

Dance @50

Mosaic Concert

Saturday, April 26, 2025 • 7:00 PM
Also streaming live at [YouTube.com/boyercollege](https://www.youtube.com/boyercollege)

Temple Performing Arts Center
Lew Klein Hall
1837 N Broad St.
Philadelphia, PA 19122

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



The use of photographic, audio and video recording are not permitted.

Please turn off all electronic devices.

Four hundred forty-third performance of the 2024-2025 season.

A Letter from the Chair

It's been a privilege and pleasure to help guide the celebration of Temple Dance Department's half century of transformative artmaking, education, scholarship, and community. This milestone year was launched in September 2024 with the premiere of alumnus Terry Beck's (BFA 1979) *Harbour* at Tomlinson Theater. Throughout the year, we have been inspired by distinguished alumni speakers and guest artists from across the decades. The history of Temple Dance is being portrayed in two exhibitions, one comprehensive treatment in the Charles Library Exhibition Space, and another in the Charles L. Blockson Collection, focused on the long Temple career of the late Dr. Kariamuwelsh (1949-2019). Both exhibits will remain open through the 8th of May.

Since yesterday morning, some 150 alumni have been in reunion here on main campus, along with three of the faculty considered to be co-founders of the Department: Dr. Edrie Ferdun, Hellmut Gottschild and Dr. Sarah Alberti Hilsendager, as well as other Temple Dance faculty pioneers of the 70s and 80s: Ann Vachon, Dr. Brenda Dixon Gottschild, Philip Grosser, and Dr. Luke C. Kahlich.

Tonight, we embrace the entire half century with a mosaic of short works and excerpts by founding, former and current faculty along with alumni and current students. The show highlights the Department's core value of diversity, which has been alive from the beginning – diversity of faculty, students, programs and ideas.

To our live audience here in North Philadelphia and on livestream around the world, I treasure your presence and support in recognizing Temple Dance on this momentous occasion. There is no doubt in my mind and heart that you are all sowing vital and essential seeds for the future of artful living.

Dr. Karen Bond

Program

Time

Choreographer and Dancer: Edrie Ferdun

Music: “We Agree to Stay” written and performed by Dan Martin, lyrics by Michael Biello

round & (excerpt)

Choreographer: Boram Yi, in collaboration with the dancers of Repertory I

Dancers: Melanie Ann Abeywardena, Yamileth Cuevas Rios,

Susanna Ercole, Imani Houston, Julia Koban Payne,

Molly Qingjing Lanza, Shannon Leary, Amelia Negri,

Ella R Orzechowski, Sophia Quintero

Music: “THRONE” by Q-RIOUS

What lingers in a circle? The echo of breath, the rhythm of memory, the warmth of hands held in motion.

It is a remembering, a circling, a holding on.

And then again.

Drawing from Ganggangsullae – a traditional Korean circle dance performed by women beneath the full moon.

Entangled

Choreographer: Kariamuwelsh

Dancer: Shaness D. Kemp

Music: “Wild is the Wind” by Nina Simone

Costume Design: Andrea Carter

Shift

Movement Score Design: Jillian Harris and Haotian Liu

Dancer: Haotian Liu

Visualist: Nora Gibson

Composer/Musician: Christopher Farrell

Shift is a collaboration with visualist Nora Gibson, dancer Haotian Liu, and composer Christopher Farrell which engages the software program Touch Designer and AI to generate real-time imagery in a live, improvised performance.

Silken Wings

Choreographer: Laura Katz Rizzo

Dancers: Dyn Garcia, Molly Qingjing Lanza, Ella Orzechowski,
Julia Koban Payne, Ariana Santiago Ramos

Music: “brisk” by Aukai (2024)

There is nothing holier in this life of ours than the first consciousness of love, the first fluttering of its silken wings. -Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

May Fly

Choreographer: Xiang Xu, in collaboration with the dancer

Dancer: Lily Santana

Music: “The Market Rousay” by Claire Rousay

May Fly is a solo dance work inspired by the mayfly’s fleeting life, a metaphor for the profound beauty and urgency of human existence. Inspired by Aristotle’s concept of the mayfly as “ephemeron [1],” this choreography delves into themes of transience, transformation, and acceptance. Through fluid, expressive movements that evolve from restrained to expansive, the dancer embodies the mayfly’s journey—from emergence to a graceful acceptance of its brief, powerful life.

Options

Choreographer: Daniil Zakirzyanov

Dancers: Megumi Oshikiri, Anna Scattoni, Deziah Neasia, Dani Sala

Music: “Strut Pt 1,” “Almost Human,” “Get Ready,” “Fire Trail,” and
“Night Chatter” by Antonio Sanchez; “3 Options” by Persian
Empire featuring Marco Pierre White

¡Chacha! ¡Usa la cabeza! (2014) (excerpt)

Choreography and Performance: Merián Soto

Costume Design: Christine Darch

*“I forgot that I forgot myself,
Far, far away, from my life.
I forgot that I don’t remember who I am
Among the hidden shadows.
I can’t understand how I could forget myself.
Me, who always remembers everything.”*

إيد بايد نبني المستقبل

Choreographer: Olivia Mohsen Al Samadi, in collaboration with
the dancers

Dancers: Kayla Bailey, Sara Hicinbothem, Lian Longxuan, Eve Rutstein,
Damaris Williams

Music: "Contact" and "Touch (2021 Epilogue)" by Daft Punk, arranged by
Olivia Mohsen Al Samadi

*iyd bi iyd nabni al-mustaqbal/hand in hand we build the future: a Levantine
expression emphasizing the unity and cooperation required to create a better
tomorrow.*

the Ground (excerpt from Prelude: Site of Becoming (2024))

Choreographer: Dr. yaTande Whitney V. Hunter

Dancer: Cierra Woods

Music: "Selflessness" written John Coltrane, published by Jowcol Music

Prelude is a beginning

It is the act that happens before the event that is to come

Prelude is an alchemy

A corraling of the forces to bring about the spirit

*Prelude is a site of becoming where the energy of creation meets as the body, mind,
and spirit of a soul seeking to be*

Wondering through the terrain of the before to discover a place in the now

Prelude is a Becoming

A process of realization and actualization

Prelude is a divine site

A space of dignity and imagination

Studies on a Fractured Hymn (excerpt)

Choreographer: uwazi zamani, in collaboration with the dancers

Dancer: Anna Scattoni, Dani Sala, Lily Patricia Santana, Jose Torres,
Venrick James, Janesca Linke, deziah neasia.

Music: Various Artists

I would describe this work as a distorted chamber piece that draws on Black performance aesthetics, attention to form, and rigorous physicality. I'm curious about motifs of collapse, distortion, disturbance, and bodily surrender.

Production Crew

Producers: Laurie Benoit, Karen Bond

TPAC General Manager: Sean Roche

TPAC Event Manager: Dustin Krautter

Production Manager: Ian Schiela

Associate Production Manager: Evelyn Swift Shuker

Special Thanks for Their Contributions to Temple Dance @50

Former faculty and department chairs:

Dr. Edrie Ferdun and Dr. Sarah Alberti Hilsendager (EdD 1973),
Department founders and champions for over 50 years
Dr. Luke C. Kahlich, EdD (1990), for logo design and all-around
technical advice

Alumni:

Lynn Matluck Brooks (EdM 1979, EdD 1985), moderator of the
Pioneers Panel
Terry Fox (MA 2019), curatorial assistance with the Temple Dance @50
Exhibition
Monica Jordan Cameron Frichtel (EdM 2005, PhD 2012), program advice
and social media support
Corey Melancon (BFA 2014), current PhD student, administrative and
production assistance
Katie Moore-Derkits (BFA 2016), Dance representative, Boyer College
Alumni Board
Anne-Marie Mulgrew (MFA 1982), assistance with TDD@50 Alumni Media
& Film Feast
C. Kemal Nance (EdM 1995, PhD 2014), curator of the Kariamu Welsh
Memorial Exhibit in the Charles L. Blockson Collection

About the Artists

OLIVIA MOHSEN AL SAMADI is a First-Generation Palestinian American dancer, choreographer, educator, and scholar. Temple University Fellow and Master of Fine Arts in Dance student.

DR. EDRIE FERDUN was a member of the Temple faculty from 1967 until 1996 and Co-Founder of the Department of Dance in 1975. She was given the Lindback Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1983 and Temple University's Great Teacher Award in 1996.

JILLIAN HARRIS is an associate professor of dance and the BFA coordinator at Temple University. Jillian researches new models and platforms for dance-based collaborations.

DR. YATANDE WHITNEY V. HUNTER serves as Assistant Professor of Dance and Coordinator of the African Diaspora Dance Series at Temple University. He researches the convergences of sacred and secular ritual through Afro-Spiritualit(ies), and Africanist principles as AfrOist aesthetic in contemporary dance-performance.

www.whitneyhunter.com

SHANESS D. KEMP is a two-time alum of Temple University's Dance program who has worked with various Dance Faculty over the years; most closely with Kun-Yang Lin and the late Dr./Mama Kariamuwelsh. She earned her MFA in 2012 and BFA in 2008.

DAN MARTIN is an award-winning composer, arranger and music producer. His body of work includes many musical theatre pieces written in collaboration with his life-partner, artist and lyricist Michael Biello. Dan worked as a dance accompanist at Temple in the early 1980s and again in the early 2000s. He composed and performed several pieces with Edrie in the 1980s and is thrilled and grateful to be performing with her again tonight.

www.biellomartin.com

MERIAN SOTO (Professor Emerita, 1999-2024) is a dancer, choreographer and filmmaker, and the creator of aesthetic-somatic dance practices and methodologies, Branch Dancing and Modal Practice. She is known for works that explore and reflect upon Latinx heritage, history, culture and the legacy of colonialism. Soto is co-director with Viveca Vázquez of the award-winning documentary *Fenomenal: Rompeforma 1989-1996* and is recipient of a 2025 Guggenheim Fellowship among many other accolades.

XIANG XU is an assistant professor of dance at Temple University's Department of Dance.

www.xiangxudance.org

BORAM YI is a South Korean artist and educator, and PhD student in Dance at Temple University, where she also works as a teaching assistant. Her research focuses on lived experiences of Korean diasporic people, community-based dance, return migration, cultural memory, and embodied belonging.

DANIEL ZAKIRZANOV studied Dance at the University of the Arts Philadelphia until its closure and finished his BFA at Temple University. Daniel a choreographer, performance artist, sound designer, and visual artist. He uses movement as a primary vehicle for storytelling and physicalized discourse and implements sound and immersive media to generate lucid landscapes.

UWAZI ZAMANI is a PhD student in Dance. Black queer multidisciplinary performance artist, choreographer, and sound designer from Houston, Texas. A visionary force in contemporary performance, uwazi conjures worlds where movement, sound, and storytelling collide.

www.uwazi-zamani.com

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 2024-2025

Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 27 at 3:00 PM

Temple University Collegiate and Symphonic Bands
Temple Performing Arts Center

Sunday, April 27 at 5:30 PM

Senior Recital: David Scott, jazz saxophone
Klein Recital Hall

Sunday, April 27 at 5:30 PM

New School Brass Quintet
Rock Hall Auditorium

Sunday, April 27 at 7:30 PM

Senior Recital: Adam Kraynak, bassoon
Rock Hall Auditorium

Monday, April 28 at 11:30 AM

Chamber Music Recital
Rock Hall Auditorium

Monday, April 28 at 1:00 PM

Percussion Studio Recital
Klein Recital Hall

Monday, April 28 at 1:00 PM

Chamber Music Recital
Rock Hall Auditorium

Monday, April 28 at 4:00 PM

Student Recital: Caterina Manfrin, flute
Rock Hall Auditorium

Monday, April 28 at 5:00 PM

Latin Ensemble
Klein Recital Hall

Monday, April 28 at 5:30 PM

Master's Recital: Ho Hin Kwong, horn
Rock Hall Auditorium

Monday, April 28 at 6:00 PM

Opera Workshop: Graduate Scenes
Ellen Rissinger, music director
Brandon McShaffrey, stage director
Mitten Hall 300

Monday, April 28 at 7:00 PM and 9:00 PM

Temple University Jazz Band
Dizzy's Club

Monday, April 28 at 7:30 PM

Opera Workshop: Undergraduate Scenes
Sirapat Jittapirom, music director
Brandon McShaffrey, stage director
Mitten Hall 300

Monday, April 28 at 7:30 PM

Temple University Night Owls
Temple Performing Arts Center

Tuesday, April 29 at 5:30 PM

Senior Recital: Leah Denise Williams, jazz voice
Klein Recital Hall

Tuesday, April 29 at 7:30 PM

Master's Recital: Banks Sapnar, jazz trumpet
Klein Recital Hall

All events are free unless otherwise noted. Programs are subject to change without notice.

For further information or to confirm events, please call 215.204.7661

or visit www.boyer.temple.edu.