

Dance Alumni Showcase

2024

Friday, October 4, 2024 • 7:30 PM

Also livestreamed at [YouTube.com/boyercollege](https://www.youtube.com/boyercollege)

Saturday, October 5, 2024 • 7:30 PM

Conwell Dance Theater

1801 N. Broad St.

Philadelphia, PA 19122

*Dance performances are sponsored in part by Temple University's
General Activities Fund and the Rose Vernick Fund*

Temple
Dance
50
1975-2025

Program

Ebonic Bodies in Motion

Choreographer: Enya-Kalia Jordan

Dancers & Collaborators: Rachele Domond, Leah Moses, Makayla Monét Peterson, Muriel Peterson, Rachel DeForrest Repinz, Amanda Williams

Music: “Black Privilege” Scotty Raps, “Black Woman’s Freestyle” Johari Farrar, “Faces” Yasmin EuBanks (Excerpt from her book, Everyday Poem: an Intersectional Expression of Blackness), “Black Girl Birth” LaRae Mays-Hardy, “Lucid” Evan Simone Frazier, “Delayed, Not Denied” Amanda Williams, “Dern Kala” Khruangbin, “Evan Finds the Third Room” Khruangbin, “I Know That’s Right” Shelah Marie, “The Revolution Will Not be Televised (ReWork)” Sargeant X Comrade

Costumes: Cheikh Seye & Enya-Kalia Jordan

Lighting: Laurie Benoit

Video: Moti Margolin/Samovar Film Productions, LLC.

Gratitude to the dancers whose artistic innovation, movement design, and spiritual attuning are invaluable to this developing work. Thank you to Evans Morisseau, my long-time partner and Rachel Repinz, my artistic sister. Their unconditional love and support make all the difference.

This work was created, in part, through the BAX & CUNY Dance Initiative Arts & Social Justice Residency Program at Brooklyn College with support from the National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, the Howard Gilman Foundation, Mertz-Gilmore Foundation, and the Jerome Foundation. It is also supported by the New York State Dance Education Association 2023 Regional Funding Initiative.

Embrace

Choreographer: Tom Price

Dancers: Sarah Stevenson Price, Tom Price

Music: Shigeru Umebayashi, Michael Galasso

Costumes: Tom Price

Lighting: Laurie Benoit

Premiere – tompricedance, University Settlement, NYC 2005

Selah Part I

Choreographer: Ericka Squire

Ericka Squire//The Dance Company (ES//DC)

Dancer: Reese McWilliams

Music: Mark Eliyahu

Lighting: Laurie Benoit

Premiere – Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, 2023

Selah Part I is built on Psalms 37:1-9 and was originally crafted from the stories and bodily intellect of ES//DC company member Victoria Arias. A sincere thank you to ES//DC company member Reese McWilliams for stepping in, not only learning the work but making it her own.

Selah Part I was created with support from a State of Florida Arts and Cultural Grant and premiered at the 2023 Natural Movers Dance Concert at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts.

From Colonization...to Carnival

Choreography: Whedai Sheriff

Drummers: Steve Jackson, Tommie Smart, Dominique Thomas

Dancers: Kevin Chen, Amalia Magee, Susannah Cheezum, Len Posivak, Jael Hicks, Sarah Bell

Music: "No Prisoners" by Sandman, "Mud Madness" by 3Canal, "Carnival" by Destra and Machel Montano

Production

Stage Manager: Jena Barton

Assistant Stage Managers: Esmeralda Luciano and Beja Newnam

Backstage Crew: Bri Dupree, Michaela Delaney Guthrie, Aleah Feggins, Shannon Leary, Akino Lessey, Trinity McFadden, Sophia Quintero, Ella Orzechowski, Dani Sala, and Lyric Way-Gregory

For more information about the Dance Department's 50th Anniversary, including special events and activities, please visit alumni.temple.edu/BoyerDanceAnniversary.



About the Artists

ENYA-KALIA JORDAN, PhD ABD, is a choreographer, dance studies scholar, and DEI Innovator from Brooklyn, New York. She received a BA in Arts & Letters Dance from Buffalo State University and an MFA in dance choreography and performance from Temple University. In 2023, she was named an “Artistic Visionary,” honored as Temple University’s 30 under 30 distinguished Alumna. Currently, she is doctoral candidate at Texas Woman’s University. Her dissertation entitled “Ebonic Bodies in Motion”, contributes to the field, the use of hood logic to center Black Woman’s embodiment and knowledge systems through AAVE.

Jordan is also the proud founder and artistic director of Enya Kalia Creations (EKC), a movement-based artistic collective established in 2016. EKC brings 'flava' to conceptual art by creating and performing untold movement narratives of emerging revolutionaries. Working in African Diasporic movement forms, the company reimagines what it means to be unapologetically Black, a woman, and free. EKC is the 2023-25 recipient of the BAX & CUNY Dance Initiative Arts & Social Justice Residency at Brooklyn College. During the first CDI residency year, EKC performed at Brooklyn Arts Exchange, BAAD!Ass Women Dance Compilation, EstroGenius Festival 2024 at La MaMa, Brooklyn Art Haus, University of Mount Saint Vincent, and the Knickerbocker Theater at Hope College.

In conjunction with EKC performance material, Jordan's doctoral research was also presented at Brooklyn College, Rutgers University, DaCi USA National Gathering, and NYSDEA at Hunter College during the first year of the residency. In the second year, EKC has performed at JCAL's Making Moves Dance Festival and is scheduled to present at Movement Research at Judson Church. Jordan is also the co-executive director of Bashi Arts alongside Rachel Repinz, and has been dance faculty at various cultural institutions across NYC.

Pennsylvania born and bred, **TOM PRICE** entered college as a math major and soccer player. After a chance course in Jamaican Folk Dance, he was enraptured with the study of movement. Price left the soccer pitch and made a new home in the dance studio. He studied under the tutelage of Ray Cook and Barrington Moncrieffe at Vassar College and then ventured forth into the world of Contact Improvisation, release technique, and contemporary movement.

Upon completion of an MFA in dance from Temple University, Price traveled to Athens, Greece; to begin a three-year position as a dancer with the improvisational dance company - Skethia. Price returned for a sabbatical substitute position at Vassar College, where he taught beginning modern dance technique and choreographed for the student dance company. With the opportunity to utilize a studio on a regular

basis, he began to codify his mix of movement backgrounds into a cohesive, flowing form – and the foundation for tompricedance was built.

tompricedance gave its first performance at Vassar College in 2000, moved its base of operations to New York City in 2003, became incorporated as a not-for-profit company in 2005, and achieved its 501(c)3 status in 2007. Tom is also the Assistant Dean of Advising and Student Success in the College of Science and Technology at Temple University. Thanks for supporting the arts. Go Dance Go!

NAI-WHEDAI SHERIFF, founder of Dancing Heals Project, has been performing, teaching and choreographing dances for over 20 years. She coached and choreographed for many dance studios, after school programs and pre-professional dance programs. She conducted workshops and taught classes in Italy at Dance Masters, in Barbados at the University of West Indies and in Pennsylvania at the University of the Arts, Neumann University, Muhlenberg College and Temple University.

Trained in Ballet, Modern dance, Hip Hop and Afro-Caribbean movement, Nai-Whedai danced with companies such as Something Positive in NY and Kariamou & Company in Philadelphia and is currently dancing with Grateful Praise Dance Company in Philadelphia. Nai-whedai received her bachelor's in business. She completed her master's in dance education (Ed.M) from Temple University in May 2014. In recent years, she has spent time teaching dance in the NYC Public and Charter School Systems. In 2019, she choreographed her first full length 90 minute Dance Production of all original choreography. Her choreographic work has also been showcased in The Valley, Anguilla BWI and Miami, FL.

In June 2023, she completed her Umfundalai training as a M'Singha Wuti- Introductory Level Teacher Certificate, to share her knowledge

with recreational audiences. Currently she serves as an Adjunct Professor at Ursinus College in Colleagueville, PA as she uses her talents in Traditional African and Caribbean dance and drum to educate students. Her goal is to inform audiences of different ethnicities about the African diasporic experience in the Americas.

ERICKA SQUIRE is a dynamic dance artist, non-profit executive, and academic. A Palm Beach County native, she holds a BA in interdisciplinary studies from the University of Central Florida, an EDM from Temple University, and an MFA in choreography from Jacksonville University.

As the Artistic Director of Ericka Squire//The Dance Company (ES//DC), Squire uses storytelling through movement to spark consciousness and dialogue. She is also the CEO and founder of the Natural Movers Foundation, pioneering dance programs that foster positive change by bringing communities together, creating opportunities for local artists, and developing training programs for aspiring dancers.

In addition to her leadership roles, Squire serves as an adjunct professor at Palm Beach Atlantic University and as a guest resident artist at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts.

She continues the legacy Kariamuwelsh and the Umfundalai technique as a Professional Certified instructor, teaches the Horton technique and engages in creative practices that nurture the next generation of dance artists.

Rooted in Ubuntu—the belief that “I am because we are”—Squire’s work reflects the contributions and support of the village surrounding her. She ensures equal access to arts and education, inspiring communities to join her in making a difference.