



STUDIODANCE 2024
DANCE AT ILLINOIS

Roxane D'Orléans Juste, concert director
Thursday-Saturday, February 29–March 2, 2024, at 7:30pm
Studio Theatre

PROGRAM

STUDIODANCE 2023

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Thursday-Saturday, February 29–March 2, 2024, at 7:30pm

Studio Theatre

poem

Tere O'Connor

so! what now?

Adanya Gilmore

Ponzy Scheme

Paige Cunningham Calderella

Alfonso Cervera

SHAKE! SPILL! KIKI!

Joe Bowie

WELCOME

Faithful to the rich and bold vision of our dance department's artistic leadership, Studiodance reflects passion, invention, and the excitement of collaborative experimental creations.

Studiodance is DANCE NOW!

This year, we offer you two dances created by current faculty—one by Professor Tere O'Connor and one by Professor Paige Cunningham Caldarella in collaboration with Alfonso Cervera—as well as two works showcasing the Creative Thesis work of third-year MFA candidates Adanya Gilmore and Joe Bowie.

Internationally renowned choreographer Tere O'Connor's voluptuous movement language brilliantly weaves and brings to life the musicality and complexity of poetic devices.

Adanya Gilmore's fascination and concise perspective on digital consumerism transports us into an imaginary land of virtual fantasy.

Seasoned performers Paige Cunningham Caldarella and Alfonso Cervera invite us into the tumultuous privacy of the dancer's practice as ritual and the body as the seat of memory.

Joe Bowie is the ultimate storyteller; his dance foregrounds Blackness and Queerness. It sings, it cradles, it shouts, it is political!

I also invite you to join us to experience third-year MFA candidate Oluwadamilare Ayorinde's Creative Thesis work as part of the Studiodance Extended performance directed by Professor Serouj Aprahamian and located at the Dance Rehearsal Krannert (DRK) 2nd floor, on April 5th and 6th at 7pm.

Dare's unique choreographic voice delves into the rich cyclical and kinesthetic experience of our quest for discovery and reinvention.

Thank you for coming and welcome to Studiodance Spring 2024!

—Roxane D'Orleans Juste, concert director and
MFA program director

poem

CHOREOGRAPHY

Tere O'Connor

MUSIC

Composed by James Baker

REHEARSAL COORDINATOR

Silas Riener

COSTUME DESIGNER

KHetag Tsalobov

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Camron Stockley

SOUND DESIGNER

Elijah Miller

STAGE MANAGER

Amanda E. Rokosz

DANCERS

Ashley Bruno

Juliann Craft

Sojung Lim

Tessa Olson

Olivia Papa

UNDERSTUDY DANCER

Yuno Kimura

NOTES

This dance is a reworking of an original dance of the same name, created in 2014 for my company. I have always looked at formalism as a conceptual conceit, and here I am looking at how the underlying structures and devices used in poetry such as punctuation, rhyme scheme, and multiple other unique forms, are similar to those that drive the creation of choreography. The relationship of the imagery in a dance to the rhythmic and spatial modulations on which it travels, is similar to the way that words find new meaning in poetry via the forms and devices that remove them from the realm of clear definition to a new potential for multiple readings. It is this tension that catalyzed this work.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank all the dancers for their incredible professionalism and dancing and for how they took on the aesthetic inside of which the work reverberates. I would also like to thank Silas Reiner, who assisted me in this process. He taught all the movement from the original piece to these dancers with great exactitude and a generous spirit. I could not have done this without him. Thank you to the original dancers Oisín Monaghan, Heather Olson, Opal Engel, Silas Riener and Natalie Green. I would also like to thank James Baker, the composer for this, and almost all of the work I've ever made, for the breadth of his musical brilliance. Thank you Sara Hook for facilitating this in many ways. Also, huge gratitude to all the collaborators from Level 21.

so! what now?

CHOREOGRAPHY

Adanya Gilmore

MUSIC

James Mauck
Mark White

COSTUME COORDINATOR

KHetag Tsabolov

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Camron Stockley

SOUND DESIGNER

Elijah Miller

STAGE MANAGER

Gabriela Mendoza

DANCERS

Nawal Assougdam
Anna Brady
Alexis Chiet
Erin Fabian
Gabriel Gonzalez
Anna Lillig
Avi Pellegrinetti

NOTES

I'd like to cite the Black women and femmes who, while being creative innovators, inspired this piece: Pinkydoll (the queen of NPC), Junglepussy (poet, actress, rapper), Legacy Russell (curator and writer), and for the title alone: Azealia Banks (rapper, song-writer).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank my sisters (the other two Gilmore girls) for loving and inspiring me. I would burn down cities for you.

Ponzy Scheme

CHOREOGRAPHY

Alfonso Cervera
Paige Cunningham Caldarella

MUSIC

Cody Jensen

COSTUME COORDINATOR

Carlee Ihde

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Camron Stockley

SOUND DESIGNER

Elijah Miller

MEDIA DESIGNER

Nicholas J. Taboni

STAGE MANAGER

Gabriela Mendoza

DANCERS

Alfonso Cervera
Paige Cunningham Caldarella
Anna Lillig (understudy)

NOTES

Ponzy Scheme grew out of our shared desire to get in the studio and move together. Our weekly rehearsals became a cathartic ritual in which we shared sweat as well as stories of our various dance histories and training lineages. It is intended to be experimental, replicating elements of our rehearsal process and conversations while employing each of our specialties of contemporary dance (Ballet Folklórico, Release, Cunningham technique, and ballet) to build phrase work that allows our separate histories and identities to co-exist in the space.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thank you to Anna Lillig for your dedication, hard work, and contributions to this process.

SHAKE! SPILL! KIKI!

CHOREOGRAPHY

Joe Bowie

MUSIC

"We Are Soldiers In the Army," Montgomery Improvement Association

"This Little Light of Mine," Montgomery Improvement Association

"Freedom," Jimi Hendrix

"Tenderly," Sarah Vaughan

"Let's Have a Kiki," Scissor Sisters

COSTUME COORDINATOR

Carlee Ihde

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Camron Stockley

SOUND DESIGNER

Elijah Miller

MEDIA DESIGNER

Nicholas J. Taboni

STAGE MANAGER

Amanda E. Rokosz

DANCERS

Alexandra Barbier

Joe Bowie

e g condon

Lisa Dixon

Maddie Harley

Ty Lewis

Gabriella Quaresima

Cheyenne Smith

Ari Warner

NOTES

SHAKE! SPILL! KIKI! choreographs Blackness and queerness and foregrounds loving tenderness among Black and queer bodies. It intentionally puts diverse bodies, combined histories, traces, and vibrations into every nook and cranny of a dance space. This piece aims to make visible the lives, experiences, and perspectives of those communities that are routinely othered and silenced. And takes inspiration from the liberatory and celebratory spaces of the Black Church and gay clubs to combine movement and sonic scores, poetry, and embodied storytelling into a wonder-filled, playful, glorious mess.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank my fierce, creative, funny, patient, and powerful collaborators for their contributions. Gabriella, Cheyenne, Maddie, Ari, e g, Ty, Alexandra, and Lisa I couldn't have done any of this without you. Love y'all!

PROFILES

Roxane D'Orléans Juste (Concert Director) was born in Canada and is of Haitian descent. She shares her artistic homes between Champaign-Urbana; New York City; and Caracas, Venezuela. D'Orléans Juste performed and taught worldwide with the Eleo Pomare Dance Company, Annabelle Gamson Dance Solos, and the Limón Dance Company (1983–2016). Hailed for her technical and musical versatility, she was awarded the New York Bessie Award for “Outstanding Sustained Achievement” and the Jacqueline Lemieux Prize for Outstanding Contribution to Dance in Canada. Her choreography has been commissioned and presented in Canada, the United States, Europe, South America, and Israel. She was named Choreographer-in-Residence for the Fundación Contemporánea Coreoarte in Caracas, Venezuela, and co-chairs its Executive Board.

D'Orléans Juste is the creator of “En Solo” dance concerts, which have been presented in prestigious venues globally, and co-leads the Choreographers' Collective Initiative in New York City. Since 2018, she performed in works by renowned choreographers Sara Hook, Jennifer Monson, Rebecca Netti-Fiol, Anna Sapozhnikov, and David Parker. She earned her MFA in dance in 2021 at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where she currently is Associate Professor of dance and appointed MFA program director.

Joe Bowie (Choreographer/Dancer) (he/they) is an interdisciplinary dance artist pursuing his Master of Fine Arts in dance with a minor in queer studies at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. His current creative and scholarly research convenes at the intersection of dance, Blackness, queerness, maleness, Black joy, and storytelling. In his dance-making, he uses

autoethnography, embodied storytelling, and affective frameworks to foreground softness and tenderness among Black, queer moving bodies as a countermeasure to erasure. Before starting graduate school, Joe danced professionally for over twenty years in New York City, touring domestically and internationally with world-renowned dance companies: the Paul Taylor Dance Company and the Mark Morris Dance Group. After completing his MFA in dance, Bowie plans to return to teaching in higher education to prepare the next generation of innovative dance artists. Bowie aims to be a resource for his students and community and to offer his passion, compassion, empathy, and resilience.

Paige Cunningham Caldarella (Choreographer/Dancer) is a dance educator, choreographer, performer, and mother whose research interests include contemporary ballet and codified modern dance techniques. She has presented her ballet research entitled *Barre Lab: Embodying Change* with educator Emily Stein at NDEO, ILDEO, and CORPS de Ballet International. Caldarella joined the dance faculty at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 2022, after fifteen years on faculty at the Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago, where she also served as the Associate Chair. During her time in Chicago, she received a Chicago Dancemakers Forum grant, DCASE Individual Artist grants, and a Teaching Excellence Award from Columbia College. In 2019, she was profiled in a cover story in the September edition of *DanceTeacher* magazine, an issue focused on dance in higher education. She is a 2023 Merce Trust fellow and a recent recipient of a fully sponsored artist retreat from Bearnstow in Mt. Vernon, Maine in collaboration with dance artist Mandy Salva. Caldarella performed with

the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, touring nationally and internationally, and worked with The Seldoms, Darrell Jones, Timothy Buckley, and Onye Ozuzu among others. She holds a BFA from the Juilliard School and an MFA from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Alfonso Cervera (Choreographer/Dancer) (he/they/éll/elle) is a current Assistant Professor of Dance at The Ohio State University, where he shares his research interests and movement practices. Being a Queer first generation Mexican American practitioner and choreographer, his research and specialization as an artist focuses on the conversation between queerness, Ballet Folklórico, and Afro-Latine social dances in a contemporary auto-biographical embodied experience that he calls Poc-Chuc. Poc-Chuc, an emerging and inclusive dance technique developed by Cervera, weaves these techniques as a pedagogical tool to adhere to the current times and to create representation for marginalized communities. Cervera is both a founder and collaborator with Primera Generación Dance Collective, located in Los Angeles, where they create works that represent Mexican American identities, corporeality, and social justice dances, that utilize a pastiche of hybrid social dances and aesthetics. Among other things, he has been awarded grants from the National Endowment of the Arts, Artist Trust in Seattle, and Department of Cultural Affairs in Los Angeles, and is now one of the four executive directors of Show Box L.A.

Adanya Gilmore (Choreographer) (they/she) is a multidisciplinary artist and performer. Her place of origin is the unceded territory of the Piscataway and Nacotchtank peoples (Washington, DC). They have been dancing since the age of five and cultivated a love for moving at the Jones-Haywood Dance School.

They graduated from Beloit College with a BA in theatre and dance. She was awarded the Weissberg Fellowship for Human Rights, given to students who have displayed a focus and commitment to social justice in their discipline. She is a recipient of the Humanities Research Institute's Inaugural Interseminars Fellowship supported by the Mellon Foundation, an initiative that cultivates interdisciplinarity and equitable graduate research. She has worked with artists such as Jennifer Monson, Tere O'Connor, Dr. Cynthia Oliver, Gina T'ai, Christine Johnson, Ching-i Chang and jess pretty. Her writing has been published by the Humanities Research Institute at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Sixty Inches From Center. After finishing her Master of Fine Arts degree at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, she hopes to write and dance professionally as a queer, Black femme-inist.

Tere O'Connor (Choreographer) is a Center for Advanced Studies Professor in Dance at the University of Illinois and the Artistic Director of Tere O'Connor Dance in New York City. He has created over 45 works for his company, touring them extensively in the United States, Europe, Canada, and South America. He has created many commissioned works for other companies; among these are works for the Lyon Opera Ballet and a solo for Mikhail Baryshnikov. He received a 2013 Doris Duke Performing Artist Award. He is a 2009 United States Artist Rockefeller Fellow, a Guggenheim fellow and has received numerous other grants and awards throughout his career. He has won three BESSIES (New York Dance and Performance Awards.) In 2014, O'Connor was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. An articulate and provocative educator, he has taught at festivals and universities around the globe. He divides his time between Champaign and New York City, where he has

worked with his company, taught and mentored young artists for the last 42 years.

Nawal Assougdam (Dancer) is a dancer, performer, choreographer, and student. Originally from Aurora, Colorado, Nawal is a current third-year BA candidate in dance and BS candidate in kinesiology. In her time at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, she has performed in works by Roxane D'Orléans Juste, Laura Chiaramonte, John Toenjes, and Jakki Kalogridis, as well as senior thesis projects by Helena Gorgol, Jade O'Connor Katch, and Kymani Davis-Williams. Nawal is a member of DAI's student board and an undergraduate student representative in the BA planning committee. As recognition of her efforts, Nawal has been awarded the Rahiem White Scholarship Award two years in a row, the Talented Student Tuition Award, and the Courtney Kellog Memorial Fund. In the fall, Nawal Assougdam made her mainstage choreography debut when she premiered her work titled *Atay?* in *October Dance 2023*.

Alexandra Barbier (Dancer) is an interdisciplinary artist whose works weave practices from dance, performance art, theatre, installation, Blackness, queerness, and Southern-ness. She has presented her work in theatres, parks, gardens, libraries, festivals, and DIY spaces throughout North America. Her current body of work-in-progress, *Stations of Black Loss*, is an autoethnographic collection of performance, visual art, and creative nonfiction works that chronicle her journey of loving and embracing Black identity. The performance components have been supported by and presented through NCCAkron (Akron, Ohio), loveDANCEmore (Salt Lake City, Utah), and the dance department at University of Illinois (Urbana, Illinois), with research presentations and lecture-demonstrations presented through the International Association of Blacks in Dance, Collegium for African Diaspora Dance,

and Popular Culture Association conferences. Alexandra is an Assistant Professor of Dance at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and has previously held faculty positions with the University of Utah's School of Dance, the Joffrey Ballet and Jazz + Contemporary Trainee Programs, and Joffrey South summer intensive.

Anna Brady (Dancer) is a freshman at the University of Illinois, working towards getting her BFA in dance with a minor in psychology. Anna grew up in Alton, Illinois, where she was trained in modern dance, ballet, tap, jazz, and pointe at The Creative Dance Studio and COCA St. Louis. She also had the privilege of assisting and teaching classes at her home studio. So far, her college dance career has consisted of performing in works by Anna Sapozhnikov and Juliann Craft's senior thesis. Anna would like to thank her family for always supporting and inspiring her.

Ashley Bruno (Dancer) is a junior at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is pursuing her dual degree with a BFA in dance and a BSLAS in clinical/community Psychology, as well as a pre-physical therapy track. While at the U of I, Bruno has collaborated with and performed in works by Jakki Kalogridis, Sara Hook, Laura Chiaramonte, and Juliann Craft. She has also had the honor of learning from regisseurs Miki Orihara and Elizabeth Auclair and performing their staging of Martha Graham's *Steps in the Street*. Additionally, Bruno has choreographed and performed alongside Tessa Olson, creating work for Rebecca Kasdan's doctoral lecture recital with *Violins of Hope*. Bruno's notable past experiences include competitive rhythmic gymnastics, studio training, competitive dance, theatre productions, aerial silks, and other theatrical dance forms. Bruno's experiences, past and present, have allowed her to grow immensely, expanding her abilities in performing, choreographing, and teaching dance.

Alexis Chiet (Dancer) is a freshman at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where she is pursuing a BFA in dance. Alexis grew up in the northern suburbs of Chicago, where she began her dance education at her local studio, Kaleidoscope Dance. During her sixteen years there, she became well versed in ballet, jazz, contemporary, hip-hop, tap, musical theater, and participated on the competition team. Along with that, Alexis spent six years as a TA, where she had the opportunity to lead and teach the younger dance students. Alexis also spent four years dancing with her high school dance company, Auroris, where she took on the role of dancer, choreographer, and captain. Since joining the Dance at Illinois community, Alexis has been part of works by Anna Sapozhnikov and Juliann Craft. Alexis is so excited for her Studio Dance debut and expresses so much gratitude to her prior dance educators, her friends, and her amazing family.

e g condon (Dancer) (they/them) is an interdisciplinary artist and researcher currently based in Illinois. They are currently a first-year MFA candidate in Dance at UIUC. They hold a BFA in Fine Arts and a BA in Dance from The New School. Their artwork and choreography have been presented throughout NYC and in print, and their BFA thesis was selected by Dean Anne Gaines to represent the Fine Arts department's 2018 graduates. They have had the pleasure of working in support of, among others, Ralph Lemon, Neil Greenberg, Yoshiko Chuma, Jennifer Monson/iLAND, Beth Gill, Michelle Boulé, Elizabeth Kendall, and Visual AIDS.

Juliann Craft (Dancer) is a fourth-year undergraduate student set to graduate in May 2024 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in dance from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She is a passionate dancer and creator with a background in competitive dance around the

Chicagoland area. Since beginning her higher education with Dance at Illinois, she has found a niche within modern and contemporary dance styles and the holistic conditioning practice of Pilates. Juliann has danced in works by Bevara Anderson, Tere O'Connor, Sarah Marks Mininsohn, Ty Lewis, Paige Cunningham Caldarella, Martha Graham (staged by Elizabeth Auclair and Miki Orihara), and Anna Peretz Rogovoy. In addition to mainstage performances, she has participated in past fourth-year undergraduate students' theses works and graduate process projects. She has attended intensives at Steps on Broadway in New York City in addition to the Cunningham Intensive hosted by Dance at Illinois this past summer and FLOCK's Winter Intensive in Chicago. Juliann aspires to have a long career in performance, choreography, and pedagogy.

Lisa Gaye Dixon (Dancer) professor of theatre, professor of dance, member of the acting faculty, resident director, and producer for Illinois Theatre, has worked professionally across the country and around the globe. She began her professional career with Steppenwolf Theatre Company in Chicago, and has been seen on the stages of the Royal Shakespeare Company and the New Globe Theatre in London, and regionally at the Attic Theatre, Performance Network, Lost Nation Theatre, The Kitchen Theatre, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Milwaukee Shakespeare, and The Goodman Theatre of Chicago. She has done film work as actor, acting coach, and AD. At the University of Illinois, Lisa has directed several successful productions for the Department of Theatre, all dealing with a range of social and political issues, and all addressing the common threads of humanity, and the universality of experiences across racial, cultural, class, economic, sex, and gender lines, all while 'keeping the passion' and 'finding the funny.'

Erin Fabian (Dancer) is a sophomore undergraduate at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign pursuing her Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance. Originally a resident of Park Ridge, she has had previous experience as a dancer and co-choreographer at Ascension Dance Company, the Maine South Hawkettes dance team, and American Dance Training Camps. Since coming to U of I, she has embarked on a journey of creativity and passion through expanding her pedagogy and has had the opportunity to perform under works choreographed by Alfonso Cervera, Dr. Kemal Nance, Jade Katch, Anna Sapoznikov, Alexandra Barbier, and more. Working predominantly in high kick dance, musical theatre, jazz, and hip-hop, her goals set within the reach of Broadway and screen dance for the future. Erin would like to thank her friends, family, and Ms. Lori Buckley for inspiring her to continue diving into the world of performing arts.

Gabriel Gonzalez (Dancer) Gabriel is a recent Fulbright English Teaching Fellow and graduate of Beloit College. He is originally from Pleasanton, California and is in his second year as a MFA candidate in dance at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He is a member of the second iteration of the HRI Interseminars Fellowship and is a Dance Church teacher at Urbana Dance Company. His video and performance works have premiered at the Elgin Fringe Festival, ACDA, the Queerly Contemporary Festival, CounterPulse SF, This Body Lives, and the Chicago Cultural Center. His writing and photography have appeared in *Teen Vogue*, *Hello Giggles*, and *The loveDANEmore Performance Journal*. He has worked with artists including Deke Weaver, Jennifer Allen, Jennifer Monson, Jess Pretty, Estrellx Supernova, Katlin Michael Bourgeois, Ching-I Chang, Chris Johnson, Gina T'ai, and others.

Madison Harley (Dancer) is a first-year student working towards earning her Bachelor of Fine Arts At the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Madison was born here in Illinois. She was raised in the south suburbs of Chicago, the Homewood-Flossmoor area. She has training in several different dance genres, including jazz, hip-hop, lyrical, ballet, contemporary, modern, African, house, and pom. She started her dance training at iDance Chicago, a program established on the southside of Chicago, and later she continued her training at American Dance Center. At Homewood-Flossmoor High School, she was on the varsity dance team all four years and made co-captain her senior year. She also has experience in musical theatre and she was dance captain her junior and senior year for each musical she participated in. Madison decided to attend the University of Illinois because she wanted to be a part of the Dance at Illinois family and continue her education. Her overall goal is to continue to improve as a person and performer. She is excited to see what the future brings.

Yuno Kimura (Dancer) was born and raised in Tokyo, Japan, where she started her ballet training at age two. She trained at The Tokyo Ballet and trained there until she moved to Chicago at the age of 10. She trained at the Faubourg School of Ballet, where she studied ballet and contemporary. Prior to university, Yuno danced with the Joffrey and Moscow ballets, performed in the Chicago Thanksgiving Parade, and did some modeling works for dance stores. She trained ballet professionally at A&A Ballet, where she received YAGP 1st place in Group Contemporary piece and performed "The Art Deco Nutcracker" for three years. Currently, Yuno is an undergraduate at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign studying for a BFA in dance as a junior. At the university, she performed

Martha Graham's *Steps in the Street* in 2023; danced her first 42 minutes solo/duet piece, *Frame of Reference*, choreographed by Elliot Emadian in 2024; and was an understudy for *poem* by Tere O'Connor. She also performed in other works choreographed by Jakki Kalogridis, Nawal Assougdam, Kennedy Cowan, and Juliann Craft. This year, she will be performing pieces by Landon Allender, Kennedy Wilson, and Tessa Olson.

Ty'esha Lewis (Ty) (Dancer) is a dance/movement artist, choreographer, teacher, scholar, and activist. She was born and raised in Houston, Texas, where her love for dance and the arts began. Ty received her BFA in dance from Sam Houston State University in 2015, and her MFA in dance from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 2023. She has trained in a variety of dance forms from modern, contemporary, and ballet to jazz, improvisation, street, and community dance forms, both nationally and internationally. She also has a background in somatic studies such as Pilates, yoga, and Alexander technique. Ty has taught dance/movement for 12 years and strives to cultivate spaces for her students to utilize dance as a form of expression, physical engagement, and meaning-making. In her choreographic research, she utilizes movement as a tool for developing spaces for immersive experiences, interdisciplinary collaborations, and understanding human behavior. As Ty continues to expand on her training and studies she maintains a feminist perspective, that is open to the diverse understanding of dance, movement, the arts, and life.

Anna Lillig (Dancer) is a junior at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign pursuing a BFA in dance with a minor in business. She was born in Houston, Texas, but spent much of her

childhood training in Calgary, Canada; Brisbane, Australia; and Sugar Land, Texas. Prior to Dance at Illinois, Anna was a principal dancer in the pre-professional company BalletForte and presented as an emerging choreographer at RDA Southwest's festival in 2020 and 2021. Anna serves as the president of the DAI student board, is a dance department intern, and is a teaching assistant for Dance Documentation (DANC 330). On top of several student works, Anna has been featured in main stage performances choreographed by Nawal Assougdam, Laura Chiamonte, Jaymes Crowder-Acres, Martha Graham, Jakki Kalogridis, Dr. Kemal Nance, and Anna Sapozhnikov. During her time at DAI, Anna has received the Jan Erkert Leadership Award, the Dance Partner Undergraduate Project Award, and Talented Student Tuition Awards.

Sojung Lim (Dancer) is a choreographer and dancer from South Korea. She is currently a third-year MFA candidate in dance at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She earned her BA in dance from the University of Washington. Sojung also explored theatre production and creative writing at Birkbeck College, University of London. Throughout her diverse dance journey, living in multiple places, Sojung's ongoing research investigates her Korean identity in contemporary dance. Sojung presented her choreographies: *Chronic Translation* (MFA Dance Thesis Project) at the Dance at Illinois February Dance 2024, *Do We Have Home?* at the Seattle International Dance Festival 2020, and *Two Chairs* at the American College Dance Association 2023 (informal). She has been involved in Martha Graham's historical work, *Steps in the Street*, 1936 (from Chronicle, 2023), S45 with Merce Cunningham's iconic work, *Suite for Five* 1956 (2023), "Residency Cunningham Centennial Celebration" (Seattle, 2019), and the Migra project with Kamchatka Theatre, Spain (Seoul, 2015), etc. Sojung has

worked with Paige Cunningham Caldarella, Tere O'Connor, Elizabeth Auclair, Miki Orihara, Alfonso Cervera, Donald Byrd, Rachel Lincoln, John Toenjes, Jo Blake, Laura Peterson, and Junhee Park.

Tessa Olson (Dancer) (she/they) is a junior at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign working toward her BFA in dance. While here, she has performed in works by Jakki Kalogridis, John Toenjes, and Martha Graham, as well as numerous undergraduate thesis works. They worked prominently with faculty members Sara Hook, Roxane D'Orléans Juste, Dr. Kemal Nance, and Alexandra Barbier. Tessa completed the Choreolab and Dance360 intensives with DanceWorks Chicago, the Hubbard Street CREATE Intensive, and held a work study position at Visceral Dance Center. Through those opportunities, they worked with choreographers Juel D. Lane, Hanna Bricton, Morgan Clune, and Joseph Hernandez. Tessa is also an avid choreographer and has premiered five works while at the U of I. They plan to pursue a dance and choreography career in Chicago after graduating.

Olivia Papa (Dancer) is a junior at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign pursuing her Bachelor of Arts in dance as well as a minor in business. Before Dance at Illinois, Olivia trained under the direction of Ricky Ruiz, Sherry Moray, and Irina Starovoitova at the Academy of Dance Arts in Warrenville, Illinois. Since pursuing a higher dance education, she has performed in works by Jakki Kalogridis and Abby Williams Chin, as well as numerous undergraduate thesis works. She has furthered her education in numerous dance styles and hopes to have a career in the dance wellness field.

Avi Pellegrinetti (Dancer) is a sophomore at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

working toward their BFA in dance with a minor in integrated biology. Avi grew up in Buffalo, New York and has danced there for 13 years. During their time at Illinois, they have performed in works by Alfonso Cervera, Kemal Nance, Cynthia Oliver, Anna Peretz Rogovoy, Sojung Lim, and many undergraduate students, and studied at Turku University of Applied Sciences. They have worked with Chautauqua Dance Company, Jacob Jonas the Company, and LIV Dance. After graduating, they plan to pursue a career in dance and choreography. They would like to thank their family and friends for always cheering them on.

Gabriella Quaresima (Dancer) is a first-year student at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign pursuing a degree in dance with a minor in kinesiology. Gabriella received prior dance education at Revolution dance company and The Difference Dance company. She was fortunate enough to be able to dance for artist and choreographer Melissa Lobes during her last year of high school. Along with dancing for a studio Gabriella was also a varsity dancer at Plainfield Central high school and was president of her Orchestris program. In her future, Gabriella wants to become a dance therapist and also choreograph and set pieces. She wants to thank her family, friends and dance teacher Kimberly Sullivan for all of their love and support.

Cheyenne Smith (Dancer) is a first-year student studying for a BFA at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and also hoping to pursue a dual degree in media. From Joliet, Illinois, her dance education and training mostly comes from Generation Dance Company, where she was taught techniques from ballet, jazz, modern, contemporary, tap, hip-hop, etc. Throughout her high school career, she has participated in the Deeply Rooted Dance Theater Summer Intensive in 2021 and has also performed in Wisconsin on a trip for a summer intensive with

her dance instructor Roxiana Fuqua-Evans (BFA 1994, Dance at Illinois) and the advanced class in 2022. She would like to thank God firstly for the opportunities given to her and her family that has supported her through everything! She is excited for her journey at DAI.

Ari Warner (Dancer) is an aspiring actor in pursuit of her Bachelor of Fine Arts in acting at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Ari has performed in the years prior in high school productions of plays and musicals while attending Lindblom Math and Science Academy highschool in Chicago. Ari is relatively new to acting on campus, but has performed in a staged reading and plans to explore other forms of theatre through film, on-stage performances, and other forms of artistry. Ari has goals of creating more diverse spaces for black people and women in particular to thrive in spaces that weren't traditionally built to support them. They wish to embody empowerment, authenticity, and love in their future work as an actor.

James Baker (Composer) is Principal Percussionist of the New York City Ballet Orchestra. He is Music Director and Conductor of the Composers Conference at Wellesley College and Director of the Percussion Ensemble at the Mannes College of Music. Mr. Baker was the Conductor of the New York New Music Ensemble and is Conductor of the Talea Ensemble. An active composer of electro-acoustic music, he has written extensively for the theater and for various ensembles with electronics and has written many pieces for longtime collaborator/choreographer Tere O'Connor. Recent commissions together include the Opera Ballet de Lyon, BAM Next Wave, The Dublin Dance Festival, and the Abbey Theater in Dublin. Mr. Baker won a Bessie award for his composition for O'Connor's *Heaven Up North*. He also received the 2023 Ditson

Conductor's Award for the advancement of American music, from Columbia University.

Laura Chiaramonte (Dance Media Coordinator) is a choreographer, videographer, performer, and educator who has worked professionally in the dance field throughout the United States and abroad for the past twenty-seven years. Her movement research lies within the intersections of dance somatics and interdisciplinary art forms, synthesizing sound, moving images, design, and technology into performance. Laura is currently an Assistant Teaching Professor of dance, Dance Media Coordinator, and Archivist at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Department of Dance; Head of Video Documentation for the Bates Dance Festival; and Director and Curator of the Flatlands Dance Film Festival, dedicated to supporting and presenting the art of dance cinema.

Elliot Reza Emadian (Assistant Dance Media Coordinator) is a gender-nonconforming interdisciplinary artist, teacher, and scholar. Their work occurs in the intersection of dance and choreography, video art and editing, sound and music, light and photography, and popular culture. Elliot has presented their choreographic work at venues including the Ailey Citigroup Theater and Abrons Arts Center in Manhattan, the Center for Performance Research and Triskelion Center for the Arts in Brooklyn, and the Boston Center for the Arts. Elliot was also a 2021 Co-MISSION Artist in Residence at Links Hall in Chicago. Their current long-term project, Open-Source Choreography, is a highly collaborative endeavor that fuses personal, cultural, and historical information into interconnected, independent works: visualizing a web of humanity via the choreographic. Elliot holds a Bachelor of Science in mathematics from Washington and Lee University and a Master of Fine Arts in dance

from the University of Illinois. More information at elliotreza.com

Elijah Miller (Sound Designer) is currently a junior studying sound design and technology at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. His credits include audio engineer for Illinois Theatre's *Rent* (fall 2023) and *Studiosdance 2023* (spring 2023), as well as assistant audio engineer for Lyric Theatre's *Under the Stars* at Allerton.

Silas Riener (Rehearsal Assistant) is a New York-based choreographer, dancer, educator, and writer. His work is a collision of games, formal dance training, improvisation, athletic sports, and building and construction. He creates collaborative works with his partner Rashaun Mitchell which have been curated at the Invisible Dog Art Center, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's River to River Festival, Danspace Project, the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry, the Serpentine Pavilion, the Chocolate Factory Theater, and the Whitney Museum of American Art, among multiple other venues. He danced in the Merce Cunningham Dance Company and received a 2012 Bessie Award for his solo in Cunningham's *Split Sides*. He has worked with Tere O'Connor, Rebecca Lazier, Wally Cardona, Jennifer Lacey, Joanna Kotze, and many others.

Amanda E. Rokosz (Stage Manager) is currently a junior at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign pursuing her BFA in stage management. She is both incredibly grateful and excited to be co-stage managing *Studiosdance* this spring! Some of her previous stage management credits include *The Birds of North America* (SM) with Illinois Theatre as well as *Solace* (SM) and *October Dance* (Calling SM) with Dance at Illinois. Outside of theatre, she is also an active member of the University of

Illinois' Philippine Student Association. Amanda is eternally thankful to her friends and family for their love and support throughout her stage management journey, as she would not be here without them. Maraming salamat at mahal kita!

Camron Stockley (Lighting Designer) is currently a sophomore pursuing a BFA in lighting design and technology at the University of Illinois. His Illinois Theatre credits include *The Royale* (Rail Operator), *The Realness* (Board Op/Programmer), *Solace-Senior Thesis Dance Concert* (Lighting Designer), and *Carnaval!* (Programmer/Board Op). Later this semester he will also be involved in *Fugitive Songs* as the head electrician. Originally, lighting design was just an "after school activity" at Plainfield North High School for Camron, but it soon turned into his passion, and he has gained experience from high school as a technical director, lighting designer, programmer and board op. He has been passionate about lighting design and technology since 2019 and is excited to continue to build new skills, learn new things, and enjoy new experiences at U of I. He also would like to thank his girlfriend, his family, and the lighting team at U of I for always supporting him.

Nicholas J. Taboni (Media Designer) is pursuing his MFA in scenic design at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He attended the University at Buffalo, where he earned a Doctor of Physical Therapy, DPT, as well as a BS in exercise science, and a BA in theatre. Nicholas has an extensive design portfolio both from the University at Buffalo and in professional theatres throughout the Buffalo area. He has designed across many disciplines including scenic design and media design. He has also engaged in site specific and immersive works throughout Buffalo. To see more of his work, visit nicholasjtaboni.com.

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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. 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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Our No Debt for Dancers campaign strives to eliminate college debt and eradicate the notion of the "starving artist" by raising funds for alumni projects, summer study, and tuition scholarships.

We hope you will join us in our mission to cultivate imaginative, innovative, and sustainable artistic lives.

Contributions to Dance at Illinois can be made by visiting dance.illinois.edu/about/support/give-to-dance, or by check payable to University of Illinois Foundation/Department of Dance and sent to: University of Illinois Foundation, P.O. Box 734500, Chicago, IL 60673-4500"

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We work to create the best possible setting for the experiences you seek and find here.

NECESSARIES

Restrooms are located in the foyers of Foellinger Great Hall, Tryon Festival Theatre, and Colwell Playhouse; the east entrances on the Lobby level; and in each elevator lobby on Level 1 and Level 3. Lobby restrooms and one restroom in each elevator lobby are fully accessible and contain baby-changing stations.

Ushers will be happy to provide you cough drops courtesy of St. Joseph Apothecary, or disposable foam earplugs if the place starts rockin'.

If you or a companion needs medical assistance, contact an usher or other staff member.

Please take a moment before the performance to note the theatre exits nearest to you. If it becomes necessary to evacuate the theatre, please remain calm, follow the instructions of the house staff, and exit in an orderly fashion to the appropriate safe meeting location, which will be announced to you.

PHONES AND DEVICES

The use of cell phones, cameras, and recording devices during performances is prohibited unless otherwise announced from the stage.

LATE ARRIVALS

As a courtesy to performers and audience members, latecomers will be seated only at times selected in advance by the artist. Should you find that you've arrived late to a performance, our Patron Services staff will keep you informed about the earliest seating opportunity.

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If you are in need of Lost and Found, please visit the Patron Services counter. We will do our best to reunite object and owner!

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If you find you can't attend a performance, please contact the Ticket Office in advance, preferably by 6pm the day before the performance (kran-tix@illinois.edu). We never charge a handling fee on ticket transactions.

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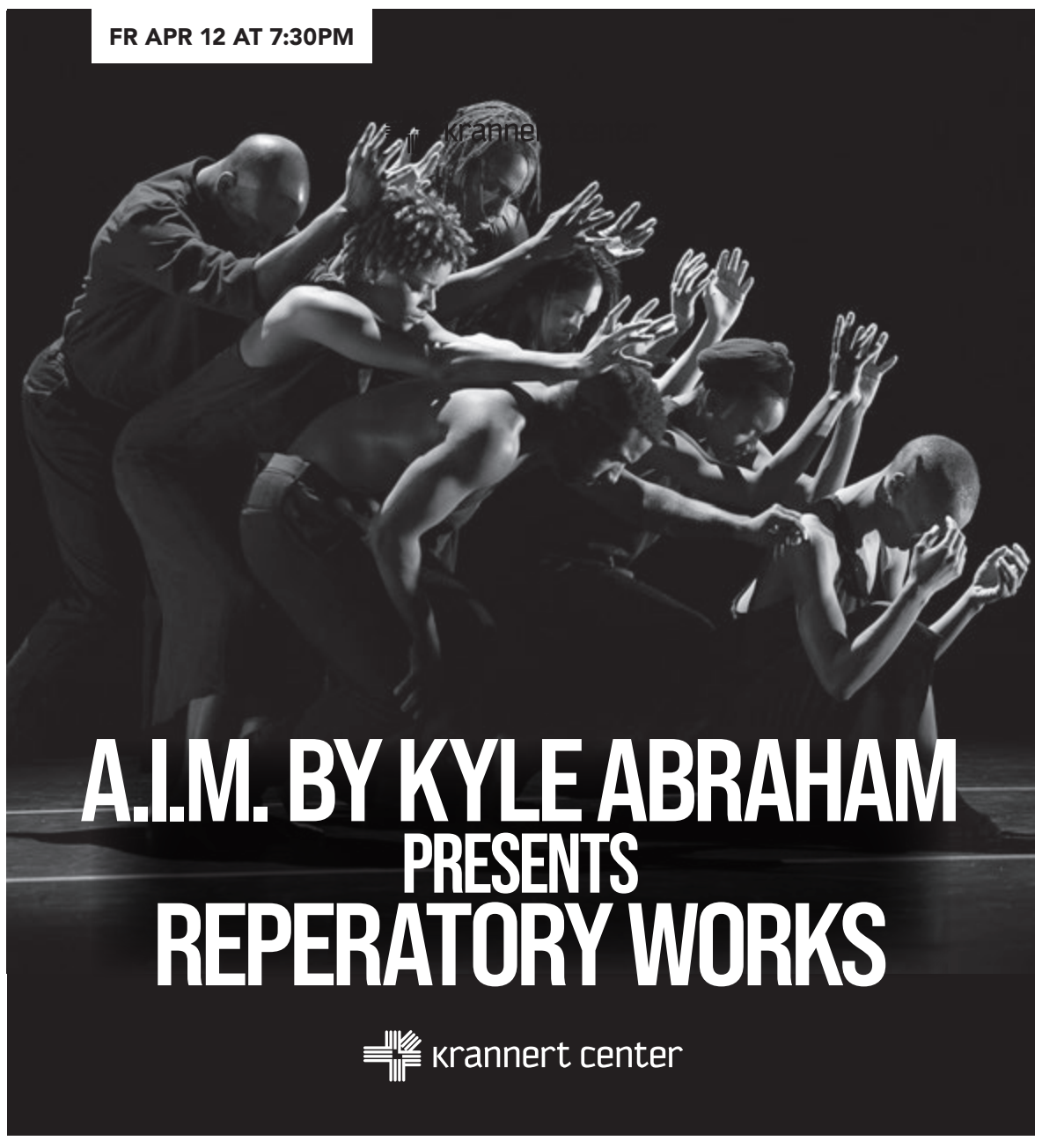
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