

THEATRE & DANCE

2024-25



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Theatre & Dance

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The University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado's flagship university, honors and recognizes the many contributions of Indigenous peoples in our state. CU Boulder acknowledges that it is located on the traditional territories and ancestral homelands of the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Ute and many other Native American nations. Their forced removal from these territories has caused devastating and lasting impacts.

Revel

An evening of works presented by MFA candidates in Dance

7:30 p.m., Oct. 25 and 26, 2024

2 p.m., Oct. 27, 2024

Charlotte York Irey Theatre

Choreographers

Angel Anderson

Tanniqua-Kay Buchanan

Rhianna Cranston

Tyreis Hunte

Harveen Gill

Alston Tyndall

Lighting Design

Anna Pillot

Stage Manager

Kyra MacGregor

PROGRAM

What the Water Gave Me

Choreography

Tanniqua-Kay Buchanan, in collaboration with dancers

Dancers

Angel Anderson, Gillie Bachrach, Tanniqua-Kay Buchanan, Rhianna Cranston, Brooke Haun, Nika Ipakchi-Saiy and Alyssa Slatky

Music / Sound

Home by Willow Smith, arranged; Kids Playing in water; Montego Bay Beach / Ocean to shore, Tanniqua-Kay; *Soft* by Lucky Daye, arranged

Sound Engineer

Rhianna Cranston

Costume Consultant

Tyreis Hunte

Program Notes

In this performance inspired by Frida Kahlo's assemblage artwork *What the Water Gave Me*, Tanniqua-Kay Buchanan delves into the profound significance of water as a life-giving force and a symbol of emotional depth. Buchanan draws on her first generation Jamaican roots and Chicago upbringing, deeply informing her interpretation of Kahlo's work. Water becomes a powerful emblem of cultural identity, spirituality and emotional resonance, representing life, nourishment, and connections to ancestors—core themes that resonate throughout the piece. Buchanan explores the idea of living in the “river of grace” as a reflective and grounding practice. *What the Water Gave Me* invites the audience to immerse themselves in a world where water nurtures the spirit and fosters interconnectedness among all beings.

Special Thanks

Special thanks to my family and friends who are incredibly supportive, *What the Water Gave Me* cast, and the CU Theatre & Dance department.

About the Choreographer

Tanniqua-Kay Buchanan, MUPP (she/her) is a first generation Jamaican-American mover, maker/choreographer and urban planner. She received a Bachelor of Science in theater with a dance focus and minor in community planning from Kansas State University, where her emphasis was on the Black

dancing body explored through color theory social experiment. She received a master's in urban planning and policy from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Buchanan concentrated on spatial planning.

Her research examined movement and urban form (an improvisational design and planning technique through movement methods) in cities. Buchanan was granted a fellowship with The Field Foundation of Illinois, advocating for several arts organizations on Chicago's south and west sides.

She is a dance MFA student at the University of Colorado Boulder with hopes to have a secondary emphasis in film and urban studies. She's worked with various Chicago-based organizations and companies in education, dramaturgy, and artistic roles including Hyde Park School of Dance, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Auditorium Theater of Roosevelt University, DanceLoop, and South Chicago Dance Theater. Her dance films were shown at the South Chicago Dance for Film Festival (Chicago), Sarah Lawrence College (New York), The Culture Lab (New York), Finalist at the Outlet Dance Project (New Jersey), Greensboro Dance Film Festival (Greensboro, North Carolina), Opine Dance Film Festival (Philadelphia), and Sans Souci Festival of Dance Cinema (Boulder). Currently, She is an independent dance artist, dance teacher, choreographer and urban planner.

Our Mama's Mamas: A remembrance of Choreography

Angel Anderson, in collaboration with dancers

Performers

Angel Anderson, Rhianna Cranston, Lisa Engelken,
Tanniqua-Kay Buchanan, Nika Ipakchi-Saiy, Tiana Kara,
Rebecca Schaff and Cleo Washington

Music

Calder Shapes by Mathew Halsall

Costume Design

Tyreis Hunte, Judy Smith

Sound Engineer

Rhianna Cranston

Program Notes

I offer thanks, first and foremost, to my invisible collective. Gratitude to my mother (drinking wine all the time red), aunt (overly prepared red), mother earth and the women in the community who have molded and shaped me into the woman I am. Thank you to my collaborators, dancers, mentors and the givers of feedback throughout the process of creating and birthing this work. I thank mom's—our mama's mamas. -Observing more than you think I am red.

About the Choreographer

Angel Anderson is a Black female-identifying performing artist, scholar and emerging historian from the south suburbs of Chicago. Encompassing various dance forms rooted in Africanist traditions, her movement archive includes street and club dance forms, modern and contemporary sensibilities and neo-traditional African techniques.

Anderson is an alumna of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she obtained a BFA in dance and BS in psychology. Alongside performing as a principal dancer in Rennie Harris Puremovement, she's assisted Harris in works such as *Soon* set on Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, *Freedom* set on the first-year dance students at The Juilliard School, and *Dear Frankie* set on Hubbard Street Dance Chicago.

Committed to acquiring knowledge on the lineages of Black American dance forms, Anderson studies under Rennie Harris University and Ecole Des Sables via the Training Diaspora Africa program. Her focus on expanding her knowledge and developing her teaching pedagogy reflects a dedication to passing on African American traditions to future generations. Anderson is honored to be pursuing an MFA in dance at CU Boulder.

Extending into plurality

Choreography

Alston Tyndall, in collaboration with dancers

Performers

Adin Williams, Alyssa Slatky, Angela Gumieniak, Becca Schaff, Cleo Washington, Daeja Pacheco, Devon Beckum, Elizabeth Ervin, Ellie Pramenko, Izzy Banse, Katrina Chandrashekhar Sonwane, Laura Jumper, Macy Will, Meriwether McLean, Sam Antell and Sawyer Shepardson

Music

The Morning (instrumental) by The Weeknd

Program Notes

I want to give a special thanks to this cast for being willing and curious throughout this process. I couldn't have done this without you!

About the Choreographer

Alston Tyndall (she/they) is an energetic mover, choreographer, advocate and learner. Originally from North Carolina, she earned a BA in sociology and dance with a Professional Performance Certificate from Meredith College. Alston was selected to perform in the American Dance Festival's (ADF) hOt sUmMeR pOp uPs! choreographed by Mark Dendy in 2019, while also training and performing with the OM Grown Dancers in Durham, North Carolina, from 2019 to 2021.

Alston's choreographic work has been recognized at the American College Dance Association National and Regional Conferences. Alston is currently an MFA dance student at the University of Colorado Boulder. Their research has been primarily focused on their own lived experiences as a queer person with an invisible disability born and raised in the evangelical south. Alston's goals through dance, dance making and teaching are to try and make the dance community a more progressive, inclusive, and accessible space for everyone to feel seen.

Home is Where the Olive Trees Grow

This piece utilizes theatrical fog and haze and contains sounds of air strikes and bombing and recorded gunshots.

Choreography

Harveen Gill, in collaboration with dancers

Performers

Jamie Chavez, Harveen Gill and Avery Maxwell

Music

Displaced by Amon Tobin

Costume Design

Harveen Gill and dancers

Sound Design

Javaughn Marshall

Program Notes

A very special thank you to Macy Will, Claire Terhaar and Nika Ipakchi-Saiy for bringing vitality and perspective to the early rehearsal process. A huge thank you to Avery and Jamie for walking this path together. I am deeply grateful for all of these dance artists, their contributions and their beautiful presence. Finally, with deep appreciation for what the Palestinian resistance has revealed, reminded, strengthened and brought forth to the collective, may

all oppressed people be free. May all indigenous land be returned to whom it belongs. Free Palestine and all oppressed people. Stop sending U.S. tax payer dollars to fund genocide in other countries.

About the Choreographer

Harveen Gill (she/her) is a Punjabi-American, first generation interdisciplinary artist, advocate, educator and storyteller using film, movement, installation, spoken word and sound as an expression of exploring memory in the body, identity, connection to land and South Asian ancestry. Gill holds a BA in dance from San Jose State University, California with a distinction in choreography and performance. She is motivated by amplifying marginalized voices, creating accessible spaces for all movers and building connections through vulnerability.

She is currently an MFA student in dance at the University of Colorado Boulder with a second emphasis in emergent technologies and media arts practices. With communal care and liberation at the forefront, her work is a living archive of transmuting grief in the body into light. While integrating holistic practices that encourage slowing down and healing our nervous system, her mission is to create spaces that hold nourishment, vitality, balance, and community.

The Tunnel

Choreography

Rhianna Cranston

Performers

Tanniqua-Kay Buchanan, Alyssa Slatky, Elizabeth Ervin ,
Zoe Showalter-Flowers, Layla Denise, Daeja Pacheco, Cleo
Washington, Meriwether Mclean, Sam Antell, Laura Jumper
and Ellie Pramenko

Music

The Tunnel by Azimuth; *IDGAF* by Drake ft. Yeat, edited by
Rhianna Cranston

Program Notes

Immense gratitude to all of the people in my life (friends,
fam and colleagues) who have supported, encouraged, held
space for and helped heal me. My achievements are nothing
without these fuels to my flames!

About the Choreographer

Rhianna Cranston is a dedicated dance performer, educator, and choreographer residing in Denver. Growing up in the heartland of Kansas, Cranston's devotion to her craft led her through a journey encompassing ballet, tap, jazz, modern, hip-hop, and contemporary dance styles. Obtaining a BFA in dance from the University of Kansas, Cranston was president of UNITY Hip Hop Dance Crew and choreographed, produced and performed in a variety of works for The University Dance Company and student showcases. Following university, Cranston was drawn to the vibrancy of Colorado, where she leapt into the realm of professional concert dance as a member of Cleo II at Cleo Parker Robinson Dance (CPRD) for a season. Subsequently, she joined the CPRD Education Team, blending her passion for dance, education and community outreach.

That blend continues in the current through her role as a teaching artist with esteemed outreach organizations such as Wolf Trap and Celebrate the Beat, and engaging with movement watchers through performance opportunities with local artists and companies such as Davis Contemporary Dance. Additionally, Cranston is an instructor and choreographer for dance studios in the area, where she adores working with the future generations of movers!

Jawani (youthfulness)

Choreography

Harveen Gill, in collaboration with dancers

Performers

Riley Carter, Katrina Chandrashekhar Sonwane and Harveen Gill

Music

O Saki Saki by Neha Kakkar, Tulsi Kumar, B. Praak; *Ek Toh Kum Zindagani* by Neha Kakkar, Yash Narvekar, Tanishk Bagchi; *Zaalima* by DYSTINCT, Shreya Goshal, Rajat Nagpal

Costume Design

Harveen Gill and Dancers

Program Notes

A huge thank you to this cast! Together we made the process fun, playful, and channeled our prowess. Healing my inner child felt so held and supported by sharing space and time with these beautiful dance artists.

Watah No Get Enemy

Choreography

Tyreis Hunte

Performers

Adin Williams, Devon Beckum, Edward Lee, Elizabeth Ervin, Jamie Chavez, Skyler Martin, Laura Jumper, Meriwether McLean, Riley Holcomb and Melis Coskuncan

Music

Water No Get Enemy and *Lady* by Fela Kuti; *We Cry Together* by Kendrick Lamar, edited by Tyreis Hunte.

Costume Design

Tyreis Hunte

Program Notes

I am entirely grateful for the opportunity to collaborate and share space with these dancers, our light designer Anna Pillot, production leads Kate Bashore and Lara Maerz as well as the entire production team.

About the Choreographer

Tyreis Hunte is a Creole Amazônido interdisciplinary artist and creative director born in Guyana, South America. Their work is embedded in the understanding and the connections of global indigenous cultures and their embodied philosophies. Hunte is a Davis World Scholar and alum of the United World College in Changshu, China, receiving a Bachelor of Arts with distinction in dance and Asian studies with focus on movement therapy from St. Olaf College. Hunte is keen on the historic as well as contemporary contributions of street culture in our societies and the integrity of consuming/producing the contemporary. This influenced their participation and work in joining the inaugural cohort of Rennie Harris University Hip Hop Certification Program and receiving certification in men's and women's design from Istituto di Moda Burgo in Milan, Italy.

Hunte considers themselves to be a product of street culture. Although raised by multiple communities, street culture and hip hop gives them a home and community. Hunte has always been a lover of performance and the stage. With some of their collaborators including Lloyd N D'Arts Production Company, Animation Dance Crew, Giada Negroni(DueDa), Arneshia Williams, Cudjoe Emmanuel, Heather Klopchin, CompanyDance, Melissa Teodoro, BRKFST Dance Crew, Afoutayi Dmaco Dance Company, Marciano Dos Santos (Contempo Dance Company), Mathew Janczewski, Samba Colorado, and Raw Groove Presents.

Hunte is grateful to have exchanged with communities and audiences throughout the globe including the National Cultural Center and the National Theatre Guild Georgetown, The Royal Family of Norway, Suzhou Industrial District, San Vittore Milano, The Cowles Center of Performing Arts Minneapolis, American College Dance Association and The Carpenter Performing Arts Center, Long Beach. They are currently a 2024 CAAAS research fellow whilst completing a Master of Fine Arts in dance with an emphasis in hip hop studies and Graduate Certificate in emergent technologies and media arts practices at the University of Colorado Boulder. Hunte is also Samba King Colorado 2024.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Master Carpenters

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Sam Nicaastro
Sophie Wills
Rachel Zwerenz

Carpenters

Oliver Fernandez Reed
Roan Cochrane
Kyra MacGregor
Kai Symons

Properties Manager

Emily Littlefield

Properties Team

Lilly Bergen
Algernon Schneider
Xan Gardner

Scenic Artists

Hayley Delich
Peyton Burns

Light Board Programmer

Evan Hunter

Run Crew

Brekken Wald
Cadence Ryan
Nathan George

House Managers

Peyton Melun
Camden Hornor
Sasha Trubitsyna
Brianna Meza-Sauzamedia
Avery Lichty

Costume Shop Production Assistants:

Jonathan Bashford, Alexandria Cox, Sara David, Elena Diederich, Mia DiNorcia, Liliana Eurich, Briana Gebhart, Madelyn Goldberg, Savannah Gullett, Tyreis Hunte, Koral Jackson, Shannon Kosman, Kirra Lindauer, Kyra MacGregor, Hope Mills, Adison Palmer, Wulfgar Parmenter, Cyrus Porter, Brooke Rawcliffe, Hailey Roller, Norah Schaefer, Austin Shofner, Sydney Sowl, Maddie Spicer, Kai Symons, Emily Zhou

Dance Production Crew: Kaia Schiff, Katrina Chandrashekhhar Sonwane, Edward Lee, Devon Beckum, Angela Gumieniak, Evan Hunter, Nathan Klimpel, Alessa Oltman, Hazel Palmer, Rory Smith, Alston Tyndall

Lighting Technicians: Alessa Oltman, Cheri Bauman, Zoe Gidiere, Evan Hunter, Nathan Klimpel, Lauren Haas, Hazel Palmer

Scene Shop Production Assistants: Lilly Bergen, Gwen Burke, Peyton Burns, Roan Cochrane, Hayley Delich, Xan Gardner, Ruth Goldenberg, Lauren Haas, Nathan Klimpel, Emily Littlefield, Kyra MacGregor, Sam Nicaastro, Algie Schneider, Kai Symons, Sophie Wills, Rachel Zwerenz

2050 Production Students: Vianney Aguilar, Cheri Bauman, Peyton Burns, Tina Cao, Haiden Croker, Briana Gebhart, Mia Gerson, Savannah Gullett, Jasmine Jones, Cynthia Kistle-Bennett, Zane Larson, Izzy Lauer, Kirra Lindauer, Ian McCance, Gabe Miller, Hope Mills, Daniel Oliveri, Edie Roth, Elizabeth Schlue, Riley Schvimmer, Sasha Solovyev, Sydney Sowl, Isabel Szucs, Carson Whitlock

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