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dixon place presents



Dance Bloc NYC 2021 Strength, Equity, Respect November 20, 2021 – 9 pm

Featuring: Lane Gifford Fatima Logan-Alston Rebekka Nodhturft Gelline Guevarra Kenya Joy Gibson Srinidhi Raghavan & Kylie Fox Lucia Tozzi

Curated by Sangeeta Yesley

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November 18, 29 & 20, 2021

Nowhere | LaneCoArts

Theme: Strength

Nowhere, created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, explores the physical manifestation of isolation and the friction that grows from an underlying state of apprehension. The work looks at the complexity of interchange, reveals a progression in movement expression, and offers pathways that hopefully evolve towards renewed intersections.

Performers: Dominique Dobransky, Faustine Lavie, Caleb Patterson, Annie White, Robert Rubama

Music: Frédéric Chopin, Christian Frederickson, Jim Keller, Loscil Special Thanks: Jim Keller for his song, Don't Get Me Started Video Editing: Marcus Bonilla

Director & Choreographer: Lane Gifford

After attending Purchase College Conservatory of Dance (BFA/MFA), Lane Gifford founded LaneCoArts/2006. She explores communication in today's technologically driven world through collaboration with other artists where juxtaposed creative languages engender a process of cross-pollination. The goal is to connect with audiences through layered, movement-based productions that address current issues. Ianecoarts.org FB: LaneCoArts IG: Ianecoarts

Shallow Space Between | VashtiDance Theater

Theme: Strength

Shallow Space Between is inspired by The Tale of Two Wolves, it is a dynamic battle between light, love, patience and perseverance and darkness, anger, jealousy, and vengeance. It is a negotiation between expansions and retractions, repetition and progressions, power and surrender in an exploration of the space between choosing light or darkness.

Music: Stealing the Children & The Rhythm of the Heat by **Peter** Gabriel

Dancer and Choreographer: Fatima Logan-Alston

Fatima Logan-Alston, founding artistic director of VashtiDance Theater is an accomplished dancer, choreographer, and teaching artist. She received her BFA in Dance and Choreography from Virginia Commonwealth University and a Teaching Artist Certification from the Teacher's College at Columbia University. Fatima has toured internationally with Forces of Nature Dance Theater, the African-American Dance Ensemble, and her own company VashtiDance Theater. vashtidancetheater.com FB: VashtiDanceTheater IG: vashtidancetheater

Nowhere | Awaken Dance Theater

Theme: Respect

How do we relate to one another and ourselves as we move through this "new normal?" How do we stay strong and respectful in navigating each phase?

Performers: Madeline Charles, Darrigan DeMattos, Christine Jordan Music: Marc Canham

Choreographer: Rebekka Nodhturft

Rebekka Nodhturft earned her MFA at Montclair State University in 2020. She previously studied at the Ailey School and Orlando Ballet, and performed with Jazz Roots, Momentum Dance, and internationally with Keen Dance Theater as a soloist. She founded Awaken Dance Theater in 2014. awakendancetheater.com

FB: AwakenDanceTheater; IG: AwakenDanceTheater

Who Are We? | GGProjects

Themes: Strength, Equity

Who Are We? explores the idea of two Filipino/Americans born and raised in America. These dancers embark on a discovery to find out more about their heritage and connect to it through movement. The work was highly influenced by my parents' immigration from the Philippines to the States.

Performers: **Gelline Guevarra**, **Chris Salango** Music: Dayuan by **Organix** Poem: *Republika Filipina* by **Dark**

Choreographer: Gelline Guevarra

Gelline Guevarra, an artist from Sacramento, CA, professionally danced with BBmoves and is currently with Dayton Contemporary Dance Company 2. Gelline graduated from California State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance and in Deaf Studies. In 2018, she debuted her first work with her own company, GGProjects.

ggprojects.wixsite.com; FB: gelline.guevarra; IG: jiggilin

Rebirth | TORCH Dance Theatre

Theme: Strength

Rebirth reminds us that no matter the differences in our journeys, all roads of self-discovery can lead to self-love. "In the end, she became more than what she expected. She became the journey, and like all journeys, she did not end, she just simply changed directions and kept going."

Performed by: **Ronnell Kitt** Music: Ngnari Konon by **Boddhi Satva**

Choreographer: Kenya Joy Gibson

Kenya Joy Gibson, founding artistic director of TORCH Dance Theatre, graduated Summa Cum Laude with a MFA in Dance Education from the Arnhold Graduate Dance Education Program in May '20. As an emerging choreographer, she is committed to cultivating new methods of reclaiming and retaining the legacy of the African Diaspora. In August '20, she established her artistic voice with the production of *Honor* in memoriam to the ancestors who journeyed through the Middle Passage. Her latest works, *Honor* and *Rebirth*, are captivating virtual audiences. Her message to all: "Your life is your canvas, and your body of work is your legacy." FB: torchdancetheatre; IG: torchdancetheatre

Of Faces and Masks | **Srinidhi Raghavan and Kylie Fox** Theme: Strength

Of Faces and Masks combines Indian dance and music (Bharatanatyam, Carnatic vocals and Carnatic violin), Ballet, and Spoken Word. This piece allegorically speaks about various personas that women often 'wear.' Each mask/persona that we don tells a truth and has a burden to bear - that of an artist, mother, sister, worker, wife, etc. Each mask hides and alters what is behind it til it is no longer possible to discern the face that is real. And yet, in moments of vulnerability and strength, women scream through the facade of the mask and reveal their inner face, shattering what they've been forced to hide behind, revealing the strength that binds us together as women.

Composition and Carnatic Vocals: **Sudharshana Arunkumar** Carnatic Violin: **Ajay Narasimha** Sound & Mixing: **Vinita Venkatesh** Spoken Word & Voice: **Srinidhi Raghavan** Performers & Choreographers: **Srinidhi Raghavan** (Bharatanatyam) **& Kylie Fox** (Ballet)

Srinidhi had her arangetram in Chennai in 1998 and her dance work has spanned Europe, the U.S., India and Canada for over 30 years. Known for her precise nritta and apt abhinaya, she is recognized for her original and innovative choreography, which often explore contemporary themes via traditional Bharatanatyam pieces.

Professional ballerina and choreographer, **Kylie** has created original works independently for dance companies, benefit shows, and short films in the NY/Tri-State and Mid-West areas. Currently, she's dancing with Armada Dance, Connecticut Ballet and Neville Dance Theater. Her training includes CPYB, Basil Thompson, and privately with Karin Averty.

srinidhiraghavan.com; IG: _srinidhiraghavan; IG: kylie_fox_

Endless Life in the Pink Void | Lucia Tozzi

Themes: Strength, Equity

This piece serves as an ode to women; in other words, an ode to life. Through the sadness, turmoil, and pressure that exists in our lives we still take time to find joy, to laugh in the face of terror, and to continue to find a way to keep going.

Performers: Kate Montgomery, Katerina Belmatch, Aimee Grumbach, Lynnette Paz, McCall Atkinson

Music: In our Sleep by Laurie Anderson; Italian Mandolin Music Waltz by Torna A Surriento; Portofino #1 by Raymond Scott; The Drowned Girl by Yann Tiersen

Choreographer: Lucia Tozzi

Lucia Tozzi is a dance artist based in NYC. Born in Manhattan, she started her early conservatory training at Frank Sinatra School of the Arts in Astoria, Queens and as a scholarship student at The Ailey School. In '20 she received a BFA in Dance from SUNY Purchase; while there she studied choreography and modern dance abroad at the Beijing Dance Academy in China. Her artistic practice looks to stir, to agitate, and to move audiences through theatrics. Her work finds a sense of humor in love, loss, and the many nuances of life. FB: luciatozzi111; IG: lucybarrertozz

Coming this December to Dixon Place

Interglacial By Laura Peterson Choreography Dec. 8, 9, 10 & 11, 2021 Info & Tix: DixonPlace.org

