

# COMPANYDANCE® 2022 Spring Concert

May 5, 6, 7 7:30 p.m.

Kelsey Theater / Theater Building



## The St. Olaf College Dance Department

The St. Olaf College 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 four full-time and one part-time faculty, a full-time technical director and a staff musician. 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 St. Olaf College Dance Department engages students in the study of dance as a vital form of human expression, understanding, communication, and interaction. Partnering with the College's liberal arts curriculum and making connections with other academic fields, the dance program encourages the exploration of complex ideas through investigation, knowledge, and expression of the body. Rooted in the Modern Dance tradition and enriched by global and social dance forms, the dance department cultivates an inclusive and diverse community. The B.A. in Dance prepares dance majors for a range of career and vocational options including performing, creating, teaching, and writing about dance, as well as integrating their dance studies' skills and experiences into myriad other fields.

#### For the Audience

- Please do not bring food, drink, cameras, or recording devices into the theater.
- Please turn cell phones off. Please do not text during the concert.
- Please place your unwanted program in the recycling box located outside the theater as you exit.
- Please wear your mask.



## Reception: Friday, May 6

Following the concert on Friday, May 6 please join us for a reception on the main floor of the Center for Art and Dance, by the Flaten Art Museum.

#### From the Directors

The students, faculty and staff of the St. Olaf College Dance Department welcome you to our 2022 Companydance<sup>®</sup> Spring Dance Concert. This is the first in-person Spring Concert since May 2019.

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. Physical, intellectual, 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.

Companydance Directors,
Heather Klopchin, Anthony Roberts,
Janice Roberts, Arneshia Williams

#### Celebration Weekend

We are excited to celebrate 50 plus years of Dance Companies and 40 plus years of the Dance Department! Celebration Weekend events open to the public include an Alumni Panel on Saturday, May 7 at 2pm in the Center for Art and Dance 305 and the Alumni Concert on Sunday, May 8 at 2pm in Kelsey Theater.

A huge thank you to the many dance faculty and staff who built and served the dance department and whose shoulders we stand upon today. Thank you to Ann Wagner, Sherry Saterstrom, Susan Bauer, Toni Sostek, Anne von Bibra, Janice Roberts, Anthony Roberts, Jennifer Bader, Jowane Howard, Dan Dressen, Patti Porosky, Judith Rock, Michael Moore, David Swaim, Barbara Thatcher, Eric Fawcett, Shane Allen, Greg Catellier, Chris Fleming, Gwen Daniels, Sean Wesche, Kyle Carson, JP Douglas, Alex Van Rysselberghe, Shawn Paulson, and Jake Roberts.

This Companydance Spring Concert is bittersweet since it is the last for Janice and Anthony Roberts who are retiring at the end of this academic year. Without their vision, leadership, service, and dedication, the St. Olaf Dance Department would not be poised to dance into the next 50 years. Countless St. Olaf students have been inspired and benefitted from their expertise, artistry, mentorship, and guidance. I personally can't thank them enough for their mentorship and friendship over the years.

With gratitude and appreciation, Heather Klopchin, Dance Department Chair



# Ongoing Disquietude

Choreographer: Heather Klopchin with creative contributions from

the dancers

Music: Concerto for Harpsichord (or piano) & Orchestra, Op. 40: I.

Allegro molto by Henryk Górecki

Dancers: Josie Abbott, Bea Beaman, Ali Dorr, Olivia Haidle, Dorothy Hendrickson, Emma Hoelscher, Helen Knaack, Gibran

Murrieta, Yolanda Pauly, Natasia Preys, Anna Pundt, Elina Sargsyan,

Ella Vanderkolff, Jordan Wright

Lighting Designer: Stephen Schroeder Costume Designer: Rebecca Bernstein

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An abstract reflection of this time of worry, anxiety, ongoing pandemics, and worldwide strife.

# Workings Of and In

Choreographer: Arneshia Williams. Movement contributions made by Audrey Messinger and Kylie Kasprick

Music: Benjamin Clementine - "Quiver" and "I Won't Complain;"

Soundscore includes the voices of Audrey Messinger, Kylie

Kasprick, and Arneshia Williams

**Soundscore** by Arneshia Williams

Dancers: Audrey Messinger, Kylie Kasprick

Video: by Arneshia Williams featuring Audrey Messinger and Kylie

Kasprick

Lighting Designer: Stephen Schroeder Costume Designer: Rebecca Berstein

## Dust to Dust

Choreographer: Sophia Anderson

Music: "Turn to Salt" - Feverkin, "Muffled Heartbeat"

Dancers: Sophia Anderson

Lighting Designer: Stephen Schroeder

Costume Designer: Sophia Anderson

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An exploration through my individual major course work, and my Senior Dance Concert piece led to the dance exploration of my life from the beginning through this end of my dance journey.

## L.O.V

Choreographers: Kylie Kasprick & Mia Poletti

Music: L.O.V. by Fitz and the Tantrums

Dancers: Josie Abott, Hannah Orr, Veronica White, Marissa Lindaman,

Kylie Kasprick, Sophia Rice, Stella Jaeckle, and Mia Poletti

Lighting Designer: Stephen Schroeder

Costume Designer: Rebecca Bernstein

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This piece is an appreciation for an art that is often underrepresented and the love that comes with it.

# Coming2Know

Choreographer: Anthony Roberts, with creative contributions from the

dancers

Music: Immunity by Jon Hopkins (with King Creosote)

Dancers: Lily Moreschi, Gibran Murrieta

Lighting Designer: Stephen Schroeder

Costume Designer: Rebecca Bernstein Prop Construction: Stephen Schroeder

#### ~ ~ ~ ~ INTERMISSION ~ ~ ~ ~

## Get By

Choreographer: Hannah Orr

Music: Get By by Still Woozy

Dancers: Veronica White, Kylie Kasprick, Mia Poletti,

and Hannah Orr

Lighting Designer: Stephen Schroeder

Costume Designer: Hannah Orr

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It can often be easy to get caught up in our own worlds, but meaningful connections with others are what help us get by.

# This is Why I Can't Read

Choreographer: Bea Beaman

Music: Vitalik Buterin by Gramatik & Kotek

Dancers: Bea Beaman

Lighting Designer: Stephen Schroeder

Costume Designer: Bea Beaman

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Big ADHD energy.. Brain go brrrrrrr...

## F=ma

Choreographer: Kylie Kasprick

Dancer: Kylie Kasprick

Music: You Are a Memory by Message To Bears

Lighting Designer: Stephen Schroeder

Costume Designer: Kylie Kasprick

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F=ma speaks to life's perpetual pressures, and the resilience—sometimes presenting itself as toxic positivity—necessary to combat them.

# Standing on the Shoulders

Choreographer: Janice Roberts with creative contributions from the

dancers

Music: In too Deep and Submersive by Michael Maas, Flo Me La by

Nina Simone

Dancers: Talia Williams, Jordan Wright, Dorothy Hendrickson,

Olivia Haidle, Josie Abbott, Sophia Anderson

Media: Jordan Wright

Lighting Designer: Stephen Schroeder

Costume Designer: Rebecca Berstein

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The movement *Odes* in this work were inspired by, created for, and dedicated to the women upon whose shoulders I and the dancers performing have stood:

Elizabeth Haws Mary Ann Ogle, Michele Rusinko Ann Wagner Ruth Bader Ginsburg Ginger Williams
JoLee Thayer
Margaret Sanger

Nancy Gerth
Olivia Wright
Joan Wright
Marie Curie
Maya Angelou

Joy Haidle Elma Loehr Ruth Bader Ginsburg Jill Hendrickson Mary Tappe Rosalind Franklin Katy Smith Abbott Anna LaSala Goettler Edie Windsor

Melissa Anderson Geraldene DeStasio Edna Donahue Mary Putnam Jacobi

#### PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Designer/Lead Lighting Designer: Stephen Schroeder

Stage Manager: Grace Klinefelter

Assistant Stage Manager: Sophia Bloch, Matthew Erickson

Sound/Projections Technician and Operator: Saji Nammari

**Light Board Operator:** Ava Miller

Flyrail: Maddie Pieper

Run Crew: Morga Burkum, Liliana Schroedl, Claire Bouma,

Andrea Hanson

Videographer: Ella Panchot

Ushers: Raveena-Flor Lalwani, Maddie Holtz, Lily Mittlestadt,

Naiya Patel, Abby Newcomb

Costume Shop Personnel: Anike Braun, Esme Brown, Silvia Campagna, Lucy Cavener, Jake Hopewell, Sydney Niehaus, Mia Schoenbeck

Photos: Erik Saulitis, V. Paul Virtucio, Kent McInnis

#### **SPECIAL THANKS**

- Alison Feldt, Associate Dean of Fine Arts
- Patty Cohn, Art & Dance Administrative Assistant
- Rebecca Bernstein, Costume Designer & Costume Shop Supervisor
- Theater Department Faculty & Staff, especially Theater Administrative Assistant, Jessica Hunt
- Office of Broadcast Media
- Center for Art and Dance Custodians: Bryce Pickerign, Dawn Kaderlik, Greg Taubman
- Dance Department Members: Joel Arpin, Patty Cohn, Heather Klopchin, Anthony Roberts, Janice Roberts, Stephen Schroeder, Anne von Bibra, Arneshia Williams
- Jordan Wright, Poster Design

#### **FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES**

#### Heather Klopchin

Currently, Heather Klopchin is a Professor of Dance and Chair of the Dance Department at St. Olaf College where she teaches Modern/Contemporary Dance, Jazz, Ballet, and Dance History. Heather holds a BS degree in Management from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Geneseo and an MFA degree in Dance choreography and performance from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Heather, originally from Goshen, NY, is passionate about performing, choreographing, researching, and teaching dance. Highlights of her career to date include performing in works by Danny Buraczeski, Joe Chvala, Robert Cohan, Suzanne Costello, David Dorfman, Bill Evans, Karla Grotting, Judith Howard, Doris Humphrey, Jennifer Ilse, Mathew Janczewski, Walter Kennedy, Linda Lehovec, Paula Mann, Gabriel Masson, Mark Morris, Jeffrey Peterson, Stuart Pimsler, Anthony Roberts, Melissa Rolnick, Zoe Sealy, Karis Sloss, Daniel Stark, Robin Stiehm, Deborah Thayer, Doug Varone, Renée Wadleigh, and Taja Will. She has also performed with ARENA Dances, Zenon Dance Company, Eclectic Edge Ensemble, Off-Leash Area, Linda Lehovec & Dancers, Joe Chvala Flying Foot Forum, Dancing People Company, Alternative Motion Project, Paula Mann's time Track Productions, and STARK Dance. She currently is a principal artist with Stuart Pimsler Dance and Theater, a Minneapolis based dance and theater company which has toured nationally and internationally. Heather has had her choreographic work set on Michigan State University, Carleton College, Gustavus Adolphus College, the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater, SUNY Geneseo, Alternative Motion Project, and Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists. She also currently serves on the ACDA (American College Dance Association) Board of Directors. Heather considers herself lucky to be able to live a life so immersed in dance and expression. She is grateful for all the wonderful students, faculty and professional colleagues at St. Olaf, her loving and understanding husband, and the coolest cat ever, DJ.

#### **Anthony Roberts**

As Artist in Residence in Dance at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, Anthony Roberts has been a full-time, core member of the Dance Department for almost 27 years. In addition to teaching Ballet and Modern Dance, he has created, co-created, and taught several new courses for the department, including Senior Dance Seminar; Movement, the Camera & the Creative Process; Dance Anatomy & Kinesiology; and Conditioning: Practices & Principles. Anthony



is also co-artistic director of Companydance©, one of two faculty-directed companies within the dance department, and for which he has created over 35 dances.

In 2010, Anthony initiated the Dance Department's process for converting, archiving, sharing, and streaming its vast video library and has mentored and managed student workers in the process since its In 2015, Anthony completed the BASI PilatesTM inception. Comprehensive Teacher Training Course with Dance Specialization under the mentorship of Karen Clippinger at California State University in Long Beach. In 2017, Anthony teamed with two student researchers in a Collaborative Undergraduate Research and Inquiry (CURI) project, Scanning the Active Brain & Body: Revealing Connections Between the Art & Science of Movement, to record, process, and begin interpreting brain activity during the learning and execution/performance of movement tasks/sequences. Beginning in 2018, Anthony guided the Dance Department in a collaborative two-year research project with the Department of Kinesiology faculty, Jennifer Holbein, and students, to study the efficacy of functional movement and dance genre-specific warm-ups with the research being presented at several professional conferences. As a follow-up to the 2017 CURI project, Anthony served as Domain Expert (Dance) in 2019-20, in collaboration with Domain Expert, Jeremy Loebach (Psychology) and MSCS Mentor: Matt Richey, along with CIR Student Fellows for the Center for Integrative Research Collaborative Project, "How the brain dances: EEG analysis of the creation, teaching, learning and performing phases of dance."

Anthony started dancing at age 20, finding dance late in a typical undergraduate college career. He extended his college years and attended three universities in the pursuit of receiving quality dance training in an academic setting. As a professional dancer, Anthony 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: The Ted Shawn Legacy (a project touring internationally to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Ted Shawn's birth). His professional performance repertoire includes works by historic and contemporary dance artists including Isadora Duncan, Ted Shawn, Helen Tamiris, Doris Humphrey, Charles Weidman, Jose Limón, Anna Sokolow, Merce Cunningham, Douglas Dunn, Bill Evans, David Parsons, Bill T. Jones and Arnie Zane, Yacov Sharir, Garth Fagan, Douglas Nielsen, Shapiro and Smith, Ann Ludwig and others.

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

At the end of the 2021-22 school year we, (Janice and Anthony) are retiring from academia and moving toward new adventures in Arizona! We wish to extend our deepest gratitude to the multitude of students (and their support systems) who embraced the passionate, persistent, and rigorous study and practice of dance that we strived to model and share over the years. We are thankful for the very many dedicated colleagues who partnered with us in curricular and cocurricular cross-disciplinary collaborations, and those in the St. Olaf and broader communities who attended and joined our artistic and often personal journeys as audience members. We are also indebted to the numerous medical professionals who sought to understand the demands we placed upon our bodies and spirits as long-term, full-time dance performance and teaching artists and scholars, and worked to diagnose, treat, and rehabilitate the many physical maladies we encountered. Lastly, we want to deeply honor our families and friends who have encouraged and supported us from the beginning of our dance journeys up to this point in our lives and careers.

#### **Janice Roberts**

Janice Haws Roberts is Professor of Dance at St. Olaf College, where she served as chair of the dance program for 17 years. She has also served on several



College committees, including Tenure and Promotion; International, Domestic and Off-campus Study Committee; Faculty Review Committee; and the Main Street Steering Committee.

Janice recently held a six-year position as Treasurer on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Schools of Dance. Janice has been a NASD Visiting Evaluator since 1997. She has served on the nominating committee for NASD and on the team that presented workshops for new dance executives for the years 2010-2012. Janice has also presented many other NASD sessions, ranging from Dancing With Your Dean and Building New Facilities in the 21st Century to A Workshop for Seasoned Chairs.

Janice is the recipient of numerous grants, including Dance/USA and National Endowment for the Arts American Masterpieces: Dance-College Component Grant; Minnesota State Arts Board Career Opportunity Grant for Artistic Activity; SEMAC Original Works Grant; SEMAC Artist Initiative Grant, two Minnesota Dance Alliance Visiting Artist Grants; and a St. Olaf College Release Time Grant for Artistic Activity.

Janice's professional performing career includes eight years (1986-94) with Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company in Salt Lake City, Utah, where she 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 this time, she also worked as a solo artist and guest choreographer with several universities and professional

companies. In January of 1995, she and her husband were Sage Cowles Land Grant Artists in Dance at the University of Minnesota.

In 2001-02, Janice danced and toured with A. Ludwig Dance Theatre in Arizona. During 2005-06, Janice toured nationally performing, *Swing a Club: facing cancer*, an evening-length group work choreographed and performed by her husband, Anthony Roberts.

In Fall of 2016, Janice performed a solo evening-length work, *Approaching Winter, a dance work about aging*, choreographed by Keith Johnson.

Janice holds a BFA from Arizona State University and an MFA from the University of Utah.

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#### Arneshia Williams

Arneshia is a choreographer, educator and performer currently living in Minnesota.

#### STUDENT BIOGRAPHIES

#### Kylie Kasprick

Originally from Minneapolis, Kylie Kasprick is a dancer, teacher, and choreographer majoring in Dance and Kinesiology with concentrations in Neuroscience and Media Studies. A dance teacher at several studios in the Twin Cities, Kylie is very passionate about dance education from an anatomically safe perspective. With plans



to become a Doctor of Physical Therapy after graduation, Kylie hopes to implement safe measures within the studio dance education that will help dancers of all ages learn their craft without sustaining lifelong injuries. Recently, you may have seen Kylie's choreography and dancing around campus in Noye's Fludde, Grammy artist Caliph's live performance of Dummy, or Synergy's Concerto in D. Major.

#### Hannah Orr



Hannah Orr is a dancer and choreographer from New Prague, MN. She is a junior at St. Olaf College, psychology with concentrations in majoring in neuroscience and family studies. Although she has danced in various styles for over fifteen years, Hannah found a love for tap early in her dance career. She has closely under choreographers such as worked Kaleena Miller, Sarah Reich, and Star Dixon, and largely considers them influences her choreographic style. Passionate about keeping tap alive and well in the dance world, Hannah hopes that her choreography can provide a new perspective on

how tap can differ from its traditional stereotypes.

#### Bea Beaman

Bea Beaman (they/them) is a dancer/musician from Shanghai, China. They started dancing at the age of 8, due to a mild Michael Jackson obsession. This lead then to begin dancing in many other popular styles such as popping, locking, tutting, etc. They are a strong believer in that dance should be a source of joy and catharsis. We are living in a time where everyone could use a little fun and distraction. They are a first-year dance major at St.



Olaf College. They intend to use their education to choreograph for beginner dancers who want to try something new and have fun, as well as more experienced dancers who want to enhance their skill set. While enjoyment is their main focus, they are motivated by bringing awareness to mental health in their pieces in both dance and music. It is a personal mission for them to make neurodivergents feel less alone, and more represented in the arts.

#### Sophia Anderson



Sophia Anderson grew up dancing in the Minnesota suburbs as a competitive and modern dancer. Upon coming to college she changed her major course of action to Anatomy & Psychology in the arts, and has been fortunate to incorporate dance throughout her major exploration. Coming from a family of 5 she has always been encouraged to focus on health and wellness, and she has been able to study mental and physical wellness in the world of studio and performance art throughout her major. Sophia is a current certified nursing assistant and has been

blessed to see how dance and art seriously impact the wellbeing of individuals of all ages. Following graduation, Sophia will take a gap year before going to medical school to pursue her emergency medicine dreams. She hopes to continue using her experience in the arts for her own mental and physical wellbeing.

#### Mia Poletti

Mia Poletti is originally from Carmel, California and is currently majoring in French with a concentration in Environmental Studies. She was a competitive tap dancer for three years and grew up with a passion for performing and environmental justice. Tap dancing quickly became her favorite genre of dance, leading her and fellow student Kylie Kasprick to start Ole Tap Collective in 2020. She has been performing with OTC around campus, has been featured in several student-choreographed pieces, and has recently choreographed her first piece for OTC, showcased in the spring concert. Regardless of where life takes her, she hopes she can keep



dancing for as long as her shins allow! Follow @oletapcollective on instagram!

#### TECHNICAL DESIGNER

**Stephen Schroeder** is a father, husband, dancer, dance educator, technical designer, and horse enthusiast. As a professional dancer he's been seen with Shapiro & Smith Dance, Minnesota Dance Theater, ARENA Dances, Penelope Freeh, Nic Lincoln and 15 years with Zenon Dance Company. He holds a BFA in Dance from the University of Colorado-Boulder circa 2001 and received the McKnight Fellowship for Dancers in 2014.

Technically he's been working and lighting backstage since 2001. His designs have been seen from the far reaches of Minnesota to the White Sea. He's happy to be able to light the wonderful dancers here at St. Olaf. Love fully and live inspired.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

#### Alumni Concert

May 8 from 2-4pm Kelsey Theater, Theater Building Free. No ticket required.

#### Dance 107 West African Dance Showing

May 16 from 8-9pm

Wagner Bundgaard Studio One, Center for Art and Dance Free and open to the public.

### Advanced Choreography Showing

Final showing of choreographic works by the DANCE 374:Advanced Choreography class.

May 18, 7-9 p.m.

Wagner Bundgaard Studio One, Center for Art and Dance Free and open to the public.

