

2010 COMPANYDANCE SPRING CONCERT



THURS, FR, SAT MAY 6, 7, 8
7:30 P.M.
KELSEY THEATRE, ST. OLAF COLLEGE

2010 COMPANYDANCE SPRING CONCERT

Choreography by-

Uri Sands, Heather Klopchin, Anthony Roberts,
Janice Roberts

Student Choreography by-

Emily Broeker, Shannon Denzel, Greg Kraemer,
Siri Smithback, Brianna Johnson/Berit Nelson,
Joey Fleming/Timmy Wagner



The St. Olaf Dance Department...

The St. Olaf Dance Department is a charter member of the National Association of Schools of Dance, and is one of only two schools in the state of Minnesota to be an accredited institutional member. The faculty consists of three full-time faculty, four part-time faculty, and a full-time technical director. The Dance Department usually graduates 7-10 dance majors a year and serves much of the St. Olaf population, which numbers approximately 3,000 students total.

The Department of Dance aspires to present and teach dance as a vital form of human communication, expression, and interaction central to both liberal arts and fine arts educational traditions. The dance experience at St. Olaf engages students in the study of dance as a personal art, a cultural art, and a fine art, aspiring to weave the three into a satisfying whole. The B.A. in Dance prepares dance majors for a range of vocational and a-vocational options including performing, creating, teaching, and imagining dance into other fields. It also provides majors with a solid background for continuing dance and movement education. The dance program intends to inspire students toward a life of possibility with strong physical intelligence at its foundation. Students are guided to grow with attention to being a moving, thinking, feeling, and imagining dancer.

Looking Ahead...

First Year Project / Open Stage

An eclectic dance concert

May 14 at 4:00 p.m.

Wagner/Bundgaard Studio One in Dittmann Center

For the Audience...

- NOTE: A strobe light will be used in the production.
- Please do not bring food, drink, cameras, or recording devices into the theatre.
- Please turn cell phones off.
- Please place your unwanted program in the recycling box located outside the theatre as you exit.

From the Directors of Companydance...

The students, faculty and staff of the St. Olaf College Dance Department welcome you to the Companydance 2010 Spring Concert.

During this evening's performance, you will see movement explorations created and danced from many points of view and experience the concepts through metaphor and poetry embodied in human motion. Mental, physical and emotional intelligences are holistically and elegantly interwoven via the flesh and blood of live dance. The diversity of movement knowledge and expression is indicative of the philosophical breadth and scope encouraged and practiced by the St. Olaf College Dance Department.

Now that you are here, we invite you to join in our exploration. Regardless of your background or familiarity with dance or movement, you have something unique and valuable to stir into the mix. We encourage you to be an active observer, to let your personal experiences color what you see, think, hear and feel during tonight's performance. It is not important that you get "it", only that you participate in the journey and endeavor to get and give "something".

We thank you for your support, and we sincerely hope you enjoy your experience at this evening's performance.

Reception, Friday, May 7...

Following the concert on Friday, May 7 please join us for a reception in Dittmann Center, just outside the Flaten Art Museum on the main floor.



Break

Choreography: Anthony Roberts and Dancers

Dancers: Lianna Cotant, Heather Dansingburg, Louisa Fish-Sadin, Joey Fleming, Marta Johnson, Gregory Kraemer, Jenny Peterson, Siri Smithback, Teila Talley, Zack Teska

To my dancers: I am so thankful and proud for your commitment to dive into the deep unknown with me to discover, learn and communicate through dance--I believe this fragile community survived and prospered.

Music: *Legions (Reverie)* from the album, *One Cello x 16: Natoma* by Zoë Keating, *9 crimes* from the album, *9* by Damien Rice, *Light Through the Veins* from the album, *Insides* by Jon Hopkins

Text: Anthony Roberts

Costume Design:
Aimee Jillson

Excerpt from Break: "Why does this keep happening?" he wondered. "What was wrong with this one?" Then, in a rare moment of self-awareness, he pondered, "Is it possible that it really IS me?"

Break is dedicated to: Elizabeth and Edwin Haws, two glorious models of love and commitment, whom I have been blessed to call, family. Edwin Haws passed away December 22, 2009. And, to Janice (Haws) Roberts, my partner for life, to whom I owe so much for helping me to know love, give and receive love.



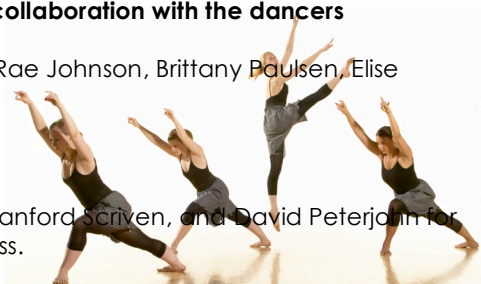
Catch-Up and Slow-Down

Choreography: Shannon Denzel in collaboration with the dancers

Dancers: Paige Haroldson, Brianna Rae Johnson, Brittany Paulsen, Elise Sande-Kerback

Costumes: Shannon Denzel

Thanks to composers John Cage, Stanford Scriven, and David Peterjohn for musical inspiration during our process.



Even So

Choreography and Dancer: Siri Smithback

Rehearsal Assistant: Gregory Kraemer

Music: *Avalon* by Sigur Rós



Errant Soul

Choreography and Dancers: Berit Nelson and Brianna Rae Johnson



Music: *I'll Read You a Story* by Colleen et les Boîtes à Musique

Costumes: Berit Nelson and Brianna Rae Johnson, Courtesy of the St. Olaf Dance Department

Rehearsal Director: Gregory Kraemer

Prop: Courtesy of the St. Olaf Theatre Department

She Said...

Choreography: Janice Roberts in collaboration with her dancers

Dancers: Shannon Denzel, Jennifer Haddy, Libby Nail, Megan O'Konek, Hilary Parlanti, Brittany Paulsen, Elise Sande-Kerback, Britt Werre

Music: *Soliloquy and Spoonful* by Scott Johnson and Willie Dixon

Costume Design: Aimee Jillson



INTERMISSION

6 Beginnings (excerpts)

Choreography: Uri Sands

1st Movement: Preoccupied
2nd Movement: Precursor

Dancers: Britta Anderson, Shannon Denzel, Sonya Erlandson, Brianna Rae Johnson, Libby Nail, Berit Nelson, Elise Sande Kerback, Ariana Williams

Music: *Cello Suite #2 in D Minor 1. Prelude; Cello Suite #6 in D 1. Prelude* by J.S. Bach

Rehearsal Director: Timmy Wagner



La Brea 2010

Choreography and Dancers: Joey Fleming, Timmy Wagner

Music:

Vivid Up Here 2010 Remix
by French children, Tom Waits, Röyksopp, Boys Noize, Excision & Datsik
Mixed by Joey Fleming and Timmy Wagner

Costumes: Joey Fleming

Thanks to Fever Ray for the inspiration



A Shot in the Dark

Choreography: Emily Broeker

Dancers: Hattie Claire Andres, Emily Broeker, Betsy Gaasedelen, Abigail Masters, Kathleen Pender, Siri Smithback

Music: *It Takes* by Heiruspecs



Lemma 2.7

Choreography: Gregory Kraemer

Dancers: Britta Anderson, Louisa Fish-Sadin, Brianna Hall, Aleks Weaver

Music: *Knee Play 5* by Philip Glass, from the opera "Einstein on the Beach"

Bom divertimento!

Choreography: Heather Klopchin in collaboration with the dancers

Dancers: Lizzie Gelle, Paige Haroldson, Brianna Rae Johnson, Lydia Kantor, Berit Nelson, Brittany Paulsen, Nichole Rohlfen, Siri Smithback, Aleks Weaver

Understudy: Emily Broeker

Music: *Magalenha, Fanfarra (Cabua - Le - Le)* by Sergio Mendes

Costume Design: Aimee Jillson

Thank you dancers for all your wonderful contributions and dancing!



PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director/Lighting Designer: Kyle Carson

Stage Manager: Kateri Salk

Light Board Operator: Selina Betcher

Sound Board Operator: Ben Golden

Fly Operator: Dana Dass

Stagehands: Chenoa Albertson, Heather Dansingburg, Eykka Gundlach, Dean Neuburger, Katie Pflaum, Kiersten Ruda, Nathaniel Viets-Vanlear

Ushers: Katherine Crawford, Anna Currie, Eykka Gundlach, Siri Hammond, Kathleen Pender

Department Videographers: Mason Murphy, Katheryn Weaver

Costume Shop Personnel: Francine Boylan, Green Bouzard, Justina Effler, Rebecca Fetridge, Siri Hammond, Anna Johnson, Anna Koski, Naomi Morphis, Chencheng Yang

SPECIAL THANKS

- Dan Dressen, Associate Dean of Fine Arts
- Jennifer Bader, Kyle Carson, Heather Klopchin, Roz Mascott, Anthony Roberts, Janice Roberts, Sherry Saterstrom, Anne von Bibra, Sean Wesche
- Jeanne Hatle, her Box Office Crew and the Theatre Department
- Gwen Daniels, Wendell Arneson, John Saurer and the Department of Art and Art History
- Photographer Erik Saulitis
- Aimee Jillson
- Roberta and Gene Ganske
- Bruce King
- Broadcast Media

LIVE STREAMING ON THE ST. OLAF WEBSITE

The Dance Department is excited to partner with the Office of Broadcast Media in piloting the inaugural Internet stream of a live dance department performance. To view the live or archived stream of the 2010 Companydance Spring Concert performance, please go to the following link:

<http://www.stolaf.edu/multimedia/streams/bounce.cfm?eventid=353>

Thanks to Jeffrey O'Donnell and Joshua Wyatt of Broadcast Media and all support staff assisting in this collaboration!

GUEST ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Uri Sands' choreography has received national recognition for the fusion of classical elegance with edgy contemporary action, for pulsating intensity with poetic lyricism. A native of Miami, Uri performed as a principal dancer with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for five years, with Philadanco, Minnesota Dance Theatre, James Sewell Ballet, as a guest artist with Complexions under the direction of Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson, and as a principal dancer with North Carolina Dance Theatre. His recent choreographic commissions include, among others, VocalEssence, Zenon Dance, Penumbra Theatre, North Carolina Dance Theatre and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. In addition to several film and television credits, Uri has taught dance extensively throughout the United States and Europe. He was awarded a 2004 McKnight Artist Fellowship, and a 2005 Princess Grace Award in choreography. TU Dance founders, Toni Pierce- Sands and Uri Sands were named "2005 Artists of the Year" by the Minneapolis Star Tribune.

FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

Heather Klopchin is an Associate Professor of Dance at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN. She holds a BS degree in Management and a Dance minor from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Geneseo and a MFA degree in Dance Choreography and Performance from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. Heather is passionate about performing, choreographing, researching, and teaching dance. Highlights of her career to date include performing in works by Danny Buraczeski, Joe Chvala, David Dorfman, Bill Evans, Karla Grotting, Doris Humphrey, Mathew Janczewski, Walter Kennedy, Linda Lehovec, Gabriel Masson, Mark Morris, Peggy Paver, Anthony Roberts, Zoe Sealy, Karis Sloss, Robin Stiehm, Deborah Thayer, Doug Varone, and Renée Wadleigh. Heather is excited to be performing with Zenon Dance Company this spring. She has also performed with ARENA Dances, Linda Lehovec & Dancers, Joe Chvala Flying Foot Forum, and Dancing People Company in Ashland, Oregon. She currently performs with Eclectic Edge Ensemble, a Minneapolis based concert jazz dance company.

Anthony Roberts unofficially came to St. Olaf College in 1994. While teaching at Gustavus Adolphus College that same year, he also spent his weekends guiding a ragtag, but enthusiastic, group of St. Olaf men through the fundamentals of beginning modern dance (for many of them, this was simply experiencing how to walk on the beat of the music). This process led to his first piece of choreography at St. Olaf, Jock-ularity, which was also performed by this same group of guys (and Anthony) at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis in 1995. Anthony was hired at St. Olaf the following

year to teach the intermediate and advanced ballet classes. He currently teaches modern dance technique and is co-artistic director of Companydance. He developed an Interim course, Movement, the Camera and the Creative Process, which integrates elements of human movement, dance for the camera and character animation of the human form.

Anthony has performed nationally and internationally with Repertory Dance Theatre and Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company, both located in Salt Lake City, Utah; Sharir Dance Company in Austin, Texas; and the Jacob's Pillow's Men Dancers (a project touring internationally to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Ted Shawn's birth). He has performed historical modern dance works by Isadora Duncan, Ted Shawn, Doris Humphrey, Helen Tamiris, Jose Limón, Charles Weidman and Merce Cunningham. He has also performed the works of many prominent contemporary choreographers. He is extremely proud of playing one of the mice in Colorado Ballet's Nutcracker, where he darn near gnawed the nutcracker's cheesy foot in two.

Anthony earned a BFA in Ballet Performance from the University of Utah and an MFA in Dance with a Dance Technology Emphasis from Arizona State University, Tempe.

Janice Roberts is a Professor of Dance at St. Olaf College. She received her BFA from Arizona State University and her MFA from the University of Utah. For nine years she danced with *Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company* in Salt Lake City, Utah. During her tenure with *Ririe-Woodbury*, Janice also worked as a solo artist and guest choreographer with several universities and companies. In fact, prior to coming to St. Olaf, Janice was a Minnesota Dance Alliance Visiting Artist in 1989 and again in 1990, teaching master classes at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Mankato State University and the Hennepin Center for the Arts in Minneapolis. In January of 1995, she and her husband were Sage Cowles Land Grant Artists in Dance at the University of Minnesota.

Throughout Janice's professional career, she has had the opportunity to perform the works of a multitude of prominent choreographers, including Kei Takei, Alwin Nikolais, Pilobolus, Murray Louis, Joanie Smith and Danny Shapiro, Bill Evans, Jamey Hampton, Tandy Beal, Douglas Nielsen, Jerry Pearson, Alyson Chase, Phyllis Lamhut, Claudia Melrose, Val Caniparoli, Shirley Ririe, Joan Woodbury and Donna White. During Janice's last sabbatical she was an ongoing guest performer with A. Ludwig Dance Theatre in Arizona. Janice recently co-wrote a successful grant to bring in a master teacher and reconstructor of Anna Sokolow's work to restage Sokolow's masterwork *Dreams* at St. Olaf College.

Student Choreographer Bios

Emily Broecker is a freshman at St. Olaf and has been dancing for 9 years. She has been performing with Karis Sloss' Minneapolis-based jazz dance company, Eclectic Edge Ensemble, for 4 years. She has also danced for tap and jazz choreographers Kaleena Miller and Erinn Liebhard at such venues as the Ritz Theater and the Bedlam Theater. In her spare time, she enjoys eating food (any kind is great), and playing four square. She thanks her dancers for the creativity and talent they've brought to the piece.

Gregory Kraemer is a junior Dance and Mathematics major and has been dancing for only a few short years. He had the honor to show his work, "Lemma 2.7," at the American College Dance Festival at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign this past March. Gregory would like to thank his dancers for all the hard work and support they have given him during this year-long process.

Siri Smithback is a sophomore Dance and Psychology major with a Nordic Studies concentration. She has been dancing for 14 years in her hometown of Madison, Wisconsin at West Side Performing Arts and Madison Ballet. She thanks everyone who has given her feedback and support throughout her process.

Brianna Rae Johnson is a senior dance and biology major with an American racial multicultural studies concentration. She discovered her passion for dance 8 years ago though the dance department at Apple Valley High School, and can't imagine life without it. She has performed in works by with Leah Nelson, Keith Johnson, Robin Steihm, Ursala Payne, Janice Roberts, Sherry Saterstrom, Cathy Wright and Megan Flood. Since coming to St. Olaf she has also spent summers studying dance at Zenon and The American Dance Festival.

Berit Nelson is a senior majoring in dance and French with a concentration in biomedical studies. She grew up studying ballet with the East Coast Youth Ballet, spending summers in Saratoga Springs, NY at the Ballet Regent School. It was not until her first year at St. Olaf that she fell in love with modern dance, but has since had the opportunity to perform works choreographed by Keith Johnson, Uri Sands, and Heather Klopchin.

Timmy Wagner, a dance lover, began motion and movement practices from the moment of his arrival on Earth. Blessed with opportunities to work with sensational energies, he is ever-fluxing and changing in the residual effects of their resonating impact. Discovering the world through constant shifts of balance and inspiring collaborations is his primary action in this moment. In his most recent collaboration, Timmy choreographed *The Bacchae 2.10*, a St. Olaf Theater Department production. Many thanks to Joey for adventures.

Joey Fleming, a visual artist-cum-choreographer, embraces the uncanny in his artwork, those paradoxical moments that feel simultaneously familiar and foreign, the dream-like moments of the impossible entwined with the mundane. He hopes that his work reminds you of something that you can't put your finger on.

Shannon Denzel studied at the Fergus Falls School of Dance in high school and is now a second year dance student at St. Olaf. She is really excited to attend the American Dance Festival this summer, and hopes to squeeze some family time in there too!

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Kyle Carson has worked as a freelance lighting designer in the Twin Cities. He has designed for the *Illusion Theater*, *North Star Opera*, *The Playwright Center*, *Zenon Dance*, *Park Square*, *Theater in the Round*, *Hauser Dance* and other theater/dance companies throughout the country. He is currently the Technical Director of the St. Olaf Dance Department.

COSTUME DESIGNER

Aimee Jillson has worked as a freelance theatre artist on both coasts and several places in-between before settling in the Twin Cities, where she has been the Costume Designer for Companydance and the St. Olaf Theatre Department since 1996.