FACULTY DANCE CONCERT 2021

AWAKENED

VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

Artistic Director
Teresa Cooper

Assistant Director
Whitney Geldon

Faculty Choreographers
Teresa Cooper
Whitley Green
Reyna Mondragon
Claudia Orcasitas
Amiti Perry

Featured Guest Artist
Azaria Hogans

MAR 4, 5, 6 | 8PM
MAR 7 | 2PM

FREE Virtual Tickets:
danceandtheatre.unt.edu/events

Photo by George Wada
/Pre-lude/
Choreography by Whitley Green
Videography and Editing by Greg Keith

/Pre-lude/ the very instant a woman is introduced to who she truly is; she believes it.

drained by the noise and the silence
Choreography by Allie Sindelar
Performance by Alyssa Knapschaefer, Faith “Blue” Magee, Ava Quisling
Videography by Isaiah Perkins
Edited by Allie Sindelar
Soundtrack: “Hände waschen” by ibi

Enveloped by the Wake
Choreography by Teresa Cooper with creative input from the cast
Choreographer's Assistants: Allyson Turquette and Michael Steed
Performance by Randie Burks, Isabella Gonzalez, Alyssa Knapschaefer, Brynne Loberger, Destiny Roberts, Victoria Salazar, Michael Steed
Music: “Enveloped by the Wake”, Original composition by Clark Erickson
Recorded Voice by Paul Slavens
Videography Randie Burks, Victoria Salazar, Kimberly Cooper, Teresa Cooper
Edited by Randie Burks and Michael Steed

History repeats, eyes are veiled to the sickness within, without, enveloped by the 'wake'; will we open our veiled eyes and know the painful world, reach for hope, forgiveness, and wash the feet of imperfect humanity?
**in\di\visible**
Choreography by Amiti Perry and Dancers
Performance by Kylie Belville, Alison Borish, Chris Kellaway, Brynne Loberger, Victoria McGrath, Erin O'Connell, Sandie Phan, Valerie Sanchez, Michelle Smith, Michael Steed
Production Assistant: Alyssa Knapschaefer
Videography by Reyna Mondragon
Editing by Amiti Perry
Music: Original composition by Greg Schroeder
Filmed at Sons of Hermann Hall, Historic Landmark (Dallas, TX)

**Loli**
Choreography by Reyna Mondragon
Performance by Sophia Ayala, Elizabeth Bauder, Erik Crowl, Christina Kellaway, Alyssa Knapschaefer, Faith Magee, Krystavel Ortiz, Jessica Owens, Skylyr Sanchez
Videography Edited by Reyna Mondragon
Music: “Loli” by Jose Valdez

**My Love Letter to Mother Nature**
Choreography & Performance by Michelle Smith
Videography & Editing by Mesha Thompson
Spoken Word Author & Recording by Michelle Smith
Reimagine Self
Choreography by Claudia P Orcasitas in collaboration with the dancers
Performance by Kianna Dugan, Michaela Trebing, Jessica Thomas
(Dance@UNT alumni)
Videography by David Bacon & Ryan Janke
Editing by Claudia P Orcasitas
Music: “Clouded Street Sign” by Michael Wall,
“Floodplain” by Andrew Stoltz; Recorded Voices by Paul Slavens
Filmed at Belltower Chapel & Garden, a venue owned by ACH Child and
Family Services, a nonprofit organization located in South Fort Worth

Reimagine Self explores the value of changing perspectives about
one’s self and others through the study of Nietzsche’s Philosophy,
text, voice, and improvisational movement. How powerful our own
perceptions can be? How can we reimagine ourselves in times of
uncertainty?

Three Stages of Having to Prove Your Humanity
Director & Editor: Azaria Hogans
Assistant & Rehearsal Director: Reyna Mondragon
Videography by Reyna Mondragon
Choreography by Azaria Hogans and Dancers
Performance by Josephine Arsenio, Kianna Dugan, Victoria Escalante,
Michelle Smith, Tynerea Taylor, Holly Whitfield
Music: "War Machines" by Michael Wall, “Just Take It” by Isabel
Crespo Pardo, “Sometimes I can't Find You” by Isabel Crespo Pardo,
“Track 8” by David Dingess (Edited by Azaria Hogans)

Fear, reclaiming space, and mourning can be cyclical patterns of
having to prove one’s humanity to a world that believes one is less
than equal.
PRODUCTION CREW
Costume Coordinator: Amiti Perry
Costume Manager: Blake Murrell
Production Stage Manager: Julissa Hernandez

Department Chair
Dr. Lorenzo Garcia

DANCE FACULTY
Dr. Mary Lynn Babcock, Teresa Cooper,
Sue Collins, Whitney Geldon, Whitley Green,
Reyna Mondragon, Claudia P Orcasitas, Amiti Perry

The choreographers would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to their casts, friends, and families for their support.

They also give special recognition to the directors, dance faculty, costume staff, administrative staff, Donna Marquet and Dr. Garcia.

www.danceandtheatre.unt.edu/dance
ARTIST BIOS

TERESA COOPER - DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER
Teresa has a B.S. and M.A., in Dance, Drama, Rehabilitation from the University of North Texas, Level VI (Ballet) Teaching Certification from the Cecchetti Council of America, Functional Awareness Certification (understanding the body through experiential anatomy). She has taught at UNT since 1985, and at A Time to Dance Studio for over 26 years. She teaches Adaptive Dance with her musician husband, Andy Cooper at this studio. She has choreographed, performed, and presented at international, regional, and local venues on theatrical stages, conference stages, and in churches. She is past Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Southwest Cecchetti Council and a former board member of CORPS de Ballet International where she has presented and met with ballet pedagogues from around the world. In 2019 she was part of a panel on Classical Ballet in Florence Italy.

WHITLEY GREEN - CHOREOGRAPHER
Whitley is a teaching & performing artist passionate about using dance as a vehicle to create safe spaces for self-discovery and exploration for the purpose of exposing students to their own creative potential and personal power. Whitley is the current Director of Dance at the Hulcy STEAM Middle School and is a part time Pre-School Dance teacher for the Arlington Park Early Childhood Center in the Dallas Independent School District. She also serves as an Adjunct Professor in Dance & Theater at The University of North Texas in Denton. Her training and experience include: The University of North Texas, New York University, Dance Place in Washington, DC; Dance The Yard in Martha’s Vineyard, MA; Peridance & Cumbe African and Diaspora Dance Center in New York City; and Bandan Koro African Drum & Dance Ensemble in Dallas, TX. She has also had the opportunity to perform both locally and abroad (The National Theater- Kampala,Uganda; Frederick Lowe Theater-NYC; & Radio City Hall). Whitley is honored by the privilege to learn, lead, and serve through the Fine Arts.
AZARIA HOGANS - GUEST ARTIST/CHOREOGRAPHER

Azaria is a freelance dancer, choreographer, artist scholar, and educator. She holds a M.F.A. in dance from Texas Woman’s University where she expanded her research on black modern dance. Azaria received her B.A. in Spanish with minors in both dance and creative arts therapy (dance) at Georgia College. Azaria serves as the Manager of Resources and Archives for kNOwBOX dance. Currently, Azaria is an assistant professor at Missouri State University and covers an array of classes including contemporary, jazz, contact improvisation, dance history, composition, and West African dance forms. She has presented and performed works both nationally and internationally including Symposium on Performance of the African Diaspora as Social Change Conference, American College Dance Association (South-Central, South-East, and Central) conferences, World Dance Alliance Puebla, Mexico, Women in Dance Leadership Conference, UNT’s Gospel Meets Jazz, Sant’Agata Central Plaza, Sant’Agata, Italy, to name a few. In her passion for education, she has brought the art of dance to local schools including Putnam High school in Putnam, Georgia and Lee Elementary School in Denton, Texas through community outreach programs and residencies. In 2019, Azaria published two articles, one in the Dance Education in Practice (DEip) journal and the other in the Journal of Dance Education (JODE).

REYNA MONDRAGON - CHOREOGRAPHER

Reyna Mondragon is a dancer, choreographer, educator, and researcher born in Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico. Her work focuses on the multiple ways she can incorporate her cultural heritage and rhythm, kinesthetically, visually, and musically into dance. Mondragon holds her B.F.A in Dance and minor in Spanish from the University of North Texas and her MFA in Dance from Texas Woman’s University. Her choreographic works have been presented nationally and internationally at Project Staibb Dance Festival Italy, AT&T Performing Arts Center Elevator Project, World Dance Alliance Americas (WDAA), Arts Mission Oak Cliff, American College Dance Association, Big Rig Summer Workshop, Arts Nest Minnesota, {254} dance-fest, and Exchange Choreography Festival. In addition, Mondragon collaborated to create an experiential workshop: How to create a Dance Advocacy Toolkit that was presented at the National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) and World Dance Alliance Americas. In Spring 2020, Mondragon was a full-time Adjunct with Visiting
Professor responsibilities at Texas Woman’s University and is currently a full-time adjunct at the University of North Texas. Mondragon is a professional dancer for Jordan Fuchs Company, the Manager of Development for kNOwBOX dance, is a Co-Host for Dance Behind the Screen Podcast, and co-created mixtamotus, a human-digital interface art exploration that redefines the possibilities for connecting and creating art by blurring the lines between movement, music, and media.

CLAUIDA P ORCASITAS - CHOREOGRAPHER
Claudia P Orcasitas is a Peruvian dance artist and educator. She is deeply invested in practicing ballet, modern dance and contemporary dance. Claudia was a long-time company member of the San Marcos Ballet (Peru) and of the Contemporary Dance /Fort Worth Company (Texas). She has participated as a performer and choreographer in several Festivals in Peru and the US. Claudia received a dual bachelor’s degree in education and psychology from San Marcos University (Peru) and obtained her Master of Fine Arts in dance from Texas Woman’s University where she earned the Dr. Linda Caldwell Excellence in Writing award, Experiential Student Scholars Award and Mary Cartwright Brown Scholarship for her outstanding academic performance and research practice. Her choreographic works explore topics such as space/place, immigration and cultural identity. Currently, Claudia is a as an adjunct professor at University of Texas and an Instructional Specialist at the City of Fort Worth.

AMITI PERRY - CHOREOGRAPHER
Amiti received her BA in Dance from UNT and MFA in Choreography from Ohio State University. For over 13 years, she lived, worked, performed, directed, taught and created dance in New York independently, collaboratively and in various dance companies. Most recently, Amiti has served as dance adjunct at UNT Dance for the past 8 years. In addition to teaching technique and theory courses in the department, she has performed in faculty works, presented her choreography as a guest artist, and served as rehearsal director for multiple guest artist works, including Bill Evans and Vincent Hardy. Perry served as resident choreographer for productions at Theatre at The Colony choreographing and co-directing over 15 productions. She was resident choreographer for Odysseus Chamber Orchestra.
2015-2017, under the direction of Jason Lim, presenting original choreography for Aaron Copeland’s *Appalachian Spring*, Arnold Schoenberg’s *Verklärte Nacht* (Transfigured Night), Op. 4, Igor Stravinsky’s *L’Histoire du soldat* (The Soldier’s Tale), as well as choreographed to original works by OCC composers. In 2006, Perry founded æmp:dance/amiti perry + company, with whom she has created, presented, and performed multiple works in New York City and continues to present as a company in Texas, including alumni and current UNT dancers.

ALLIE SINDELAR - STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHER
Allie Sindelar is a senior at The University of North Texas and is pursuing a major in Dance and a minor in Kinesiology. She is from San Antonio, TX where she went to Kathy Marfin’s Dance School since the age of two and joined the competition team, The Leading Edge Dance Company, when she was nine. She won numerous awards while competing her solos and groups. Allie has now been dancing for 19 years and has studied ballet, pointe, modern, tap, jazz, hip hop, and tumbling/acro, as well as ballroom dancing. She is currently the treasurer of Dance Unit at UNT where she wants to integrate dance into the community and make it more accessible to everyone! Allie wants to pursue a career in dance after college because she loves the power dance can have to help people.

MICHELLE SMITH - STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHER
Michelle Smith was born and raised in Houston, TX. For the past 17 years, she has trained in various styles of movement under several dance institutions including the High School of the Performing and Visual Arts, Theatre Under the Stars (TUTS), Dance Zone, Aldine Dance Company, and the Debbie Allen Dance Academy. She is double majoring in Dance and Fashion Merchandising at the University of North Texas and currently serves as a student ambassador for the UNT Dance Department. She is also Dance Director for UNT’s competitive hip hop team, Choreo Block. Michelle has previously performed at the 2020 Women’s March, the 2020 Faculty Dance Concert, and the 2018 New Choreographer’s Concert. Her hobbies and interests include sewing, scrolling through Pinterest, thrift shopping, and binge watching the latest television series. After graduation, Michelle plans on starting a fashion dance wear line and hopes to travel the world while also teaching the next generation the fundamentals of creative movement.