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OWU DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS
CHAPPELEAR DRAMA CENTER

NOV 12 @ 8PM

NOV 13 @ 2PM AND 8PM



ORCHESIS DANCE COMPANY

ORCHESIS 21/22

DIRECTED BY
RASHANA PERKS SMITH

Orchesis 21/22

Artistic Director: Rashana Perks Smith

Guest Choreographer: Maree ReMalia

Technical Director: Chadwyn Knutson

Assistant to the Artistic Director: Kayla Rush

Stage Manager: Johnathan Ellis

dance.owu.edu | facebook.com/owuorchesis

Program Order

Moving with Multitudes

Project Direction: Maree ReMalia created in collaboration with the performers

Costumes Design: Project Director and the performers with Jaylene Jennings

Lighting Design: Chadwyn Knutson

Technical Assistant: Anne Raspe

Music: David Bernabo

Text: Project Director and the performers

Performers: Brielle DeCarolís, Alex Dolph, Grace Frye, Alyssa Head, Rachel Madore, Kayla Rush, Rashana Perks Smith, and Wyatt Wells

Program Note: Being with what is – in our bodies, in our world. Embracing the moment and being moved into new possibilities by each other. Moving with our joys and challenges, that which has shaped us and that is yet to be discovered. This work draws from prompts ReMalia used to develop the first iteration of *Moving with Multitudes* with students at Beloit College and includes vocabulary from the evening-length work, *A Letter Compiled From All Letters*.

Emanate

Choreography and Costume Design: Kayla Rush

Lighting Design: Daniel Smith

Music: *Jack The Ripper Stalks His Victims* by Michael Nyman

Performers: Ellie Bearrs, Ali Dix, Alyssa Head, Rachel Madore, Tess Meddings, Anne Raspe

Program Note: Emanate: give out or emit (something abstract but perceptible). Can a source or leader of movement be traced throughout changing formations and patterns?

Living Art

Choreography and Costume Design: Ali Dix

Lighting Design: Ran Ye

Music: *Erik Satie's Gymnopédie No.1 Rework* by Cagedbaby

Performers: Ellie Bearss, Grace Frye, Kayla Rush

Program Note: Imagine you were walking in an art gallery and the painting you were looking at comes alive with movement. *Living Art* was created to show the expression of how art is viewed and the concept of it coming to life. Art can show many stories; I encourage you to create your own story behind this piece.

meanwhile,

Choreography and Costume Design: Alex Dolph

Lighting Design: Sam Miller

Music: *Laura's Dark Boogie* by Angelo Badalamenti and David Lynch

Performers: Alex Dolph, Daniel Smith

Program Note: *meanwhile,* is an exploration of the movement and aesthetics of the Red Room/Black Lodge scenes in *Twin Peaks* by David Lynch.

10-minute Intermission

A study in 4 parts

Choreography, Text, Costume Design, Performance: Anne Raspe

Lighting Design: Alex Dolph

Project Advisor: Rashana Perks Smith

Music: ASOS Model Crush, Meeting Points at 2am, Friends Cleanse by dne

Program Note: This is a mixture of 1. A study on form and how perception of form changes based on the surroundings 2. A continued exercise to push past the restrictions I subconsciously place on myself when creating dance 3. An outlet. All I wish is for the audience to *not just listen but to hear, not just to look but to see*, and to reflect truly and critically in regards to your own situation within the realm of the arts.

2nd Decade

Choreography and Costume Design: Ellie Bearss

Lighting Design: Daniel Smith

Music: 3 147 by Michael Wall

Performers: Ali Dix, Alex Dolph, Anne Raspe, Kayla Rush

Program Note: The typical fear of young 20 year olds. How can I exist in an economic system that I dislike but I'm required to live in because I kinda have to survive?

Holding Pattern

Project Direction: Rashana Perks Smith, created in collaboration with the performers

Costumes Design: Artistic Director and the performers with Jaylene Jennings

Lighting Design: Sam Miller, Alex Dolph

Live Soundscore: Performers

Music: Jupiter and Jaguar by Blondish

Performers: Ellie Bearss, Brielle DeCarolus, Ali Dix, Alex Dolph, Grace Frye, Alyssa Head, Rachel Madore, Tess Meddings, Anne Raspe, Kayla Rush, Daniel Smith, Wyatt Wells

Program Note: We hold a lot right now, perhaps more than we think we can. We hold space for others we cannot see in-person (or see unmasked) and we also hold space for what might happen in the midst of a pandemic or otherwise uncertain time. Simultaneously, we search for a working rhythm while we juggle a myriad of concerns as individuals and as a community of performers.

This work originated from the first piece I choreographed at Ohio Wesleyan University in Fall of 2013 (though the concert was called *Orchesis 2014* - we were so forward thinking). Some alumni might recognize the movement from the original piece, but everyone will recognize the scatter drills and certain crossing patterns that frequent our company pieces. Peace to all making their way through this world! We're running with you.

Dancers and Choreographers

Ellie Bearss (dancer & choreographer) is from Franklin, Tennessee double majoring in Dance and Politics & Government and minoring in Women and Gender studies. This is her third and final year choreographing for Orchesis Dance Company. She hopes you enjoy!

Brielle DeCarolus (dancer) comes from Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania and this is her first time dancing with Orchesis Dance Company. She most likely majoring in zoology.

Ali Dix (dancer and choreographer) is a sophomore dance major from Marion, Ohio. This is her second year in Orchesis Dance Company and her first year choreographing. Ali has been dancing for 16 years and is excited to be back on stage.

Alex Dolph (choreographer, dancer, light designer) is a junior Theatre, Dance, and Psychology triple major from Middletown, OH. This is her second year choreographing and first time designing lights for Orchesis Dance Company. She currently serves as the secretary for Theta Alpha Phi.

Grace Frye (dancer) is a first year student majoring in Social Justice with a potential minor in Dance. She is from Newark, Ohio and has been dancing for 14 years. This is her first year in Orchesis Dance Company and she has loved the experience!

Alyssa Head (dancer) is a sophomore from Houston Texas who is majoring in Pre-professional Zoology. This is her first time dancing in Orchesis Dance Company.

Rachel Madore (dancer) is a sophomore majoring in Economics and Music with a Vocal Performance concentration and a minor in Spanish. This is Rachel's first time participating in Orchesis Dance Company and she is involved in various organizations on campus.

Tess Meddings (dancer) is a Dance, Spanish, and Film Studies triple major from Marion, Ohio. She has choreographed twice but is excited to just enjoy performing in her 4th year with Orchesis Dance Company.

Maree ReMalia (choreographer, performer, teaching artist, and certified Gaga instructor). An adoptee born in South Korea and raised in Ohio, movement has supported her in an ongoing process of self-discovery, liberation, transformation, expression, healing, and care. When making performance works and teaching, this is the kind of process into which she invites participants from across disciplines, identities, and experiences levels as a means of opening to new possibilities and moving in ways that feel good to their bodies. Read more about Maree ReMalia here: www.mareeremalia.com

Anne Raspe (dancer, choreographer) is a senior Dance major from Chicago, IL who has a triple minor in Philosophy, Sociology, and Theatre. Anne is a passionate supporter of the arts and wishes to share that passion with everyone around her. She's been dancing for 17 years and loves it more and more every year. This is her third year choreographing and fourth year dancing with Orchesis Dance Company.

Kayla Rush (assistant to the artistic director, choreographer, dancer) is a junior Biology and Dance double major from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This is her third year in Orchesis Dance Company and her second year choreographing.

Daniel Smith (dancer, lighting designer) is a second year student at OWU. He is an intended Theatre Education major. This is his first year with Orchesis Dance Company and so far he's been having a really good time!

Rashana Perks Smith (artistic director, dance artist, educator) creates and facilitates performances in the greater Columbus, Ohio area. Her research straddles choreography and curation within the realms of neighborhood art projects and higher educational institutions. Collaboratively, Smith creates work with artists from a range of disciplines and facilitates projects that reflect human connections and community with an emphasis on non-traditional performance spaces. She holds a BFA in dance from University of Texas at Austin and an MFA in Dance at The Ohio State University with a focus on Choreography and Technology. At Ohio Wesleyan University, she teaches dance composition; dance history; contemporary, jazz, and social dance techniques; and the Honors Tutorial: *Dance Film: A Calculated Framing of Bodies*. She also directs Ohio Wesleyan's Orchesis Dance Company.

Wyatt Wells (dancer) is a junior from Marion, Ohio majoring in International Business and Spanish with a minor in Theater. This is his second year being involved in Orchesis Dance Company and also is a pole vaulter and in the Chi Phi Fraternity.

Crew and Management

CDC Office Manager: Lisa Hill

CDC House Manager: Pascal Fraire

Artistic Director: Rashana Perks Smith

Assistant to the Artistic Director: Kayla Rush

Technical Director: Chadwyn Knutson

Stage Manager: Johnathan Ellis

Assistant Stage Managers: Isabelle Tinti-Kane, Jazzy Valenzuela

Lighting Designers: Alex Dolph, Chadwyn Knutson, Sam Miller, Daniel Smith

Light Crew: Joel Zachary, Lamar Peterson, Jahanzaib Khan, Hanh (Rachel) Phan

Light Board Operator: Ami Hartshorne

Costume/Run Crew Head: Jasmine Lew

Costume/Run Crew: Olivia Anderson, Aaron Eicher, Hannah Green, Sarah Smith, Imani Young, Nevaeh Spencer, Laura Llanas

Sound Head & Sound Board Operator: Dyna Bresson

Publicity Head: Sisi Fish

Publicity Crew: Nico Mazzoleni, Danny Rodriguez Hijo

Dancers' Committees:

- Swag - Ellie Bearss, Alex Dolph, Rachel Madore, Anne Raspe
- Social Media - Ali Dix, Daniel Smith, Wyatt Wells
- Outreach - Brielle DeCarolus, Grace Frye, Alyssa Head
- Fitness & Food - Tess Meddings, Kayla Rush