



The St. Olaf College Dance Department Presents:
Senior Dance Concert 2018

AFTERGLOW

December 6, 7, & 8
Kelsey Theater // Theater Building
7:30 PM

Free and open to the public, no ticket required

Photo credit: Mercy Garriga

The Class of 2019 Senior Dance
Majors Present:

Afterglow

Welcome to this evening's performance of *Afterglow*, a presentation of our senior dance capstone projects. After developing our ideas over the summer, we've spent the fall semester formulating our projects: casting dancers, choreographing, and exploring for tonight's performance. Each senior has chosen their own journey through this process, but it all begins with choosing a project option: Choreography, Performance, a Written Thesis or a Blended Option. Four of us tonight will be presenting our own choreography on groups of students, two will be performing work they commissioned a guest artist to create, and one will be sharing her process in both a gallery and on the stage. All our presentations share in the theme of our title, *Afterglow*. The word evokes what's left behind; light, color, residue, and memory. Each of our pieces explore what remains after the present has departed. Join us in experiencing that fleeting present, and the glow we hope it leaves behind as you watch and later depart the theater tonight.

— The senior dance majors

Additional Requests:

- Please do not bring food or drink other than water into the theater.
- Please refrain from using cameras or recording devices in the theater.
- Please turn cell phones off, the glow of cell phones is not a glow we hope you experience tonight.
- Please place your program in the recycling box located outside the theater as you exit if you do not wish to keep it.

Following the Performance:

Post-Show Discussion Thursday, Dec 6th:

Please join us for a brief 20-minute post-show discussion of our works following the Thursday evening performance.

Reception Friday, Dec 7th:

Please join us for a reception following the Friday evening performance in the Center for Art and Dance.

Raked

Choreographer: Daniele Oblitas in collaboration with dancers

Performed by: Abby Olson, Linnea Cheek, Ella Schmeits, Yael Estrada-Nava, Bramlee Watson, Genevieve Wiley

Music: *Black 6* by Hauschka & Hildur Guðnadóttir, *Circular* by Hildur Guðnadóttir

Lighting Design: Ashley E. Stock

Costume Design: Daniele Oblitas

This piece explores the connection between community and resilience for those who work on the land.

“In a time of broken seeds
seeds sold broken

As we plant she planted – she is
planting still”

“Good Seeds” (excerpt) by Heid E
Erdrich

Between Point A and Point B

Choreographer: Jo Blake

Performed by: Sophia Diehl

Music: *Steep Hills of Vicodin Tears* by A
Winged Victory for the Sullen

Lighting Design: Ashley E. Stock

Costume Design: Sophia Diehl

Chance encounters or unexpected events can quickly become the defining moments of our lives. This piece grapples with transformation, as imagined concepts become lived realities and then distant memories. These memories continue to permeate our perception of the world around us.

Aural Vision

Choreographer: Julian Gruber in collaboration with the dancers

Performed by: Michelle Honsey, Maisy Martin, Genevieve Wiley

Music: *Aural Vision*, a musical collaboration with Mason Tacke, live improvisation by Julian Gruber

Lighting Design: Ashley E. Stock

Costume Design: Julian Gruber

Stage Manager: Matthew Erickson

This piece was sparked by my desire to create a multi-sensory composition. Frequencies of sound, wavelengths of light, and impulses of movement each reveal a different facet of the miraculous physics that surround us in every moment.

I'd like to thank Greta Ramsey, Andrew Larson, and Meghan Todd who all contributed sound to this piece.

~10 Minute Intermission~

So this is how you pray.

Choreographer: Elayna Waxse

Performed by: Amanda Myroniuk

Reading by: Sarah Freyermuth

Music: *Superb Outside Nature Recording* from Nature and Bird Sounds, and *Waterfall Sounds* from Waterfall Sounds, *Hopeful Timean Intersect* by Brian Eno, and *13 Angels Standing Guard 'Round the Side of Your Bed* by Silver Mt. Zion

Poem: "I Never Said Amen *after Mary Oliver and Andrew Hudgins*" created in collaboration as a part of this process

Lighting Design: Ashley E. Stock

Costume Design: Amanda Myroniuk

Rehearsal Director: Fiona Steen

Stage Manager: Read Karsell

Light Board Operator: Holly Ness

Prayer isn't just about praise and adoration; it's about despair, and anger. It's about encountering God face down in the middle of the road, and the lingering dirt that gets left behind.

Journeys Captured

Choreographer: Tianna Beniak in collaboration with the dancers

Performed by: Emma McClure, Caleigh Meehan, Allison Peterson, Liv Swenson, Genevieve Wiley

Music: *Regen* by Grey Reverend (edited)

Text: Created and recorded by a wide range of volunteer dancers

Lighting Design: Ashley E. Stock

Costume Design: Tianna Beniak

This piece was inspired/created from a wide range of dance experiences. To me, and so many others, dance is more than what's learned and rehearsed in the studio. It's present in every aspect of my life and has made me who I am today. My goal was to capture this idea as well as the many experiences and emotions that dance promotes.

Tracing the Untraceable

Choreographer: Jessie Rames in collaboration with dancers

Performed by: Sophia Anderson, Kaitlin Scott, Abby Schilling, and Mehek Jahan

Music: *A Meaningful Moment Through a Meaning(less) Process* by Stars of the Lid (edited)

Lighting Design: Ashley E. Stock

Stage Design: Ashley E. Stock in collaboration with Jessie Rames

Costume Design: Jessie Rames

In this piece, I explore the relationship between dance and art by combining painting, sketching, and movement. Dance is 'in the moment'; the moves are presented and then, they are gone. Art, instead, is a final picture but not the brushstrokes it took to get there.

Additional artwork created through this process is hung in the gallery of the hallway next to the theater. I and my dancers welcome you to enter this space of movement, creation, and exploration!

Senior Biographies

Daniele

Daniele Oblitas is an Environmental Studies and Dance major from Houston, Texas. During her studies at St. Olaf, she has cultivated her love for social justice (food justice) and the arts and hopes to use art forms, like dance, as a connection point between the two. Her love for 'movement' started young with rhythmic gymnastics, which expanded into dance in high school. Daniele is grateful to be a part of *Afterglow* and would like to thank her dancers for being a part of the creative process. After St. Olaf, Daniele hopes to find work in a health or environment-related field.

Sophia

Sophia Diehl is from Salt Lake City, Utah, where she grew up immersed in a city that embraces dance. She majors in

Dance and Religion at St. Olaf College. This combination has helped her to explore the spirituality of the creative process and to thoughtfully engage with art. Sophia spent a semester at the University of Ghana and another semester at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle, Washington last year. She also enjoys teaching dance at the Northfield Arts Guild. Sophia chose to commission Jo Blake, a choreographer based in Salt Lake City and Seattle, to reconnect to the places that have nurtured her relationship with movement.

Julian

Julian Gruber is an interdisciplinary artist from Des Moines, Iowa. Julian created his own major at St. Olaf College called Philosophy of Creativity: Expression, Curation, Aesthetics. Dance remains a fundamental way in which he knows and makes art, as it has since he was in kindergarten. Julian is grateful to

be a part of *Afterglow* and to have made this show with his fellow dance artists. After St. Olaf, you can find Julian seeking opportunities in museums, theaters, schools, and studios to make art, talk about art, and engage with other makers.

Amanda

Amanda is a Dance and English major from Apple Valley, MN. She started dancing when she was three years old at Betty Jo's Dance Center. Dance has always been a part of her life and has shaped how she interacts with her faith and her writing. She is very interested in how all forms of art and her faith can inform one another to create meaningful, interdisciplinary work. After graduation she hopes to find ways to integrate what she's learned about creative expression into service and nonprofit work.

Tianna

Tianna is a dance and exercise science major from Mazeppa, MN. She started dancing at the age of two and grew to be interested in a wide range of dance styles. Besides classwork in modern and ballet, Tianna is a captain of the St. Olaf Dance Team and teaches at Fusion Dance in Red Wing, MN. Following graduation, Tianna plans to continue dancing and eventually own and operate a dance studio for dancers of all ages.

Jessie

Jessie is a dance major receiving her teaching license in English as a Second Language from Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She started her journey with dance when she was three years old at Britza Studios. There, she explored as many styles as she possibly could, falling in love with an artform that would continue to shape her life greater than she could ever imagine. At St. Olaf

College, she is the president of Companydance© and dances on the St Olaf Dance Team. After graduation, Jessie hopes to be an ESL teacher and continue dancing.

Production Team

Technical Director and Lead Lighting

Designer: Ashley E. Stock

Stage Manager: Holly Ness

Assistant Stage Managers: Matthew Erickson, George Arbanas

Sound/Projections Operator: Helen Thieme

Light Board Operator: Read Karsell

Fly Rail Operator: Ben Fjetland-Souza

Run Crew: Andrea Ciccolini, Danielle Fitzgerald, Zoe Plewa, Natasia Preys, Ivy Tong

Dance Technicians: George Arbanas, Renée Audette, Thomas Bryant, Sam Brunclik, Matthew Erickson, Ben Fjetland-Souza, Olivia Folske, Read Karsell, Sasha Kazharskaya, Holly Ness,

Allison Peterson, Natasia Preys, Suley
Rahameto, Liv Swenson, Helen Thieme,
Ivy Tong, Gaonue Vang, José
Villalpando, Molly Yetzer

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