MFA Thesis Concert

Vignettes

Featuring work by Nycole Nurse, Shiyu Wang and CJ Whitmire

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

Friday, March 17, 2023 • 7:30 PM
Also livestreamed at youtube.com/boyercollege
Saturday, March 18, 2023 • 7:30 PM
Conwell Dance Theater, 5th Floor
1801 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122
Program

**The Caribbean Barbie**
Choreographer: Nycole Nurse
Dancers: Nycole Nurse
Music: original audio score composed by Candacea Bey, Maleka Blaize, Nycole Nurse & Makayla Peterson
Music Editor: Nadia Urena
Costumes: Nycole Nurse
Lighting: Laurie Benoit
Video: Ella-Gabriel Mason

The body as a tool and subject focusing on moving hips and waistlines. An ode to the constant resistance towards reinforced negative perspectives and repression of the black female body.

**What’s Inherited? / Shedding Skin**
Choreographer: CJ Whitmire
Dancers: Venrick D James, Ella-Gabriel Mason, Liam Henry Boyd Shaffer, CJ Whitmire
Videographer: Ella-Gabriel Mason
Dancer (in video): Teo Nouve

We are molded by our lived experience.
The people around us shape us.
Our environment influences the body.
What remains when we leave our known place? Places of comfort.

| Intermission |
Inner Essence
Choreographer: Shiyu Wang
Dancers: Nadia Nurse, Mia Allison, Michaela Delaney, Claire Schlutt, Elizabeth Siani
Music: Manhuan Xu, Plastikman, Richie Hawtin, Thomas Brinkmann and Byetone
Music Editor: Linfeng Ji
Lighting: Laurie Benoit

It tells a story of self-discovery, from the way we move and feel to how we interact with the world around us. When we explore the world and meet new people, we reflect on ourselves and discover new aspects of our personality. This self-reflection helps us understand our beliefs, values, strengths, weaknesses, fears, and desires, shaping our interactions with the world.

The journey of self-discovery is never-ending, allowing us to continuously better ourselves. The body is the vessel that carries us through this journey, providing us with a unique story that shapes who we are and who we become.
ABOUT THE ARTISTS

NYCOLE ASHLEY NURSE (she/her) is a Jersey-born and raised artist who investigates lived experiences as an African American and Caribbean woman. Her work strives to tell the “black” truth through exploring levels of comfortability and creating space for black-lived experiences to be seen, heard, and understood. As an artist, performer, educator, and mover, Nurse believes that we each have a responsibility to challenge and resist the colonial constructs that plague our society. Through continuous collaboration and self-awareness, Nurse utilizes the process of learning through experience and recognition to help give voice to the voiceless. Her choreographic and performance works have been presented at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (Fisher), Peridance Capezio Center, Sans Limites Dance Festival, Elliott Center Hudson Guild Theater, Cathedral Arts Live, and throughout NJ. Nurse has served as a panelist at the National Dance Education Organization discussing the topic of socially just teaching and how various methods and pedagogies can help to transform students and their critical thinking.

CURTIS ‘CJ’ WHITMIRE is a dancer and choreographer based in the Philadelphia area. He is currently a third-year MFA student at Temple University and a recent graduate from West Chester University. His pieces have appeared numerous times in West Chester’s University Dance Company and featured at American College Dance Association. Dancemaking is a passion that has lived inside and outside of him for as long as he can remember. He aims to explore the different intersections of education, dance, and gender. Whitmire currently works at multiple dance studios in the greater Philadelphia area, instructing competitive and recreational dance. In addition, he is also a choreographic resident at Geniuses Theatre company in Reading, PA. In the future, Whitmire hopes to continue his dancemaking journey through various modes, such as; Commercial, recreational, concert improvisation, and ballroom.
SHIYU WANG is a dancer, choreographer and teacher from China. Wang graduated with her BFA in Dance from Minzu University of China in 2019. Before coming to Philadelphia, Wang taught Chinese classical dance and Folk dance in China. She also participated in the exchange activity of the African Dance Troupe at the MUC in 2019 and was a part of CCTV’s recording of the column show of “Dance World” in 2018. Shiyu won 3rd Prize in the 9th Modern Dance Competition among 5 provinces of North China in 2019. Right now, she is pursuing her MFA in dance at Temple University. Wang joined Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers as an apprentice in 2021. Following the dance company to participate in all performances of the 2021-2022 season, Wang confirmed her love for the stage. Wang believes that the body is the dancer’s home and the body is the stage for us to perceive the world, so dance is always a dialogue. A dialogue between our bodies and the space, the audience and the people we are dancing with.

TECHNICAL CREW

Stage Manager: Olivia Danni
Backstage Crew: Kieran Cooke, Jaremy Bady, Brianna Dupree, Dyn Garcia, Michaela Delaney Guthrie, Shaelyn Kaiser, Akino Lessey, Elora Probyn, Lily Santana
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
Temple University 2022-2023 Season
Upcoming Events

**Saturday, March 18 at 2:40 PM**
Temple Music Prep: Student Recital Hour Concert
Temple University Center City, Room 222

**Saturday, March 18 at 5:30 PM**
Senior Recital: Julia Baker, jazz percussion/drums
Klein Recital Hall

**Saturday, March 18 at 7:30 PM**
Master’s Recital: Danielle Dougherty, jazz voice
Klein Recital Hall

**Sunday, March 19 at 5:30 PM**
Master’s Recital: Alvin Macasero, percussion
Klein Recital Hall

**Sunday, March 19 at 7:30 PM**
Master’s Recital: Garrett Davis, percussion
Klein Recital Hall

**Monday, March 20 at 7:30 PM**
Faculty Recital: Charles Abramovic, piano and Mimi Stillman, flute
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Tuesday, March 21 at 5:30 PM**
Soundprints I
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Tuesday, March 21 at 7:30 PM**
Guest Artist Recital: Young-Ah Tak, piano
Rock Hall Auditorium
Wednesday, March 22 at 3:00 PM
Master Class: Young-Ah Tak, piano
Sponsored by Jacobs Music
Rock Hall Auditorium

Wednesday, March 22 at 7:00 PM
World Water Day Showcase
Conwell Dance Theater

Wednesday, March 22 at 7:30 PM
Senior Recital: Oliver Mayman, vibraphone
Klein Recital Hall

Thursday, March 23 at 3:00 PM
Dance Studies Colloquium: Mario La Mothe, The University of Illinois at Chicago, Institute for Dance Scholarship Temple University Visiting Scholar in Residence
“Yanvalou For Haiti: An Affective Ethnography of Ayikodans’ Anmwey Ayiti Manman”
Gladfelter Hall 10th Floor Lounge

Thursday, March 23 at 4:30 PM
Rite of Swing Jazz Café: James Holton Group
Temple Performing Arts Center Lobby

Thursday, March 23 at 5:30 PM
Trombone Choir
Rock Hall Auditorium

Friday, March 24 at 4:00 PM
Chamber Music Recital
Rock Hall Auditorium

All events are free unless otherwise noted. Programs are subject to change without notice.
For further information or to confirm events, please call 215.204.7609
or visit www.boyer.temple.edu.