Transitions Projects: 
Mouthful of Marbles

7:30 p.m. March 12

Virtual Performance
School of Music, Dance and Theatre
Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
Arizona State University
Pain for Public Consumption

Choreographer: Zakiya Rose Johnson
Music: Pain for Public Consumption
Composer: Rozotadi, in collaboration with Zakiya Rose
Lighting Designer: Zakiya Rose
Costume Designer: Cari Smith
Set Designer: Zakiya Rose
Media Designer: Lawrence Fung: Krakenstillandfilm in collaboration with Zakiya Rose
Props Designer/Construction: Andrew Steele in collaboration with Zakiya Rose
Performers: Shaniece Brazwell, Maddie Ghikas, Zakiya Rose, Amanda Monteith, Steve Rosales, Shannon Smith

Warm regards to all who have passed on to the next realm, your work continues. Healing and the inherent oneness of humanity is no longer a mere naïve thought, but a force that is able to be learned about and applied within our own communities. Special thanks to all the professors at this institution who shared their wisdom with sincerity and love. Ayee and shouts out to the hAteErs.

A Conversation

Choreographer: Maddie Ghikas
Composer: Angelese Pepper
Lighting Designer: Maddie Ghikas
Costume Designer: Cari Smith
Set Designer: Nathan Trujillo
Performers: Tayla Davis, Angelese Pepper
Poppy Meadows at the Cliff of the Infinite
Choreographer: Steve Rosales
Music: 10 Preludes, Op. 23: No. 4 in D Major: Andante cantabile
Composer: Sergei Rachmaninoff
Performed by: Grigory Sokolov
Lighting Designer: Steve Rosales
Costume Designer: Steve Rosales, Cari Smith
Set Designer: Steve Rosales
Props Designer/Construction: Steve Rosales, Andrew Steele
Performers: Kayla Anderson, Chloe DeMarce, Natalie Drummond, Sarah Zapelli

I may never see you again.

True, False, and Floating Ribs
Choreographer: Mira Hills
Music: True False by Negativland and Sound for Three by Mira Hills
Lighting Designer: Mira Hills
Costume Designer: Mira Hills
Media Designer: Olivia Hernández (ONOH)
Performer: Mira Hills

Special thanks to Delia, Ella, Liz, Karen, Olivia, Tyler, Mom, and my cohort. For context, please visit mouthfulofmarbles.info.
This is not a Tragedy

Choreographer: Avery Polster

Music: Burning Feather, Kiss of the Phoenix by Eartheater; This is the Sound by Avery Polster

Lighting Designer: Mira Hills, Avery Polster

Costume Designer: Cari Smith

Props Designer: Avery Polster

Performers: Amanda Monteith, Avery Polster, Steve Rosales, Calen Sotebeer

This is where I tell you who is in the dance
This is the program
And then I leave the game. This is the end
I’m losing my ears I’m losing my eyes. This is the end. There is a roach in the potatoes. I’m hanging up. My hips keep cracking. This is the end. We have one bagel left and it’s pumpkin. I think I pulled my hamstring? I think this is over. Can we please have the bill? This is the end. It is 7:30. The Titanic is sinking. There is a dent in my head. I want carbs. This is the end. My elbows are ashy. I’m so hungry. I should have brought a sweater. Time to get up. This is the end. This is not a tragedy. This is the end.

NO PAINT on the Marley

Performing Artist & Dancer: Rain Locker

Environmental Designer & Visual Artist: Nicholas Kasparian

Make something ordinary significant by placing it in an exquisite frame.

INTERMISSION
Decorative Hierarchy
Choreographer: Shannon Smith
Music: Paint it Black by The Rolling Stones
Lighting Designer: Shannon Smith
Costume Designer: Cari Smith
Set Designer: Andrew Steele
Performers: Ella Alzua, Mira Hills, Faith Markovetz, Avery Polster

This dance is about________ (a) dinosaurs. (b) feminism. (c) constructions of reality. (d) other. (e) none of the above.

A La Luna y de Regreso
Choreographer: Amanda Monteith
Music: Sol and Luna by Joep Beving and Amanda Monteith
Lighting Designer: Amanda Monteith
Costume Designer: Cari Smith
Videographer: Amanda Monteith
Performers: Ryan Evans, Amanda Monteith

Special thanks to Ella Alzua for video credits.

Multiracial, Tattoos, Vaginal Discharge, Sinner
Choreographer: The Imposter
Music: Yea Hoe by Gangsta Boo. Ft. Sinjin Hawke; Essential Performances by Marlene Dietrich and the Burt Bacharach Orchestra
Lighting Designer: The Imposter
Costume Designer: The Imposter, Cari Smith
Set and Prop Designer: The Imposter
Performers: Imposter 27, Imposter 32, The Imposter

The Imposter does what they want, where they want, when they want.
The Memory Fruit

Choreographer: Ajai F. Johnson in collaboration with dancers

Music: Chariv Canopy by Loess; The Fruit of Memory Poem by Ajai F. Johnson; Walking in the Rain in Manhattan (Binaural City Sounds) 4k Rain Ambience by Nomadic Ambience; Dismantle by Andy Stott

Lighting Designer: Ajai F. Johnson in collaboration with Danielle Deutschmann

Costume Designer: Cari Smith

Scenic Designer: Andrew Steele

Painter: Brittany Mayberry

Performers: Ajai F. Johnson, Madeline Freeman

The Memory Fruit is a performing art dance project that will surround the idea of memory. Examining the process of how we redact certain memories while holding onto other memories. By analyzing this process, we are trying to see the link between the significance of certain memories to who we are today. While accounting for the yearning of the need to return to memories or in other words “returning to the glory days.” A phrase that is commonly known within our society, as this wants to return to times when we were happier or wished to make a change to prevent a mistake.
Self I0ve

Choreographer: Sahvanna Thompson in collaboration with cast

Music: Red Riddim by A Tribe Called Red;
       Trøllabundin by Eivør;
       Depth Charge by Flume

Lighting Designer: Sahvanna Thompson

Costume Designer: Cari Smith, Sahvanna Thompson

Performers: Winston Birdwell, Chloe DeMarce,
            Shayla Eshelman, Xochilt Huitzil,
            Lauren Jimenez, Monique Kelley,
            Amanda Monteith, Sahvanna Thompson

Halito/Osiyo (Hello in Chahta and Cherokee). I would like to take a second to say thank you to my wonderful cast, my amazing friend and mentor David Olarte, my beautiful friend Nicole Klaymoon, and of course my family for believing in me and supporting me. A huge thank you to my ancestors and spirits who are always with me and help guide me. Yakoke/Wado (thank you in Chahta and Cherokee).

Biographies

Ella Alzua The Imposter began their journey with Ella in 1998 when they came across a newborn in the wild west basin of Arizona. The Imposter began to create work when the child had menstruated for the first time at the ripe age of 12. There, the child matured into a young woman and her experiences have become a muse for the Imposter, but, don’t get it twisted, the Imposter lives within all of us. They get inside your head and use your perception of your reality to inform their work.

Maddie Ghikas is a senior at Arizona State University who is studying dance and integrated health. She is very interested in the way individuals interact with the world and the effects of these interactions on others. Ghikas grew up in Massachusetts where she began her dance career at a young age. After studying styles such as ballet, contemporary, and jazz she chose to pursue a career in the dance industry. While she completes her degrees at Arizona State University she has participated in a number of performances as both dancer and choreographer. Once her degrees are completed, May 2021, Ghikas intends to pursue a Master’s degree studying the impacts of the arts on the health of a population.
Mira Hills is currently studying at Arizona State University (ASU) and is pursuing her BFA in Dance and a certificate in Entrepreneurship and Innovation as a Barrett Honors student. She has been training, performing, and creating movement for 19 years with mentors such as Liz Lerman, Keith Thompson, and Kristin Sudeikis. Mira has held internships and work study jobs at institutions including American Dance Festival, Orlando Ballet School, and Releve Dance Academy where she received hands-on experience in arts administration and pedagogical approaches. Mira’s goal as an arts entrepreneur and educator is to create a supportive and educational environment that will foster creativity within each student through art. Under the direction of Carolyn Koch, Mira has worked as a stage manager and lighting designer for dance productions at ASU. She has performed and/or choreographed for the Arizona State Dancing Devils, ASU’s Undergraduate and Graduate Project Presentations, Fall Forward, Spring Dance Fest, American College Dance Association and Leonard Bernstein’s Mass. Mira was awarded 1st place in the AzDEO Student Choreography Contest for her piece Compos Mentis, and she continues to create work that reflects her values of commitment, effective creativity, and vulnerability. Mira’s dream is to continue in the dance field as an instructor, artistic director, stage manager, and casting director of dance performance. To learn more and view samples of Mira’s work, visit miramhills.com.

Ajai F. Johnson is a fourth year Dance Education major at Arizona State University (ASU). His dance career started 8 years ago at Westview High School training under McKenna Streett. After joining ASU Dance Program, Johnson turned his focus to creating Postmodern Contemporary works fused with poetic and theatre aspects. As a choreographer, he strives to question the psychological ideas of individuals and himself. He is exploring the working mind of humans to answer why we act or speak in our certain manner. How does our experiences shape who we are now? Using his personal experience in life as a driving point, Johnson seeks to have these questions answered. Currently, he is working on producing his second show called “The Memory Fruit,” and hopes to premiere it in the Spring of 2021. In the future, he is striving to be a dance instructor at a secondary school, while owning a non-profit dance studio that promotes difference as connecting points for community and unity.

Zakiya Johnson is a movement artist whose current research focuses on the capacity dance has to impact various social challenges society faces today. Born in Nassau, Bahamas, Johnson acquired her initial training in ballet, and Bahamian Junkanoo, and has recently incorporated post contemporary modern, and mixed media into her practice. She has worked with notable organizations such as Movement Exchange and The Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment program in order to foster cross cultural understanding, civic engagement, social equality and inclusion, and creative expression through dance. Johnson’s work has premiered at various festivals as well as alongside artist Rozotadi. Currently, Johnson resides in Tempe, Arizona where she is obtaining her B.F.A. in Dance Performance. She plans to continue her artistry within the multimedia realm.
Rain Locker also known as Desert Rain, is an interdisciplinary artist, production coordinator, workshop facilitator, and creative collaborator based in Phoenix, Arizona. Most recently, Rain has contributed as a collaborator for events such as the 2018 NueBox Open Lab Series, Grey Box Collective’s 2019 Wild Card Series, and the 2019 editions of FORM & Convergence presented at Arcosanti, Arizona. Her fiery alias, Desert Rain, has been a featured fire artist resident performing at Scottsdale, Arizona’s Toca Madera. Rain is currently working with The Nines, showcasing collaborative contemporary works featuring a fusion of codified movement and fire aesthetics. In the future Rain seeks to expand her network by continuing to travel, train, teach, and present on both nationally and internationally. Ultimately, Rain Locker seeks to create opportunities for communities to optimize their health through mind-body-soul connection & integration.

Amanda Monteith Originally from upstate New York, Amanda Monteith is a dancer, choreographer, and artist based in Arizona. Her dancing has been featured in several productions including “Her Brown Body is Glory”, a capstone show for Arizona choreographer Hannah Victoria. Alongside concert stage work, Amanda has also worked as a performer for notable rapper Fetty Wap as well as a master class assistant in Las Vegas for Aliya Janell. She has performed and trained internationally in multiple dance disciplines, most recently in Northern Israel under the direction of Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company. Amanda has trained in various styles and will continue, hoping to work in multiple avenues and genres of dance.

Avery Polster is a movement artist, dancer, and choreographer based in Tempe. He is currently a senior at ASU, graduating in the spring of 2021 with a BFA in Dance. Throughout his time at ASU he has been actively involved in various undergraduate and graduate presentations and performances. He participated in the Taimy and Joan residency piece which showed at Spring Dance Fest 2018. He has presented two works: “Buy 15 get a Vessel,” which premiered at the Phoenix Art Museum in fall 2019, and “You Know What I Mean(?)” which showcased at the West Regional American College Dance Association in spring of 2019. Avery is inspired by the research of organic human form, performativity of image, control, communication, intimacy, expectation, storytelling, and the individual experience as part of a larger built world. He has attended Gaga Movement Language workshops in summer 2018 and winter 2019, and Ate9’s winter intensive in 2019. In the future, he plans on continuing his study of Gaga movement language. After graduation, Avery plans on growing his abilities and skills in the professional realm, and while performing and defining his choreographic voice in a way that is satisfying and fulfilling.
Steve Rosales is finishing his fourth and final year at ASU. Although starting as a Dance Education Major, he made the switch to Dance to direct his focus towards developing his own movement technique and artistic voice as a dance creator. He is incredibly interested in exploring process-heavy work as much as spontaneously generative experiences. While his work can sometimes be hard to swallow, he doesn’t take himself too seriously and enjoys playing with the spectrum between formality and ridiculousness. He loves complexity and layers, but he also considers himself an entertainer and equally values the opportunity to excite audiences through extravagant performances. As a dancer, he delivers character, expression, and versatility throughout multiple dance forms. As a choreographer, you can expect him to create something sad, unique, or stupid - or perhaps a tasteful combination of the three. He hopes to embed a fond memory of himself within everyone who has the opportunity to see him do what he loves most.

Shannon Smith is an upcoming dancer, student, and choreographer from Phoenix, Arizona. She is currently in her last year at Arizona State University (ASU) where she will receive a Bachelor’s of Fine Arts degree in Dance, a bachelor’s degree in English, and a minor degree in Spanish in Spring 2021. Her personal movement practice is influenced by her training and active research of concepts from GAGA Movement Language, Countertechnique, contemporary ballet, postmodern contemporary dance styles, and yoga. Within the past year, Shannon has presented work in multiple student choreography shows at ASU, the American Dance Festival, and the Phoenix Art Museum. In January 2020, her piece Post-Trauma Sponge was selected to perform a tiny dance at Breaking Ground Contemporary Dance Festival in Tempe, Arizona. Currently, she is working on her first evening-length production that explores constructions of reality and is set to premiere in May 2021. In addition to her pursuits in dance, Shannon is intrigued by language and rhetoric, and how they affect ideas within society. Her choreographic work is largely based around the micro and macro effects that words can have on the human experience. After graduation, she plans to travel (when possible) and expand her artistry as a dancer in a research-based company.

Sahvanna Thompson is originally from Anchorage, Alaska. She currently is in her fourth year as a BFA Dance Education major at Arizona State University. In 2018, she traveled and trained with master dancers at “Rennie Harris’s Illadelph Festival” in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 2019, she trained and battled at Bruce Tkanji’s annual Hip Hop event, “Juste Debout” in Paris, France. She has performed and trained with “Stilo Dance Company” under the direction of David Olarte at the 2019 Reno Latin Dance Fest. Most recently, she worked with Bay Area artist, Nicole Klaymoon, during her artist residency at Arizona State University. After graduation, she plans to perform in various projects around Phoenix, and eventually move back to Alaska to give back to her community and continue reconnecting with her Indigenous roots.
Transition Projects Production Crew

Artistic Director    Carley Conder
Production Stage Manager   Max Zamorano
Assistant Stage Manager    Mira Hills, Steve Rosales
Light Board Operator   Xochilt Huitzil, Takela King
Sound Board Operator    Benjamin Block
Stage Crew    Brayden Guentzel
Lighting Student Workers    Cassidy Alberico, Cassidy Atkins,
                             Ashley Auchincloss, Elle Doster,
                             Maia Gomez, Jordan McAuliffe,
                             Anthony Muldrow, Lucy Primiano
Electricians    Cassidy Alberico, Thomas Bross,
                             Dawson Buckholz,
                             Ann Ethington, Ryan Grissett,
                             Jordan McAuliffe, Derek Reiher,
                             Francesca Sosky
Scenic Student Workers    Valerie Stutterheim
Costume Shop Student Workers    Hugo Crick-Furman,
                                 Savannah Schoenfeld,
                                 Morgan Maclellan, April Maytorena

School of Music, Dance and Theatre Production Staff

Director     Heather Landes
Associate Director    Karen Schupp
Assistant Director of Dance    Keith Thompson
Production Manager   Carolyn Koch
Faculty Technical Director   Christopher Winnemann
Staff Technical Directors    Andrew Steele
Props & Paint Supervisor    Julia Rogge
Costume Designer    Cari Smith
Costume Draper    Gwendolyn Basala
Costume Construction   Lois Myers
Stage Management Mentor    Laura Winnemann
Sound Engineer    William Swayze
Sound and Media Supervisor    Stephen Christensen
Master Electrician    Dani Deutschmann
Marketing Coordinator    Danielle Munoz
Want to learn more about dance? Take a class and earn college credit! Visit https://herbergerinstitute.asu.edu/design-arts-electives to learn more.