

CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING AND CINEMATIC ARTS
Boyer College of Music and Dance

Endings Dance Showcase
Pandemic Explorations: Choreographers Responding to the Times

Dance Department events are supported in part by the Temple University General Activities Fund.

December 4, 2020
Presented Virtually

Friday
8:00 pm

Program

The dance films you'll see tonight were created as part of the MFA Studio Research class, which has met remotely this semester in groups- two studying in the US and one in China. US-based students were taught by Merián Soto and Marion Ramirez. China-based students were taught by Marion Ramirez. Tonight is the first time that all three groups have come together.

Welcome & Introductions

Elise Mele & Muriel Peterson, hosts

Today

Choreographer: Qiwen Yuan
Performer: Qiwen Yuan
Music: Summer i i
Videographer: Qiwen Yuan
Editor: Qiwen Yuan

I take Leshan Buddha as an exploration site. This is a retrospective of my hometown. The tower, the pavilion, the cliff, the big bell, and the statue of Buddha, they contain profound historical traces. They exist in the past as well as in the present. They also exist in my childhood memories. However, I want them to keep my insignificant trace there today.

Ode to you, Two Thousand and Twenty

TRIGGER WARNING: Please note that this film contains news events that may trigger an emotional response.

Choreographer: Uriah Huffman
Performers: Uriah Huffman & Elise Mele
Sound: Compiled clips of 2020 news reports from NBC, BBC, Fox, CNN & MSNBC
Videographer: Uriah Huffman
Editor: Uriah Huffman

This project, originally inspired by the restrictions of touch due to the COVID-19 pandemic, has transformed to be a movement poem of major events that have impacted our lives as global citizens.

One hundred twentieth performance of the 2020-2021 season.



Dysphoria

Choreographer: CJ Whitmire
Performer: CJ Whitmire
Music: "Salve Maria" by Taku Iwasaki
Videographer: CJ Whitmire
Editor: CJ Whitmire

Go Going Gone

Choreographer: Elise Mele
Performers: Katherine Corbett, Elise Mele, Chloe Newton, Noel Sarachilli & Kelly Trevlyn
Music: FOUNDATION Artist: BRONSON, ODESZA, Golden Features; Sync Artist: HVOB; TENSE Artist: BRONSON, ODESZA, Golden Feature; Hyperreal Artist: Flume, KUČKA; Breathe Artist: CamelPhat, Cristoph, Jem Cooke
Text: Elise Mele
Videographer: Elise Mele
Editor: Elise Mele

The space used for filming is courtesy of Fidget.

| Introductions |

CANAL or Time is Conveyor Belt and the Only Winners are These Basking Turtles (excerpt)

Choreographer: Moriah Ella Mason
Performers: Jamison Edgar, Philip Wesley Gates, Merli V. Guerra & Moriah Ella Mason
Music: Miles Wilder
Videographer: Miles Wilder
Editor: Moriah Ella Mason

Venus At Home, 2020 (excerpt)

Choreographer: Meghan Frederick
Performer: Meghan Frederick
Videographer: Meghan Frederick
Editor: Meghan Frederick

Try to chase

Choreographer: Zi Wang
Performer: Zi Wang
Music: RainSwept; Shadows-wolf; Hitchhike to Paris
Videographer: Zi Wang
Editor: Zi Wang

Everything in the space is constantly changing, and I will constantly try to explore and discover, so my dance content is not completely sure. I think I will always think with the vision of exploration and feeling, and constantly improve my outdoor dance design.

| Introductions |

Nature

Choreographer: Shiyu Wang
Performer: Shiyu Wang
Music: Ezio Bosso
Videographer: Shiyu Wang
Editor: Shiyu Wang

This is a film about nature. In our society, people focus on work and other things, and they don't have time to feel nature. What I want to say through this dance video is that although nature can't speak, it tells us everything. We should open up perception and keep the desire to explore.

Untitled

Choreographer: Kaitlyn Miller-Cox
Performers: Kelly Grevera & Gianna Jaslar
Music: Original composition by Andrew Guinosso
Videographer: Maria Cinti & Andrew Guinosso
Editor: Cristina Siegel

Ballet Dropout (Revisited)

Choreographer: Muriel Peterson
Performer: Muriel Peterson
Music: "Hertz" by Take/Five
Videographer: Genaro Urueta
Editor: Muriel Peterson

This is the title piece of my upcoming thesis in March 2021.

| Introductions |

I got it

Choreographer: Kat J. Sullivan
Performer: Kat J. Sullivan
Videographer: Kat J. Sullivan
Editor: Kat J. Sullivan

This film is an archive of an improvisational process, a documentation of research, rather than a final product. All material was improvised in the moment; nothing was predetermined beyond a loose sense of time.

Nowness

Choreographer: Yuying Chen
Performer: Yuying Chen
Music: Dang Thai Son
Videographer: Yuying Chen
Editor: Yuying Chen

La Conversacion

Choreographer: Amelia Martinez
Performer: Amelia Martinez
Music: "491" by Michael Wall
Cinematographers: June Wang & Chen-Yi Wu
Editor: Chen-Yi Wu
Animator: Chia Hsien Lin
Camera Assistant: Chia Hsien Lin

This is an excerpt from my upcoming thesis concert about what it means to me to be Latina. In this piece I have a conversation with my shadow with my movements. Sometimes, the shadow speaks and sometimes "she" grows and takes space. The ever-present yarn is the thread that ties and holds us together throughout all of the choreographies to come.

About the Artists

YUYING CHEN is an MFA student at Temple University. Chen has trained in Chinese classical dance and is majoring in modern dance and choreography at Temple. Using contemporary and modern dance training Chen's goal is to strengthen and develop the ability of the body in their work. Their choreography explores embodied qualities and different dance types, resulting in a diverse dance experience. Yuying Chen works at the Dance Arts Center and has participated in online rehearsals and teaching during the pandemic.

MEGHAN FREDERICK is a dance artist based in Philadelphia, PA and a current MFA candidate at Temple University. Her choreography has been presented and supported by creative residencies throughout New York City and the Northeastern United States, most recently by Cardell Dance Studio, VOX POPULI and Leah Stein Studio (all PA) in collaboration with Kate Seethaler; Space Gallery (ME), Movement Research (NYC) Brooklyn Studios for Dance (NYC), Arts on Site (NYC), Center for Performance Research (NYC), STUFFED Dinner and Dance (NYC), and The Living Room (ME). Meghan teaches dance to children and adults at institutions throughout the Northeast. Meghan was a member of the Brian Brooks Moving Company from 2008-2014 and has recently performed with Liz Lerman, Carlye Eckert, Maya Orchin, Catherine Galasso, Kendra Portier, as a guest with SUBCIRCLE Dance Company, and Fidget Dance.

URIAH HUFFMAN is a dancer, choreographer, musician, poet, educator and current MFA candidate at Temple University. Uriah is the founder and artistic creator of SeasUHned Arts, a multidisciplinary company that emphasizes and highlights Kingdom art and creation based on biblical principles and the Christian faith. Uriah has performed work in Charlotte BOOM, Asheville Fringe Festival, Staibdance in Italy, Columbia TAPPs Art Center, Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto, New York Movement: PANGEA festival, and the ACDA Southeast Gala Concert. Choreographically, Uriah appreciates diversity; thriving on an inclusive nature and atmosphere while utilizing varied artistic perspectives to enrich her own. Uriah values purpose, and how it fortifies gratitude, passion, holism and the pursuit of life. Uriah seeks to make an impact by creating purposeful work, providing inspiration, encouraging pursuit, and eliciting others to question their reason for being. Uriah aids in the fortification of passion through mentorship and education, and by exposing and representing underrated techniques to all communities with the mission of building artistic compassion and understanding.

AMELIA MARTINEZ is a dance artist (modern dance based). She choreographs with yarn in recurring themes of femininity, Latinidad, and community. She graduated from Old Dominion University in 2014 with a BA in Dance Performance and a minor in Psychology. Amelia is pursuing an MFA in Dance from Temple University. Notable choreographies are *Unravel Me* for the Choreographers of Virginia Showcase at the Museum of Contemporary Art, and *Duality/Prayers of My People* performed for Temple University's 2019 Endings Dance Showcase.

MORIAH ELLA MASON is a first year MFA student. They hold a BA in Dance and International Development from Sarah Lawrence College. Mason's performance work has been produced at galleries and theaters in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, New York City, and Tucson. Mason has received multiple commissions for evening-length works at Pittsburgh's Carnegie Stage and New Hazlett Theater. Their work has been generously funded by Off the Wall Charitable Foundation, PA Council on the Arts, and

the Heinz Small Arts Initiative. Mason is also a licensed massage therapist with a decade in private practice. You can learn more about their work at moriahellamason.com.

ELISE MELE is a Philadelphia-based dance artist and currently an MFA candidate at Temple University. Elise values the therapeutic experience of dance and researches different methods of connecting to the body, soul, and mind through dance practice. This in-depth research provides a platform for Elise to share with all bodies. Through her choreographic works, Elise aims to bring awareness to what our bodies hold onto and how dance can immerse the viewer into a sensory experience. In addition to her choreographic career, Elise has also performed with Olive Prince Dance, Contempra Dance, the "InterACTION Project," Nickerson Rossi Dance, and currently, Matter Movement Group. As she continues to grow in the field of dance, Elise hopes to push the boundaries of where dance can be viewed and how it can be performed.

KAITLYN MILLER-COX is a dance-educator, performer and current MFA in Dance candidate at Temple University, graduating in May 2021. Her training highlights include the Tuscan Summer Dance Intensive in Livorno, Italy, and Radio City Rockette Intensive. She performed with the Lady Hooper Tap Ensemble as an apprentice company member. She received a BA in Dance and Business Administration from DeSales University. She is currently an adjunct professor at King's College, in Wilkes-Barre, PA, teaching Introduction to Tap. Kaitlyn also teaches at Coalesce: Center for Dance Artistry, working with both children and adults.

MURIEL "MURRI-LYNETTE" PETERSON began performing at age 4 with the Paul Robeson Performing Arts Company in Syracuse, New York. Here she was exposed to the art of acting, singing, and dancing. She received a bachelor's degree in Dance & Urban Studies, while minoring in Spanish language from Queens College, City University of New York. Currently, Muriel is pursuing her Master of Fine Arts in Dance at Temple University. Her choreographic credits include: Love @ First Sight (2019); ReasonsLegacy's Collective Future (2017); Youth Night @Adonai Christian Center (2009); The Murri-Lynette Project (2009) and; For The Love of Hip-Hop (2006).

KAT J. SULLIVAN is a Philly-based dancer, choreographer, improviser, writer, and photographer. Her work has been described as having a "spare rigor" (tD) and has been produced throughout the east coast. In addition to writing, editing, and serving on the board for thINKingDANCE, Kat performs and teaches with an ensemble focusing on compositional improvisation as a way of art making and research. Kat has an undergraduate degree in Dance from Franklin & Marshall College and is currently pursuing her MFA at Temple University. Her body of work and all her doings can be found at katsullivan.com.

SHIYU WANG is a new graduate student at Temple University. Wang's dance background primarily includes training in Chinese classical dance and Chinese folk dance, with aspirations to continue studying Chinese folk dance at Temple. During her undergraduate studies, Wang learned modern dance styles and participated in modern dance competitions and performances.

ZI WANG is an international student from China and MFA student at Temple University. Zi's undergraduate studies explored dance choreography based on modern dance intensive training, where he learned how to train the muscles of the body and develop the movement mode of various parts of the body. Zi also studied human body structure and impromptu training alongside other artists. At Temple University, Zi's mission is to continue exploring choreography and body improvisation.

CJ WHITMIRE is dancer and choreographer based in the Philadelphia area. He is currently a first 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. CJ currently works at multiple dance studios in his area, instructing both competitive and recreational dance.

QIWEN YUAN is a second year MFA student. Born in China, she began artistic gymnastics training in primary school, then began training in Chinese classical dance and folk dance in junior high school. In her undergraduate studies, she learned modern dance, choreography, and became interested in expanding her knowledge of all dance genres. She enjoys experimenting with different creative choreography and interdisciplinary research on dance.