

# 2022 WOMEN IN DANCE FILM FESTIVAL OCTOBER 15-16, 2022 **7artscafe, YOKOHAMA, JAPAN**



Jamison Curcio



Jenna Del Monte



Eva Stone



Tamara Williams



Nathalie Matychak



Anabella Lenzu



Mariana Oliveira





Anouk Froidevaux



Kenya Joy Gibson



Jin Won

## **Women in Dance Mission Statement**

Women in Dance provides opportunities in accessing broader and more visible platforms, expanding the voices of artists/scholars, and strengthening the capacity and vibrancy of women in dance-making and dance-related fields.

## **Film Screening Information**

#### In Spite of, Because Of...The Wallpaper by Alison Cook-Beatty

In Spite of, Because Of...The Wallpaper was inspired by parts of Charlotte Perkins Gilman short story The Yellow Wallpaper. This early American feminist work of literature, published in 1892, brought attention to women, Äôs mental health in the 19th century. Choreographer Alison Cook-Beatty collaborated with composer Jonathan Howard Katz. Dancers Nika Antuanette, Sasha Rydlisky, and Vera Paganin rehearsed with Ms. Cook-Beatty on Zoom with Corporal Movement Coach Steven Colucci. The dance was filmed in a green screen studio by Videographer Nicholas Morgulis, Jeremy Teran, and Christian Schlicht. Jeff Keller edited the film.

#### a(part) by Nathalie Matychak

Commissioned for LaGuardia High School's 2020 Virtual Graduation Dance Concert, "a(part)" was intended to be a work performed live on a proscenium stage. Once the COVID hit, the work evolved and grew into a collaborative reflection of the moment, through the individual, unique perspectives of each cast member and their experience of the global pandemic and social uprising of 2020.

#### Violet crumble by Root Collective

This film begins at escape. It is conceived from the point of view of a woman finding a way to cope with the consequences of a traumatic event. From the moment her feet touch the ground, we find ourselves alongside her, entering a place that is safe from damage and pain. We are offered a feeling of sanctuary, yet beneath these still waters are the forces of a riptide of memory, recognition, and unattainable recovery.

#### Beyond the Seas by Jin Won

This is a narrative dance piece inspired by the Persian poem, Beyond the Seas, written by Sohrab Sepehri. It was shot in black and white to create a space where the imagination could be enhanced and a dream-like state suggested. This piece reimagines through dance a journey from a land without hope or love to a dream land of freedom and humanity.

#### She Told by Jenna Del Monte

She Told is a film inspired by a collection of stories from women who have experienced manipulation, dominance, fear, and suppression. The sheer material represents the thin space between the truth and what is perceived to be the truth. Pushing and pulling, sprinkled with moments of sensuality, reveal some innate complexities in a woman and the societal conflict to hide, stay quiet, and remain beneath or behind.

#### How We Get Free by Jamison Curcio

How We Get Free is an intentional open letter to white supremacy. Using the environment elements, color aesthetics, and gospel music, this film invites audience members to decide if this film is talking about the past or the current times.

#### OUT OF THE FOLDS OF WOMEN by Anabella Lenzu (Film Screening Only)

"Out of the Folds of Women" tells a personal vision of femininity, and what it means to be a woman, mother and immigrant today. Unfolded out of the folds of the woman Man comes unfolded, And is always to come unfolded" -Walt Whitman

#### Saudade by Mariana Oliveira

Saudade was created during the pandemic for the dancers of Philadelphia based company BalletX. Saudade was inspired by the Brazilian Portuguese word that describes a deep emotional state of nostalgia. During this unique time, we've all been experiencing some degree of nostalgia. Set to the music of Brazilian composer Antonio Carlos Jobim, the force behind the creation of Bossa Nova style in the 50. This black and white film portrays elements of love, loss and memories.

#### Sueños Replaced by Sacrificio by Miranda Zapata

This work encompasses the impairment and healing, while honoring the legacy of our past, present, and future migrant farm workers, both documented and undocumented.

#### **Remembrance by Tamara Williams**

Remembrance is a Dance for Camera highlighting African-American Ring Shout traditions in various historic sites throughout Charlotte, NC. Ring Shout is an African-American tradition brought to the United States during the Transatlantic Slave Trade. One of the sites includes a cabin built in the 1760s and inhabited by enslaved families until 1848. Another site includes the Siloam School built around 1920 as an African-American schoolhouse and the Catawba River. The dancers move through the sites as a place of memory and dance Ring Shout infused with contemporary movements to honor the ancestral energies that came before.

#### Honor by Kenya Joy Gibson

Honor pays homage to our ancestors who journeyed through the Middle Passage, those who made it across the Atlantic, and those who sacrificed their lives at the bottom of the ocean. Remembering and honoring those who "made it" across "those waters," and those who settled at the bottom of the sea.

#### Lament for a Dying World by Anouk Froidevaux

"Lament for a Dying World" is an experimental dance film and performance research that incorporates movement and voice to discuss mental health and its generational impact, while looking at the current climate crisis. The film addresses a need to restore balance within ourselves, our communities and with nature, performing a contemporary lament to grieve the fractured relationship between our own nature and the natural environment. Weaving together a poetic narrative, a ritual is performed to heal the wounded or fractured parts of one, psyche through reconnecting with the archetype of Mother Nature.

#### WHO IS WHO:



**Jamison Curcio** (she/her) is an interdisciplinary artist and community curator. Working at the intersections of performance art and Black Feminism, Curcio cultivates and fosters stories of liberation and reimagining. As a community curator, Curcio interweaves the values of Black Feminism and produces virtual exhibitions that invite community members to be curious, analyze their positionalities, and roles in collective liberation. As a graduate from Goucher College ('19), Curcio holds a BA in Performance Art for Social Justice and is the recipient of the 2019 Phi Beta Kappa Brooke Pierce Award in Fine Arts for her choreography.



**Jenna Del Monte** is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Dance at the University at Buffalo, serving both populations of undergraduate and graduate-level dance. She specializes in technical training for modern and ballet, as well as dance composition, and dance for the camera. Among directing departmental shows and presenting her work at the University, her choreography and films have been showcased both nationally and internationally.



**Anouk Froidevaux** is a Canadian-Swiss dance artist, performing across Europe and touring internationally for 18+ years. Her process-based artistic research is grounded in her exploration between movement and voice, while approaching the body as a subject of identity and place of belonging; a meeting point where past, present, and future converge. Her work addresses a need to restore balance within ourselves, our communities and with nature; To remember our innate wholeness and reclaim our sense of belonging through embodiment and the ritual of performance.



Kenya Joy Gibson A native of Brooklyn, NY, provides artists, artists of color, the opportunity to share their stories on stage. Kenya is the Founder and Artistic Director of TORCH Dance Theatre. A former student of the Dance Theatre of Harlem, and the last to experience the tutelage of the late Arthur Mitchell, she has performed masterworks such as "Dougla" by Geoffrey Holder and "Forces of Rhythm" by Louis Johnson. With Forces of Nature Dance Theatre, the company won the 2017 Bessie Award for Outstanding Performance for the "Healing Sevens". Ms. Kenya has been featured in the New York Times for her performance in Spike Lee's "Art of Daring" campaign for Cadillac. As a choreographer, she has shared her artistry with the audiences throughout prestigious venues in the NYC tri-state area. She recently performed in Dance Africa 2022.



Anabella Lenzu has more than 25 years' experience working in Argentina, Chile, Italy and the USA. As Artistic Director of Anabella Lenzu/DanceDrama, Lenzu draws on her diverse background to create thought-provoking and socially-conscious dance-theatre in the interest of improving our human condition. Classically trained at the renowned Teatro Colòn in Buenos Aires, Lenzu studied the modern dance techniques of Humphrey/Limòn and Graham in New York. Her studies of Tango and the folkdances of Argentina, Spain, and Italy, further inform her work. Her choreography has been commissioned all over the world, for opera, TV programs, theatre productions, and by many dance companies, such as Anna Sokolow Theatre/Dance Ensemble (New York) and Movimento Danza (Naples, Italy).



**Nathalie Matychak** is a choreographer and arts administrator based in Brooklyn, NY. Since founding her CUNY-award winning project-based company, MATYCHAK, in 2011, where she has shown original works at Joe, Äôs Pub, Dixon Place, 92nd Street Y, Symphony Space, Peridance Capezio Center, Westbeth and LaGuardia High School. She has received choreographic mentorship from Doug Varone and Stephen Petronio and co-founded The Breaking Glass Project (2013), a multi-part platform for emerging female choreographers. Matychak trained at LaGuardia Arts High School (2007) and holds a BFA in Dance from NYU Tisch School of the Arts (2010).



**Mariana Oliveira**, originally from Brazil, studied at the Royal Academy of Dance, and was a trainee dancer at the National Dance Company of Wales. She has been commissioned by the NYCB Choreographic Institute, Joffrey Ballet Winning Works, Nashville Ballet, Richmond Ballet, Kansas City Ballet, Carolina Ballet, BalletX, Milwaukee Ballet among others. Mariana is a recipient of the NYU Center for Ballet and the Arts Fellowship, as well the Kansas University Fellowship. Her works have also been presented at the Jacob's Pillow Festival. Mariana is a recipient of the United State Artists Relief Grant and the Arts For Illinois Grant.



**Eva Stone** has been creating work for 30 years and is the producer/curator of CHOP SHOP: Bodies of Work, an annual contemporary dance festival. She has been commissioned by Pacific Northwest Ballet, Spectrum Dance Theater, and numerous dance companies throughout the US. Simone trained at Boston Ballet, the Goh Academy, and at the Tanz Akademie Zurich. Simone has had an extensive performing career in Europe and has worked with dance luminaries such as Duato, Kylian, Ek and Pite. She most recently was a company dancer with Staatstheater Regensburg. Root Collective is a collaboration with choreographer/producer Eva Stone and choreographer/dancer Simone Elliott.



**Tamara Williams** (Assistant Professor) earned her MFA in Dance from Hollins University in collaboration with The American Dance Festival, The Forsythe Company, and Frankfurt University. She has choreographed works that have been presented nationally and internationally in Serbia, Switzerland, Trinidad & Tobago, Jamaica, Mexico, and Brazil. In 2011, she created Moving Spirits, Inc., an arts organization dedicated to performing, researching, documenting, cultivating, and producing arts of the African Diaspora. Williams' book, Giving Life to Movement (McFarland & Co.) will be published in February 2021. Her monograph, The African Diaspora and Civic Responsibility: Addressing Social Justice through the Arts, Education and Community.



**Jin Won** Praised by the NY Times as an exuberant dancer whose musicality transforms her dancing into something primal, "dancer and percussionist Jin Won is a one-of-a-kind artist in the field of Indian performing arts who explores the sonic and visual possibilities of rhythm through dance and music. An accomplished Kathak dancer and tabla player of South Korean origin, she spent over 15 years in India training in Indian classical percussion. As artistic director of Pradhanica Dance and Music Company, Jin has created, choreographed, and starred in various ensembles that have performed in esteemed venues across North America.



**Miranda Zapata** was born and raised in San Juan, Texas. She received her BFA in Dance from Sam Houston State University. After graduating, Zapata then moved to Los Angeles, California where she danced professionally and taught at a Charter School for underprivileged children for three years. Zapata is a dance artist who draws on personal experiences and current issues to guide her work. She is currently pursuing her Master of Fine Arts in Dance at Texas Woman's University where she is focusing on creating empathy and awareness towards humanitarian issues and social justice for marginalized groups through her artistic voice.

### **Women in Dance Board of Directors**

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## Women in Dance Executive Director, Sandra Parks



Sandra Parks is a choreographer, dance educator, and an advocate for female leadership. She is the founder and Executive Director of Women in Dance, a non-profit organization that promotes female leadership in dance and related fields. The mission of Women in Dance is to provide opportunities in accessing broader and more visible platforms, expanding the voices of artists/scholars, and strengthening the capacity and vibrancy of women in dance making and dance related fields.

Sandra holds her BFA from New York University and MFA from Smith College, MA. Originally from Taipei, Taiwan, Sandra danced as a soloist with Four Seasons Ballet and Wu-I Dance Company. She toured nationally and internationally with a Broadway production of the *King And I*. While directing her own production, she danced and choreographed more than 80 live concerts. After she moved to Boston, she danced with Bosoma Dance Company, Dance Collective, and Impulse Dance Company.

Sandra has presented her work at professional venues in Atlanta, Baton Rouge, Boston, Miami, Nashville, New Orleans, New York City as well as Beijing, Florence, and Taipei. She also created commissioned work for Bosoma Dance Company in Boston, Cangelosi Dance Project and Of Moving Colors in Baton Rouge, LA.

Sandra was a faculty member for Boston University, Bridgewater State College, Colleges of Fenway, Kennesaw State University, Louisiana State University, Regis College, and Smith College, and she taught master classes at National Taiwan University of Arts. She is currently a fulltime assistant teaching professor and the Dance Program Director at Drexel University in Philadelphia.