[UN]W.R.A.P.: No Boundaries

Artistic Director: Gesel Mason

Special Thanks
[UN]W.R.A.P.: No Boundaries was made possible by the Diversity & Excellence Grant, IMPART Faculty Fellowship, President’s Fund for the Humanities, GCAH Visiting Scholar and the Department of Theatre & Dance’s Program Fee.
Program

How to Watch a Modern Dance Concert of What in the Hell are they Doing on Stage (Sat. and Sun.)

Choreography and Text ............................................. Gessel Mason
Narrator .......................................................... Bud Coleman
Performer .......................................................... Gesel Mason
Violin Sonatas No. 1 in G minor, etc. by J.S. Bach
Music performed by ........................................... Paul Garibra

Where You Come From (Premiere)

Choreography .......................................................... Dianne McIntyre
Performer .......................................................... Gesel Mason

“Rain Showers,” by ................................................... Ou Dara
Father Blues,” by .................................................. Ou Dara

Cleo Robinson Parker Dance (Friday only)

“Something,” by ...................................................... Gesel Mason
Choreography .......................................................... Gesel Mason
Performer .......................................................... Emily Pietruszka

“*Everything Must Change,” by .................................. Quincy Jones

“*Something,*” from “Sweet Bee” (1991)
Choreography .......................................................... Cleo Robinson Parker
Performer .......................................................... Jareed Rashid

“Everything Must Change,” by ................................... Quincy Jones

Intermission

Beautiful Human Lies (in progress)

Choreographer Note: A suite of works inspired by personal abuse experienced and witnessed as a child. In addition, it reflects our current state of consciousness and our struggle to develop spirituality.

Choreographer .......................................................... Gesel Mason

Performance Symposium

Moderator ............................................................ Dr. Amma Ghartey-Tagoe Kootin
Guest Panelists ..................................................... Dr. Thomas DeFrantz (Friday only), Dr. Brenda Dixon Gottschild

Scenery and Electrics

Technical Assistants
Ashley Avrota, Greg Baker, Caleb Bay, Bryce Cooper, Chas Crawford, Foulad Fakhr, Jordan Hamre, Phoebe Mattson, Zach Porteous, Amy Richardson, Laura Sandler, Jared Wold, Christin Woolley
Tech Studio Students
Dillon Calgargos, Natali Corboy, Keana Cowden, Kelani Fusia, Eddy Jordan, Phoebe Mattson, Jack Menzies, Anna-Marie Monzon, John Widdrington, Samantha Yoho

Production Team

Artistic Director ..................................................... Gessel Mason
Director of Dance Production .................................... Gesel Mason
Videography ......................................................... Chelles Rhymes
Video Editing ....................................................... Alii Alii
Lighting Designer ................................................... Jari Court
Assistant Technical Director ...................................... Collin Irvine
Stage Managers .................................................... Amy Richman
Lightboard Operator ............................................... TBD
Sound & Projections Operator .................................... TBD
Deck Chief/ ASM .................................................. Collin Irvine
Running Crew ...................................................... TBD
Wardrobe Head ..................................................... Shelby Fuentes
Live Camera Operator ............................................. Rachel Dodson

Theatre & Dance Department

Department Chair .................................................. Bud Coleman
Co-Directors of Dance ............................................. Yeti Randall
Production Coordinator .......................................... Connie Laine
Theatre Technical Director ......................................... Kerri Crepe
Director of Dance Production .................................... Jari Court
Lighting, Sound & Projections Advisor ....................... Jason Banks
Costume Design Advisor ............................................ Markus Henry
Scenic Design Advisor ............................................. Bruce Bagnari
Scenic Shop Foreman ............................................. Stephen Baldenow
Costume Shop Manager .......................................... Ted Stark
Costume Stock/ Rental Manager ................................. December Matthais
Costume Tech Lab Assistant ..................................... Amanda Herrera
Dance Costume Coordinators .................................... Shelby Fuentes
Dance Events Coordinator ........................................ Raelly Corz
Dance Video Recording/Archivist ............................... Rachel Dodson
Lift Production Coordinator ..................................... Will Lewis
Front of House Manager ........................................... Rachel King
House Managers ..................................................... Elizabeth Griffith, Samantha Satters, India Wanebo, Sami Wexler

Dance Production Technical Crew

Taylor King, Kathryn Lawrences, Caroline Phoole, Lorien Russell, Brandon Smart, Vanessa Weiandt, Gabriele Whitcomb, Chrisni Woolley

Dance Production Practicum Students
Sasha Abott, Sheridan Bernstein, Kya Boyd, Molly Dalahunt, Shelby Fuentes, Mora Glukkin, Leigh Salaman, Ryan Sinton, Taylor Suiter, Caroline T Wilson

Costumes

Costume Shop Employees
Keana Cowden, Casey Dean, Olivia Dyker, Zoe Garrison, traffic.Clarke, Corinna Mead, Paige Olson, Reba Told, Liz Williamson, Mary Wittling, Chimelia Phillips, Hannahke Hoffin, lint, Kate Tara, India Wanebo
Costume Practicum Students
Hayden Bobbitt, Eddy Jordan, Maddy Lewis, Alex Menzies, Jake Sielkman, Birda Piek

Note from the Artistic Director

Welcome to the fourth annual [UN]W.R.A.P. (Undoing Writing, Research, and Performance), a week-long symposium where artists and scholars come together to “unwrap” dance. No Boundaries: Dancing the Visions of Contemporary Black Choreographers is an evolving archive of original and established solos created by African American choreographers. [UN]W.R.A.P.: No Boundaries combines live performance and scholarship to give visibility to prominent African American choreographers and investigate “Black dance” and its evolution. The action packed week featured lectures, panel discussions, and movement workshops by Rico Chaneaux, Cleo Parker Robinson Dance, Dr. Thomas DeFrantz, Dr. Brenda Dixon Gottschild, Rennie Harris, and Jaamil Kosoko. I am excited to conclude [UN]W.R.A.P.: No Boundaries with tonight’s performance and subsequent discussion featuring participating scholars and guest artists moderated by Dr. Amma Y. Ghartey-Tagoe Kootin.

The original No Boundaries project was created in 2004 in order to celebrate the depth and diversity of style and vision in the field of modern dance. The evolving archive includes solos created by several of the nation’s leading contemporary choreographers, such as Robert Battle, Rennie Harris, Dianne McIntyre, Donald McKayle, Bebe Miller, David Rousseve, Reggie Wilson, Andrea Woods and Jawole Willa John Zollar. With documentary footage of interviews featuring the choreographers interspersed between the dances that span from the 1940’s to the present, No Boundaries delivers snapshots of, and creates discussion around, the idea of Black dance.

At the moment, my dancing body is the living archive of over seven decades of choreographic vision. In order to preserve, share and expand the themes surrounding No Boundaries, the performance project is evolving into a multifaceted platform that includes a feature-length documentary, an interactive Blu-ray media disc, and website archive. The vision is to offer an extensive archive of work by, for, and about African American choreographers and choreographers from the African diaspora. Thank you for joining us on the journey.

Truly,
Gessel Mason