

MFA Thesis Concert

Is This Funny To You?

By Kat J. Sullivan

*Sponsored by the Rose Vernick Fund and the
Temple University General Activities Fund*

Saturday, November 19, 2022 • 7:30 PM
Presented virtually through On The Stage

Program

Is This Funny To You?

Choreographer: Kat J. Sullivan

Dancers: Ella-Gabriel Mason, Kat J. Sullivan

Music: Alanna Quiton

Costumes: Francesca Martin

Video and Audio: Abigail Rodriguez, Eva Steinmetz

About the Artists

KAT J. SULLIVAN is a Philly-based dancer, choreographer, writer, editor, and photographer. She has performed in the work of artists such as Yael Bartana, Sean Thomas Boyt, and <fidget>, as well as her own choreographies. Kat teaches and performs improvisational alongside other dancers in the Philadelphia Compositional Improvisation Ensemble, with whom she curated and produced a festival called *Dissolving Doors* in 2019. In addition to her publishing and administrative work for thINKingDANCE, she has had the pleasure of photographing dance works for various artists including Tori Lawrence + Co. and the Leah Stein Dance Company. Kat is currently pursuing her MFA in Dance at Temple University.

FRANCESCA MARTIN is a local free-lance designer, stitcher, and social media manger/content creator. She's worked with numerous theatres in the community, including Philadelphia Theatre Company, The Wilma, The Lantern, and Walnut Street Theatre. When she's not working, she enjoys reading, singing karaoke, and spending time with her kitty Peach. She'd like to give a special thanks her super-hero-of-a-mom Stefania, Cory, Kat, and Abigail.

EVA STEINMETZ is a Philadelphia-based theater and film director, making new works that straddle the ordinary and extraordinary. Most notably she directed and co-wrote *The Appointment* with Lightning Rod Special (NY Times Critic's Pick; Time Out NY critics Pick; 6 Barrymore Nominations, including Best Director). Other collaborations include Pig Iron Theater Company, Team Sunshine Performance Corporation, The Polyphone Festival, Alexandra Tatarsky, Sarah Knittel, and Lily Kind. Eva was also a performer/creator in Josephine Decker's film, *Madeline's Madeline*. She is a graduate of Bard College and the Pig Iron School, and is pursuing an MFA in filmmaking from Temple University.

ALANNA QUITON has been film scoring for almost 10 years, having scored 2 feature films, one of which was a theatrical release, and countless short films. She graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Music Composition from FSU's College of Music and has received accolades in piano performance. She enjoys working with directors and putting passion to the page to create a beautifully curated score that complements the writing, editing, and cinematography of the piece. She also has a background in film production, script writing, cinematography, acting, and art direction, giving her a rounded insight of film and a perceptive knowledge of what music is needed to support the emotions of the characters and footage.

ELLA-GABRIEL MASON is an interdisciplinary artist, dancer, and bodyworker. They combine rigorous academic research with lived experience, words with dance, brain with body, living in the tension between ways of knowing and methods of being. They have been granted residencies at Future Tenant Gallery (PGH) and Pearlarts Studios (PGH), and their works have been presented at the New Hazlett Theater (PGH), Kelly-Strayhorn Theater (PGH), vox populi (PHL), wild project (NYC), WOW Café Theater (NYC), and BAAD! (NYC). Mason is currently a dance MFA candidate at Temple University.

Boyer College of Music and Dance

The Boyer College of Music and Dance offers over 500 events open to the public each year. Students have the unique opportunity to interact with leading performers, composers, conductors, educators, choreographers and guest artists while experiencing a challenging and diverse academic curriculum. The Boyer faculty are recognized globally as leaders in their respective fields. Boyer alumni are ambassadors of artistic leadership and perform with major orchestras, opera and dance companies, teach at schools and colleges and work as professional music therapists, choreographers and composers. Boyer's recording label, BCM&D records, has produced more than thirty recordings, five of which have received Grammy nominations.

boyer.temple.edu

The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts

The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts consists of the Boyer College of Music and Dance, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts, the George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater and the Temple Performing Arts Center. The School of Theater, Film and Media Arts engages gifted students with nationally and internationally recognized faculty scholars and professionals. A hallmark of the School of Theater, Film and Media Arts is the Los Angeles Study Away program, housed at historic Raleigh Studios. The George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater engages visiting performers, guest artists, set designers, playwrights and other Broadway professionals. The Temple Performing Arts Center (TPAC), a historic landmark on campus, is home to a state-of-the-art 1,200 seat auditorium and 200 seat chapel. More than 500 concerts, classes, lectures and performances take place at TPAC each year.

arts.temple.edu

Temple University

Temple University's history begins in 1884, when a young working man asked Russell Conwell if he could tutor him at night. It wasn't long before he was teaching several dozen students—working people who could only attend class at night but had a strong desire to make something of themselves. Conwell recruited volunteer faculty to participate in the burgeoning night school, and in 1888 he received a charter of incorporation for "The Temple College." His founding vision for the school was to provide superior educational opportunities for academically talented and highly motivated students, regardless of their backgrounds or means. The fledgling college continued to grow, adding programs and students throughout the following decades. Today, Temple's more than 35,000 students continue to follow the university's official motto—Perseverantia Vincit, or "Perseverance Conquers"—with their supreme dedication to excellence in academics, research, athletics, the arts and more.

temple.edu