REUNIONS

Curated by Kyle Abraham

AUGUST 6, SATURDAY PROGRAM

DRILLS

ROSTER Kayla Farrish, Choreographer Dancers: Kayla Farrish Kerime Konur Gabrielle Loren Junyla Silmon Ariana Speight

Remember, Reclaim, Rejoice Nicole Mannarino, Choreographer Collaborators: Nicole Mannarino Nola Smith Laura Witsken Costumes: Nicole Mannarino and Nola Smith

> COME! Connie Shiau, Choreographer Dancers: Scott Autry Eleni Loving

re/turn Chalvar Monteiro, Choreographer Artists: Sarah Daley-Perdomo Ashley Mayeux Miranda Quinn Costumes: Danté Baylor

Shadows: The Bronx Blues Maleek Washington, Choreographer In collaboration with KAMAUU and Kwinton Gray Things of Nature Created in collaboration with Darryl J. Hoffman Rena Butler, Choreographer Dancers: Alexander Anderson Kevin Pajarillaga Jake Tribus

Seeds Vinson Fraley, Choreographer In collaboration with Holland Andrews

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Excerpt of Martyr's Fiction-Freedom Solo Excerpt of To Dream A Lifetime Kayla Farrish, Choreographer

CHOREOGRAPHER BIOGRAPHIES

RENA BUTLER Originally from Chicago, IL, Rena Butler has previously performed with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, AIM by Kyle Abraham, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company, David Dorfman Dance, Manuel Vignoulle/M-Motions, Kevin Wynn Collection, and Pasos Con Sabor Salsa Dance Company and was Gibney Company's inaugural Choreographic Associate. She is a recipient of the 2019 Princess Grace Foundation Award for Choreography. She has created works for various companies and institutions, including Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, BalletX, Charlotte Ballet, Whim W'him, Boston Dance Theater, TedXChicago Virtual Salon 3.0: Design Your Life, The Juilliard School, Gibney Company, GroundWorks DanceTheater, Jacob's Pillow Contemporary Summer Program, Parsons and more. She currently serves on the Artistic Advisory Council for Dancewave NYC and was the featured cover story for Dance Magazine's November 2021 issue.

KAYLA FARRISH/Decent Structures Arts is an emerging company combining filmmaking, storytelling, dance theater performance, and sound score. The company has been commissioned by Gibney Dance Inc (2020-2022), Louis Armstrong House Museum (2020), Danspace Project Inc (2019), Pepatian and BAAD! (2018), and beyond. Her residencies include Gallim Women + Residency (2021), Gibney Spotlight: New Voices, Barysnikov Arts Center, Arts On Site (2020), Keshet Makers Space Experience, BAX Space Grant (2019), Pepatian Dance Your Future (2018), and Chez Bushwick (2017). Her live performance and films show at Judson Church, Danspace, Jacob's Pillow, New York Live Arts, Joe's Pub, BAAD!, film festivals, and beyond. In 2021 she created "Broken Record" with Brandon Coleman for Little Island Festival, "Rinsing" film, co-directed Melanie Charles "Y'll D'nt Care Abt Black Women" Film, Saul Williams' "People Above the Moon" Solo for The Motherboard Suites at NYLA, "Roster" outdoor Performance- Four/Four Open Air Series with Melanie Charles, and Martyr's Fiction Feature Film. In 2022, she releases feature film "Martyr's Fiction", and will collaborate with Belinda McGuire, The Clarice Presents "BlackLight Summit", Kenyon Adams, Louis Armstrong House, Triskelion, and others. She is currently a rehearsal director at Sleep No More NYC and adjunct faculty at NYU Tisch.

VINSON FRALEY is from Atlanta, Georgia. He began his formal training in voice and drama at DeKalb School of the Arts. He started dancing at the age of 14. Fraley received his BFA from NYU Tisch in 2015. He danced with Kyle Abraham's A.I.M, and later joined the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company in 2017. Vinson has collaborated with Carrie Mae Weems, Sterling Ruby, Damien Jalet, Kohei Nawa, Bobbi Jene Smith, Sara Mearns, Terri Lynn Carrington, Boysnoize, Mario Sorrenti, Collier Schorr, Kenyon Victor Adams, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Watermill Center, The American Modern Opera Company, and Arts at CERN, and MIT. He has had the opportunity to present works in the US, Germany, and France. His movement direction has been seen in videos by Calvin Klein, Burberry, Serpentwithfeet, Vogue, Nike, and Pattern Beauty. Vinson contributed an original music composition for the Bill T. Jones/ Arnie Zane Company's work titled *Afterwardsness*. He is signed to DNA Models. He has been featured in publications including The New York Times, The New Yorker, Interview Magazine, System Magazine, I-d Magazine, Highsnobiety, Document Journal, and Dance Magazine. He was photographed by Inez and Vinoodh for the cover of V Magazine.

NICOLE MANNARINO is a choreographer based in New York City. She is excited to premiere her latest work, *Remember, Reclaim, Rejoice,* in the *Reunions* festival! She recently premiered her work, *TUNE*, at The Invisible Dog Arts Center in May 2022. Previously, Nicole premiered her works *FLY* and *DIVE* through self produced performances at Central Park, Squibb Park, and Washington Hall Park (*DIVE*, October 2021) and Pier 6 at Brooklyn Bridge Park (*FLY*, May 2021). Nicole received a New York Dance and Performance "Bessie" award for her performance in Sarah Michelson's *Devotion Study #1—The American Dancer* which was honored with the Bucksbaum Award at the 2012 Whitney Biennial. Nicole also received a "Full Production Bessie" award for Kyle Abraham's *The Radio Show* in 2010. Through her work with Kyle Abraham, Moriah Evans, Beth Gill, Juliana F. May, Sarah Michelson, and others, she has performed at The Chocolate Factory, Danspace Project, The Kitchen, MOMA, MOMA PS1, On the Boards, PS122, PICA, The Walker Arts Center, Whitney Museum of American Art, and Yale Union. and internationally at Rockbund Museum (Shanghai, China) and Dance Umbrella (London, United Kingdom).

CHALVAR MONTEIRO (Montclair, NJ) began training at Sharron Miller's Academy for the Performing Arts and went on to study at The Ailey School before receiving his BFA in Dance from SUNY Purchase. Mr. Monteiro has worked with Sidra Bell Dance New York, Elisa Monte Dance, Keigwin + Company, BODYTRAFFIC, and A.I.M by Kyle Abraham. He assisted Kyle Abraham in setting and creating work for Barnard College, Princeton University, Emory University, NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and Wendy Whelan's *Restless Creature*. In 2019 Mr. Monteiro was selected to participate in Merce Cunningham Trust's *Night of 100 Solos: A Centennial Event*. His choreography has been presented as part of Ailey's 2021 Virtual Spirit Gala, as well as at other festivals and institutions across the U.S. Mr. Monteiro is currently on faculty at Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. He was in Ailey II and joined the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in 2015. Instagram: <u>@chlvrmntro</u>

JIE-HUNG CONNIE SHIAU (she/her) is a dancer, choreographer, and educator. Shiau was born in Gainesville, Florida, raised in Tainan, Taiwan. Graduated from The High School Division For Dance of Taipei National University of the Arts (TNUA), and the Dance Conservatory of SUNY Purchase College. Shiau has worked as a collaborator with an array of companies, including Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, AIM by Kyle Abraham, Gallim Dance, Helen Simoneau Danse, MeenMoves, Adam Barruch/Anatomiae Occultii, and Kevin Wynn Works. She has performed works by Crystal Pite, Ohad Naharin, Lou Conte, Kyle Abraham, Brian Brooks, Peter Chu, Robyn Mineko Williams, Alejandro Cerrudo, Helen Simoneau, Sameena Mitta, Rena Butler, Alice Klock, Hanna Kiel, Osnel Delgado, Adam Barruch, and Kevin Wynn. Shiau is currently freelancing in New York City and is an Artistic Associate with Gibney Company.

Shiau has presented works at New Choreographer Project in Taipei, Taiwan, Loyola University, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago summer intensives, SUNY Purchase College and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's 43rd virtual season.

In addition, Shiau was a recipient of Chicago Dancemaker Forum Greenhouse Artist in 2019, Dance Magazine's "25 To Watch" in 2018, Honorable Mention for Jadin Wong Award for Emerging Asian American Dancer in 2014, and Reverb Dance Festival Dancer Award in 2014.

MALEEK WASHINGTON is from the Bronx, New York. An alumni of the Boston Conservatory, where he studied on full scholarship, he began his dance training at Harlem School of the Arts, Broadway Dance Center, and LaGuardia High School for the Performing Arts. He has danced with CityDance Ensemble (Washington DC), Montreal's SpringBoard Danse (working with Jose Navas & RUBBERBAND), and Kyle Abraham's A.I.M for four seasons, before becoming the first African-American male to perform in Sleep No More. Maleek has been a member of Camille A. Brown and Dancers for 7 seasons.

Maleek's choreographic portfolio highlights include, assistant choreographer for Camille A. Brown's Grammy-winning "Porgy and Bess" and "Fire Shut Up In My Bones" at the Metropolitan Opera, making history as the first Opera composed by an African American man named Terrance Blanchard; and associate choreographer to Camille A. Brown's "For Colored Girls." Other notable choreographic credits include,Rashaad Newsome's "Assembly" at Park Avenue Armory, rapper Nas' "Master Class" music video, Spike Lee's Mont Blanc Commerical, and MOVE|NYC|'s Scottish Youth Exchange collaborative work that premiered at the U.Dance Festival in England.

Proudly, in 2021, Maleek was named a New York Live Arts Fresh Track grantee and was also nominated for a Bessie as an "Outstanding Breakout Choreographer." He is also a 2022 Princess Grace Award winner.