

DANCE GALA IN MOTION



THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA DEPARTMENT OF DANCE
DANCE GALA 2019



UI DANCE 2019-2020 SEASON

COLLABORATIVE PERFORMANCE • DEC 5-7

GRAD/UNDERGRAD CONCERT • DEC 11-14

FACULTY/GRAD CONCERT • FEB 12-15

DANCERS IN COMPANY • FEB 26-29

THESIS I CONCERT • MAR 11-13

THESIS II CONCERT • APR 1-3

MFA EVENT • APR 13-14

BFA CONCERT • APR 22-25

UNDERGRADUATE EVENT • MAY 1-2

UI YOUTH BALLET SPRING CONCERT • MAY 8-10

CONCERT DETAILS AVAILABLE AT ARTS.UIOWA.EDU.

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA DEPARTMENT OF DANCE

DANCE GALA 2019 IN MOTION

**NOVEMBER 15 & 16 AT 8:00 P.M.
HANCHER AUDITORIUM**

The University of Iowa Division of Performing Arts playbills are a publication of the Division of Performing Arts (DPA) at the University of Iowa. Established in July 2000, the DPA includes the Department of Dance, Department of Theatre Arts, the UI School of Music, and the Performing Arts Production Unit.

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The Division of Performing Arts is part of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at the University of Iowa.

This production would not have been possible without the support of the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, and the Division of Performing Arts.

Please remember to turn off all cell phones and pagers before entering the auditorium. Photographing, videotaping, or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Cover photo by Miranda Meyer.

This performance will use theatrical haze and strobe lighting effects.

**IOWACITY
Press-Citizen**

Iowa City Press-Citizen is the proud media sponsor of Dance Gala 2019.

WELCOME TO DANCE GALA 2019!

A warm welcome to all of you!

Thank you for joining us for the 38th Annual Dance Gala, IN MOTION 2019, a celebration of our diverse community of choreographers, designers, composers, musicians, and students of dance.

The performing arts are an expression of our common humanity. This a time calling for interaction and collaboration among the arts, and our dance embraces this call. It has been my privilege and honor to serve as director of this amazing collective effort. Your attendance brings this effort full circle, helping to sustain and stimulate the arts for the university and local community.

Our guest artist for this evening is the Urban Bush Women dance company. Tonight we will present a work from their repertory entitled *Women's Resistance*, an excerpt from *Les écailles de la mémoire (The Scales of Memory)*, choreographed by Jawole Willa Jo Zollar and Germaine Acogny. This work advocates for the empowerment of women against injustices worldwide.

The program also includes four premieres and a re-staged work by our talented dance faculty and represents collaborations among choreographers, dancers, a digital designer, and composers. The works presented tonight feature original scores by composer Modei Akyea, Pieta Brown, Jean-François Charles, Branden Hanks, Joseph Norman, and Eben Seaman, and a live performance by the UI School of Music Laptop Orchestra, under the direction of Jean-François Charles.

I wish to express my gratitude to Rebekah Kowal, Chair of the Department of Dance, the dance faculty, and the production team led by Rick Loula. Many thanks to our artistic collaborators, Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer, Laurel Shoemaker, Cindy Kubu, Juliana Waechter, and our crew, Briana Maxwell, Kristi Clarida, Rachel Duncan, Josh Nathanson, Craig Kelchen, Don Ladd, and Kristan Hellige. Finally, many thanks to our 50 dancers for their commitment, professionalism and talent.

It is with a great pride that I salute the dancers, choreographers, designers, production staff, and especially you, our audience members, for making Dance Gala – IN MOTION a memorable experience.

Enjoy!

Eloy Barragán
Artistic Director, Dance Gala 2019

DANCE GALA 2019 ARTISTIC TEAM

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Eloy Barragán

GUEST CHOREOGRAPHERS

Urban Bush Women

FACULTY CHOREOGRAPHERS

Eloy Barragán

Armando Duarte

Jennifer Kayle

Kristin Marrs

Christopher-Rasheem McMillan

FACULTY DIGITAL MEDIA DESIGNER

Daniel Fine

COMPOSERS

Modei Akyea

Pieta Brown

Jean-François Charles

Branden Hanks

Joseph Norman

Eben Seaman

URBAN BUSH WOMEN REHEARSAL DIRECTOR

Alex Bush

COSTUME DESIGNERS

Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer

Juliana Waechter

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Laurel Shoemaker

ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGNER

Jeff Crone

MEDIA DESIGN ASSISTANTS

Nicholas Coso

Travis Kelley

Kate Vincek

STAGE MANAGER

Briana Maxwell*

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Mariana Tejeda

PRODUCTION AND DEPARTMENT OF DANCE STAFF

Department of Dance Chair.....Rebekah Kowal
Dance Faculty.....Jim Albert, Gabriel Anderson,
Eloy Barragán, George de la Peña,
Armando Duarte, Daniel Fine,
Jennifer Kayle, Rebekah Kowal,
Kristin Marrs, Christopher-Rasheem McMillan,
Stephanie Miracle, Melinda Jean Myers,
Tony Orrico, Amy Simonson
Production Director.....Richard Loula
Technical Director.....Don Ladd
Assistant to the Production Director.....Kristi Clarida
Director of Dance Production.....Armando Duarte
Production Stage Manager.....Briana Maxwell*
Costume Shop Manager.....Cindy Kubu
Costume Tailor.....Joyce McKinley
Dance Wardrobe Assistant.....Juliana Waechter
Costume Construction.....Sierra Sproston, Juliana Waechter,
Andrea Wright, Fiona Zachel
Props Master.....Craig Kelchen
Electrics Supervisor.....Josh Nathanson
Audio/Video Supervisor.....Rachel Duncan
Scenery Supervisor.....Mike Nolte
Production Assistants, Carpentry.....Dominique Coleman,
Richard Stockton, Timothy Sullivan
Academic Coordinator.....Molly Dahlberg
Dance Videographers.....Sammi Shane, Maddie Helm
Dance Audio Engineer.....Ramin Roshandel
Space Place Production Assistants.....Ben Elliot,
Zoe Olson, Ella Wake
Marketing Specialist.....Kristan Hellige

Labor supplied by IATSE Local 690.

PROGRAM

This performance will use theatrical haze and strobe lighting effects.

(dis)APPEAR(d)ances

Choreographer: Jennifer Kayle, with thanks to the cast for collaborative movement development
Digital Media Designer: Daniel Fine
Costume Designer: Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer
Lighting Designer: Laurel Shoemaker
Assistant Choreographer & Digital Media Designer: Kate Vincek
Assistant Digital Media Designer: Nicholas Coso
Assistant System Designer: Travis Kelley
Music: Original music by:
Joseph Norman, electric guitar
Jonathan Wilson, tenor saxophone & analog synthesizer
Jean-François Charles, live electronics
Dancers: Erin Evans, Emily Gumal, Michael Landez,
Juliet Remmers, Alyssa Simpson, Sarah Skilling,
Anna Wetoska

Everything you see and hear in this work (except one thing, cause nothing is ever everything) is made in real-time. Right now. This moment. Here. (with you) But where is here? And when is now? What is before? Where is after? Why is . . .

The Reaping 6.7

Choreographer: Christopher-Rasheem McMillian, in deep collaboration with the dancers
Costume Designer: Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer
Lighting Designer: Laurel Shoemaker
Music: *Halloween*, John Carpenter
Hymn of the Cherubim, Tchaikovsky
Moonlight sonata remix trap house, Carlitoz (radiumum)
Dancers: Grace Anderson, Emily Buttolph, Laren Chang,
Leigh Durian, Hunter Glenn, Mariko Ishikawa,
Elizabeth Krebs, Katelynn Malmstedt, Allie Recht,
Carson Simpson, Lauren Wood

Special thanks to Lauren Wood who has danced in every work I have made, since my tenure began.

PROGRAM

Dream the Wall Away

Choreographer: Eloy Barragán, in collaboration with the dancers
Costume Designer: Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer
Lighting Designer: Laurel Shoemaker
Music: Original score composed by Pieta Brown, Brendan Hanks, Modei Akyea, Eben Seaman

Dancers: Tatum Beynon, Bennett Cullen, Kristen Lowe, Sarah McCluskey, Maggie O’Gorman, Corbin Phillips, Catherine Short, Mia Spitzer, Haley Stevens, Emily Trapnell, Andi Wahl

Special thanks to Pieta Brown, Brendan Hanks, Modei Akyea, Eben Seaman, for allowing me to learn about the creative process for music composition, and for the incredible amount of time invested to truly do a collaboration, I will be forever grateful. To my dancers for helping me in the process of work, commitment, investment, and input in the work.

-- INTERMISSION --

Struggle for Pleasure

"In our world, how do our inner feelings intervene in our need for connection? Finding ourselves among the collective in our journey to seek intimacy."

Choreographer: Armando Duarte, in collaboration with the dancers
Costume Designer: Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer
Lighting Designer: Laurel Shoemaker
Music: Original music composition by Joseph Norman (*Excrescence*); live performance with the LOUi, Laptop Orchestra at the University of Iowa under the musical direction of Jean-François Charles

Musicians: LIGAMENT:
Anika Kildegaard, voice and Will Yager, double bass LOUi, Laptop Orchestra at the University of Iowa;
Vahid Jahandari, electric violin; Ramin Roshandel, setar;
Abi Whitford, double bass; Anshuman Sahu, live electronics; Joseph Norman, live electronics;
Jean-François Charles, musical direction

Dancers: Tatum Beynon, Isabella Buscaglia, Danica Clayton, Bennett Cullen, Hunter Glenn, Brooke Lilienthal, Corbin Phillips, Jensen Steinbronn, Andi Wahl, Molly Watt

Struggle for Pleasure is an abstract reflection on intimacy. This work wouldn't be possible without the contribution of many: a talented cast for which the participation in this process was an inspiration to reach beyond; composer Joe Norman, Professor Jean-François and musicians; an amazing production team; and Tatum Beynon and Bennett Cullen for all additional assistance throughout the creative process. My immense gratitude to you all.

PROGRAM

Out of the Depths

Choreographer: Kristin Marrs
Costume Designer: Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer
Lighting Designer: Laurel Shoemaker
Music: Alban Berg

Dancers: Kara Bouck, Julia Cooper, Bethany Sullivan

*I envy the lot of the most common animal
Which can plunge into the dizziness of a senseless sleep...
-Baudelaire (trans. Green)*

Women's Resistance excerpt from Les écailles de la mémoire (The Scales of Memory) (2008)

Choreographers: Jawole Willa Jo Zollar and Germaine Acogny, in collaboration with the original cast
Costume Designer: Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer, after original design by Naoko Nagata
Lighting Designer: Laurel Shoemaker, after original design by J. Russell Sandifer

Urban Bush Women
BOLD Facilitators
and Re-stagers: Keisha Turner and Maria Bauman-Morales
Rehearsal Director: Alex Bush
Music: Fabrice Bouillon-Laforest, composition, mixing and keyboards, berimbau, percussion and vocals

Dancers: Mariko Ishikawa, Brooke Lilienthal, Katelynn Malmstedt, Catherine Short, Mia Spitzer, Bethany Sullivan, Anna Wetoska
Understudy: Hunter Glenn

BIOGRAPHIES



URBAN BUSH WOMEN

Guest Artist

Urban Bush Women (UBW) burst onto the dance scene in 1984, with bold, innovative, demanding and exciting works that brought under-told stories to life through the art and vision of its award-winning founder Jawole Willa Jo Zollar. The company weaves contemporary dance, music, and text with

the history, culture, and spiritual traditions of the African Diaspora.

Under Zollar's artistic direction, Urban Bush Women performs regularly in New York City and tours nationally and internationally. The Company has been commissioned by presenters nationwide, and includes among its honors a New York Dance and Performance Award ("Bessie"); the Capezio Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dance; a Black Theater Alliance Award; and two Doris Duke Awards for New Work from the American Dance Festival. In recent years, Zollar has been awarded the 2014 Southern Methodist University Meadows Prize, the 2015 Dance Magazine Award and the 2016 Dance/USA Honors Award. In 2017, Zollar received a Bessie Award for Lifetime Achievement in Dance.

Off the concert stage, Urban Bush Women has developed an extensive community engagement program called BOLD (Builders, Organizers, & Leaders through Dance). UBW's largest community engagement project is its Summer Leadership Institute (SLI), established in 1997. This 10-day intensive training program serves as the foundation for all of the company's community engagement activities. Ultimately the SLI program connects dance professionals and community-based artists/activists in a learning experience to leverage the arts as a vehicle for civic engagement.

UBW launched the Urban Bush Women Choreographic Center Initiative (CCI) in January 2016. The CCI supports the development of women choreographers of color and other underheard voices.



MARIA BAUMAN-MORALES

Urban Bush Woman BOLD Facilitator and Re-stager

Maria Bauman-Morales is a Brooklyn-based dance artist and community organizer from Florida. She created her company MBDance (www.mbdance.net) to create honest and bold art from a sense of physical and emotional power, an insistence on equity, and a fascination with intimacy. She draws on her long study

of capoeira, improvisation, dancing in living rooms and nightclubs, as well

BIOGRAPHIES

as concert dance classes to embody interconnectedness, joy, and tenacity. Bauman brings some of those same tenets to undoing racism in the arts and beyond with ACRE (Artists Co-creating Real Equity), the grassroots community organizing body she co-founded six years ago with Sarita Covington and Nathan Trice.

Bauman-Morales's art is celebrated both formally and informally. She won a 2017 Bessie Award for Outstanding Performance with Skeleton Architecture. She was an Artist in Residence at Brooklyn Arts Exchange from 2017 to 2019 and was also 2017 Community Action in Residence at Gibney Dance. She is currently one of five national Fellows with the Urban Bush Women Choreographic Center Initiative, as well as being a 2019-20 Gibney Dance in Process resident artist. Bauman-Morales is also a mentor with Queer I Art. Some of the best recognition she has gotten is from teenagers in New Haven's Black and Brown Queer Camp who, upon seeing her dance exclaimed "Oooooooooo! She baaaad!"



KEISHA TURNER

Urban Bush Woman BOLD Facilitator and Re-stager

Performer, choreographer, yoga instructor, and root woman, Keisha Turner, has Chicago and Brooklyn roots, and is based in Oakland, CA. Her performance work activates ancient Afro-diasporic cultural wisdom and reimagines them in a

contemporary context to conjure radical liberation. In her art-making practice, Keisha is dedicated to creating art that draws upon the power of performers and witnesses alike to effect substantial, tangible and intangible positive change- for the lives of Black people, womxn, and the planet.

Turner is a former touring company member with critically acclaimed dance company, Urban Bush Women and currently partners with the company as a BOLD (Builders, Organizers, and Leaders through Dance) Facilitator. She currently performs with Deep Waters Dance Theater's House/Full of Blackwomen, Embodiment Project and Afro-Urban Society. She has appeared in productions with Chicago Dance Crash, Mendi + Keith Obadike, ABD Productions, and many others. Her creative enterprise, EarthChild, is a collection of love-offerings comprised of performance, yoga sessions, and body care products designed to celebrate, nurture, and center those on the frontlines. www.iamearthchild.com

BIOGRAPHIES



ELOY BARRAGÁN
Gala 2019 Artistic Director and Faculty
Choreographer

Associate Professor of Dance; MFA Hollins University, choreographer, filmmaker, Founder-Director: International Iowa ScreenDance Festival, Co-Director: Iowa Dance Festival. National Endowment for the Arts and the Boise Arts Council choreographer fellow, Idaho Commission of the Arts, Lifetime Career Fellow, 2018 Iowa Arts Council Artist Grant recipient. Films presented in Mexico, US, Stockholm, and Cuba. His choreography has been presented in USA, México,

Finland, France, Panamá, China, and Russia. Danced in Belgium, Germany, Mexico, and USA.



ALEX BUSH
Urban Bush Women Rehearsal Director

Alex Bush first worked with Urban Bush Women in 2003 at their Summer Institute in her hometown of Flint, Michigan. She earned a BFA in dance from Florida State University, where she studied with Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, and she holds an MFA in dance from the University of Iowa. She is an active dance artist in addition to serving on the faculty/staff of the UI Department of Dance. She is Associate Director of Dancers in Company.



ARMANDO DUARTE
Faculty Choreographer

Armando Duarte is a professor, contemporary choreographer, and researcher of Brazilian popular culture. He has an MFA degree in dance from NYU/TISCH and a BS degree in physical education from the University of São Paulo, Brazil. He has choreographed for companies in the US, Brazil, and other countries. His academic research involves an in-depth investigation on Samba and Carnival in Brazil, from which he created courses at Iowa and presents lectures and workshops at universities and conferences throughout the US and Brazil.

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DANIEL FINE
Faculty Digital Media Designer

Daniel Fine designs projections, digital art, and systems for dance, theatre, music, and interactive installations. By combining the simple, traditional forms of storytelling with that of digital media, he collaborates on large scale and intimate experiences in order to engage the imaginations and hearts of a twenty-first century audience. Daniel is an Assistant Professor of Digital Media in Performance, with a joint-appointment in dance and theatre arts at the University of Iowa. Discover more at danielfine.net.



JENNIFER KAYLE
Faculty Choreographer

Jennifer Kayle's "muscular presence" in performance (*Dance Source Houston*) should not be confused with mere appearance, which may or may not be "muscular" depending on the season. Her 57 choreographies shown nationally and internationally were seen by people who wrote down words like: "provocative, tight, with wit and stage craft," (*Vox Fringe*), "memorable and shockingly poignant," (*City Revealed*). Kayle's best, go-to move, is the one she makes to find extra smart collaborators, including clever artists like Dan Fine and Jean-François Charles.



KRISTIN MARRS
Faculty Choreographer

Kristin Marrs (MFA, M.AmSAT) performed as a company member of Columbus Dance Theatre, Ballet Quad Cities, Arova Contemporary Ballet, Opera Columbus, and Images (London). She continues performing as an independent artist. Choreographic works include *When Trees Say Nothing*, created in collaboration with paper/fiber artist Mary Merkel-Hess, and *Sonata for Anyone Who Cares to Listen*, performed by Dancers in Company.

BIOGRAPHIES



CHRISTOPHER-RASHEEM MCMILLAN
Faculty Choreographer

Christopher-Rasheem McMillan is a performance related artist and scholar. He has a joint appointment between Dance and Gender, Women's & Sexuality Studies at the University of Iowa. McMillan received his BA from Hampshire College, his MFA in Experimental Choreography from the Laban Conservatoire, London, and his PhD in Theology and Religious Studies from King's College, London.



MARGARET WENK-KUHLBAUER
Costume Designer

Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer is the scenery and costume designer for UI Division of Performing Arts Production Unit. Her recent designs for dance in collaboration with many UI faculty and guests include Dance Gala 2018 and Dancers in Company 2019 *Taking Ground*, as well as opera designs for *Così fan tutte*, *Little Women*, and *The Tragedy of Carmen*.



LAUREL SHOEMAKER
Lighting Designer

Laurel Shoemaker has been working in the performing arts as a lighting designer and theater artist for 30 years. Currently residing in Lincoln, Nebraska, she is a freelance designer and Associate Professor in Theatre Lighting for the University of Nebraska. Credits include productions with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Hubbard Street 2, the Chicago Dancing Festival, the Joyce Soho (with Charlotte Adams), the University of Iowa, and the University of Nebraska.

BRIANA MAXWELL
Stage Manager

Briana Maxwell is a member of the Actors' Equity Association. She is the Production Stage Manager for the Department of Dance and the Martha-Ellen Tye Opera at the University of Iowa. Her recent stage management credits include Dance Gala and *The Tragedy of Carmen* at Iowa, *Threepenny Opera* at Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre, *Ubu the King* at Williamstown Theatre Festival, and *Heartbreak House* at Montana Shakespeare in the Parks.

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DEPARTMENT OF DANCE
IS GOING PLACES**

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