed in their annual rendition of *The Nutcracker*, *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*.

**Kymani Davis-Williams** (Dancer) is pursuing a BFA in dance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Starting dance at a young age, she began dancing at the Chicago Multicultural Dance Center where she was a part of many performances. Coming to the U of I, she has been in several organizations that participated in events offered by the University.

**Jenna Dike** (Dancer) is currently a freshman pursuing a BFA in dance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. This will be Jenna's first performance at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.

**Melanie DuBois** (Dancer) is currently a sophomore from small-town Sycamore, Illinois, pursuing a BFA in dance at the University of Illinois. She trains in modern, ballet, jazz, contemporary, and her favorite, tap. She attended Sycamore High School where she was a part of the Orchestis program for four years, making her way to student director by her senior year. Although this is her debut on the main stage of Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, she was involved with the Freshman Repertory Company with Dance at Illinois. Other dance credits include performing for Dimensions Dance Academy's competition team and ballet company.

**Elsa Gaston** (Dancer) is a sophomore pursuing her BFA in dance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and is also pursuing a minor in philosophy. She is making her debut

performance at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts and with Dance at Illinois. She is originally from Indianapolis, Indiana, and studied dance at Curtain Call Dance Center.

**Jordyn Gibson** (Dancer) is currently a sophomore at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she is pursuing a BFA in dance and minor in kinesiology. A native of Louisville, Kentucky, Gibson has been engaged in dance for 14 years. As a freshman at the U of I, she performed in the Senior Thesis concert and with the Dance at Illinois Freshman Repertory Company. Some of her past dance experiences include attending prestigious programs such as the professional division of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Louisville Ballet, Butler University, and Nashville Ballet.

**Alexandra Green** (Dancer) is a dancer, choreographer, and versatile artist. She began her training at Inspire School of Dance in Naperville, Illinois. Green transferred from Loyola Marymount University to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and is pursuing a BFA in dance and a minor in social work. During her career so far, she has performed in *Destiny Rising* at The Joyce Theater NYC, *Psalm* by José Limon as reconstructed by Roxane D'Orleans Juste, Linda Lehovec and Paige Cunningham's *In Conversation*, and many more. She has continuing relationships with DanceWorks Chicago, Paul Taylor Dance Company, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company, BodyTraffic, RUBBERBAND Dance Company, and Inside Chicago. Green is assistant choreographer for Jennifer Hamilton and continues to produce work alongside her in Los Angeles. She is also personal assistant to Sam Renzetti, owner of Xtreme Dance Company.

**Noa Greenfeld** (Dancer) is a sophomore pursuing a BFA in dance as well as costume design and technology at the University of Illinois. She is originally from Elgin, Illinois, where she studied dance at Larkin High School and at Integrity School of Dance. Outside of Dance at Illinois, she is a part of the Costume Shop where she is expanding her sewing skills and learning how to design costumes for dance as well as costumes for the theatre. November Dance is Greenfeld's debut performance on the Krannert Center stage and at the U of I.

**Sydney Hagerman** (Dancer) is a senior pursuing her BFA in dance at the University of Illinois. Her previous performances through Dance at Illinois include November Dance, (Segments from) *Deca Dance*, and Studiodance II, *period piece*, in the fall of 2019, as well as Overlap Senior Thesis Concert Program B, *Second Layer*, and Studiodance II, *sorry-preen*, in the spring of 2019.

**Kate Henderson** (Dancer) is currently a sophomore at the University of Illinois majoring in dance. She has studied and trained in various forms of dance including ballet, modern, jazz, tap, sports acrobatics, and hip hop. Her dance training began in South Carolina at the Columbia Conservatory of Dance for six years. She was a member of their junior dance company for one year before relocating to Edwardsville, Illinois, where she began to train at Turning Pointe Academy of Dance. As a member of Turning Pointe's company Tour Dance for eight years, she frequently performed in *The Nutcracker* as well as participated in performances around the St. Louis area. Some of these included *Dance for Food* and *Dancing in the Street*. As a freshman at the University of Illinois, she performed in the senior thesis concerts.

**Jacob Henss** (Dancer) is a St. Louis-based movement artist and choreographer. He is a graduate of Webster University (2013-17) with a BA in dance and music. From there, he danced with Modern American Dance Company (MADCO) where he was a MADCO2 member (2017-18) and later an apprentice (2018-19). During his time after graduation, he produced four evening-length works: *The Other Sides*, *Conservation*, *Non Cura*, and *Do Not Go Gentle*. Alongside self-producing his own choreography, Henss has curated these evening-length work performances to include choreography featuring other Midwest choreographers in events like Drafts & Byproducts hosted by MARSH in St. Louis and many others. Henss has set work on MADCO2, Karlovsky and Company, and Webster University and for the CommUnity Arts Festival. Currently, Henss is pursuing his MFA in dance at the University of Illinois and is an adjunct professor at Millikin University.

**Andrew Johnson** (Dancer) is a freshman at the University of Illinois. After moving with his father from two hours away, he is beginning a new chapter in his life. Johnson is performing in his first college performance at Krannert Center and in his first Dance at Illinois concert.

**Jakki Kalogridis** (Dancer) is a New Orleans-based performing artist and choreographer. She began a costuming business in 2002 while completing her BFA in studio art with a minor in dance at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. In 2013, Kalogridis relocated to New Orleans where she was a featured designer at New Orleans Fashion Week (2014) and was awarded New Orleans Fashion Designer of the Year in a Raw Showcase (2014). In 2016, she founded New Orleans Colorguard Arts. Recent artistic collaborations include *Emergence* (producer/choreographer/dancer), an evening-length performance in the Marigny Opera House

with live band Loose Willis; *Beats* (choreographer/dancer), a dancefilm with drummer/musician Brad Webb and photographer/cinematographer Josh Brasted; currently, *The Library* (artist/choreographer/costume designer/performer), an archive/performance with sound designer Clare Marie Nemanich; and a documentary-style project, *Living With . . .*, chronicling what daily life is like as an athlete and dancer with a chronic illness.

**Haley Krause** (Dancer) is currently a first-year student pursuing a BFA in dance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Krause was born and raised in Evanston, Illinois, where she performed and choreographed work at Evanston Township High School. She also performed with Kaleidoscope Dance at the North Shore Center for Performing Arts and Regina High School through 2019 when she began training at Visceral Dance Center in Chicago. When she's not dancing, Krause enjoys creating choreography and playing guitar.

**Rachel Maramba** (Dancer) is a senior pursuing degrees in dance and psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Previously at Krannert Center, she has performed in *Studiodance II*, *Crazy for You* (Bonnie), and *Cabaret* (Lulu). Maramba is also an intern for the Department of Dance and teaches creative dance in the Champaign-Urbana community.

**Mya McClellan** (Dancer) is a performing artist and student pursuing her BFA in dance performance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She has performed in the works of Endalyn Taylor, Curtis Kemal Nance, Ohad Naharin, Danzel Thompson-Stout, and Sara Hook at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. During her time studying abroad in the Netherlands, she attended the Amsterdam University of the Arts and performed in a work of ICK Amsterdam.

**Genesis Medious** (Dancer) is a freshman at the University of Illinois. She has been dancing for about 16 years and studied under professional training for three years. She has done numerous shows with her dance studio, Studio One Dance Theatre Conservatory, in Chicago. Along with the annual recitals and shows, Medious has danced for the Thanksgiving Parade for five years premiering on national TV and trained under the Debbie Allen Dance Academy in Los Angeles for two summers. Her ultimate goal in dance is to move to Los Angeles and become a professional commercial dancer.

**Anne Morgan** (Dancer) is a current sophomore pursuing a BFA in dance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri, she trained at Dimensions Dance Center under the direction of Sandra Morgan. Here, she performed in soloist roles in productions of *The Nutcracker* and in works created for the Dennis Buege Scholarship Program Annual Benefit Concert. She has performed in both the fall and spring showings of *Compulsive Motion* (Dance) in works choreographed by alumni Kaleigh Dent, Symone Sanz, and Taylor Adams. When not in the studio, she spends time pursuing a BS in political science at Illinois and choreographing for Dimensions Dance Center.

**Jade O'Connor** (Dancer) is a sophomore pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in dance as well as a Bachelor of Science in Physics (Sciences and Letters) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She previously studied and currently teaches dance at the Urbana Fine Arts Center in Urbana, Illinois, where she enjoys choreographing. This is her first production at Dance at Illinois.

**Rachel Rizzuto** (Dancer) is a third-year dance MFA candidate at the University of Illinois. As a performer and choreographer, she believes in spectacle, gesture, text, song, and the inevitability of humor. She spent nine years dancing for the Brooklyn-based company Mari Meade Dance Collective (MMDC). For the last five Valentine's Days, Rizzuto has self-produced *Love Sucks*, a perennially changing work for a large cast that utilizes pop music, movement, song, and text to illustrate the inescapable heartache that accompanies falling in and out (mostly out) of love. She is a contributing writer to *Dance Magazine* and *Dance Teacher* magazine and a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi with degrees in dance and English.

**Isabella Saldana** (Dancer) is currently a freshman pursuing a BFA in dance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is from Lincolnwood, Illinois, and has been dancing for 15 years. She received the majority of her dance training at Kaleidoscope Dance in Skokie, Illinois. As a Freshman Repertory dancer, November Dance will be her debut performance with Dance at Illinois.

**Sydney Tschosik** (Dancer) is a sophomore currently pursuing her BFA in dance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Tschosik grew up in Batavia, Illinois, studying dance since the age of three. She was a part of the BFA Senior Thesis Concert in the spring of 2020.

**Kristen Whalen** (Dancer) is a junior pursuing a BA in dance and a BS in industrial engineering at the University of Illinois. November Dance will be her debut main stage performance with the university. Whalen began dancing at the age of three in her hometown at Dance Academy of Libertyville and later joined the Ballet Theatre of Illinois and the Jazz Theatre of Illinois. As a member of these companies, she worked

closely with the directors of the company, Emily Winkler and Laura Moschel, as well as various choreographers including Joshua Blake Carter, Jon Sloven, and Rebecca Lemme. At the university, she has danced in four senior thesis processes at Dance at Illinois.

**Kennedy Veronica Wilson** (Dancer) is currently a freshman pursuing a BFA in dance at the University of Illinois. Her first performance with the U of I will be with the Repertory Company choreographed by Bevara Anderson. She began dancing at the age of six with her afterschool dance program. In 2016, she attended the Youth Performing Arts School in Louisville, Kentucky, where she furthered her dance studies in ballet and modern.

**Jessica Autumn Ziegler** (Dancer) is a Chicago native and current senior at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she is pursuing her BFA in dance. She is a James Scholar in the College of Fine and Applied Arts, and by the time she graduates, Ziegler will have completed a 200-Hour Yoga Teacher Certification Program under the direction of Linda Lehovec. While at Illinois, she has been fortunate to perform in works by Jennifer Monson, Abby Zbikowski, Endalyn Taylor, Linda Lehovec, and Rebecca Netti-Fiol. She has also worked closely with many of the graduate students in Dance at Illinois. During her sophomore year, Ziegler received the Courtney B. Kellogg Memorial Scholarship in recognition of overall outstanding achievement in the Department of Dance, and she was a recipient of the spring 2019 James Scholar Project Grant.

**Cassidy Zins** (Dancer) is a performer, choreographer, and teacher from Roseville, Minnesota, and a BFA candidate in dance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is performing in works by Sara Hook and Sarah Mininsohn and Kayt MacMaster. Over her past three years in college, she has had the opportunity to participate in works by Rachel Rizzuto and Elliot Emadian. After graduation, Zins plans on pursuing dance performance and teaching.

**Chip McNeill** (Musician) is currently a full professor and chair of jazz studies at the University of Illinois. He currently tours with Grammy Award winner Doc Severinsen and formerly toured with Grammy Award-winning vocalist Natalie Cole. He is formerly the musical director and jazz tenor saxophonist for recording artist Arturo Sandoval and has recorded with Sandoval on his Grammy Award-winning release *Hot House*. Prior to Sandoval, McNeill was the musical director and jazz saxophonist for legendary jazz trumpeter Maynard Ferguson. He produced, wrote, and performed on five CDs with Ferguson including *Swingin' for Schurr* (2001) with guest jazz vocalist Diane Schurr, *These Cats Can Swing* (1995), *Live from London* (1994), and *Footpath Café* (1993). McNeill has performed and been a clinician at countless jazz festivals and clubs around the world such as the North Sea Jazz Festival (The Hague Holland), the Montreaux Jazz Festival (Switzerland), the Monterey Jazz Festival (United States), the Noto Jazz Festival (Japan), the Wigan Jazz Festival (England), the Pori Jazz Festival (Finland), the Wiesen Jazz Festival (Austria), the Immatra Jazz Festival (Finland), the Warsaw Jazz Festival (Poland), the Capital Jazz Festival (United States), the Charlotte Jazz Festival (United States), and clubs such as The Blue Note (New York City, Tokyo, and

Osaka), Blues Alley (Washington, DC), the House of Blues (Los Angeles), and the Jazz Showcase (Chicago). McNeill's list of recording credits as a jazz tenor saxophonist have included such notables as Doc Severinsen, Arturo Sandoval, Nat Adderley, David Liebman, Maynard Ferguson, Duffy Jackson, Ira Sullivan, The Woody Herman Orchestra, Ted Shumate and Larry Willis. His past performances include numerous world tours with Arturo Sandoval, Maynard Ferguson, the Woody Herman Orchestra, the University of Miami Concert Jazz Band, and the North Texas State One O'Clock Lab Band. His latest CDs include *The Whirl* (quintet, Armoured Records), *Four Steps 3* (quintet, Capri Records) and *Radio Improved* (quartet), all under his own name. He has also performed with many of the world's top jazz artists and entertainers such as Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., Natalie Cole, Joe Williams, Dizzy Gillespie, Billy Eckstine, Wynton Marsalis, Randy and Michael Brecker, Nat Adderley, David Liebman, Bob Mintzer, Slide Hampton, Tom Harrell, Paquito D'Rivera, and Ira Sullivan. A graduate of the University of Miami (Master of Art in studio jazz composition), McNeill enjoys an active performance schedule as a solo saxophonist, clinician, composer/arranger, and pianist.

**Saori Kataoka** (Musician), a trumpeter and native of Tokushima, Japan, pursues a career as a teaching artist. She is the first brass instrument player to win the Krannert Center Debut Artist Competition in its 36-year history and will be giving her solo recital at the Foellinger Great Hall (date to be determined). During the summer of 2020, Kataoka participated remotely in the Festival of Young Artists Bayreuth and Lake George Music Festival. Earlier the same year, she was awarded Distinction in the Professional Wind Instrument division at the Vienna International Music Competition 2020. She had also been a semifinalist at the Roger Voisin Memorial Trumpet Competition and National Trumpet Competition (United States), as well as fourth winner at the Junior Classical Music Competition in Japan. She was a trumpet fellow of the Orchestra of the Americas in its 2018 European Tour, performing at such iconic venues as Elbphilharmonie, Usher Hall, Kurhaus Wiesbaden, and Krzysztof Penderecki European Center for Music. During the 2020-21 academic year, Kataoka joins the School of Music at Illinois State University as an adjunct instructional assistant professor. She is currently pursuing her second Master of Music degree, this time in jazz, with graduate minors in dance and global studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. During her time at Illinois, she has been featured for the performance of Aaron Copland's *Quiet City* with the University of Illinois Chamber Orchestra and Antonio Vivaldi's *Concerto for Two Trumpets* with the Illini Strings. She holds a Master of Music in trumpet performance and literature from the U of I and a BA in music with certificate in jazz from Campbellsville University (Kentucky). While in Campbellsville, she was awarded an International Education Award, Alumni Association Talent Award, and Outstanding ESL Graduate Award. Her primary teachers include Tito Carillo, Charles Daval, Ronald Romm, Anne McNamara, and

Reese Land. She can be heard in the recordings of the Orchestra of the Americas' *Pan-American Reflections* from Linn Records, as well as the WASBE Youth Wind Orchestra 2015 from Mark Records. Kataoka is also a passionate Awa Odori dancer, a traditional folk dance from her hometown. She envisions to bring people together with the power of arts to celebrate the beauty of our differences and make harmony.

**Grecia Bahena** (Stage Manager) is a sophomore pursuing a BFA in stage management at the University of Illinois. Previous credits include *Songs for a New World* encore with Lyric Theatre @ Illinois (assistant stage manager), *Titus Andronicus* with Illinois Theatre (production assistant), and *In the Heights* with Illinois High School Theatre Festival All-State (crew).

**Mary Kate Baughman** (Stage Manager) is a junior in the stage management program at the University of Illinois. She has worked on a variety of productions at Krannert Center, serving as the assistant stage manager for *Titus Andronicus* and *Because I Am Your Queen* (Illinois Theatre) and as the Child Supervisor for *La Bohème* (Lyric Theatre @ Illinois). Last year, Baughman was hired on as the venue manager for Cricket Theatre Company's 2019 summer season. She is currently the events coordinator intern at the University of Illinois Research Park.

**John Boesche** (Media Designer) has created projected images for more than 180 dance, opera, theatre, and music productions. Designs for dance include The Joffrey Ballet, Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, Lucky Plush Productions, Mordine & Company, Cynthia Oliver & Company, and Erica Mott Productions, among others. His scenic and media designs for regional theatre include Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Geffen Playhouse (Los Angeles), Goodman Theatre, Lookingglass Theatre, McCarter Theatre (Princeton),



New York Shakespeare Festival (NYC), Seattle Repertory Theatre, and Steppenwolf Theatre, among others. Boesche has received the Merritt Award for Excellence in Design and Collaboration, three Joseph Jefferson Awards for his theatre designs, a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award, a Metro DC Dance Award, and a 2018 Bessie nomination with John Jennings and Stacey Robinson for Outstanding Visual Design. He is the chair of digital media for live performance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

**Laura Chiamonte** (Media Designer/Dance Media Coordinator) has been performing and producing work professionally in dance throughout the United States and abroad for the past 25 years. As the director of the Flatlands Dance Film Festival, she enjoys presenting dance films worldwide and supporting dance filmmakers. Chiamonte developed a movement studies class, emphasizing movement improvisation and composition through the inspiration of intermedia at the Chicago Art Department. She has taught workshops at the Illinois Institute of Technology, the Dance Center at Columbia College, and the Department of Dance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and was an artist-in-residence at Illinois Wesleyan and Frente de Danza Independiente at Sala de Artes Escénicas Marina de Jesus Quito in Ecuador. Chiamonte is currently teaching screendance and dance documentation for Dance at Illinois.

**Gryffon Cloud** (Lighting Designer) is a senior undergrad in lighting design and technology at the University of Illinois. This is the first full show he is designing at Krannert Center. Outside of lighting, his interests include gaming and cooking with extremely hot peppers.

**José Diaz-Soto** (Co-Scenic Designer), a native of Bayamón, Puerto Rico, holds a BA in fine arts from the University of the Sacred Heart and credits in drama from the University of Puerto Rico. In May 2016, he completed his MFA in scenic design with a departmental distinction at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Diaz-Soto has been designing for drama, musical theatre, film, and television. Recently completed projects include *Titus Andronicus*, *Time Is on Our Side*, *The Explorer's Club* (Jeff Award Nominee), *The Madres*, *Polaroid Stories*, and *RED*. Musical theatre and opera credits include *Don Giovanni*, *Evita*, *Into the Woods*, *Godspell*, *Sound of Music*, *Les Misérables*, *Man of La Mancha*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Kiss Me Kate*. TV and film credits include *23 Hours*, *Prótesis*, *Parece que fue ayer*, *Contraseña*, *El color de la guayaba*, *Demasiada Tita*, and *Las combatientes*. Diaz-Soto is on faculty at Illinois Theatre as a scenic design professor. [www.josemanueldiaz.carbonmade.com](http://www.josemanueldiaz.carbonmade.com)

**Zia Fox** (Media Designer) is a third-year MFA student in sound design and technology. Fox graduated with a BA in music technology from the University of Illinois in 2018. At Krannert Center, they have sound designed for February Dance 2019, *The Adventures of Little Sharp-Ears*, *Lysistrata*, and *Police Deaf Near Far*. While their main focus is sound, they also enjoy video post-production work and creating visual content. November Dance 2020 is Fox's debut as a media designer. Postgraduate, they are planning to work in the video game industry as a sound designer.

**Andrew Giza** (Camera Director), originally from Massachusetts, is an alumnus of Emerson College where he earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in acting. Before joining the Events office at Krannert Center, Giza worked with the Artist Partner Programs team at the University of Maryland's Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center while earning a Master of Science degree in management. Giza's professional career began at *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* as the program's music production manager, a position he held for over 14 years. He is a member of SAG-AFTRA and enjoys golfing, riding motorcycles, and working with the Boulanger Initiative to promote inclusivity in classical music.

**Priyanka Krishnan** (Media Illustrator and Animator) is a senior pursuing a BFA in new media and BS in psychology at the University of Illinois. She's an illustrator who worked on many of the special effects and image assets behind November Dance 2020. In her free time, she enjoys obsessively doodling, sipping tea, and feeding her crippling video game addiction.

**Vivian Krishnan** (Costume Coordinator and Designer) is in her third year of grad school at the University of Illinois for costume design. Her most recent designs were for *Lysistrata*, which was unfortunately canceled due to the global pandemic in spring 2020. In her time in the Champaign-Urbana area, Krishnan designed costumes for *The Wolves* directed by Nisi Sturgis

as well as Parkland Theatre's heart-wrenching production of *Elephant's Graveyard* directed by Latrelle Bright. While much of her recent work has appeared on the stage, Krishnan began her studies of the fine arts while attending Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado, where she received her BA with an emphasis in printmaking and sculpture. When not working on shows for theatre, she fuels her artistic drive by working on commissioned work and personal projects.

**Daniel Massey** (Sound Designer) is a senior sound design and technology major. In the past, he was the assistant sound designer for *August Wilson's Gem of the Ocean*, guest-directed by Chuck Smith, and *Lysistrata*, guest directed by Jason Jang. His previous sound design credits for dance include *measured way // return stillness* by Danielle Masticola, *Margarita* by Daisy Rueda, and *Studiodance II*. The most recent sound design he has worked on was *Infinite Three-Way Possibility* by Elliot Emadian. Outside of Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, Massey is the co-producer of *Ghost Light Radio Drama*, a podcast on Spotify.

**Greg Mueller** (Production Stage Manager) is a senior stage management student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Their credits include assistant stage manager for productions of *Cabaret* (a Krannert Center collaborative work), *Titus Andronicus* (Illinois Theatre), and *Studiodance I* (Dance at Illinois).

**Matthew Rohan** (Stage Manager) is a junior majoring in both stage management and history and originally from Orland Park, Illinois. Previously, he was the stage manager for Lyric Theatre @ Illinois' production of *Songs for a New World*. He also served as an assistant stage manager for Dance at Illinois' 2019 productions of Studiodance I: *Dancing 50: Moving Forward/Looking Back* and Studio One Extended. On campus, he has been involved with Illini Student Musicals and served as the assistant stage manager for their production of *Footloose*. He is currently working on a collaborative escape room project that will be presented in the spring semester. Professionally, Rohan has worked with Oak Park Festival Theatre as an assistant stage manager for *Elizabeth Rex* and as a light board operator for *Much Ado About Nothing*.

**Jia Zengpeng** (Scenic Designer) is a scenic designer from China who moved to the United States to earn his master's degree. He received a BFA degree in scenic design from Sichuan Fine Arts Institute in Chongqing, China. In addition to theatre design, he has also done some design with television, film, architecture, and illustration. He is currently enrolled in his third year at the University of Illinois. His past stage design credits include *Moved Chongqing* (CQ Playhouse), *Leftover Girls* (SFAI Theatre), and *The Adventures of Little Sharp-Ears* (Krannert Center).

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Sara Hook

Endalyn Taylor

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**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Producing a concert during COVID-19 has required us to re-think, re-invent, re-imagine every aspect of production. Deep appreciation to Krannert Center's Director Mike Ross for generously supporting the academic work of the performing arts departments. His marvelous team in Marketing, Finance and Operations, Production, Ticketing Services, and Patron Services have done extraordinary work in assisting to re-invent the wheel! A huge shout-out to Terri Ciofalo and the stage management and design team in the Department of Theatre for their spirited work to make this concert happen, and my sincere thanks to the choreographers and dancers for remaining adaptable in response to the never-ending changes! Deep appreciations to all!

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## Land Acknowledgement

The University of Illinois System carries out its mission in its namesake state, which includes the traditional territory of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami, Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, Menominee, Ho-Chunk, and Chickasaw Nations. These lands continue to carry the stories of these Nations and their struggles for survival and identity.

As a land-grant institution, the University of Illinois has a particular responsibility to acknowledge the peoples of these lands, as well as the histories of dispossession that have allowed for the growth of this institution for the past 150 years. We are also obligated to reflect on and actively address these histories and the role that this university has played in shaping them. This acknowledgement and the centering of Native peoples is a start as we move forward for the next 150 years.

Krannert Center affirms the commitment by the university to move beyond these statements, toward building deeper relationships and taking actions that uphold and preserve Indigenous rights and cultural equity.

As we gather to experience this performance, we have an opportunity to reflect on the ways that systems of oppression have shaped our society. We can work together to create systems that support human dignity, establish equity, strengthen cross-cultural relationships, and draw upon the creative capacity of all people that make up this community, state, nation, and world.

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Claire Wu  
Xuan Yi  
Andy Yoon  
Menghao Yu  
Yangxue Yu  
Lucia Zhang  
Valerie Zhao

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# KRANNERT CENTER STAFF

Mike Ross, Director  
Joycelynn Trask, Director's Assistant

Terri Anne Ciofalo, Associate Director  
for Production

Cindi Howard, Associate Director  
for Finance and Operations

Tammey Kikta, Associate Director  
for Artistic Services

Maureen V. Reagan, Associate Director  
for Marketing

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## ARTISTIC SERVICES

Tammey Kikta, Associate Director  
for Artistic Services

Jason Finkelman, Artistic Director of  
Global Arts Performance Initiatives

Andrew Giza, Events Director

Andrew Almeter, Senior Production  
Coordinator for Events

Bree Brock, Production Coordinator  
for Events

Seth Wheeler, Technical Coordinator  
for Events

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## ADVANCEMENT

Cheryl Snyder, Director of Advancement

Bethany Whoric, Assistant Director  
of Advancement

Ellen Fred, Advancement Office Manager

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## FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Cindi Howard, Associate Director  
for Finance and Operations

## Business Office

Lynn Bierman, Katie Brucker, Debbie

Delaney, Stacey Elliott, Shelly

Thomas-Eichorn, Accounting Staff

Tara Heiser, Gina Moton, Shanitera  
Walker, Human Resources Support

## Building Operations

John O. Williams, Facility Manager

Tony Mapson, Assistant Facility Manager

Joe Butsch, Building Electrician

Jared Painter, Assistant Chief Building  
Operations Engineer

Jerry Bonam, Eric Carr, Emmett Catlin,  
Joe Domain, John Ekstrom, Bryan

Franzen, Mark Lashbrook, Jacob

Lerch, Kevin Logue, Jessica Fancher,  
Attendants

Glenda Dalton, Office Support Associate

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## MARKETING

Maureen V. Reagan, Associate Director  
for Marketing

## Advertising and Publicity

Bridget Lee-Calfas, Advertising  
and Publicity Director

## Creative Services Studio

Vanessa Burgett, Creative Director

Janet Huber, Program and Web Editor

Nicholas Mulvaney, Senior Designer

## Engagement

Emily Laugesen, Co-Director of  
Engagement

Monique Rivera, Co-Director of  
Engagement

Sam Smith, Director of Civic Engagement  
and Social Practice

Crystal Womble, Outreach Director

## Patron Services

Kaitlin Higgins, Co-Director of  
Patron Services

Lisa Lillig, Co-Director of Patron Services  
Dean Brian Carlson, Food and

Beverage Director

Kelly Darr, Evening Intermezzo and  
Stage 5 Bar Manager

Elizabeth Henke, Catering Manager

Michael Bunting, Intermezzo Supervisor

Chuck Hanson, Intermezzo Assistant

Taylor McCoy, Snack Bar Attendant

Zia Moon, Patron Services Assistant

## Ticket Services

Whitney Havice, Ticket Services Director

Bunny Berg, Ty Mingo, Jon Proctor,  
Barbara Schoenoff, Ticket Office  
Supervisors

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## PRODUCTION

Terri Anne Ciofalo, Associate Director  
for Production

Amber Dewey Schultz, Assistant  
Production Director

## Audio Department

Rick Scholwin, Audio Director

Alec LaBau, Assistant Audio Director/  
Video Director

Keith Norton, Theatre Audio and  
Media Specialist

## Costume Shop

Andrea Bouck, Costume Director

Richard Gregg, Costume Rentals Director  
Tonya Bernstein, Assistant Costume Shop  
Manager

April McKinnis, EB McTigue,  
Cutters/Drapers

Linda Follmer, Julianna Steitz,  
Theatrical Stitchers

## Lighting Department

Michael W. Williams, Lighting Director

Lisa Kidd, Associate Lighting Director

## Properties Department

Adriane Binky Donley, Properties Director

Megan Dietrich, Assistant Properties  
Director and Rentals Coordinator

## Scene Shop

Ryan Schultz, Technical Director

Tatsuya Ito, Associate Technical Director

Andrea Stewart, Associate Technical  
Director

Bill Kephart, Scene Shop Chief Clerk

Dylan Kind, Theatrical Scene Shop  
Coordinator

Vincent Meade, Theatrical Scene Shop  
Assistant

## Stage Management

Cynthia Kocher, Production Stage Manager