

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

Becomings: Repertory Showings
Spring 2026

Friday, April 24

7:00 PM

Repertory II

On Edge

Amy Aldridge

Dancers: Susanna Ercole, Julia Koban Payne, Molly QingJing Palumbaro Lanza, Shannon Leary,
and Nora Cheza Shitemi

Music: William Kroll

Lighting: Dani Sala

“On Edge” was choreographed in 2024 with the 2nd movement being choreographed for the Temple dancers this Spring. “On Edge” explores the speed and precision of neoclassical ballet with a jazzy playfulness to remind us of the joy that dance brings to us and the community.

Natasha, an excerpt from “II:II”

Matthew Neenan

Dancers: Susanna Ercole, Julia Koban Payne, Shannon Leary and Nora Cheza Shitemi

Music: Rufus Wainwright

Lighting: Dani Sala

“Natasha” is an excerpt from Matthew Neenan’s “II:II,” choreographed and commissioned for the Pennsylvania Ballet (now Philadelphia Ballet) in 2005.

Dance performances are supported in part by the Rose Vernick Fund and Temple University’s General Activity Fund.
Four hundred tenth performance of the 2025-2026 season.



Repertory I

ASE! Ghanaba

yaTande Whitney V. Hunter

Dancers: Amara Baker, Bailey Frances Moul, Saja F. Singletary, and Johneta Williams

Music: Guy Warren “Ghanaba”

Costumes: yaTande and dancers

Lighting: Zhaisia Lessey

“ASE Ghanaba” is an exposition of technique as choreographic form and follows in a lineage of choreographers who explored this concept as a way of asserting the power of dance technique as a language of beauty and a mode of discipline towards embodied freedom. For me, the practice of dance technique is a ritual of fortification and self-discovery revealing the sublimity of body, mind, and soul alignment.

“ASE Ghanaba” is set to an Afro Jazz suite of music by Ghanaian musician, Guy Warren “Ghanaba.” The music affirms our aligned interests in discovering new modes of articulating the intertwined Black/African American and West African cultural aesthetic, him through music and me through dance.

“ASE! Ghanaba” methodically moves through the various stages of Hunter’s Afro-modernist method, Hunter Method/RootWrrk, guided by the ASE Principle. In this context, ASE, is applied in two ways: first it references the Yoruba affirmation and power concept, and secondly, as a technical principle toward the dynamic functioning of the dancing body’s articulation of ASE (Activation, Succession, Emanation).

Thank you to Sharve “Teflon” Kelley (TA) for your attention and commitment to this process and to the Dance, and to student lighting designer Zhaisia Lessey for taking the initiative. And of course, students of Dance Repertory One for trusting the process. Ase!

Production Crew

Stage Manager: Zhaisia Lessey

Backstage Crew: cedar bechar, Yihang Li, Trinity McFadden, Benja Newnam, Dani Sala, Saja Singletary, and Madison Wells-McFee

House Crew: Eduarda Melgar

Livestream by Blatino Cineninja