

winterdances 2022

ALL THAT YOU TOUCH YOU CHANGE

FEB 3
— T O —
FEB 5



February 3-5, 2022 | Mainstage Theatre
Th-Fri, 7:30 p.m. | Sat, 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

We acknowledge in Milwaukee that we are on traditional Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk and Menominee homeland along the southwest shores of Michigami, North America's largest system of freshwater lakes, where the Milwaukee, Menominee and Kinnickinnic rivers meet and the people of Wisconsin's sovereign Anishinaabe, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Oneida and Mohican nations remain present.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S NOTES

We are excited to launch into our spring semester as we galvanize our deepest values with you, creative collaboration and community building. Amid our chilly winter and the seemingly endless pandemic, we are overjoyed to be able to gather on this stage and share the embodiment of our imaginations. With *Winterdances*, we bring you the opportunity to be a participant in bridging cultures through dance as innovative ideas are experienced, expressed, and archived in the body and on our stage. At the heart of our mission in the Department of Dance is uniting individuals to create change through the physical manifestation of ideas into action. *All That You Touch You Change* is a commemoration of how our bodies and their actions are the agents that manifest hope into action. We are thrilled to share with you this moment to witness knowledge become action and ideas become art. I hope the dances you see tonight will stretch your imagination, ignite empathy, and inspire kinetic delight.

I am thrilled to share with you the newest choreographic commission by our guest artist Parijat Desai. Desai is an acclaimed choreographer based in New York City. She has created a dance that features her singular approach to contemporary and rooted vocabularies - blending elements of Indian classical and folk dance, martial arts, and postmodern dance. *In Her Defense* also features a collaboration with Music Director Andy Miller, who created and performed the original music you will hear. Desai's exploration of body, nature, and rituals of grounding reveals ways our embodiment can not only impact but heal our relationship with our environment.

Simone Ferro brings a deeply felt commentary on our environment in her work, *second wave of the plastic tide*. Ferro's work explores the cycles and human impact our technologies and our bodies have on the planet. This dance also features a collaboration with Alex Wier (UWM Music Department) and the UWM Percussion Ensemble. Anthony 'YNOT' Denaro's work, *Equation of Motion* is a rhythmic contemplation of the passage of time and features his own original sound composition. I am excited to share *The Weight of Inscription*, a continuation of my exploration of embodiment of experience and how movement imprints our bodily archives into space. The dancers create a record of their presence, their touch, and creates a two dimensional poetic record of the impact of our reach and our touch - revealing that what is within us becomes a part of our world.

I hope this evening of creative adventures invites you to recognize the value of showing up to the places where communities unite and affect change. As artists, we hold dearly our commitment to the creative process as a method to make peace, share joy and express empathy. Your participation tonight is crucial to our mission. In fact, you are a key collaborator to our visions as your patronage today directly supports our students through scholarship funds. We invite you to revel in the kinetic meaning of dancing bodies creating spaces where imagination reigns over limitation. Even during what feels like insurmountable circumstances - in our bodies and in our practices - we show up and create together. It is through this shared creative practice that we imagine, connect, and move, knowing all that we touch, we can indeed change.

Thank you for joining us. I hope you enjoy the performance!

Maria Gillespie, Artistic Director

PROGRAM

The Weight of Inscription

Choreographer: Maria Gillespie, in collaboration with the performers

Performers: Sydney Bannach, McKenzie Johnson, Grace Winkel, Rae Zimmerli

Guest Artist Performer: Cuauhtli Ramirez Castro

Music: "Requiem for the Extinct" by Pascal Le Boeuf, "Tinder" by Origamibiro, "Duoone" by Ryuichi Sakamoto & Alva Noto, "Seven League Boots" by Zoe Keating, "Drifting Circles" by Anne Müller

Set and Media Design: Maria Gillespie

Media Engineer: Shannon Massman

Costumes: Madeline Corson

Choreographer's Note: Our bodies carry a history of experience, mapped into our flesh and nervous system. Our movements are melodies and rhythms that translate that experience, traveling from synapse to flesh, linking memory to action. This dance-drawing offers a kinesthetic and visual landscape to reveal the inscriptions in our bodies and space, pointing to our impact in the world. Each gesture and its mark come from deeply inscribed intelligence and are reciprocally inscribed from our bodies into our environment – transformed but never lost.

**Recording of any kind, including screen recordings and photography, of this live streaming performance, is strictly prohibited. We appreciate your cooperation and respect for our choreographers, dancers, and musicians whose copyrighted works you are about to enjoy. Thank you!*

second wave of the plastic tide

Choreographer: Simone Ferro in collaboration with the performers

Performers: Deajah Barney, Kaylee Branshaw, Destiny Garland, Lily McClutchy, Maddie Westreich

Guest Artist Performer: Gina Laurenzi

Music: "Meditation for Metal Pipes" by Emma O'Halloran, "Canto per Klaus" by

Rodolfo Acosta, "IX. Chorus 3" and "III. Chorus 1" from *Threads* by Paul Lansky

Musicians: UWM Percussion Ensemble, directed by Alex Wier. Eliana Alcocer, Matt Becker, Ben Chapin, Bailey Graunke, Kay Speidel

Musical Arrangement and Ensemble Coach: Andy Miller

Set Design: Keith Earl Pitts

Set Construction: Ryan and Kevin Nordmeyer

Costumes: Leslie Vaglica

Choreographer's Note: The puzzle of climate change affects our daily lives directly and indirectly now and for many generations to come. It calls on us for constant adaptation and accountability. This new work fits into our quest for sustainable practices while connecting with our responsibility to the future and the safety of our planet. By repurposing plastic, costumes, scenery and instruments, this work travels through physical encounters where bodies jump, fly, crash, fall and rise— again and again — while seeking change and awareness.

I would like to express my immense gratitude for Elise Klein for her contributions to this choreographic process. All the UWM Dance, Milwaukee and Shorewood communities for contributing with all the plastic on the stage. For Mair Culbreth for her invaluable help during tech week, for Leslie Vaglica for allowing our partnership to blossom, for Andy Miller and Alex Wier for believing that this piece was possible, for UWM Percussion Ensemble for being part of this collaboration, for Gina Laurenzi for her brilliance and inexhaustible inventiveness and generosity and for my fearless cast with whom I travelled long ways...

15 minute Intermission

Equation of Motion

Choreographer: Anthony 'YNOT' Denaro in collaboration with performers

Performers: Ashley Ray Garcia, Lauren Fleury, Maya Hirsig-Smith, Emma Meznarich, Izaak Ordonez, Cheyenne Willis

Creative Direction and Music Production: Anthony 'YNOT' Denaro

In Her Defense

Choreographer: Parijat Desai

Rehearsal Director: Christal Wagner

Performers: Ava Ferrier, Chase Gilbertson, Zoe Glise, Jessica Lueck, Miranda Parker, Libby Steckmesser, Jasmine Uras

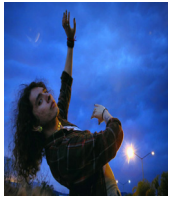
Music: Andy Miller

Set Design: Dedalus Wainwright

Set and Media Concept: Parijat Desai and Dedalus Wainwright

Costumes: Madeline Corson

Choreographer's Note: *In Her Defense* explores our interconnectedness with the natural world and imagines a group of warriors-people who are learning to connect with the land and training to defend Her. Parijat developed this piece as a part of an ongoing process to make an evening-length work called *How Do I Become WE* with Parijata Dance Company.



Cuauhtli Ramirez Castro (Guest Artist Performer) is a Mexican performing artist and dancer. He started his training at the University of Guanajuato, having a multidisciplinary approach, combining mostly contemporary dance and acting techniques. He has trained and performed the work of Mexican choreographers such as Juan Caudillo, Sylvia Salomon, and he performed at the International Cervantino Festival (2016) with the multidisciplinary play, *Todo Puede Ser*, directed by Horacio Almada. He graduated in the spring of 2021 from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, with a Bachelor of Fine

Arts in Contemporary Dance Performance and Choreography. He has performed in works by Maria Gillespie, Emma Draves, Bernard Brown, Joe Goode, and Mair Culbreth. He's currently in his first season as a member of Danceworks Performance Company and has been in works by Christal Wagner and Gina Laurenzi.



Madeline Corson (Costume Designer) is thrilled to be joining UWM for *Winterdances* after making her design debut with the university for *Springdances* in 2021. Madeline has previously worked at the Milwaukee Repertory Theater as the Costume Design Assistant for shows including *In The Heights*, *West Side Story*, and *Junk*, as well as designed for a variety of shows in New York City. Madeline is currently in her first semester of graduate school to earn her master's in Arts Leadership and Cultural Management through Colorado State University.



Anthony 'YNOT' Denaro (Choreographer) explores the design, sustainability, history, and community of Hip Hop. With a futurist mindset, 'YNOT's work manifests in dance, typography, music, and architecture. He has mainly participated, researched and competed in the dance form of Breaking for over 25 years. Dance in his life serves as a catalyst for inspiration, for creating awareness of movement and self-expression, and allowing for investigation within other artistic mediums. In 'YNOT's vision of the sustainability of Hip Hop, teaching and mentorship are paramount. He

believes education allows us to better understand the world in which we live. Through education, we have become thoughtful about what happens around us. It is the most powerful weapon. Alongside his dance and professorship, 'YNOT' both physically and digitally creates two and three dimensional visual works that construct the possible future of the Hip Hop aesthetic. 'YNOT' asks, what could the world look like through a Hip Hop lens?



Parijat Desai (Choreographer) [is] an India-born, U.S.-raised dance artist concerned with dialogues between our emotional landscape, the political realities that surround us, and the natural world. She creates hybrids of contemporary, Indian classical and Gujarati folk dance, martial arts and theater to challenge ideas of cultural purity and fear that underlie nationalism and xenophobia. Parijat also leads Dance In The Round, sharing circle dances from Gujarat, India. She reframes these ancestral practices to be inclusive of people across age, ability, gender, caste, and to support

community well-being and activation. Parijat loved working with UWM students, faculty, and staff! IG: [parijatdesai](#) | FB: [Parijata Dance Company](#) | www.parijatdesai.org



Simone Ferro (Choreographer) A native of São Paulo, Brazil, Simone Ferro is a choreographer, educator and researcher. She joined the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2001. After a professional career as soloist with dance companies in Brazil and Switzerland, she completed her graduate work at the University of Iowa and a Laban Movement Analysis Certification by the Columbia College of Chicago. Simone has collaborated extensively with local dance, theater and opera community, as well as visual artists, writers, musicians, and filmmakers. Simone is recipient of a UWM Graduate School Research Grant, an Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, a Research Growth Initiative (RGI) grant, and a CLACS Fellowship. She has been honored with a 2013 University of Iowa Alumni Fellowship. Her project Milwaukee Through Embodied Research has engaged more than 15 research students over the past six years addressing social and environmental justice and community resilience through oral histories in the central city community of Milwaukee. Most recently, Simone has been awarded a Fulbright to continue developing her research in Maranhão in the Spring 2022. She is currently in her second term as the president of the Wisconsin Dance Council and is on the board of the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD). <https://milwaukeeembodiedresearch.squarespace.com>



Maria Gillespie (Choreographer) is a choreographer, performer, dance and somatic educator. She is the artistic director of The Collaboratory and Hyperlocal MKE, both dedicated to interdisciplinary collaboration and improvised performance practice. Gillespie also directs the community teaching project, Parts of the Whole-The Body is Home, to bring creative somatics, dance, and community building to system impacted youth in Milwaukee. She received an MFA in choreography from UCLA and BFA from SUNY Purchase. She directed Los Angeles based company Oni Dance from 2003-15 and was named one of Dance Magazine's "25 to Watch". Her work has been presented in Mexico, Japan and China and by numerous institutions including The Ford Amphitheatre, The Getty Museum, REDCAT, UCLA, Cal Arts, Joyce SoHo, The Fowler Museum, Highways Performance and CounterPULSE. Recent choreographic commissions and residencies include Present Music, Loyola Marymount University, Utah Valley University and University of Florida, and Banff Center. Gillespie is a Lester Horton Award winner and recipient of grants from Wisconsin Arts Board, Greater Milwaukee Foundation, The Durfee Foundation, The Irvine Foundation, UWM's Center for International Education, CLACS, Office of Research, and was Global Studies Fellow. She has taught dance at UCLA, CalArts, Loyola Marymount University, CalState Long Beach, University of Iowa, Dance New Amsterdam, Mexico City, and the Beijing Dance Festival. She is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Dance at UWM. www.hyperlocalmke.com www.partsofthewhole.org



Gina Laurenzi (Guest Artist Performer) graduated from UW-Milwaukee with a Bachelor of Arts in dance. Before beginning her chapter in Milwaukee, she performed with Giordano II and Inaside Chicago Dance. In recent years, Laurenzi has had the privilege of performing the work of many Milwaukee artists including: Daniel Burkholder, Maria Gillespie, Dani Kuepper, Dawn Springer and Morgan Williams. Laurenzi has set work on dancers of the UW-Milwaukee Dance Dept., Water Street Dance Milwaukee, Danceworks Youth Performance Company, Danceworks Performance MKE (formerly Danceworks Performance Company), Milwaukee High School of the Arts, Makaroff Youth Ballet (Appleton, WI) and Milwaukee Ballet summer intensive students. Laurenzi's choreography has been presented at UW-Parkside, UW-Milwaukee, Next Act Theatre, Danceworks Studio Theatre and in the Milwaukee Fringe Festival. Laurenzi is an Associate Lecturer at UW-Milwaukee, on faculty at Danceworks, and the Artistic Director of the Gina Laurenzi Dance Project. Laurenzi is a senior company member with Danceworks Performance MKE.



Shannon Massman (Media Engineer) Information system architect; contract software engineering at age 14; hobbyist maker, musician, and martial artist. Shannon's technical background informs his search for schematic consistency and logic throughout life, informing his positions on our economy, equality, and justice.



Andy Miller (Music Director & Composer) is a percussionist, educator, and dance musician based in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. As the Music Director in the Dance Department at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, he teaches courses in music, body percussion, sound design, and digital media. His collaborations as a composer-performer with choreographers have been presented in New York (Gibney Dance Center and the Judson Church), throughout the Midwest (Krannert Center, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Carthage College, St. Olaf College), and internationally at the IX Festival

Santander en Escena in Colombia. His research on Afro-Colombian traditional music has been funded through a Fulbright Grant (2011-2012) and the Graduate Presser Award from Indiana University. In addition, he was awarded a CLACS travel grant to Brazil in 2019 to study Candomblé drumming with Jorge Alabê. He previously taught percussion at Lawrence University Conservatory of Music, Indiana University, and Olivet Nazarene University.



Kyle Norris (Stage Manager) is a local stage manager and the UWM Peck School of the Arts' Box Office Manager. He has had the pleasure of working not only with local theater/arts organizations but many other companies across the country throughout his 15-year career. He is also a card carrying Local 18 Stagehand member.



Ellie Rabinowitz (Lighting Designer) enjoys a multiplicity of lighting applications: from dance (too many to choose), to theater (*Souvenir* at Milwaukee Rep, many plays with The Constructivists), art (Emily Mast at LACMA), to some dabbling in stop-motion (*Robot Chicken* season 6), & music (Indradevi, LA Grand Ensemble), as well as teaching lighting design. These days she's likely to be found herding cats as one of Wisconsin's three regional contacts for Burning Man.

BIOGRAPHIES CONTINUE



Leslie Vaglica (Costume Design) is a Milwaukee - based Costume Designer. She designs for dance, theater, opera, ceremony, roller derby, and commercials. Since graduating from Mt. Mary University, Leslie has worked in all phases of costume technology, from stitcher, pattern maker, draper, and designer, to now managing the costume shop at UW Parkside. She's had the pleasure of designing regionally including many dances for UW Milwaukee.



Christal Wagner (Rehearsal Director) is a visual artist working with movement, choreography, video and photography. Upon receiving her BFA in dance from the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee in 2007, she joined Danceworks Performance MKE and has performed in over 40 regular season shows with the company. She is an 8-time Jerry award recipient for her work in Musical Theatre and has choreographed for Skylight Music Theatre, Milwaukee Ballet II, Present music, and Danceworks Performance MKE. Christal is a cofounder of the music and dance trio Cadance Collective, co-creating pieces through processes where music and dance are worked on simultaneously through improvisational practices and original soundscapes. Her video work has been presented in collaboration with Danceworks Inc, Milwaukee Dance Theatre Network, Milwaukee Opera Theatre, UWM Dance, The Saint Kate Arts Hotel, The Cactus Club, and Li Chiao-Ping Dance where she was a 2020 SEED Creation Fund grant recipient.



Phil Cruise Warren (Production Manager) is grateful to be a part of Peck School of the Arts and Production Manager for UWM-Dance Department. Phil has been the Master Electrician for Skylight Music Theatre and the Broadway Theatre Center, as well as having worked for Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven, CT; Signature Theatre in New York City; and was the Lighting Director for Big Top Chautauqua in Bayfield, WI. Phil has designed lighting for a number of Wild Space Dance Company productions, including *Acts of Discovery* and *Into the Garden*. He holds a BFA in Theatrical Production and Design from Minnesota State University, Mankato.

UWM Percussion Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Alex Wier, the UWM Percussion Ensemble is devoted to performing diverse ensemble repertoire written in the 20th and 21st centuries for percussion. Emphasizing new compositions alongside historically significant contributions to the chamber repertoire, the ensemble features the study and performance of a variety of instruments, techniques, and music styles. Since 2019, the ensemble has commissioned and premiered seven new pieces while collaborating with emerging composers and other instrumentalists. These projects reflect the ensemble's mission of advocating for increased diversity and representation in classical and contemporary music.

SPECIAL THANKS

A very special thanks to our artistic production team whose dedication, artistry, and collaboration have made this production possible. Thank you to The Peck School of the Arts and Dean Kevin Hartman for supporting our students' creative research endeavors - you ensure dancing is at the center of our innovative curriculum. Thank you to Alex Wier and the UWM Percussion Ensemble. A special thank you to Phil Warren, Mischa Premeau, Kyle Norris, and Kayla Premeau whose tireless work behind the scenes make everything flow. Special thanks to the PSOA Facilities and UWM Environmental Services staff.

Thank you to YOU! - our committed patrons and generous donors whose attendance and donations ensure that students are able to experience the joys and rigors of performance as the path to learning and collaboration. Your support guarantees student scholarships. Last but not least, thank you to our students whose energy, collaboration, and unending creativity are the seeds which take root here tonight on stage.

WINTERDANCES 2022 PRODUCTION TEAM

Maria Gillespie.....	Artistic Director
Ellie Rabinowitz	Lighting Designer
Phil Warren	Production Manager/Master Electrician
Andy Miller	Music Director, Sound Design
Parker George Mindermann.....	Sound Operator
Jennifer Claire Letscher	Light Board Operator
Jack Kannenberg	Video Technician
Madeline Corson, Leslie Vaglica	Costumes Design
Carly Mya Coldren, Zoe Samantha-Ann Valitchka.....	Wardrobe
Christal Wagner	Rehearsal Director & Photographer
Kyle Norris.....	Stage Manager
Hope Elizabeth Jackson	Assistant Stage Manager
Mischa Premeau	Deck Chief

DEPARTMENT OF DANCE FACULTY & STAFF

Maria Gillespie.....	Chair, Associate Professor
Daniel Burkholder	Associate Professor
Mair Culbreth	Assistant Professor
Simone Ferro	Professor
Anthony 'YNOT' Denaro.....	Lecturer
Andy Miller	Music Director, Lecturer
Ferne Caulker-Bronson, Marcia Parsons	Professor Emerita
Gloria Gustafson.....	Associate Professor Emerita
Alex Hansen, Deb Loewen, Annie Melchior, Tracey Radloff, Dan Schuchart, Dawn Springer, Kris World	Senior Lecturer
Melissa Anderson, Rich Ashworth, Angela Blahnik, Tori Isaac, Kim Johnson, Alexandra Kassouf, Karlies Kelley, Gina Laurenzi, Lisa Moberly, Tracey Radloff, Monica Roderio, Valencia Turner, Christal Wagner	Lecturer
Christal Wagner	Recruitment & Outreach Coordinator
April Biggs, Gerald Casel, William Crowley, Imani Jalil, Marina Magalhães, Kia Smith, Kevin Williamsom	2021-2022 Guest Artists*
Parijat Desai, Marina Magalhães	2021-22 Dance Guest Choreographers*

* Support provided by Differential Tuition funds, administered by the Peck School of the Arts Black and Gold Committee

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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Robert Grame, *Associate Dean*

Rebecca Christman, *Assistant to the Dean*

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Kim Cosier & Jessica Meuninck-Ganger, *Professor & Associate Professor, Art & Design*

Chris Guse & Bill Watson, *Associate Professors, Theatre*

Gillian Rodger, *Professor, Music*

Steve Wetzel, *Associate Professor, Film, Video, Animation & New Genres*

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Tiara Nord, *Programs Manager, Visual & Media Arts*

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Mischa Premeau, *Operations Lead*

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Erica Chang, *Marketing & Communications Lead*

Justin Kunesch, *Art Director & Web Specialist*

Upcoming Events

MARCH 7 | 3:00 P.M.

Mitchell Studio #395 Marina Magalhães sneak preview Showing

APRIL 28 - MAY 1

Jan Serr Studio Springdances

APRIL 30

Studio Workshop Day

MAY 10 | 4:00 P.M.

Mitchell Studio #256 Improvisation Showing

MAY 11 | 7:00 P.M.

Bader Concert Hall Aferica & The Diaspora Showing

MAY 12 | 7:00 P.M.

Bader Concert Hall Hip-Hop – End of the Term Showing

JULY 22 & 23 | 7:30 P.M.

Mitchell Studio #254 Dancemakers

<https://uwm.edu/arts/dance/>

arts.uwm.edu/events | 414-229-4308 | arts.uwm.edu/tickets



Support the UWM Peck School of the Arts Dance Department

Funds provide scholarships to the most deserving and talented students, and supplement the cost of performances. Individuals can also make a long-term investment by including the Peck School of the Arts in estate plans, ensuring that the visual and performing arts programs at UWM will continue after your lifetime.

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