

ST. OLAF COLLEGE DANCE DEPARTMENT

Celebration Weekend!

May 7 and 8, 2022

Celebrating more than 50 years of
dance companies and
over 40 years of the
dance program at
St. Olaf College!



CELEBRATION WEEKEND

2022

Alumni Concert

May 8

2 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.



Dreams, 2007

Celebration Weekend

We are excited to celebrate 50 plus years of Dance Companies and 40 plus years of the Dance Department during this Celebration Weekend!

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.

Long time dance faculty, Janice and Anthony Roberts, 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.

AND to the many, many St. Olaf students who have majored in dance and participated in the Dance Companies THANK YOU! It has been a privilege to witness and guide your journeys and inspiring to watch you soar after graduation. The Dance Department would not exist without you.

With gratitude and appreciation,
Heather Klopchin, Dance Department Chair



Awakenings

Choreographer: Jolene Konkell, Artistic Director, Concerto Dance

Dancers: Rachel Bonkougou, Kaylee Fandre, Lydia Kantor '13, Sara Karimi, Helena Magalhães, Julia Moser-Hardy '14, Shannon Mulcahy, Sarah Steichen Stiles '08, (Betsy G. Nelson '13, company member and original cast member unable to join us)

Music:

Despair Not, O Heart

15th Century Hymn, Germany

Shore

Composed by Fredrik Schøyen Sjölin

Polska from Dorotea

Traditional from Lapland

Unst Boat Song

Traditional from the Shetland Islands

D drøm rømte mig en

Traditional from Denmark

The Dromer

Traditional from Denmark

Performed by the Danish String Quartet

Used by arrangement with ECM Records

Composer: (See above)

Costume Designer: Amy Hill

Awakenings first premiered as a dance film in Jan. 2021 and was filmed at the Goodtree Farmstead and Sechler Park in Northfield MN along with Christdala Church in Lonsdale, MN. We are delighted to have the opportunity to adapt the work for live performance in 2022. Awakenings

was inspired by traditional Nordic folk music arranged by the Danish String Quartet, and reflects a journey that awakens the soul to uncover the beauty and depth that lies within us and within community. It is allowing the harsh realities that have worn us down to mend through a journey of hope and discovering the courage to move forward into the unknown possibilities that lie ahead. We are grateful for the opportunity to share the work at St. Olaf, the alma mater of 4 of our Concerto Dance company members!

Concerto Dance

Concerto Dance by Jolene Konkel creates modern and jazz dance works driven by musicality and virtuosity. Our mission is to explore work that strengthens and uplifts the human spirit, aiming to inspire hope and build community connections through vibrant concert dance.

Lydia Kantor '13 has had the honor of performing with Jolene Konkel since 2016 and has performed with several other dance companies such as Collide Theatrical Dance Company, Alternative Motion Project, Curio Dance, and Eclectic Edge Ensemble. Her performance experience expands into the theatre realm as well, having acted in a production of Bye Bye Birdie as well as the Guthrie Theater's A Christmas Carol. She trained at Ballet Arts Minnesota, Minnesota Dance Theatre, and St. Olaf College. For her, dance is joy.

Betsy G. Nelson '13 is a dance artist, educator, and proud Minnesotan. She earned her BA in Dance and Exercise Science from St. Olaf College and has performed professionally with Collide Theatrical Dance Company, Minnesota Opera, Curio Dance, Rhythmically Speaking, and more. Outside of performing, Betsy teaches dance and serves as Office Manager at CREO Arts & Dance Conservatory. She is thrilled to be working with the talented artists of Concerto Dance!

Julia Moser- Hardy '14 received her Bachelor's degree from St. Olaf College in Dance and Psychology and enjoys the intersection of these two fields in her teaching work throughout the Twin Cities. Julia has had the opportunity to perform choreography by Stuart Pimsler Dance and Theater, Alexandra Beller/Dances, and has danced in the Minnesota Fringe and with various independent choreographers. She currently dances professionally with two companies, Alternative Motion Project,

and Concerto Dance by Jolene Konkel and teaches with Prairie School of Dance in Eden Prairie and CREO Arts & Dance in Minnetonka.

Sarah Steichen Stiles '08 is a graduate of St. Olaf College with a degree in Dance Performance and Management Studies. Sarah danced with Zenon Dance Company from 2013 - 2019 working with nearly twenty national and international choreographers. She has also performed locally with Mathew Janczewski's ARENA DANCES, Eclectic Edge Ensemble, Luke Olson-Elm, and The Minnesota Opera. Currently Stiles is the Program Director and Sacred Dance Director at Prairie School of Dance in Eden Prairie and performs with Concerto Dance.

Jolene Konkel (Artistic Director and Choreographer) began her dance training in Milwaukee under William Reilly, a descendant of Jerome Robbin's Ballets: USA. While in Milwaukee she had the opportunity to study and perform with the Milwaukee Ballet, the Milwaukee Opera Company, Van Collins and Danceworks before relocating to Chicago to study jazz dance at Gus Giordano's and Lou Conte's. She went on to pursue a BFA in dance at the University of Minnesota where she performed works by Danny Buraczeski, Cathy Young and Zoe Sealy among others and later completed her MFA in Performance and Choreography through the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. As a choreographer, Ms. Konkel has been creating dance for the past 20 years for both musical theater as well as jazz and modern concert dance that has been presented locally, nationally and internationally. As an educator she pioneered a dance program in 2002 through a global university in which she had the unique opportunity to train dancers from over 15 different nations around the world. Currently, Ms. Konkel serves as Dance faculty and Resident Choreographer at the University of Northwestern in St. Paul MN and is the Artistic Director of Concerto Dance by Jolene Konkel.

The Picnic Sisters



Choreographer: Molly Hess '12, Eliza Malecki

Dancers: Hess, Molly '12, Malecki, Eliza

Music: *Picnic With You*

Composer: Alaina Montuori

This was created to almost be an introduction of who we (*The Picnic Sisters*) are as collaborators and what we do. Originally we had created a piece for stage using some of these elements and choreography, but the show was cancelled at the start of the Pandemic. It also is very much a reflection of the time we created it, which was the summer of 2020, it shows the tenderness and joy of simply being able to spend time with a friend. It was created at Bearnstow where the two of us first met and also reflects the love for that place.

SERIES: La Bête (2022)

Choreographer: Keith Johnson in collaboration with the dancers

Dancer: Timo Wagner '11

Music: Beauty and the Beast

Composer: Stevie Nicks

Keith would like to acknowledge and thank the 2017 BFA Technique class at CSULB for creative contributions to this work. SERIES is a collection of solos that uses the same material but is performed to different scores with an emphasis on different elements within the structure of the dance. The collection of dances touches upon ideas of family, death, environment, race, religion and the LGBTQ+ community. Currently there are 25 versions of this work either completed or in process. They have been premiered in New York, California, Arizona, Oregon, Utah, and Korea.

Keith Johnson has danced for Ririe/Woodbury Dance Company, Creach/Koester, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company and Doug Varone and Dancers. In addition, he has performed with Bili Young/Colleen Thomas and Dancers, Nancy Bannon, and Victoria Marks. Keith is the Artistic Director of Keith Johnson/Dancers and the

Co -Director of Fistbomb Films with Gregory R R Crosby. He was named the Distinguished Alumni for 2012/13 from The Department of Modern Dance at the University of Utah. He has been awarded two Lester Horton Awards for Choreography, been a Djerassi Artist Resident, has taught at ADF, Doug Varone and Dancers Summer Intensives, Beijing International Dance Festival and has performed in major venues internationally. Keith is on faculty at CSULB.

Timo Wagner '11 has performed with ARENA Dances, Body Cartography Project, Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theater, Flying Foot Forum, Mad King Thomas, Jennifer Arave, Vanessa Voskuil, Blake Nellis, Rosy Simas, Tamara Ober, Scott Stafford, Valerie Oliveira, and now Keith Johnson. They taught Modern Dance at Zenon Dance School, as well as Contact Improvisation and Yoga throughout the Twin Cities. Choreography credits include a production of "Cabaret" at St. Olaf Theater Department, "Seussical the Musical" at Lake Harriet Players, and several self-produced pieces, including a long-distance collaboration with a poet in Mexico City. Timo is absolutely thrilled to be performing back on the hill.





Choreographer: Karina Wilder '15

Dancer: Sonja Ebey

Music: Original Composition

Composer: Jon Anderson

This piece explores the feeling of pulling away/falling towards “the inevitable”. Themes of femininity and strength run throughout. This project was a collaborative effort and includes music originally composed through an NDEO collaboration between Jon Anderson and Karina Wilder, video elements assisted by Andrew Wilder '15, and a performance by the lovely Sonja Ebey, a potential future Ole (Class of 2027). This video was filmed and rehearsed on occupied Tewa land.

Karina (Culloton) Wilder '15 is a dance artist born and raised in the Chicago suburbs. Since 2012, Karina has taught dance to students ages 2-adult across Minnesota, Illinois, Maine, and New Mexico. Karina has performed internationally with Stephan Koplowitz and locally with Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theater and Jolene Konkel among others. She has co-produced two full length shows and has been interested in collaboration throughout her professional work. Karina currently lives in New Mexico, where she combines her passions for teaching dance and arts administration as the Associate Director of Dance Arts Los Alamos. During the 2020 Lockdown, she rekindled her interest in screendances and is excited to continue exploring this medium of dance performance.

Fault Lines

Choreographer: Erin Drummond

Dancers: Courtney Armani, Brianna Rae Johnson '10

Music: *Étude 1, Ooh La La, Low Drone of a Striped Hawk Moth's Wing Vibration, A Moment of Clarity*

Composers: Nico Muhly/Nadia Sirota, Goldfrapp, Pro Sound Effects Library, Boards of Canada

Exploring geological fault lines as a relational metaphor.

As a dancer, teacher, choreographer, and intermedia artist, **Brianna Rae Johnson '10** invites her community to create, wonder, and problem-solve with her. In 2010, she graduated from St. Olaf College with degrees in Dance and Biology and a concentration in American Racial and Multicultural Studies. Upon graduating, Brianna began working with Robin Stiehm's Dancing People Company in Ashland, Oregon. She has also performed and toured with Minnesota-based choreographers such as Paula Mann, Mathew Janczewski, and Erin Drummond. While pursuing her MFA in Dance from The Ohio State University, Brianna focused on intermedial and interactive art to create immersive and interactive performances. She has taught and created with students at The Ohio State University, Carthage College, Mount Mary University, and St. Olaf College and currently teaches at Winona State University and in the studio, Milwaukee Public Schools, and assisted living facilities with Milwaukee's Danceworks.

Erin Drummond is Assistant Professor and Dance Program Director at Winona State University and teaches courses in dance composition, contemporary dance practices, performance, interdisciplinary connections, and meditation. They hold an MFA from Hollins University and a BA from Columbia University, with early dance training at Ballet Arts Minnesota, Zenon Dance School, and School for International Training in Samoa. Their research explores the intersections of place, perceptions, forms and forces and the world-making possibilities of live performance. She performed for many years with Dancing People Company, directed by Robin Stiehm, and served as interim Artistic Director in 2016. She has also worked closely with and performed in several works by Rosy Simas, including ongoing recent collaboration for the project /she who lives on the path to war/. Fault Lines is the first piece choreographed for the collective Flyway Dance, based in Keoxa/Winona and named after the "Mississippi Flyway" of migrating birds.

Key Notes

Choreographer: Erin Scheiwe Rockwell '01

Dancer: Erin Scheiwe Rockwell '01

Music: "Tamarack Pines" and "The Venice Dreamer, Part One - Introduction"

Composer: George Winston

Inspired by the beautiful sounds and motions of a concert pianist, *Key Notes* personifies the emotional journey of the performer as experienced in the mind of the musician. The dance embodies the flurry of anxiety masked by the calm flow of fingers on keys accompanied by the dazzling sound poured out from this percussive instrument while under the command of a brilliant musician.

Erin Scheiwe Rockwell '01, a Professor of Dance and MFA Program Director at Belhaven University in Jackson, Mississippi, holds a MFA from California State University, Long Beach and a BA in dance from St. Olaf College. She is certified in Pilates with BASI and is a Master Instructor with Balanced Body. Her choreography has been presented around her home state of Colorado and across the U.S. from Los Angeles to New York City. Erin is co-founder and co-director of Front Porch Dance, a contemporary dance collective established in 2008. Her artistic interests lie mainly in creating and performing dance works for both stage and screen.

John 1:5

Choreographer: Sarah Steichen Stiles '08 & Kelly Folwick

Dancers: Prairie School of Dance Cathedral Ensemble: Josephine Donaldson, Gabriella Fletcher, Ameilia Gravelle, Lauren Leiker, Selah Metzger, Taylor Muhlbauer, Lillian Rau, Elizabeth Reardon, Lydia Robinson, Claire Sprute, Esme Thibodeau, Anna Tupa Clark, Lili Ulrich

Music: "It'll Rain Today"

Composer: Michelle Willis

We all carry our own struggles, fears, and unknowns. What if we were to share the load together and let go of the burdens that weigh us down? Our hands would then be free to hold on to the good and simple

glimpses of light that exist in all moments and spaces of darkness. There is always hope, if only we have eyes to see it.

Sarah Steichen Stiles '08 is a performer, teacher, creator, and peace seeker. She danced with Zenon Dance Company from 2013-2019. Locally, she has also performed with Slo Dance Company, The Minnesota Opera, Mathew Janczewski's ARENA DANCES, Luke Olson-Elm, and the Eclectic Edge Ensemble. Currently, she is the Executive Director at Prairie School of Dance in Eden Prairie and a member of Concerto Dance by Jolene Konkel. She is passionate about cultivating community and sacred experiences through art. Stiles is a 2008 graduate of St. Olaf College with a degree in Dance Performance and Management Studies. She is grateful for the incredible people and experiences that the HIII introduced her to; inspiring faculty, Global Semester, life-long friendships, and an awesome husband. May our hearts be full as we see live art returning to the stage! Um Ya Ya!

~ ~ ~ ~ INTERMISSION ~ ~ ~ ~

Callejera

Choreographer: Jose Richard Aviles '13

Dancer: Aviles, Jose Richard '13

Music: *El Pescador*

Composer: Toto La Momposina

"not built, only implied, and usually invisible . . . useless, amoral and sensual space that lives only in and for experience." -- Aaron Betsky, *Queer Space: Architecture and Same-Sex Desire*

Callejera is a multimedia art piece that explores the testimony and spatial analysis of the Queer body. Historically, Queer folk, especially Queer folk of color, have been othered and ostracized to edges. It is in those edges, under the pressures of heteronormativity, that queer people have had to self-determine and create what Betsky defines as the "architecture of self." This piece looks at the author's life and

experience as a queer bus rider in the city of Los Angeles to create a piece of spoken word, dance, and film. Callejera, spanish for Women of the street, is an homage to the Femmes that learned that the city was their first stage.

Jose Richard Aviles '13 is a multimedia artist, Urban Planner, and Social Worker based out of Los Angeles. As a former organizer, and a current artist, Aviles is interested in the intersections between space and justice, laughter and resistance, and the magic of the stage. Currently, Aviles is promoting their first published collection of poems, Semilla and developing a new poetry EP, "La Carta Que Nunca Envie", an homage to Juan Gabriel and the countless lovers that are hidden in the lyrics. "Lo que se ve no se pregunta" -Juan Gabriel

reaching for...



Choreographer: Jessica Westerlin '09

Dancers: Staenberg Omaha JCC's Dance Training Company : Emily Barnes, Grace Caskey, Evelyn Hoberman, Laura Kirshenbaum, Avery Kluver, Rachel Kricsfeld, Leora McNamara, Alexis Ochsner, Gigi Penney, Sophia Schulz

Music: *Earth* (Instrumental)

Composer: Sleeping At Last

reaching for... In a time of feeling isolated and alone, we need to remember that there is always someone ready, waiting and willing to reach back for us when we are ready.

Jessica Westerlin '09 graduated from St. Olaf College in 2009 with a BA in Dance and currently lives in Omaha, NE, with her husband Ryan, son Bryson (5), and new baby boy due May 2022. She currently works for Mosaic in Omaha and has been teaching dance at the Staenberg Omaha Jewish Community Center since 2009. At the JCC, Jessica is also involved with a talented group of junior and senior high school dancers known as the JCC Dance Training Company. Prior to working at Mosaic, Jessica was the JCC Performing Arts Assistant Director from 2013-2021 and also served as the Rehearsal Director, Stage Manager, and Choreographer for over 19 musicals and plays put on by the JCC. Jessica has also been involved in the following dance and theater

organizations around Omaha: tbd Dance Collective (founding company member), UNO's The Moving Company, Omaha Modern Dance Collective, Dance Chance Omaha, Omaha Dance Project, and Circle Theatre. When she's not working or dancing, Jessica loves to travel, crochet, watch movies, attend live theater, and spend time with her family.

Resiliency (Night Club 2 step)

Choreographer: Derek Merculeif/Shirley Johnson

Dancers: Derek Merculief, Heidi Novak '82

Music: *Easy on Me*

Composer: Adele

I had watched Adele's debut song of Easy on Me at her concert at Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles on 11/14/2021 and was entranced by the song. When my private dance instructor recommended the song for a solo I was elated. I have been consistently dancing for 5 years. Dance has been a healing art for me, providing resilience as a caring mother, wife, living with a mental health disorder, and working as a holistic Women's Health Nurse Practitioner in a challenging multicultural clinic in North Minneapolis for 30 years. Come celebrate with me the powerful medicine of dance.

Heidi Novak '82 class of 1982 BSN in Nursing and Psychology is a blooming dancer in the generative stage of her life. Heidi took a modern dance class at St. Olaf, then decades later her dance journey became more dedicated when she won a week session of lessons at Arthur Murray at the St. Olaf Gala Silent Auction in 2017. Last August 2021 she danced in her first competition at Northstar in Minneapolis and won first prize in the All Around competition. She dances four smooth and ten rhythm dances. Her favorite dance is West Coast Swing and her future goal is to dance bolero. She finds exquisite joy in her dance passion for healing in mind, body and soul. The dancing path has come full circle.



2013

Mother's Will

Choreographer: Sarah Rose Mauney '08

Dancer: Sarah Mauney '08

Music: *Unchained Melody*

Composer: Composed by Alex North, sung by The Fleetwoods, arranged by Sarah Mauney, with thanks to the estate of Alex North and Universal/Capital Records

An excerpt from my MFA thesis from CU Boulder, "Mother's Will" is one of four sections of a larger work titled "Games Played While Lying Down". This section explores the tension of how one relates to self once entering into motherhood/parenthood. Upon the birth of my daughter, my own needs and desires, as well as my sense of my own individuality, began to fade. But there was something to be gained by "giving in" to my identity as a mother- I got to define what mothering meant for me and my child on our own terms, and in that sense found enormous freedom. This piece attempts to encapsulate the complication and elation of those moments.

Sarah Mauney (Nee: Goldberg) '08 graduated from St. Olaf in 2008. Since leaving the hill, Sarah has had a professional career as a dancer, choreographer and teacher. She became a certified Alexander Technique teacher in 2017. Sarah has danced for Robin Steihm and Peggy Paver as a member of Dancing People Company, and worked as a freelance dancer and dance maker in Chicago for six years before moving to Boulder, Colorado to graduate with an MFA from the

University of Colorado, Boulder in 2021. Her research there ignited a passion for expanding access to arts and performance opportunities for mothers- theourchive.com is an online archive dedicated to dances about mothering experiences, and Sarah is currently working to establish a parent-artists co-operative in her new hometown of Eugene, Oregon. Sarah is mother to Hazel (4 years-old) and Arlo (6 months-old), and wife to Alex. She would like to thank her family for all the times they have said and continue to say “Yes” to her creative pursuits.

Failing Falling

Choreographer: Berit Ahlgren '05

Dancer: Berit Ahlgren '05

Music: *Mas Que Nada*

Composer: Sergio Mendes

Native to St. Paul, Minnesota, **Berit Ahlgren '05** gained her foundational dance training from Minnesota Dance Theater and received a BFA in Dance from St. Olaf College, where she also studied biomedical studies. Ahlgren was a founding member of TU Dance under the artistic directorship of Toni Pierce-Sands and Uri Sands, and performed with the company between 2006—2016. Having received Metropolitan Regional Arts Council’s highly competitive Next Step Grant in 2011, Ahlgren had the opportunity to study the Gaga Movement Language in Tel Aviv, and moved to Israel to pursue teacher certification between 2011— 2012. Ahlgren earned her MFA in Dance from NYU/Tisch School of the Arts in 2016, and has since been on faculty at the University of Minnesota and Winona State University, performing with independent choreographers between Minneapolis and New York, and choreographing her own body of work for both stage and camera under her fledgling dance organization, HoneyWorks (2019). Ahlgren has had the great pleasure to work with Crystal Pite, Ohad Naharin, Netta Yerushalmy, Dimitri Chamblas, Gregory Dolbashian, Dwight Rhodan, Ashwini Ramaswamy, and Helen Hatch, among others. In addition to her work as dancer-choreographer, Berit teaches weekly Gaga/people classes throughout the Twin Cities.



2016

Pattern in Flux



Choreographer: Amy Slater '95

Dancers: Bri Allehoff, Claire Hart, Emma Hendricks

Music: *Nice Fights*

Composer: Mr. Maps

Pattern in Flux, is a playful piece inspired and influenced by our indoor & outdoor settings, the snow, patterns in the music, and patterns found in nature. I've always been fascinated by floor pattern and dancing in snow gave us a unique opportunity to create visible floor patterns inspired by nature.

Ritual

Choreographer: Jake Nehrbass '20

Dancers: Juli Eckert '20, Jake Nehrbass '20, Fiona Steen '20

Music: Song 1: *Ritual* - Song 2: *Limbo* - Song 3: *Cosmic Carousel*

Composer: Digital Nap

The work I am creating stems from thoughts I have on daily rituals; specifically things that are habitual or part of daily life. I am hoping to showcase how ritual experiences can be influenced and changed, for better or for worse. I also want to show rituals that become either unsustainable or change due to individual circumstances/responses from external forces; even through the relationships on stage. This is a

work in progress, and I am really glad to come together with my friends to showcase this work.

Jacob Nehrbass '20: Born and raised in Minnesota, Jacob is a teacher and performing artist in the Twin Cities. Having tap danced since the age of three, and being trained in ballroom dance, modern dance, as well as having an interest in physical therapy, Jacob graduated from St. Olaf College with degrees in Dance and Exercise Science. Jacob is currently a company member with Threads Modern Dance Company, Rhythmically Speaking, as well as has performed/ is performing works with Hatch Dance and HoneyWorks, Flying Foot Forum, Katha Dance Theater, Eau Claire Dance, and Stephan Koplowitz. Jacob currently teaches tap dance at Prairie School of Dance as well as Ballare Teatro Performing Arts Center.

Fiona Steen '20 majored in Dance and Psychology with a concentration in Neuroscience. In 2019 she received her 200-hour yoga teacher certification. Since graduating from St. Olaf College in 2020, she has worked in the mental health field. In the Fall of 2022, Fiona will begin a counseling psychology graduate program to become a marriage and family therapist.

Julianne Eckert '20 graduated from St. Olaf in 2020 with degrees in both Dance and Women and Gender Studies. During her time at St. She participated in works by Shapiro and Smith, Mathew Janczewski, and Paula Mann. Upon graduating, she pursued work in Outdoor Adventure Guiding, as well as youth programming, at Ghost Ranch Education and Retreat Center in Abiquiu, New Mexico. This year, she moved back to Minnesota, and is currently working with REI, as well as working towards obtaining her yoga certification. She has thoroughly enjoyed moving and collaborating with her St. Olaf peers again, and is excited to explore the Twin Cities dance scene more.



Benches, 2011

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Designer/Lead Lighting Designer: Stephen Schroeder

Stage Manager: Natasia Preys

Assistant Stage Manager: Abby Newcomb, Sophia Bloch

Sound/Projections Technician and Operator: Saji Nammari

Light Board Operator: Ava Miller

Fly Rail: Maddie Pieper

Dance Technicians: Matthew Erickson, Natasia Preys, Adele Hensley, Grace Klinefelter, Ava Miller, Saji Nammari, Abby Newcomb, Sophia Bloch, Maddie Pieper

Videographer: Ella Panchot

Ushers: Jordan Wright, Yolanda Pauly, Talia Williams

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

SPECIAL THANKS

Alison Feldt, Associate Dean of Fine Arts

Rebecca Bernstein, Costume Designer and Costume Shop Supervisor

Theater Department Faculty & Staff

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

vonBibra, Arneshia Williams

Jordan Wright, Poster Design

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.

