

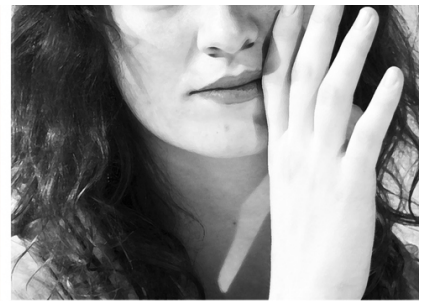


ST OLAF COLLEGE DANCE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

*what
words
can/not*

SENIOR DANCE CONCERT 2013
DECEMBER 11, & 12 7:30 PM
KELSEY THEATER

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



The St. Olaf Dance Department

Mission

The St. Olaf College Department of Dance is committed to teaching and presenting dance as a vital form of embodied awareness and understanding, communication and expression – all of which are central to education in the liberal and fine arts traditions.

Overview

The movement-intensive and language-intensive studies and experiences provided by the St. Olaf College B.A. in Dance guide students toward lives and careers with strong physical, creative, and analytical skills at their foundation. As a result, dance majors come away from St. Olaf College with the ability to manage, direct, and perform with professional companies or as free-lance artists; pursue graduate study in dance therapy, teaching, choreography, performance, or the somatic disciplines; enter other fields such as the healing professions, arts management, psychology, environmental studies, media, etc. In short, a B.A. in Dance from St. Olaf College, which engages students in the study of dance as a personal art, a cultural art, and a fine art, prepares dance majors for a wide range of life and career possibilities and options.

Accreditation

The Dance Department at St. Olaf College is a charter member and accredited institutional 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.

About the Senior Dance Major Capstone Experience

This evening's performance is the culmination of the senior dance majors' transformational experiences of designing and implementing their individual senior dance projects. Within this process, each dance major reflected upon the whole of their liberal arts education to select an Area of Specialty, which is the synthesis of a *content area* (the 'what' of the research process) and a *mode of presentation* (the dissemination method). Each student assembles a committee of two dance faculty and one faculty member from outside the dance department to serve as mentors to support, challenge, and guide the students during the lives of their projects. Thanks to the many external faculty members who have served over the years! In addition to being the creative architects of their senior dance projects, the senior dance majors are also responsible for the planning, finances and promotion of this evening's senior dance concert.

Now that you are here, the senior dance majors invite you to join in their explorations. Regardless of your background or familiarity with dance or movement, you have something unique and valuable to offer: your life experiences, your point of view, your frame of mind as you watch the concert. We encourage you to be an active observer, to let your own experiences color what you see, think, hear, and feel during this performance. It is not as important that you "get it" as it is that you participate in the unfolding journey and try to get and give "something."

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

what words can/not:
Senior Dance Concert 2013

As dancers, we believe that movement articulates what words cannot. Together, words and movement shape each other's meaning to create a multidimensional form of communication. For us, this title embodies the collaboration between words and movement.

Body as...

Choreographer: Julia Moser-Hardy

Dancers: Calvin Kickerbocker, Michaela Liesenberg, Benjamin Swenson-Klatt,
Julia Valen, Elayna Wagnild

Music: "The 2nd Law: Isolated System" by Muse, "Agape" by Zach Blaustone;
edited by Kyle Carson and Julia Moser-Hardy

Body as History

Body as Machine

Body as Community

Body as MySelf

The body tells the story of who we are and how we have come to be. We experience our world, our lives, and our sense of self because we live as this body and not as any other. For further insight into our journey to build this work, please see the artist board in the lobby/gallery space.

Seek

Choreographer: Meg Kirchhoff

Dancers: Sarah Cassavant, Karina Culloton, Nina Hagen, Lucia Heppner, Tatum Holland,
Amanda Spitzenberger

Music: "Immunity" by Jon Hopkins

*Alone together we discover strength and quiet power within our vulnerability
Alone together we contemplate, then learn to embody what Rumi tells us:
"What you seek is seeking you."*

One Fell Off and Bumped Her Head

Choreographer: Ashley R. T. Yergens

Dancers: Gabby Coll, Katherine Griffis, Anna Grimes, Lindsey Mornson, and Tasha Viets-VanLear

Music: The Meditone Project and Relmic Statute; edited by Ashley R. T. Yergens

For those of us who have grieved something before it was lost.

Not mine but Yours

Choreographer (Guest Artist): Sarah Steichen

Dancer: Moriah McFarland

Mentor: Kathy Mohn

Music: "Wandering" by Gungor

Music arrangement by Aaron Rice (www.aaronandthesea.com)

Rehearsal Director: Alisha Jihn

1 O God, You are my God, earnestly will I seek You; my inner self thirsts for You, my flesh longs and is faint for You, in a dry and weary land where no water is.

2 So I have looked upon You in the sanctuary to see Your power and Your glory.

3 Because Your loving-kindness is better than life, my lips shall praise You.

4 So will I bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name.

5 My whole being shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips

6 When I remember You upon my bed and meditate on You in the night watches.

7 For You have been my help, and in the shadow of Your wings will I rejoice.

8 My whole being follows hard after You and clings closely to You; Your right hand upholds me.

Psalm 63:1-8

Excerpts

Choreographer: Kelsey Daly

Dancers: Lisa Cole, Katherine Fewer, Seipati Jonga, Stephanie Kisch, Connor Phelan,

Anja Selland, Elayna Wagnild

Music: Tetrishead by Zoe Keating, and The Voyage Home by Takénobu

Everybody has a story. This is just a small chapter in ours.

The quotes used in the piece come from, "I Will Wait Out", E.E. Cummings; "Winnie-the-Pooh", A.A. Milne; "Nature Boy", Eden Ahbez; Eleanor Roosevelt; Pat Summitt; Mother Theresa; Gail Sheehy; "If Tomorrow Never Comes", Shonda Rhimes and Krista Vernoff.

Special Thanks

Anthony Roberts, Heather Klopchin, Janice Roberts, Sherry Saterstrom, Anne von Bibra, Jennifer Bader, Kyle Carson, Gwen Daniels, Aimee Jillson, Alex Van Rysselberghe, Beth Christensen, Jennifer Sanders, Jeanne Willcoxon, Minda Oriña, Meg Ojala, Dana Gross, Sarah Steichen, St. Olaf dance majors and students, St. Olaf Theater Department, Custodial Staff.

Artist Boards

Please visit the artist boards posted in the lobby on the main floor of the Kelsey Theater building. The boards serve as an additional entry point into the seniors' work and creative processes.

Reception

Please join us following our Wednesday performance in the lobby on the main floor of Dittmann Center for a reception with food, beverage and lively conversation.

Talk-back Session

Please join us immediately following our Thursday performance in Kelsey Theater for a talk-back session.

Production Staff

Technical Director, Lighting Designer, Sound Engineer: Kyle Carson

Stage Manager: Anastasia Nikitovic

House Manager: Rose Swanson

Light Board Operator: Lindsey Merrit

Sound Board Operator: Jacob Roberts

Assistant Stage Managers: Sydney Mason, Tommy Crawford

Stagehands: Rebecca Bowman Saunders, Julia Hagn, Shaina Andres, Mara Bakken, Jon Tiburzi

Fly Rail: Jennifer Crawford

Ushers: Emily Anderson, Mei Mei Siu, Julia Bassett, Gabrielle Dominique

Department Videographers: Alex Woods, Zachary Greimann

Senior Dance Major Biographies

Kelsey Daly began dancing when she was three years old. She spent the first fifteen years of her dance training studying ballet, jazz, and tap and participating in numerous dance talent competitions. Since coming to St. Olaf, Kelsey has really come to appreciate the sheer force of dance as a way to connect all people. Through her involvement in the dance department, Kelsey has worked and performed with Sherry Saterstrom as a part of Rhythm Project and with Anne von Bibra as a part in Veselica. Currently, Kelsey is working with Anthony and Janice Roberts on upcoming works. She would like to thank her friends and family for their never ending love and support. Also, she would like to express her gratitude and love for the St. Olaf Dance Department for challenging her, allowing her to grow, and giving her a home away from home.

Meg Kirchhoff fell in love with ballet at an early age and has been a learner and lover of dance ever since. At St. Olaf, Meg has focused on deepening and expanding her love and appreciation for movement as she pursues her Dance Major. As a member of Companydance, Meg has performed in several student and faculty works, and is looking forward to dancing in the Spring Concert this May. Meg would like to thank her awesome parents for their unfailing love and support; her dance instructors, past and present, for guiding her and instilling in her a love of dance; and her St. Olaf support system of professors, mentors, and friends for all their commitment, wisdom, and generosity.

Moriah McFarland has always felt the instinct to move and found dance at the age of nine as a way to channel that boundless energy and creativity. Since then, her faith, artistic nature, and playful curiosity have been awakened and deepened through the pursuit of dance as a study and as a lens through which to perceive life. St. Olaf has appealed to her love of learning and nurtured her journey as a Dance major. Through involvement in St. Olaf's Companydance, Moriah has danced in works created by faculty members Anthony Roberts, Heather Klopchin, and Janice Roberts as well as guest artist Stuart Pimsler Dance and Theater. She performed in St. Olaf's 2012 Theater production *A Chorus Line*. She has enjoyed performing at the American College Dance Festival for two years as well as the numerous Companydance concerts at St. Olaf. Moriah intends to use her innate love of movement and artistry as she seeks God's plan for her life after St. Olaf. She would like to thank her loving and supportive family and friends and the St. Olaf Dance Department for all they have done to inspire, invest, and mold her into who she is. Many thanks to Sarah for the inspiring and genuine person she has been through this process and for the gift of creating such a meaningful and vulnerable piece together.

Julia Moser-Hardy stepped into a red velvet skirt at the age of four and felt it spin as she twirled, and that was the beginning. She appreciated the messy sensation yet artful organization of the body that dance expresses. Julia studied ballet with Neta Barker School of Ballet in her hometown for thirteen years, and since coming to St. Olaf Julia has reveled in the conceptual depth of another form, modern dance. As a member of Companydance she has danced in works by faculty members, students, and guest artist Stuart Pimsler Dance and Theater. In 2012, Julia assisted faculty member Sheryl Saterstrom in an undergraduate research project titled *Somatic Foundations in Dance Education* and helped develop two websites, SimplySomatic.org and SomaticMe.ning.com. Her experience on this project was further enriched by the opportunity to present at the 2013 *National Dance Education Organization Conference* earlier this fall. In May, Julia will graduate with a B.A. degree in Dance and Psychology. She would like to thank faculty committee members Sherry Saterstrom, Janice Roberts, and Minda Orina for their generous mentorship during this capstone process, her dancers for their unwavering commitment, her family for their continued support, and her friends who challenge and inspire her every day.

Ashley R. T. Yergens has a curiosity for physical spaces and the people and stories that occupy them. She stumbled upon dance as a gawky teenager and has been blessed with countless opportunities to perform and choreograph since then. She has studied and performed under former Alwin Nikolais lighting designer, Ruth Grauert, as well as choreographers like Carrie Homuth, Jennifer Mack, Sara Shelton Mann, and Joanie Mix. At St. Olaf, she has performed works by faculty members Janice Roberts, Heather Klopchin, and guest artist Stuart Pimsler. She has choreographed works for The Rhythm Project under the direction of Sherry Saterstrom. Recently, she presented her work *côdes Unseen* at the 2013 American College Dance Festival (ACDFA) in Mankato, Minnesota. She will return to ACDFA with her senior work in the spring. Inspiration for movement comes from choreographing while grocery shopping, waiting in line for the bathroom, and dangerously grooving in the minivan. In May, she will graduate with a B.A. in dance and media studies and looks forward to a lifelong career in choreography and performance. She expresses deep gratitude to her friends, family, and professors for taking a ride on the wild side and supporting her throughout this experience.

Guest Artist Biography

Sarah Steichen is a proud alum of St. Olaf College. She graduated in 2008 with a B.A. in Dance and Management Studies. For five years, she danced with Mathew Janczewski's ARENA DANCES and spent this past summer teaching and performing with ARENA in St. Petersburg, Russia. Sarah is currently dancing with Zenon Dance Company and Eclectic Edge Ensemble in the Twin Cities. She has also had the pleasure of performing works by Shen Wei, Doug Varone, Adriane Fang, Danny Buraczeski, Jeffrey Peterson, and Stephen Schroeder. Aside from performing, Sarah is the Program Director and Sacred Dance Coordinator at Prairie School of Dance in Eden Prairie. *Moriab ~ Thank you for inviting me into this project. It has been a joy to share this conversation on "surrendering" with you. Blessings on your journey.*

Upcoming Events

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

Friday, January 24, 7:30 p.m.
Wagner Bundgaard Studio One
Dittmann Center

INCOMING FIRST-YEAR SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS

Friday, February 28, 2:00 p.m.
Wagner Bundgaard Studio One
Dittmann Center

ALEXANDRA BELLER PERFORMANCE

Guest Artist Residency Performance
Saturday, March 1, 7:30 p.m.
Wagner Bundgaard Studio One
Dittmann Center

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

Friday, March 7, 7:30 p.m.
Wagner Bundgaard Studio One
Dittmann Center

VESELICA© SPRING CONCERT

Thursday and Friday, April 10, 11, 7:30 p.m.
and Saturday, April 12, 2:00 and 7:30 p.m.
Wagner Bundgaard Studio One
Dittmann Center

COMPANYDANCE© SPRING CONCERT

Thurs, Fri, Sat, May 1, 2, 3, 7:30 p.m.
Theater Building, Kelsey Theater

FIRST YEAR PROJECT / OPEN STAGE

Friday, May 9, 4:00 p.m.
Wagner Bundgaard Studio One
Dittmann Center