DANCE GALA

DANCE GALA 2018

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA DEPARTMENT OF DANCE

DANCE.UIOWA.EDU
WELCOME TO
GALA 2018!

For the past 37 years Dance Gala has been one of the most important artistic traditions at the University of Iowa and a reference for the performing arts in the Midwest. Let me share a little bit of this creative journey with you.

The production of Dance Gala includes two auditions scheduled for late spring and early fall with an average of 70-80 dancers’ participation, and several meetings among choreographers, designers, and the production staff. It is indeed a remarkable artistic and educational experience for all of those involved.

Dance Gala fever builds up with daily rehearsals between August and October with choreographers, dancers, designers, and supportive staff working diligently to realize the performance you are about to see. The energy is amazing and the joy, commitment, and passion of dancing emanates throughout Halsey Hall.

This year, I am excited to present guest choreographer Shannon Alvis, acknowledged by The Chicago Tribune as a choreographer who “allows dancers to be individuals..., whose labile, tentative solos epitomized human vulnerability at moments of transition.” In The Love of Souls, Shannon will share her unique movement style, superb musicality, and detailed craft that are inherent in a work that abstractly explores the soul and spirit within our physical form and the world we live in.

Tonight’s performance also includes works created by our talented dance faculty. I invite you to enjoy their creativity and appreciate the elements inherent in each of their creations. I am confident that their unique artistic voices will provide an evening of dance and theatre that is likely to delight, touch, and move you.

As always, we thank our invaluable production team led by Rick Loula, our artistic collaborators Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer, Laurel Shoemaker, Juliana Waechter, Joseph Norman, and our crew, including Kristi Clarida, Rachel Duncan, Josh Nathanson, Craig Kelchen, Cindy Kubu, Don Ladd, Briana Maxwell, and Kristan Hellige.

This Dance Gala is my 25th, and it has been a privilege to participate in a production that never ceases to enlighten audiences of all ages. The power, commitment, artistry, and professionalism of our talented dancers are an inspiration to us all. I am grateful for your attendance at this one-of-a-kind annual event. Your support allows the Department of Dance, and all the performing arts, to continue to play a vital role in our state, local, and university communities.

It is with a great pride that I salute the dancers, choreographers, designers, production technicians, and especially you, our audience members, for making Dance Gala an annual success.

Enjoy the show!

Armando Duarte
Artistic Director, Dance Gala 2018
DANCE GALA 2018
ARTISTIC TEAM

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Armando Duarte

GUEST CHOREOGRAPHER
Shannon Alvis

FACULTY CHOREOGRAPHERS
Charlotte Adams
Armando Duarte
Christopher-Rasheem McMillan
Michael Sakamoto

COSTUME DESIGNERS
Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer
Juliana Waechter

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Laurel Shoemaker

STAGE MANAGER
Briana Maxwell*

PRODUCTION AND DEPARTMENT OF DANCE STAFF

Department of Dance Chair..................................................Rebekah Kowal
Dance Faculty............................................................................Charlotte Adams, Jim Albert, George de la Peña, Armando Duarte, Daniel Fine, Jennifer Kayle, Rebekah Kowal, Kristin Marrs, Christopher-Rasheem McMillan, Melinda Jean Myers, Michael Sakamoto

Production Director....................................................................Richard Loula
Technical Director......................................................................Don Schneider
Assistant to the Production Director...........................................Kristi Clarida
Director of Dance Production....................................................Armando Duarte
Production Stage Manager......................................................Briana Maxwell*
Costume Shop Manager..............................................................Cindy Kubu
Costume Tailor.........................................................................Joyce McKinley
Dance Wardrobe Assistant.......................................................Juliana Waechter
Costume Construction.................................................................Andrea Wright, Fiona Zachel
Props Master............................................................................Craig Kelchen
Electrics Supervisor................................................................Josh Nathanson
Light Board Operator.................................................................Merric Bower
Electrics Crew..........................................................................Zachary Begley, Dante Benjegerdes, William Borich, Merric Bower, Kimberly Fain, Emily Haywood, Ryan McElroy, Isaac Merfeld, Alexander Michel, Caleb Weber

Audio/Video Supervisor............................................................Rachel Duncan
Sound Board Operator...............................................................Bri Atwood
Audio/Video Technicians.........................................................Sean Morris, Steven Rubak, Brady Willis
Scenery Supervisor.....................................................................Mike Nolte
Production Assistants, Carpentry................................................Dominique Coleman, Richard Stockton, Timothy Sullivan
Deck Crew................................................................................Izzy Buscaglia, Danica Clayton, Ianka Hou, Flannery McAdam

Academic Coordinator...............................................................Molly Dahlberg
Dance Videographer.................................................................Jennifer Curiel, Anna Zinchuk
Dance Audio Engineer.................................................................Joseph Norman
Space Place Production Assistants.............................................Ben Elliot, Wesley Hanson, Ella Wake

Marketing Specialist..................................................................Kristan Hellige

*Member of Actors’ Equity Association, The Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.
In the blood of Eden lie the woman and the man
I feel the man in the woman and the woman in the man
In the blood of Eden we have done everything we can
In the blood of Eden, so we end as we began
With the man in the woman and the woman in the man
It was all for the union, oh the union of the woman, the woman and the man
-Peter Gabriel

Choreographer: Armando Duarte
Costume Designer: Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer
Lighting Designer: Laurel Shoemaker
Music: Poem by Hayk Arsenian
Dancers: Eduard Forehand, Meredith Stapleton

Immense gratitude to Meredith and Eddie for trusting me with their artistry.

The Hedgehog’s Dilemma
Choreographer: Charlotte Adams, in collaboration with the dancers and Joseph Novak, Mia Shindler, and Eduardo Zambrana
Costume Designer: Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer
Lighting Designer: Laurel Shoemaker
Music: Edited by Joseph Norman
Compositions by Hank Williams, Angelo Badalamenti, Howard Shore, Terence Blanchard, Franz Xaver Gruber
Dancers: Nicole Anderson, Julia Cooper, Kaitlin Craven, Julianna Feracota, Callee Grell, Christine Howe, Isabelle Ingle, Ariel Seyedin

An integration of opposites unites us to the Cosmic mind; beyond time and space and the duality of physical and material existence.
SHANNON ALVIS
Guest Choreographer
Originally from Greenwood, Indiana, Shannon received her training at Butler University and the University of Utah. She began her career with the second company of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, then going on to dance and perform professionally with HSDC for nine years. In 2009, Shannon went on to further her growth as a dancer at Nederlands Dans Theater under the direction of Jim Vincent and Paul Lightfoot. During her time in Chicago and Europe, Shannon toured internationally dancing works by many world renowned choreographers such as: Jiri Kylian, Nacho Duato, William Forsythe, Ohad Naharin, Jorma Elo, and Crystal Pite. Having since returned back to Chicago, and after having given birth to a little baby girl, Shannon is once again sharing her artistry with the community. She has appeared in six productions at the Lyric Opera including Rob Ashford’s Carousel, Susan Stroman’s The Merry Widow, and Les Troyens with Helen Pickett. She has been on faculty at the Joffrey Academy, Interlochen School for the Arts summer faculty, and Visceral Dance Center. Shannon is also very happy to be exploring her creativity through works of her own. She has choreographed for Visceral Dance Chicago, Thodos Dance Chicago, and DanceWorks Chicago and was a recipient of the Joffrey Ballet’s Winning Work’s Choreographic Competition. She feels very fortunate for every one of these opportunities. Being able to find inspiration for her work in all of the things that she loves is a true gift.

CHARLOTTE ADAMS
Faculty Choreographer
Charlotte Adams joined the UI Department of Dance in 1998. Her choreography has been described as, “arresting,” (The New York Times), “gorgeous” and “delicious,” said The Tucson Weekly, describing her signature wit and athleticism with an eye for the poetry of human foibles. Venues presenting her company and choreography include: Joyce SoHo (New York), Breaking Ground Festival (Phoenix), Triskelion Arts (New York), Highways Performance Space (Los Angeles), El Museo Centro Leon (Santiago, DR), New Territory/Cuerpo de Danza (San Juan, PR), and Theatre Iseion and Oldyssud in France, among others. Adams was a founding member of Tenth St Danceworks in Tucson, Arizona, and awarded the Arizona Arts Award for artistic achievement.

ARMANDO DUARTE
Artistic Director and Faculty Choreographer
Armando Duarte is a professor, choreographer, and a researcher of the Brazilian popular culture. He joined the University of Iowa in 1993. As a choreographer, he has created works for companies in the US, Brazil, and other countries. Currently, his academic research involves an in-depth investigation on the Brazilian popular culture of Samba and Carnival, from which he created courses that offer students theoretical and practical experiences related to Samba and Carnival in Brazil. In the US, he has been presenting lectures on the subject at the conferences and universities. At the University of Iowa, his awards include the Iowa Old Gold Summer Fellowship, the Support Program for Arts and Humanities, the Arts and Humanities Initiative Program, and the Obermann Center for Advanced Studies Interdisciplinary Research Grant. He is honored with the opportunity to direct Dance Gala 2018; and salutes all of those involved in the production, whose work and creativity have been an inspiration for him to reach beyond.

CHRISTOPHER-RASHEEM McMILLAN
Faculty Choreographer
Christopher-Rasheem McMillan is a performance related artist and scholar. He has a joint appointment between Dance and Gender, Women’s & Sexuality Studies at the University of Iowa. McMillan received his BA from Hampshire College, his MFA in Experimental Choreography from the Laban Conservatoire, London, and his Ph.D. in Theology and Religious Studies from King’s College, London. McMillan’s performance works have been seen at venues such as the Bates Dance Festival of Bates College, Providence International Arts Festival (PVD), and The Dance Complex and Green Street Studios in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and in performance platforms such as the 2011 participatory event Beyond Text, London. He was a Five College Fellow for the 2013-14 academic year and Grant Wood Fellow for the 2016–17 academic year. His writing has been published in The Journal of Dance, Movement & Spiritualities, Movement Research Journal, and the Contact Quarterly.
MICHAEL SAKAMOTO
Faculty Choreographer
Michael Sakamoto is an interdisciplinary scholar-artist active in dance, theatre, performance, media, and photography. His artistic and critical works employ a range of methodologies to provoke and nurture intercultural dialogue among diverse communities. Michael's works tour regularly and have been presented in 14 countries globally. He has also written numerous book chapters and articles for international publications, and his current book project, An Empty Room: Butoh Performance and the Social Body in Crisis, is under contract with Wesleyan University Press. Photo by Cedric Arnold. More information at www.michaelsakamoto.org.

EDUARD FOREHAND
Rehearsal Director, The Love of Souls
Eduard Forehand is beginning his second year as an MFA candidate in choreography. Through the past 20 years, he has collaborated and performed as a company member with Richmond Ballet, Charleston Ballet Theater, Augusta Ballet, Ballet Montana, Dayton Ballet and Louisville Ballet. He began training at a young age in his home town of Miami, FL. Forehand's choreographic works have been performed by Louisville Ballet, as well as the University of Iowa Department of Dance. He has had the pleasure of teaching throughout the United States, as a full-time faculty member and summer intensive instructor. Eduard is also certified through the American Ballet Theater National Training Curriculum in pre-primary through level 3. Eduard is excited to be a part of this show and thanks his family and teachers for their support.

MARGARET WENK-KUCHLBAUER
Costume and Scenic Designer
Margaret Wenk-Kuchlbauer is the Scenery and Costume Designer for the University of Iowa Division of Performing Arts Production Unit. Her recent designs for dance in collaboration with many UI faculty and guests include, Dance Gala 2017 celebrating the department's return to Hancher and last spring's Dancers in Company, as well as opera designs for Pirates of Penzance, The Medium, and Cosi fan tutte.

JULIANA WAECHTER
Costume Designer
Juliana Waechter has worked with the University of Iowa Department of Dance since 2004 to oversee wardrobe inventory at Halsey Hall, providing costume design support to students and faculty. Recent works have included Jesse Factor’s Pret A Acheter and Alvon Reed’s Hattie Mae’s Juke Joint, as well as being Wardrobe Assistant to Cheech and Chong at Riverside Casino.

LAUREL SHOEMAKER
Lighting Designer
Laurel Shoemaker has been working in the performing arts as a lighting designer and theater artist for 30 years. Currently residing in Lincoln, Nebraska, she is a freelance designer and Associate Professor in Theatre Lighting for the University of Nebraska. Credits include productions with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Hubbard Street 2, the Chicago Dancing Festival, the Joyce Soho (with Charlotte Adams), the University of Iowa, and the University of Nebraska.

BRIANA MAXWELL
Stage Manager
Briana Maxwell is a proud member of Actors’ Equity Association. She is the Production Stage Manager for the University of Iowa’s Department of Dance and the Martha-Ellen Tye Opera department in the Division of Performing Arts. Some of her stage management credits include Dance Gala, Dancers in Company, and the Opera productions Cosi fan tutte and Pirates of Penzance.
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Information for prospective students regarding MFA, BFA, BA, and Minor degree programs and performance opportunities at the University of Iowa can be found by visiting the Department of Dance website at: dance.uiowa.edu. Or by contacting us at: 319.335.2228 or dance@uiowa.edu.

UNDERGRADUATE AUDITION DATES:
Spring: February 22, 2019

MFA AUDITION DATES:
January 28 and 29, 2019
February 4 and 5, 2019

Support scholarships, programs, and faculty in the Department of Dance at givetoiowa.org/dance.