



THEATRE & DANCE  
2019/20 SEASON  
SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY



**UNIVERSITY**  
March 12-15

**DANCE**  
**UDT 2020**

**THEATRE**  
Little Theatre



**UNIVERSITY**  
March 12-15

**DANCE**  
**UDT 2020**

**THEATRE**  
Little Theatre

**Directed By**  
Guest Choreographer  
Stage Manager

**Jo Tomalin**  
dana e. fitchett  
Jasmine Murray

## **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

Welcome to the San Francisco State University School of Theatre & Dance and our University Dance Theatre 2020 production comprising a vibrant ensemble of student dancers in this exciting new choreography showcase. Featuring new works by guest choreographer and multidisciplinary artist dana e. fitchett and acclaimed international and national dance faculty choreographers Wendy Diamond, Arvejon Jones, and Ray Tadio, joined by student choreographers. I hope you enjoy the dynamic energy and expressive visceral storytelling of these artists of today – and the future.

You are all invited to a Talk Back after the 2pm performance on Sunday March 15th in CA 102, to meet the Guest and Faculty Choreographers who will talk about their work with a brief

Q & A. This is free and open to everyone. The Talk Back will start approximately 30 minutes after the Sunday March 15th performance ends.

## **FROM dana e. fitchett**

Whenever it's time to talk about dance, the first thing that comes to mind is Katherine Dunham's perfectly paradoxical assertion that, "Verbalization is apt to end in sterility." Despite this acknowledgment that words can't suffice in translating or conveying what can only be expressed through the body, Dunham committed to written articulation to the degree that it could be achieved. I follow her lead.

People often ask what my dances are about, and I always struggle to provide a clear answer. In my opinion, there are plenty of ways we can access literal, verbal articulations of things. Dance can provide a refreshing alternative to the limitations of the rational world, when I allow it to. My dances are more about the process than the product, and more about what I and others can learn by observing the work than my desire to impart some wisdom or lesson to my audiences.

I tend to weave tapestries of movement that mirror the tapestry of the music I'm working with, assigning specific movement to different instruments or sound elements. Despite each element having its own clear voice and message to share, the harmony of the collective is not diluted; rather, the harmony becomes more impressive, more complex, more honestly representative of all sounds in play. I believe this phenomenon has powerful and apparent implications for how we might coexist more peacefully as a species. Rather than a challenge or detriment to contain or snuff out, human biodiversity is a gift to harvest and maximize.

While my unearthing of these concepts in my work happened naturally, I eventually found resonance and affirmation in my study of Africanist expression as far back as it's documented, particularly in the creative traditions of my own African lineages. In the interest of conciseness, I'll quote dance scholar Brenda Dixon Gottschild on this matter: "In the Africanist worldview the joy-cum-sorrow experience of traditional African American musical genres... is more a matter of bringing real life within the domain of the art form than making a separation between life and art... There's something essentially Zen in the 'beingness' of the Africanist worldview" (Gotschild 257). I hope you revel in the beingness of the work.

## **A Series of Rhetorical Questions**

A piece that celebrates the movement traditions of African Diaspora through a contemporary lens; an intellectual approach to the movement, as well as honoring the organic qualities we all have as individual movers.

**Choreographer:** ArVejon Jones and Collaboration with Dancers

**Lighting Designer:** Camryn Daniels

**Music:** “The Four Seasons Recomposed: Winter III” by Max Richter and Antonio Vivaldi — Fanella Humphreys, Ben Palmer, and Covent Garden Sinfonia, “Who They Wish I Was” by Christian Scott Atunde Adjuah, “Songs She Never Heard” (feat. Logan Richardson) by Christian Scott Atunde Adjuah

**Dancers:** Marley Carter, Alexandra Levey, Dafne Mata, Manny Rivera, Vinnie Gonzalez, Mirai Yoshida, Heidi Freedman, Francez Urmatan

## **Can You Make It to the End? (3/12 & 3/14)**

“I wish I could give you my pain just for one moment... not to hurt you, but to make you understand how hard it is for me to live in your world.”

**Choreographer:** Corinne Robinson

**Lighting Designer:** Victoria Langland

**Music:** “rain and tears” by neutrino5,  
“What’s it like to be Autistic? (Sensory overload) short film.”  
by National Autistic society,

“Deep cello meditation music: dark meditation music, relaxing music, dark cello music for meditation.”

by Greenred productions,

“Emotional inspiring piano strings instrumental-Move Forward”  
by EDOBY.

**Dancers:** Katelyn Dallke, Kate Griner, Marley, Kiriana Zavala

## **Pre-Existing Conditions (3/13 & 3/15)**

Grief is complex; it is a true reflection of the things we love most with an all-consuming guilt that follows. With no exact formula and no set expiration date.

**Choreographer:** Katelyn Dallke

**Lighting Designer:** Victoria Langland

**Music:** Dusk Talks by Woodkid, Into by Alt-J

**Dancers:** Alexandria Levey, Isabella Mini, Kate Griner

## **Life on Life's Terms (3/12 & 3/14)**

“For Those who know, will know. Surrender or sleep.”

**Choreographer:** Nekai Mahlia Abriol

**Lighting Designer:** Victoria Langland

**Music:** Demetra by Cucina Povera, Godmother by Holly Herndon & Jlin (feat. spawn), The Master of Death composed by Peter Gundry, Goldmund by Threnody, Allan Watts' lecture on the State of Nothingness

**Music Editor:** Nekai Mahlia Abriol

**Dancers:** Johan Casal, Nick Christman, Hannah Collins, Onara de Silva, Jasmine Perez

## **The Art of the Game (3/13 & 3/15)**

“There is art in every aspect of life. Even something as simple as a game of Ping Pong.”

**Choreographer:** Isabella Rose Mini

**Lighting Designer:** Victoria Langland

**Music:** Arabian Chase by RekMMusic, Fusion by Alchemist, Mix by Samaya

**Dancers:** Maria Donjacour, Marley Carter, Patricia Tomita, Heidi Freedman, Francez Urmatan

## **bees in pollen**

“When the clear water up the river runs gently beside of me... Do you remember that place we used to be?”

**Choreographer:** Ray Tadio & Dancers

**Lighting Designer:** Jacob Gicouard

**Costume Design:** Samantha Robarge

**Music:** Berlin by Alva Noto & Ryuichi Sakamoto, Feel What You Want (feat. Rebecca) by Phonique, Feel What You Want by Kristine W., Prairie Day by Kristine W. Mixed by Nekai Abriol.

**Dancers:** Nick Christman, Maria Donjacour, Shequira Ingram, Nekai Abriol, Patricia Tomita, Sakeenah Farooq, Lucia Padilla, Jasmine Perez

# **INTERMISSION**

## **Ports of Entry**

This piece is dedicated to Terry Sendgraff, Oct 12, 1933- Sept 6, 2019. Terry was a creative visionary, choreographer, mentor and friend.

**Choreographer:** Wendy Diamond

**Lighting Designers:** Colin Hollander & Gabi Jue

**Music:** “Waiting” by Jimi Hendrix “The Journey” composed by Curtis Mayfield, performed by the Chambers Brothers  
“Requiem” by Jeff Buckley

**Dancers:** Nekai Abriol, Marley Carter, Nick Christman, Maria Donjacour, Sakeena Farooq, Manny Rivera, ArVejon Jones, Lucia Padilla, Jasmine Perez, Elseana Skowronski, Juliann Stiny

## **Everything is Now**

I engage my creative practice to fill in the blanks left by verbal communication. In the words of Katherine Dunham, “Verbalization is apt to end in sterility,” and in the words of Toni Morrison, “Everything is now. It is all now.”

**Choreographer:** dana e. fitchett

**Lighting Designer:** Desiree Fajardo

**Music:** “Nterini” by Fatoumata Diawara, “Muévelo Negro” by Nidia Góngora and Quantic, “Masen’hamba” by Sounds Good, Inc. and David Morales

**Dancers:** Nick Christman, Manny Rivera, Maria Donjacour, Marley Carter, Shequira Ingram, Nekai Abriol, Jasmine Perez, Allie Levy, Patricia Tomita, Heidi Freeman, Mirai Yoshida, Sakeenahh Farooq, Ariel Webb, Dafne Mata, Frances Urmatan, Lucia Padilla



## **PRODUCTION TEAM**

*Production Manager:* Deirdre Mountain

*Technical Director:* Erin Gibb

*Costume Coordinator:* Miriam Lewis

*Costume Supervisors:* Conchita Fayos, Joe Greene

*Master Electrician:* Ray Oppenheimer

*Scene Shop Supervisor:* Greg Dunham

*Front of House Manager:* Terry A Boero

*Prop Shop Supervisor:* Devon Labelle

*Sound Supervisor:* Cliff Caruthers

*Production Coordinator:* Liana Mier

## **COSTUME CREW/LAB**

*Cutter/Draper:* Nika Cassaro

*Costume Crew Head:* Dylan Nguyen

*Costume Crew:* Isa Elisabeth De Laat, Christie Cho,

Caitlin Evans, Nicole Starr Green, Yunha Jang,

Kyle Enrique Melgarejo

## **SCENIC CREW/LAB**

*Deck Crew:* Nancy Gutierrez, Sarahjoy Williams,

Alberto Quijas

*Lab:* Bodhi Woods, Christian Cantrell, Joshua Graves,

Raquel Valentin

## **LIGHTING & SOUND CREW/LAB**

*Light Board Operator:* Riley Jennings

*Sound Board Operator:* Avery Girard

## **SCHOOL OF THEATRE & DANCE FACULTY**

***School Director:*** Kim Schwartz

***Faculty:*** Joan Arhelger, Bruce R Avery, Terry Amara Boero, Cliff Caruthers, Sukanya Chakrabarti, Roy Conboy, Christy Crowley, Kurt Daw, Wendy Diamond, Conchita Fayos, Sara Felder, Isaac Fine, dana fitchett, Laury Fleurentin, Erin Gibb, Yukihiro Goto, Elizabeth Hunter, Arvejon Jones, Miriam Lewis, Deirdre Mountain, Ray Oppenheimer, Bill Peters, Joel Schechter, Dee Spencer, Ray Tadio, Jo Tomalin, Rhonnie Washington, Laura Wayth, John Wilson, Yutian Wong

## **SCHOOL OF THEATRE & DANCE STAFF**

Meghann Dubie, Greg Dunham, Victoria Diane Giari, Joe Greene, Devon LaBelle

## **SCHOOL OF THEATRE & DANCE STUDENT ASSISTANTS**

Jessica Adler, Jenny Cedillos, Cheyenne Duarte, Alan Huan, Jazmine Logan, Libby Martinez, Patricia Tomita

## **COLLEGE OF LIBERAL & CREATIVE ARTS**

***Dean:*** Andrew Harris

***Associate Deans:*** Troi Carleton, Gale Dawson, Susan Shimanoff

This production is supported by funding from  
Instructionally Related Activities (IRA)

The SFSU School of Theatre & Dance, March 2020

## **SPRING 2020 SEASON**

<b>FRINGE FESTIVAL</b>	April
<b>SPRING AWAKENING</b>	April/May
<b>MACBETH</b>	May

For more information: <http://theatredance.sfsu.edu>

# TONI K. WEINGARTEN YOUTH IN THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship provides full tuition for a transfer student from Laney College to complete their Junior and Senior year as a declared Theatre Arts major at SF State University.

Applicants must self-describe financial need but need not qualify for financial aid through FAFSA or the California Dream Act. This scholarship is open to any student regardless of immigration status.



LCA.SFSU.EDU

415-338-4355

Twitter/Facebook: @sfstatearts

San Francisco State University

1600 Holloway Avenue

San Francisco, CA 94132