

OHIO STATE DANCE integrates movement practice, creative process and theoretical inquiry at the forefront of contemporary dance. Our students become artists, scholars, educators and leaders in the dance field and in their communities.

Our highly competitive BFA, MFA and PhD programs require selective admissions processes. Students interested in our Dance Minor need only apply through the department. Elective classes in a wide range of movement styles and general education courses are available for all who wish to study dance in college.

The Department of Dance recognizes a responsibility to build public understanding and appreciation of dance as a diverse creative, cultural and educational expressive art form. A commitment to cultural, racial and ethnic diversity is reflected throughout the curriculum and in recruitment of faculty, students and staff. We are committed to academic and artistic excellence, inclusive diversity, freedom of expression, anti-racist activism, social transformation and civic responsibility.

2023 - 2024 UPCOMING EVENTS

Faculty and Guest Artists

DANCE@30FPS

Dance Film Festival
February 8, 7 p.m.
Wexner Center for the Arts

H.A.T.C.H. Spring Concert

Professors Charles O. Anderson, Alfonso Cervera, Irvin Manuel Gonzalez & Abby Zbikowski, Post MFA Scholar Ryan Johnson & Guest Artist Sidra Bell
April 11 - 13, 7:30 p.m.; April 13, 2 p.m.
Barnett Theatre, Sullivant Hall

College Day

Open House for High School Students
March 29, 9:45 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Register online at dance.osu.edu
Sullivant Hall

Students

MFA Project

Nico Lawson
January 27, Times TBA
Urban Arts Space

Black on Earth

MFA Dance Students
Orlando Hunter & Ricarrdo Valentine
February 16 - 17, 7:30 p.m.
Barnett Theatre, Sullivant Hall

Student Works-in-Progress

BFA and MFA Dance Students
March 1, 6 p.m.
Barnett Theatre, Sullivant Hall

BFA Student Concert

Senior Capstone Projects
March 28 - 30, 8 p.m.; March 30, 3 p.m.
Barnett Theatre, Sullivant Hall



dance.osu.edu/events

Photo by Lexi Clark-Stilianos of "Missa Brevis."

PRODUCTION MANAGER:
Jonathon Hunter

MARKETING AND
COMMUNICATIONS:
Damian Bowerman

DEPARTMENT CHAIR:
Charles O. Anderson

FACULTY: Harmony Bench,
Tanya Calamoneri, Alfonso
Cervera, Irvin Manuel
Gonzalez, Ryan Johnson,
Hannah Kosstrin, Nyama
McCarthy-Brown, Momar
Ndiaye, Crystal Michelle
Perkins, Daniel Roberts, Eddie
Taketa, Valarie Williams, Abby
Zbikowski, Norah Zuniga
Shaw

EMERITUS FACULTY: Melanie
Bales, Karen Bell, Odette
Blum, Michael Kelly Bruce,
Dave Covey, Melanye White
Dixon, Karen Eliot, M. Candace
Feck, Angelika Gerbes, John
Giffin, Susan Hadley, Ann Lilly,
Sheila Marion, Bebe Miller,
Susan Van Pelt Petry, Mitchell
Rose, Victoria Uris

LECTURERS: Suzan
Bradford-Kounta, Ellie
Escosa Carter, Susan Chess,
Lexi Clark-Stilianos, Jackie
Courchene, Yaizmen Fayne,
Emily Glinski, Steven Ha,
Jonathon Hunter, Donald
Isom, Diana McCullough,
Jimmy Orrante, Christana
Providence, Lindsay Simon,
Quianna Simpson, Mollie Wolf

VISITING ARTISTS/
SCHOLARS: Dante Puleio,
Sidra Bell

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM:
Jennifer Adams, Damian
Bowerman, Amy Schmidt,
Kylee Smith

MUSICIANS: Seth Alexander,
Matthew Dixon, Phil Brown
Dupont, Jesse "DJ Krate
Digga" Jackson, Joowon Kim,
Carlton Pope, Kevin Seals

STUDENT ASSISTANTS:
Tasneem Al-Hashemi,
Vanessa Bonilla, Julia Cabral,
Zoe Canty, Emma Carver,
Marco Delamaza, Mercedes
Hicks, Sydney Jones-Rumph,
Isatu Mansaray, Kei Kei Mock,
Khamille Randall, Brianna
Rosato, Bersabeh Tekeste,
Mia TorresRamos, Mare War

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND
SCIENCES

David Horn, PhD
Dean

Dana Renga, PhD
Dean of Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT OF DANCE

Autumn Concert: Gathering



7:30^{PM} THURSDAY - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 - 4, 2023
2^{PM} SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023

BARNETT THEATRE, SULLIVANT HALL
1813 N HIGH STREET, COLUMBUS OH 43210

Please turn off all cell phones,
watch alarms and other devices.
For the safety of the performers,
photography is not allowed. No
unauthorized use of recording
devices. Ohio State is a tobacco
free campus.

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dance.osu.edu
dance@osu.edu
(614) 292-7977

The Ohio State University is
accredited by the National
Association of Schools of
Dance.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER

Ohio State Sports Medicine | Performing Arts Medicine
Exclusive medical provider for the Department of Dance



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

“Rendering Home”

CHOREOGRAPHER: Eddie Taketa in collaboration with the dancers

MUSICIAN: Phil Brown Dupont

DANCERS: Megan Bhanoo, Emma Carver, Mercedes Hicks, Kelsey Plath, Liv

Sexton, Arie Vasquez, Rachel Waid, Ashton Wise

NOTES ON THE PIECE: Rendering Home, a new work, is a continuation of the creative process initiated by “Tidal Pull” (2022). And as my work/play is always in collaboration with the participating artists, I would like to acknowledge those of “Tidal Pull”: Vanessa Bonilla, Emma Carver, Susan Chess, Phil Brown Dupont, Jordyn Hersch, Forrest Hershey, Jonathon Hunter, Sophie Kussman, Kara Philoon, Kelsey Plath, Lindsay Simon, Cai Strachan, Elizabeth Sugawara, Aya Venet.

“A LOSER’S NO.7 PATHETIC DEATH (Act I)”

CHOREOGRAPHER: Yitong Chen

MUSICIANS: Jun Miyake, Toshimaru Nakamura

DANCERS: Yitong Chen, Mercedes Hicks

NOTES ON THE PIECE:

“我们太看重了白昼，又太忽视着黑夜。生命，至少有一半是在黑夜中呀。”

We value the day too much and neglect the night too often. Life, at least half of it, is in the darkness of the night.”

---史铁生 《我与地坛》

--- Shi Tie Sheng, “The Temple of earth and me”

A physical theatre piece, “A LOSER’S NO.7 PATHETIC DEATH (Act I)” steps in the raw depths of human tragedy, proclaims that birth is an act of agony, memory, but mere refuse, and that all we accumulate shall ultimately vanish into the void. The piece is an invitation to delve into the profound chasms of our shared human experience, offering a display of rebellion, fearlessness, and vulnerability. It beckons the audience to breathe through the stark realities of existence, and it’s a bitter poem to the deep intricacies that ride our journey through the chokehold of so-called LIFE.

*The evening-length version of this performance premiers in Spring 2024.

“Murmur”

CHOREOGRAPHER: Isa Bowser in collaboration with the dancers

SOUND DESIGNER: Josh Finck

DANCERS: Angel Anderson, Mercedes Hicks, Isabelle Johnston, and Brianna Rosato

NOTES ON THE PIECE: A new group work by second year MFA Student Isa Bowser in collaboration with the dancers, this iteration of “Murmur” is performed without Angel Anderson on stage, but her creative contribution remains within the trio. Sound designer Josh Finck joined the creation process early on, crafting a responsive and relational soundscape for the piece. The dancers invoke migratory patterns and micro-organismic movement, as well as assemblies of beasts and their soundings and calls. Jostling and pulling apart boundaries between who is alive/dead, alone/together, and one/many, “Murmur” speaks as a chorus of a biotic collective exalting in complex webs of vitality and decay.

“Unnecessary Weather”

CHOREOGRAPHER: Daniel Roberts

COMPOSER: Seth Alexander

SOUND DESIGNER: Jonathon Hunter

DANCERS: Jack Federinko, Jordyn Hersch, Graci Jackson, Caroline Steirer

NOTES ON THE PIECE: During my recent international trips, I have experienced how climate change, particularly the violence of extreme weather, is increasingly affecting our societies. This violence is not exclusive to climate, as several countries also struggle with widespread occurrences of cultural, emotional, physical and psychological violence. As dancers, we are attuned to the space that surrounds us, whether that be our dance studios, our homes and/or where we go in public. I have noticed that I hold fear in my body as I navigate my daily life because of

the increase in multiple types of violence in the United States. “Unnecessary Weather” is not explicitly a dance about weather patterns and violence, but rather, movements which have surfaced through a mind-body connection; we weather the violence in society because of a constant exposure to random and targeted events. This piece is the beginning of a collaboration with the Danish-American printmaking artist Thorsten Dennerline and his series “Fragmented Elements.”

<<<*TEN-MINUTE INTERMISSION*>>>

“Missa Brevis”

First performed April 11, 1958 at The Juilliard School of Music, New York, New York by the José Limón Dance Company.

CHOREOGRAPHER: José Limón

CHECKER AND COACH: Dante Puleio

COMPOSER: Zoltán Kodály by arrangement with Boosey and Hawkes, Inc.

DIRECTORS: Julie Brodie*, Mara Frazier, and Valarie Williams from

Labanotation scores by Barbara Katz with Judy Lasko (1973) and Ray Cook (1966) by arrangement with the Dance Notation Bureau, Inc. NY, NY.

STUDENT DIRECTORS: Eve Currens*, Jack Federinko, Hannah Fenstermacher, Julia Hutchings, Cat Mori*.

*Denotes dance collaborators from Kenyon College Department of Dance, Drama and Film

IN TROITIS: Organ Solo

KYRIE: Company

Lindsey Beatty, Vanessa Bonilla, Madeline Cassell*, Evelyn Couch, Eve Currens*, Abby Doerr, Jack Federinko, Hannah Fenstermacher, Olivia Gitters, Alex Grenn*, Mercedes Hicks, Julia Hutchings, Anya Huth, Emma Johnson*, Valeria Kozak, Yasmine Morris, Ella Neely*, Ella Newgarden*, Tabatha Pasquier*, Kelsey Plath, Ashley Sanchez*, Annie Specker*, Caroline Steirer, Terrian Stevens, Arie Vasquez, Anna Verutes, Rachel Waid, Zoe Weiner*

GLORIA: Lindsey Beatty, Madeline Cassell*, Eve Currens*, Jack Federinko, Olivia Gitters, Alex Grenn*, Julia Hutchings, Emma Johnson*, Ella Neely*, Ella Newgarden*, Tabatha Pasquier*, Kelsey Plath, Ashley Sanchez*, Annie Specker*, Terrian Stevens, Arie Vasquez, Zoe Weiner*

QUI TOLLIS: Vanessa Bonilla

CUM SANCTO SPIRITU: Jack Federinko/Julia Hutchings, Kelsey Plath/Terrian Stevens, Abby Doerr/Lindsey Beatty

CREDO: Anna Verutes/Arie Vasquez/Valeria Kozak, Olivia Gitters/Mercedes Hicks, Yasmine Morris/Rachel Waid/Anya Huth, Evelyn Couch/Kelsey Plath/Terrian Stevens, Hannah Fenstermacher/Abby Doerr/Lindsey Beatty, Julia Hutchings/Caroline Steirer

CRUCIFIXUS: Jack Federinko

AGNUS DEI: Vanessa Bonilla and Company

ITE, MISSA EST: Company

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José Limón (1908-1972) electrified the world with his dynamic masculine dancing and dramatic choreography. One of the 20th century’s most important and influential dance makers, he spent his entire career pioneering a new art form and fighting for the recognition and establishment of the American Modern Dance. Born in Culiacán, Mexico in 1908, he immigrated to California in 1915, and in 1928 Limón came to New York and saw his first dance program. Limón enrolled in the dance school of Doris Humphrey and Charles Weidman and, from 1930 - 1940, performed in works created by his teachers. In 1946, with Doris Humphrey as Artistic Director, Limón formed his own company. Over the following 25 years, he established himself and his company as one of the major forces of 20th century dance. Limón was a key faculty member in The Juilliard School’s Dance Division beginning in 1953 and continued choreographing until his death in 1972. Limón choreographed a total of seventy-four works, including “The Moor’s Pavane,” “Missa Brevis,” “There is a Time,” “The Traitor,” and “Psalm.”

NOTES ON THE PIECE: “Missa Brevis” portrays the united spirit of people working together to rebuild their community. José Limón choreographed the dance immediately upon return from his company’s 1957 U.S. State Department sponsored tour to Europe which included Poland. Impressed with the ability of the Polish people to maintain their vitality and spirit despite the tragedy of living in a war-torn country, Limón created the dance as a celebration of the group. These performances are part of the project “Missa Brevis: site of displacement, immigration, community” that engages with artists and scholars from urban and rural communities in Ohio. Dancers from Kenyon College and Ohio State Dance collaborated on the performance process. The project is supported in part by the following: The Ohio State University: Department of Dance Chair’s Discretionary Fund, the Polish Studies Initiative, Dance Preservation Fund, College of Arts and Sciences Dean of Arts and Humanities Engagement Fund, and University Libraries Dean’s Discretionary Fund. Kenyon College Office of Community Engaged Partnerships and the Department of Dance, Drama and Film at Kenyon College. Boosey and Hawkes Music Publishing; The José Limón Dance Foundation, Inc., NY, NY; Dance Notation Bureau, Inc., NY, NY.

“BEK”

CHOREOGRAPHER: Alfonso Cervera in collaboration with dancers

SOUND DESIGNER: Alfonso Cervera

MUSIC: Cuco Sánchez, Fallaste Corazón and Temazcal by Matanza

DANCERS: Gaby Brito, Vanessa Bonillo, Evelyn Couch, Abby Doerr, Ava Hunt, Sean Johnson, Yasmine Morris, Barry Nickell, Tess Searbo, and Isabella Seitz

NOTES ON THE PIECE: “Bek,” a word from Tzotzil Maya located in Chiapas, Mexico, translates to seed, which is used to symbolize the essence of growth, potential, and cultural continuity. This piece is a tapestry woven from the threads of inspired traditional Mexican Folklorico themes and narratives that reimagine how communities can transcend their boundaries and engage in acts of joy, rhythm, loss, and rigor with one another. The work is inspired by my lived experience as a Folklorico dancer (specifically traditional folk and a hyper-performative Folklorico style), that also stems from being Yucateco and acknowledging inspiration from my Mayan ancestors. Much of the work plays with zapateado/footwork rhythms that derive from various regions of Mexico. Bek has been a dance that values process and cultural exachnge that teaches the dancers Folklorico elements, partnering, and asking them to use their experiences to adapt, suggest, or modify to plant their own “bek” in the work.

PRODUCTION TEAM

LIGHTING DESIGNER: Jonathon Hunter (All pieces)

COSTUME DESIGNER: “Sail,” Unnecessary Weather,” “Missa Brevis” (Ohio State)

“BEK” - Lindsay Simon

COSTUME CONSTRUCTION: “Missa Brevis” (Kenyon College) - Mackenzie Malone

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER: Mary Storm (All pieces)

STAGE CREW: Taylor McGoff, Emma Morrow, Sofia Zwerdling