

MOUNT HOLYOKE DANCE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

# FALL FACULTY CONCERT



**FEATURING "ONE"  
BY URI SANDS**

**NEW WORKS BY  
BARBIE DIEWALD  
SHAKIA JOHNSON  
KATIE MARTIN**

**NOVEMBER 14-16, 2019, 8PM**



# WIN IN DOUBT

CHOREOGRAPHED BY SHAKIA JOHNSON

## **DANCERS**

Soukeyna Abbott  
Paige McCoy  
Leah Shipulski  
Elizabeth Harrington  
Amisi Nazaire-Hicks  
Maire Frances Psomas-Jackloski  
Jesmyda Viyano

## **SOUND**

Arranged and Mixed by Jake Meginsky

"We Fall Down" by Donnie McClurkin, "Wolf" by Losco, "Ethereal" by Rvdical The Kid, "Akwaaba" by Guilty Beatz, "All the way up" Jersey Club remix by DJ Merks

**LIGHTING DESIGN** Saulius Slezas

**COSTUME DESIGN** Arlene Kowal

Thanks to Jake Meginsky for putting my music together and taking extra time to go to different campuses and record the students' voices. To my dancers, thank you for taking this journey with me. I really appreciate you all and look forward to creating more work with you in the future.

**Shakia Johnson** is a choreographer, performer, and dance educator whose work is rooted in the African Diaspora, focusing on Hip-Hop, modern, and traditional African dance forms. She is an MFA Choreography candidate at Wilson College, she holds an associate's degree in dance and psychology from Dean College, a bachelor's in liberal arts from Westfield State University, and, she received the National Dance Institute's teaching artist certificate in 2009. Her other dance training includes the Bates Dance Festival, Jacob's Pillow, and Pioneer Valley's Performing Arts Charter School. Johnson has performed for numerous Hip-Hop events and has opened for concerts by Fat Joe, Jadakiss, 112, Charlie Baltimore, and Kima from "Total" and Omarion. In 2005, she choreographed a Hip-Hop number for the Celtics/NBA half-time show. Johnson has toured nationally and internationally, dancing with Face Da Phlave Entertainment and Illstyle and Peace Productions. And recently, she made a guest appearance with Rennie Harris PureMovement. As a dance educator, Johnson spent four years teaching at the Bates Dance Festival and this past year teaching community classes at Jacob's Pillow. Her recent work titled "Our House" was selected to be performed for Community Day at Jacob's Pillow this past summer. Prior to joining the Five Colleges program as a full-time faculty member, she served as an adjunct at Mount Holyoke, Smith, and Connecticut colleges. Johnson was also the 2019 Arthur Levitt Jr. '52 Artist-in-Residence at Williams College.

# TURNS AND VARIATIONS

CHOREOGRAPHED BY KATIE MARTIN

## COLLABORATORS AND PERFORMERS

Soukeyna Abbott  
Hannah Berry  
Eleanor Crawford  
Evelyn Kirby  
Miranda Lawson  
Olivia Lowe

## SOUND

Arranged and Mixed by Katie Martin

"LOL" by DJ Spinn; "Speakers R-4 (Sounds)" by RP Boo;  
"Talk to Me" by Daystar Peterson, Dimitri Roger,  
Samuel Jimenez, Barrington Wright Tavarez, Smash  
David, and Rekless; "Going Bad" by Robert Rimeek  
Williams, Aubrey Drake Graham, Wheezy, and Western  
Weiss; "Rock the Boat" by Aaliyah Dana Haughton, Eric  
Seats, Static Major, Rapture Stewart, and Keybeats

**LIGHTING DESIGN** Saulius Slezas

**COSTUME DESIGN** Katie Martin and Arlene Kowal

Deep gratitude to all the performers for their creative contributions in the process and their energy and presence in the moment of performance, and to the faculty in the Mount Holyoke Dance Department for commissioning and supporting this work.

**Katie Martin** is a choreographer, performer, dance and movement educator, and recipient of the national Jacob K. Javits Fellowship in Dance. She has presented and performed her choreography throughout New York City and nationally, including Joyce SoHo, Dance Theater Workshop, Danspace Project, Symphony Space, EMPAC, The Neurosciences Institute, New England Complex Systems Institute, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, A.P.E. Gallery, and 33 Hawley Street, as well as at numerous college and university venues. Her work has been supported by the Jerome Robbins Foundation, National Performance Network, Vermont Arts Council, Massachusetts Cultural Council, Northampton Arts Council, and has been honored by the American College Dance Association and selected for the National College Dance Festival at the Kennedy Center. Katie has had the pleasure of collaborating with and performing in the work of many artists, including choreographers Paul Matteson, Jennifer Nugent, David Dorfman, Susan Rethorst, Dana Reitz, Ann Carlson, Terry Creach, Wendy Woodson, Dante Brown, and Meg Wolfe; musicians Bill Nace, Jake Meginsky, Tatsuya Nakatani, and Chris Cooper; and with Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Elliot Caplan. She currently dances with Barbie Diewald. Katie trained extensively with American Ballet Theater principal ballerina Karena Brock Carlyle, before receiving a BA in Dance at Bennington College and an MFA in Choreography and Dance Performance at Smith College. She is on the dance faculty throughout the Five Colleges and at the School for Contemporary Dance and Thought in Northampton.

**TEN MINUTE INTERMISSION**

# EIGHT WAYS IN

CHOREOGRAPHED BY BARBIE DIEWALD,  
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DANCERS

## **DANCERS**

Ariana Haddad  
Joey Haley  
Sienna Jessurun  
Aggie Johnson  
Katherine Kain  
Liz O'Brien  
Neve Parker  
Sabrina Reppert

## **SOUND**

Composed by Jazer Giles  
Spoken Text created by the Dancers

**LIGHTING DESIGN** Saulius Slezas  
**COSTUME DESIGN** Arlene Kowal

Thank you to this wonderful cast, who has been so generous with story, imagination, conversation and voice. Much of the movement was generated by the dancers-- whether via improvisation, asking questions answered via chance procedures, or allowing the movement to morph as it became familiar. In a short time, we were able to find such depth: a testament to these dancers as artists, thinkers and collaborators. Deep Joy.

Thank you to Jazer Giles for working with me on the score with patience and attention.

**Barbie Diewald** is Assistant Professor of Dance at Mount Holyoke College, and Artistic Director of Barbie Diewald Choreography. Since 2008, her work has been presented in the US at Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), Jacob's Pillow, the 92nd Street Y, Movement Research at the Judson Church, The Center for Performance Research, The Chocolate Factory, The Kitchen, Brooklyn Arts Exchange, Dance New Amsterdam, and locally at A.P.E Gallery, the Bodies in Motion Festival at 33 Hawley Street, The Mount Holyoke Art Museum, and the School for Contemporary Dance and Thought. Her work has been performed internationally in Germany, Italy and Canada. Diewald is a 2018 Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Fellow in Choreography, is the recipient of fellowships from the Bogliasco Foundation and Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, and has created her work with grant support from the New England Foundation for the Arts, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, and Northampton Arts Council. She has recently performed and collaborated with Kate Seethaler, Bronwen MacArthur and Katie Martin, and is currently in process with Sara Smith. Diewald holds a BFA in Theatre and Dance from Millikin University and MFA in Dance from Smith College.

# ONE

CHOREOGRAPHED BY URI SANDS

RESTAGED BY TONI PIERCE-SANDS AND KAITLIN BELL

REHEARSAL DIRECTOR: ROSE MARIE FLACHS

## **DANCERS**

Hannah Berry  
Evelyn Kirby  
Sara Lapadula  
Miranda Lawson  
Olivia Lowe  
Leah McLeod  
Maya Mizrahi  
Victoria Winter

## **UNDERSTUDIES**

Soukeyna Abbott and Moira Crawshaw

## **SOUND**

"Symphony No. 3: III Lento- Cantabile Semplice"  
by Henryk Gorecki  
performed by Dawn Upshaw (soprano)

## **LIGHTING DESIGN**

Saulius Slezas  
based on the original design by Carolyn Wong

## **COSTUME DESIGN**

Tulle and Dye

"One" was originally commissioned by Dance St. Louis for Common Thread Contemporary Dance Company.

This production of "One" is made possible in part through funding from the Science Center Directorship Fund.

A special thank you to Gary Gillis, Associate Dean of Faculty, for his enthusiasm and support.

Thank you to Cathy Smelcer, Arlene Kowal, the Dance Department faculty and to all the dancers for their unfailing dedication, creativity, and investigation.

**Please join us in the theatre for a conversation with choreographer Uri Sands and the creative team of "One" immediately following Thursday night's performance.**

# BIOGRAPHIES

**Uri Sands (Artistic Director of TU Dance, Choreographer of "One")** has received national recognition for choreography that is notable for the fusion of classical elegance with edgy contemporary action, for pulsating intensity with poetic lyricism. A native of Miami, Uri trained at New World School of the Arts, and performed as a principal dancer with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for five years, Philadanco, Minnesota Dance Theatre, James Sewell Ballet, as principal dancer with North Carolina Dance Theatre, and as guest artist with Complexions under the direction of Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson. His choreographic commissions include Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, Alonzo King LINES Ballet BFA at Dominican University of California, Dance St. Louis, VocalEssence, Zenon Dance, Penumbra Theatre, North Carolina Dance Theatre and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Uri has received the Princess Grace Award in choreography, the Joyce Foundation Award and the McKnight Artist Fellowship in Choreography. Uri was named City Pages 2011 "Choreographer of the Year". Uri was named as a 2015 USA Fellow, receiving the Knight Fellowship in Dance together with TU Dance co-founder Toni Pierce-Sands..

**Toni Pierce-Sands (Artistic Director of TU Dance, and Restager of "One")**

Prior to co-founding TU Dance, Minnesota native Toni Pierce-Sands performed with Minnesota Dance Theatre, Tanz Forum in Germany, Rick Odums in Paris, and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, where she was a featured soloist in such signature pieces as "Revelations," "Cry" and "Rainbow Round My Shoulder". Her command of the Horton Technique has led to teaching posts throughout the United States and Europe. Toni directs programming and teaches classes at TU Dance Center in Saint Paul. She was a full-time core faculty member at the University of Minnesota for twenty years and also served as Director of University Dance Theatre. Toni has been featured in COSMOPOLITAN Germany and GQ publications, the American Express Alvin Ailey commercial and the Lester Horton Technique instructional DVD series. She has written columns for Dance Studio Life magazine on a variety of pedagogical approaches for modern dance. Toni was awarded a 2004 McKnight Artist Fellowship in Dance, named the Sage Awards' "2011 Outstanding Dance Educator" and recognized with a 2013 Links Emerald Service Award for service in the arts. She was named as a 2015 USA Fellow, receiving the Knight Fellowship in Dance together with TU Dance co-founder Uri Sands. Toni was selected as a mentor for the 2018 Dance/USA Institute for Leadership Training and as a panelist for the 2018 Dance Miami Choreographers' Program.

**Kaitlin Bell (Company Member of TU Dance and Restager of "One")** is a native of Wisconsin. She was first introduced to TU Dance through Toni Pierce-Sands while studying at the University of Minnesota, where she received her BFA in 2014. Kaitlin's performance credits include works by Kyle Abraham, Donald Byrd, Bill T. Jones, Greg Dolbashian, and Larry Keigwin. Kaitlin joined TU Dance in 2014.

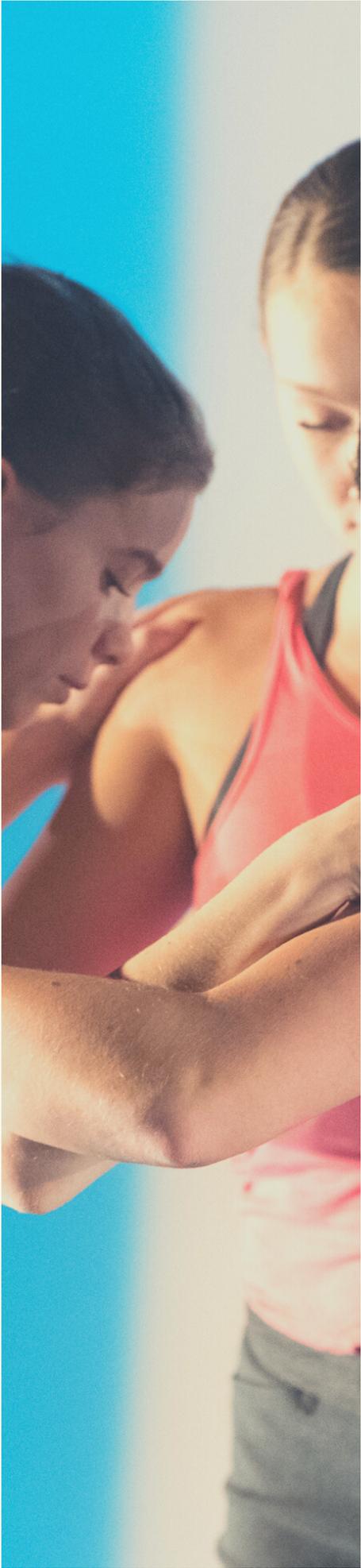
# BIOGRAPHIES

**Rose Marie Flachs ("One" Rehearsal Director)** is a professor of dance at Mount Holyoke College and the owner and director of the Massachusetts Academy of Ballet. She danced professionally with Nashville Ballet, Ballet West, Louisville Ballet, and the Cincinnati Ballet. She has performed in works by George Balanchine, Choo San Goh, Victoria Simon, Joe Duell, Lester Horton, Peter Anastos, Paul Taylor, Jose Limón, John Butler, Michael Smuin, and Val Caniparoli. She has choreographed and staged many ballets and teaches an annual seminar on the principles of the Vaganova method of teaching ballet. Her students have won medals and scholarships at the Youth American Grand Prix and the Connecticut Classic Ballet Competitions. Rose is a founding member of the Council of Organized Researchers of Pedagogical Studies (CORPS) de Ballet International Inc. She is the recipient of three CORPS Outstanding Service Awards and an Individual Artist Fellowship from the state of Tennessee.

**Jazer Giles ("Eight Ways In" Composer)** is a composer, performer, media artist, and teacher. He holds a Master of Music in Composition from the University of Massachusetts, where he is currently a Lecturer. Jazer is an accompanist for Five College Dance and has been collaborating with Barbie Diewald Choreography since 2015. Recent performances include "Pare" with Barbie Diewald at the Academy of Music Theatre, solo A/V work at the HUT series at SCDT, SEAMUS conference, 2019 Max Expo '74, and a premiere at Math + Art =.

**Saulius Slezas (Lighting Designer)** is a Western Massachusetts based lighting designer. He considers himself a student of light in all its forms and is equally happy working in a theater, a club or a repurposed warehouse space. Raised in Boston, he is a graduate of Boston Latin School and Hampshire College. Saulius's artistic interests lie in the tight integration of technical design with live performance. His thesis project at Hampshire College, "United Moments of America," involved close collaboration between a choreographer, video artist and lighting designer to create a performance where human and technical elements were so tightly integrated that the story they told fell apart as soon as one element was removed. Since then he has moved on to found his own firm, "Vilkas LLC," through which he provides design and production services to organizations throughout the Northeastern United States. Currently he splits his time between touring internationally with They Might Be Giants and servicing the needs of more stationary clients such as Google and Amherst College.

**Arlene Kowal (Costume Designer)** has been the Costumer for MHC and the Five College Dance Department for many years. She served as costume designer for Pioneer Valley Ballet for over 25 years and has done costume design for Walnut Hill School of Ballet, Berkshire Ballet, AmDans Theatre, Massachusetts Academy of Ballet and other local dance companies. She is a retired public school teacher, currently working for the Five College Center for East Asian Studies as a seminar leader and at Elms College as the Massachusetts Geographic Alliance Co-Coordinator with National Geographic Society and Program Director for a Global Studies Program.



# MOUNT HOLYOKE PRODUCTION STAFF

## **FIVE COLLEGE DANCE PRODUCTION MANAGER**

MATTHEW E. ADELSON

## **FIVE COLLEGE DANCE ASSISTANT PRODUCTION MANAGER**

ACHAETEY KABAL

### **ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

Barbie Diewald

### **TECHNICAL DIRECTOR**

Rachel Shaw

### **MUSIC DIRECTOR**

Peter Jones

### **DEPARTMENT COORDINATOR**

Cathy Smelcer

### **LIGHTING DESIGNER**

Saulius Slezas

### **COSTUME DESIGNER**

Arlene Kowal

### **PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS**

Morgan Lemos

Gigi Bashaw

### **FCD PRODUCTION ASSISTANT**

Sophia Pan

### **BOX OFFICE MANAGER**

Saba Fiazuddin

### **HOUSE MANAGER**

Xin Zhang

### **STAGE MANAGER**

Morgan Lemos

### **ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS**

Laura Dutilloy

### **LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR**

Samantha Murray

### **SOUND OPERATOR**

Gigi Bashaw

### **STAGE CREW**

Sophie Clingan

Rachel Moses

Tamar Cohen

### **WARDROBE ASSISTANT**

## **THANK YOU**

Matthew Adelson, Rachel Shaw, and Achaetey Kabal for technical and production support.

Morgan Lemos, Gigi Bashaw and our crew for all their hard work in bringing this concert to life.

Peter Jones for his support with sound and music, in the studio and in production.

Shawn Hill and Lara Dubin in the MHC Theatre Department for your generosity in lending us equipment.

Arlene Kowal and Saulius Slezas for the thoughtful and beautiful designing work.

Cathy Smelcer and Bardee Sadlier for administrative and facilities support.

Charles Flachs and Paul Fortier for capturing this concert in photographs and video.

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