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Blackfriars Dance Concert (2024)

Fall 11-15-2024

Blackfriars Dance Concert Fall 2024 Poster

Providence College Department of Theatre, Dance, & Film

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Providence College Department of
Theatre, Dance, and Film presents

Blackfriars Dance Concert

November 15th & 16th
2024



*Dancers: Olivia Dailey,
Katie Kudia, Liddy
Graney, Emma Preston,
Emma Daigneau, Amanda
Kleinman Photo Credit:
Olivia Moon*

Choreographers: Heather Ahern, Laura Bennett, Nina Kossler,
Jessica Pearson, Michaela Pendola, Brooklyn Toli, Arlynn Zachary

If you are a person with a disability and require an assistive device, service, or other accommodation to participate in these events, please contact the Central Reservations Coordinator at 401.865.1040 Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM well in advance of an event.



PHOTOGRAPHY OR VIDEO RECORDING OF ANY KIND IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED DURING PERFORMANCES IN THE ANGELL BLACKFRIARS THEATRE AND THE BOWAB STUDIO THEATRE.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELLULAR PHONES AND PAGERS BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE BEGINS.

TEXT MESSAGING IS NOT PERMITTED IN THE THEATRE DURING THE PERFORMANCE OUT OF RESPECT TO THE PERFORMERS AND AS A COURTESY TO THOSE SEATED NEAR YOU.

THE MAIN RESTROOMS ARE LOCATED DOWN THE STAIRS IN THE LOWER LOBBY.

ACCESSIBLE RESTROOMS ARE LOCATED AT EITHER END OF THE MAIN LOBBY. IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY AND REQUIRE AN ASSISTIVE DEVICE, SERVICE, OR OTHER ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE IN EVENTS IN THE SMITH CENTER, PLEASE CONTACT THE CENTRAL RESERVATIONS COORDINATOR (401-865-1040; M-F 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.) WELL IN ADVANCE.

TICKETS FOR EVENTS IN THE ANGELL BLACKFRIARS THEATRE AND THE BOWAB STUDIO THEATRE MAY BE PURCHASED ONLINE OR OVER THE TELEPHONE BY VISA OR MASTERCARD. IF WE HAVE AN ACCURATE EMAIL FOR YOU, INFORMATION WILL BE SENT TO YOU PRIOR TO ALL MAINSTAGE EVENTS. TO ADD YOUR NAME TO OUR LIST OR TO PURCHASE TICKETS, CALL 401-865-2218 OR VISIT WWW.PROVIDENCE.EDU/THEATRE.

THE BOX OFFICE AT THE SMITH CENTER FOR THE ARTS IS OPEN FOR WALK-UP SALES 1-4:00 PM MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY WHEN CLASSES ARE IN SESSION, AND ONE HOUR PRIOR TO CURTAIN ON PERFORMANCE DAYS. CASH, CHECK, OR CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED FOR WALK-UP SALES.

ALL TICKET SALES ARE FINAL AND CANNOT BE REFUNDED. YOU MAY EXCHANGE TICKETS FOR A DIFFERENT PERFORMANCE OF THE SAME PRODUCTION BY RETURNING YOUR TICKETS TO THE BOX OFFICE UP TO 24 HOURS PRIOR TO CURTAIN, SUBJECT TO SEAT AVAILABILITY.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the Fall 2024 Black Friars Dance Concert.

This concert is the start of a new era for our program, as it is my first concert with the Providence College Dance Company. I am delighted to share this moment with you and continue the incredible legacy of this program!

Our dancers have dedicated themselves to the art of movement, bringing to life a diverse array of works that reflect their passion and commitment. In addition to our talented students, we are privileged to feature the work of guest choreographers whose expertise and creative vision have enriched our repertoire. Their contributions highlight the importance of collaboration and innovation within our dance community.

The dances will provoke, inspire, liberate, and leave you in awe as we weave storytelling, abstract thought, and superb artistry in a vibrant tapestry of expression and emotion on stage and in film. As you witness the performance this evening, I encourage you to immerse yourselves and deeply consider the meaning and message of each dance.

Thank you for your presence and support, and enjoy the show.

Nina Kossler

Artistic Director

Assistant Professor of Dance

GENERAL MISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE, DANCE & FILM

We believe that the arts, and theatre in particular, should reflect and respond to the current activism and racial reckoning in our country. As we move forward artistically and pedagogically, we are conscious of our responsibility to ensure that there will be a place for artists of color to be seen and heard in the theatre created at Providence College.

The Department of Theatre, Dance, and Film is committed to creating art that explores the entirety of the human experience. We are committed to building our department to “reflect the diversity of the human family” (PC Mission Statement). Our efforts to create an equitable environment in which all artists are valued will be complex and change of this magnitude does not happen quickly. Nevertheless, we commit ourselves to consciously creating space where diverse voices and experiences are seen, heard, and validated. We commit ourselves to proactively recruiting faculty, staff, and students so that our department may more closely reflect the true diversity of the human condition. We commit ourselves to using our positions as leaders and teachers to amplify diverse voices. We hope that these actions, and more, will help us create an environment in which all feel welcome and valued, regardless of race, biological sex, religion, age, socioeconomic class, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, neurological or physical ability, or legal status.

DANCES

Limón Etude (2002)

Based on movement from José Limón's works: "Psalm", "Dances for Isadora", and "A Choreographic Offering"

Choreography: Carla Maxwell

Restaging and Direction: Laura Bennett

Music: Franz Schubert: D. 118, "Gretchen am Spinnrade"

Performer: Soprano: Elly Ameling, Pianoforte: Jörg Demus

Costumes: Fran Romasco, based on the costumes for José Limón's *A Choreographic Offering*

Dancers: Jade Bocciarelli, Helena Gillin, Gabriella Girard, Penelope Kearns, Julia Mele, Caroline Puccini

Mexican-born José Limón (1908-1972) was one of the 20th century's most important and influential dance makers and spent his entire career pioneering a new art form and fighting for the recognition and establishment of American Modern Dance. "Limón Etude" is part of Dancing Legacy's Repertory Etudes Collection, conceived and curated by Carolyn Adams and Julie Adams Strandberg.

Find out more:



Cue The Music

Choreography: Michaela Pendola

Music: "Moon River Cha Cha" and "Something for the Cat" by Henry Mancini

Dancers: Noel Rose DeRosa, Taylor Gifford, Gabriella Girard, Caroline Guanci, Grace McEvoy, Emma Preston, Caroline Puccini, Allison Renaud

This piece depicts going through the motions of day to day life and how music impacts us all. Wouldn't life be so much more interesting if there was a soundtrack to our day?

DANCES

Collective Journey

Choreography: Jessica T. Pearson

Music:

“4 110” performed by Michael Wall

“Ritual Zone” performed by Meredith Monk

“Little Breath” performed by Meredith Monk

Dancers: Jade Bocciarelli, Simone Chabot, Noel Rose DeRosa, Lauren Gerew, Helena Gillin, Heidy Guzman, Olivia Krupa, Julianna Martin, Grace McEvoy

Fragile Forms (Excerpt)

Directed, Filmed, & Edited by: Arlynn Zachary

Performed and Written by: Rayni Collins

Music: Michael Wall

The filming of this video was made possible by the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

The Message Continues

Choreography: Brooklyn Toli

Music:

“Lost Kingdoms”, written and performed by Nubya Garcia

“The Message Continues”, Nubya Garcia (Mark de Clive- Lowe Remix)

Dancers: Lauren Gerew, Caroline Guanci, Penelope Kearns, Amanda Kleinman, Olivia Krupa, Julia Mele, Grace Sittig

DANCES

You Belong to the Universe

Choreography: Heather Ahern, with additional choreography by the dancers

Music:

“May Brigade” written and performed by Andrew Blake Bernstein, Max Eilbacher, Owen Gardner, Samuel Haberman;

“Cliffs II – The Lighthouse”, and “Deep Sleep” written & performed by Daniela Mars

Dancers: Simone Chabot, Alyssa Dalto, Ella Ford, Elizabeth Graney, Katherine Pritchard

When we feel stressed and disconnected to our very selves, we forget who we are in the big scheme of things. When we take time to slow down, there is a sense of connectivity to everything.

Battleworks Etude (2003)

Based on movement from Robert Battle’s works: “Flock”, “The Hunt”, “Jewel Lost”, and “Rush Hour”

Choreography: Robert Battle, arranged by Erika Pujič, First performed in 2003

Restaging and Direction: Laura Bennett

Music: Carl Landa

Costumes: Fran Romasco, inspired by Robert Battle’s *The Hunt* costumes by Mia McSwain

Dancers: Jade Bocciarelli, Helena Gillin, Gabriella Girard, Penelope Kearns, Julia Mele, Caroline Puccini

Miami-born Robert Battle danced with the Parsons Dance Company before establishing his own Battleworks Dance Company, and was honored as one of the “Masters of African American Choreography” by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. In 2011, he became only the third artistic director of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. “Battleworks Etude” is part of Dancing Legacy’s Repertory Etudes Collection, conceived and curated by Carolyn Adams and Julie Adams Strandberg.

Find out more:



DANCES

Like, Follow, Forget

Choreography: Nina Kossler, with contributions from the dancers

Music:

“Soul Bossa Nova” written and performed by Quincy Jones

“Something’s Got A Hold On Me” written by Etta James, Leroy Kirkland, Pearly Woods, performed by Etta James

“A Taste of Honey” written by Bobby Scott & Ric Marlow, performed by Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass

“That’s Life” written by Dean Kay & Kelly Gordon, performed by Frank Sinatra

Dancers: Alyssa Dalto, Ella Ford, Taylor Gifford, Elizabeth Graney, Heidi Guzman, Riley Joyce, Julianna Martin, Emma Preston, Katherine Pritchard, Allison Renaud, Grace Sittig

Finale

Choreography: Elizabeth Graney, Olivia Krupa, Julianna Martin, Grace McEvoy, & Allison Renaud

Music: “Good Graces” by Sabrina Carpenter

Dancers: Providence College Dance Company

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE DANCE COMPANY

President: Grace McEvoy
Vice President: Julianna Martin
Secretary: Allison Renaud
Treasurer: Olivia Krupa
Public Relations: Elizabeth Graney

Jade Bocciarelli
Simone Chabot
*Emma Daigneau
Alyssa Dalto
Noel Rose DeRosa
Ella Ford
Lauren Gerew
Taylor Gifford
Helena Gillin
Gabriella Girard
Caroline Guanci
Heidy Guzman
Riley Joyce
Penelope Kearns
Amanda Kleinman
Julia Mele
Emma Preston
Katherine Pritchard
Caroline Puccini
*Alyssa Rago
Grace Sittig
*Kiley Vallee

* = *Abroad Fall 2024*

CHOREOGRAPHERS

HEATHER AHERN

As a founding member of Groundwerx Dance Theatre, Providence, RI, Ahern co-directed, toured, performed, and taught nationally for fifteen years. In 2012, Ahern founded Aerplaye dance company as choreographer and Artistic Director. She has been awarded three grants from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts: An Artist Project Grant for the creation of a one-woman dance/play, “Amazons, Goddesses, and Others”; an Individual Artists Grant for the creation of a dance-theatre work, “In Full Flight”, and more recently for a solo work entitled “100 Years of Disquietude: Love in the Time of Corona”. Ahern has performed, taught, and choreographed work for a variety of populations at colleges, universities and other institutions throughout the country. She has taught in the dance programs of CSU, Long Beach; Long Beach City College; West Virginia University (as Director of Dance Program); University of Tampa, Hillsborough Community College, Tampa Florida, Rhode Island College, and Providence College. She is also a certified Pilates Instructor specializing in Dance Conditioning, teaches at Club Pilates, Rhode Island, and is a certified Kripalu Yoga teacher. Ahern is proud to be a performing member of the band, The Gillen Street Ensemble.

LAURA BENNETT

Laura Bennett is managing director of Dancing Legacy and school director of Fusionworks Dance Center. A Brown University graduate, she has studied, performed, and taught techniques and repertory of the 20th century American concert dance lineage, beginning with her early training at the Harlem Dance Studio, led by her mother Julie Adams Strandberg and her aunt Carolyn Adams. She holds a dance education certificate from 92nd Street Y, New York, and has taught dance and theater in schools, colleges, community centers, private studios, and summer programs, including 33 years at the New York State Summer School of the Arts School of Dance where she was associate artistic director. Outside of dance, Laura enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, studying the Bible, following sports, and listening to podcasts.

NINA KOSSLER

Nina Kossler is an Assistant Professor of Dance at Providence college. She has previously taught at the University of North Carolina Greensboro, Valdosta State University, Ball State University, and Purdue University. She has also taught for Mark Morris Dance Group and Liberate Artists. She holds an MFA in Dance (Choreography) from the University of North Carolina Greensboro, and a BA in Dance from Muhlenberg College.

Her concert and screen dance choreography has been presented at the Global Water Dances Film Festival, the Identically Different Dance Festival (Brooklyn, NY), Dance New Jersey (Manalapan, NJ), The Fishbowl Collective (New York, NY), the ChEck Us OuT Dance Festival (Queens, NY), the American College Dance Association Screendance Festival, as well as numerous universities and regional dance organizations.

Nina has performed as a company member of Crossroads Dance Indy, a nonprofit multigenre dance company, and as a collaborator with Ballet Initiative.

CHOREOGRAPHERS

JESSICA T. PEARSON

Jessica T. Pearson (she/her) is an Associate Professor of Dance at Rhode Island College. Ms. Pearson is a dancer, educator and choreographer who danced with the Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble, Gesel Mason, Concepts In Motion (Bermuda), and Denizen Arts. As an educator of modern dance traditions, she has been invited to teach at Ballet West Summer Intensive, Brown University, Providence College, Urbanity Summer Intensive, University of Kentucky Lexington, Festival Ballet, and has taught overseas.

Her choreography has been selected to perform at Boston Contemporary Dance Festival, Southern Vermont Dance Festival and Collective Thread (NY). Urbanity Next, Utah Regional Ballet, Rhode Island College, Salve Regina University, University of Kentucky Lexington, University of Utah, and Providence College have commissioned choreography by Ms. Pearson.

Ms. Pearson was a principal dancer in Hocus Pocus 2 and recently joined SAG-AFTRA. Prior to Rhode Island College, she was a Post MFA Fellow at the University of Utah. She received her MFA in Dance from the University of Colorado Boulder where she studied dance pedagogy and choreography and BFA in Dance from Towson University in Towson, Maryland.

MICHAELA PENDOLA

Michaela Pendola is a Rhode Island based Dance Instructor and Choreographer. She is a graduate of Rhode Island College where she studied both Musical Theatre and Dance and currently is an MFA Candidate at Jacksonville University, studying Choreography. Michaela is the full-time Dance Instructor at La Salle Academy, where she is also the Director of the LSA Dance Company and Head Coach of the LSA Dance Team.

BROOKLYN TOLI

Brooklyn Toli is a Boston-based educator, arts administrator and performing artist. She currently serves as a faculty member at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee teaching jazz and tap dance, is the Administrative Associate for Dorrance Dance, and is a founding member of Fourth Dimension Tap Company, a professional tap company striving to ignite the interest of new patrons to the art form. Brooklyn has served as the choreographer for New Bedford Festival Theater for the past three years and received the BroadwayWorld Boston "Best Choreography of a Musical" award for her work on Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. In 2020, Brooklyn started "Sisters Support Success," an organization that works to support arts accessibility, and awards an annual \$1,000 scholarship to a high school senior committed to volunteerism. Brooklyn holds a B.A. in Dance Performance and Musical Theater from Rhode Island College, and is currently earning an M.F.A in Performing Arts Management from Brooklyn College.

CHOREOGRAPHERS

ARLYNN ZACHARY

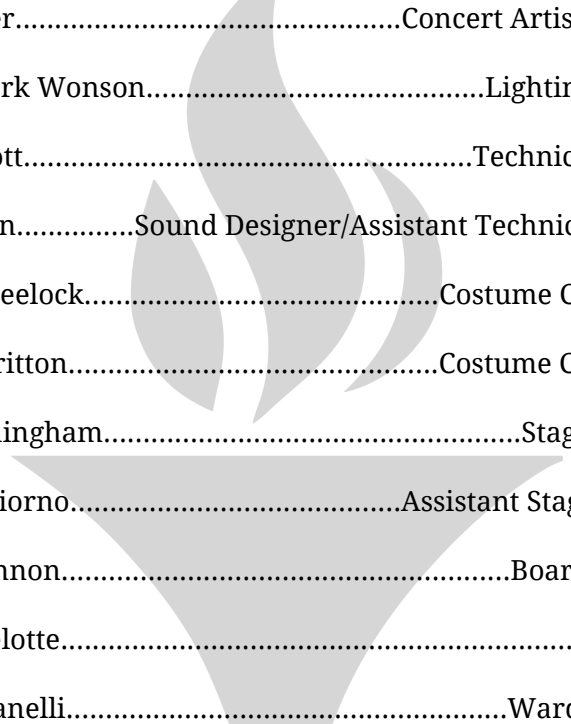
Arlynn Zachary has an MFA in choreography from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG), a BA in choreography from Goucher College (Magna Cum Laude), and an AA degree from Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC). She has performed in works by Kim Robards, Charles Weidman, Doris Humphrey, Martha Graham, Sean Curran, and Jennifer Archibald, among others. She has worked for Echo Contemporary Dance Company, Moving Poets Charlotte, The Wake Project, Baran Dance, and Taproot Ensemble, in the capacities of dancer, rehearsal director, stage manager, and lighting designer. She has served on the boards of the KinetiCollective, Charlotte Dance Festival, and Dance Artist Alliance CLT, and was the Director of Dance for the Charlotte New Music Festival's Dance Co-Lab. Her choreography has been displayed at the American College Dance Association, Goucher College, UNCG, Winthrop University (WU), Columbia College, Furman University, Johnson C. Smith University (JCSU), La Roche University, Belmont Abbey College, North Carolina Dance Festival, Greensboro Fringe Festival, Charlotte Dance Festival, Charlotte New Music Festival, Detroit Dance City Festival, SoloDuo Dance Festival, Emergence Showcase, and with Bodiography Contemporary Ballet, to name a few. She was the Artistic Director of THE MARK dance company for 12 years before retiring from dance in 2023, due to injuries sustained in a car collision in 2022. She is currently a dance photographer in Charlotte, NC.

LIGHTING DESIGNER

MICHAEL CLARK WONSON

Michael has worked in the United States and abroad for the past 25 years, Highlights include designs for The Bar Girl of Jamaica at The University of the West Indies in Jamaica, Boston Lyric Opera, Cumberland County Playhouse in Tennessee, Southern Methodist University School of Theatre, Dance and Opera, New Bedford Festival Theater, The Lyric Stage Company, Eastern Slope Playhouse, Deertrees Theater, The Five Colleges MFA and Faculty dance department of western Massachusetts, Boston Conservatory, Seacoast Repertory Theatre in Portsmouth NH, Providence College department of theater, dance, and film, and the Courthouse Center for the Arts in Kingston, Rhode Island. His designs have received numerous awards. He also designs full theatrical lighting systems and oversees installation. He is looking forward to opening his first off Broadway production this fall.

PRODUCTION



Nina Kossler.....Concert Artistic Director
Michael Clark Wonson.....Lighting Designer
Trevor Elliott.....Technical Director
Gabe Luxton.....Sound Designer/Assistant Technical Director
Maxine Wheelock.....Costume Coordinator
Christine Britton.....Costume Coordinator
Claire Cunningham.....Stage Manager
Kevin Bongiorno.....Assistant Stage Manager
Victoria Cannon.....Board Operator
Anthony Belotte.....Run Crew
Grace Romanelli.....Wardrobe Crew

STUDENT WORKERS

PRODUCTION OFFICE

Julia Carson
Gabe Staples
Ava Mullooly
Connor Hayes
Lauren Aldrich
Isabel Sullivan
Julio Valdez
Amelie Picard
Grace Romanelli
Hadley Harris

COSTUME SHOP

Olivia Black
Victoria Cannon
Tommy Cornacchia
Jack Jozefowski
Lucy Kelly
Aria Reinig

ACADEMIC OFFICE

Christina Schwab
Anthony Joseph
Anthony Maldonado

SCENE SHOP

Kathryn Genest
Marina Brooks
Claire Dancause
Rodney Lopez
Alex Lamoureux
Victoria Cannon
Molly McGoldrick
Colin Cavanaugh
Owen Kruger
Andy Belotte



TDF FACULTY

Full-Time Faculty

David Costa-Cabral, MFA,
Professor
Theatre Dept. Chair of
Theatre, Dance & Film

Nina Kossler, MFA
Assist. Professor of Dance

Rev. Kenneth Gumbert,
O.P., MFA, Professor of
Film

Jimmy Calitri, MFA, Assoc.
Professor

Megan Chang, MFA, Assoc.
Professor

Erin Joy Schmidt, MFA,
Assoc. Professor
Managing Director of
Theatre

Scott Osborne, MFA,
Assist. Professor of
Theatre

Mary Farrell, MFA,
Emerita Professor of
Theatre

Wendy Oliver, Ed.D
Emerita *Professor of
Dance*

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Aaron Andrade
John Garrity
Rachel Giron
Rana Hassan
Robin James
Jennifer Madden
Michael J Mahoney
Marcel Mascaro
Neal Mercier
Katrina Pavao
David Rabinow
Benjamin Sweeney
Erica Tortolani
Karen Tulli
Patricia Tulli-Hawkridge
Rodney Witherspoon II
Esther Zabinski
Kevin Olson

Staff

Ali Boyd, Academic
Coordinator

Trevor Elliott, Technical
Director

Gabe Luxton, Asst.
Technical Director

Maxine Wheelock,
Costume Shop
Supervisor

Christine Britton,
Costume Shop Assistant

Tonnesha Butler,
Production Coordinator



COMING SOON!



JOHN PROCTOR

IS

THE VILLIAN


by: Kimberly Bellflower



JANUARY 30TH-
FEBRUARY 2ND



FOR TICKETS VISIT OR CALL THE BOX
OFFICE AT 401.865.2218



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