

THE GRINNELL COLLEGE DEPARTMENT
OF THEATRE & DANCE PRESENTS



Friday-Saturday, Dec. 1-2, 7:00 P.M.
Bucksbaum Center for the Arts
Flanagan Theatre



GRINNELL COLLEGE

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers.
No texting or photography permitted during performance.



THE GRINNELL COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE
PRESENTS

Dance Ensemble/ACTivate

wd u harbor me?

Choreography by Celeste Miller
Created from movement material
generated by the Ensemble

Stage Manager	Niya Weedon '18
Assistant Stage Manager	Joe Fitzpatrick '21
Lighting Designer	Kyle Jaeger
Sound Designer	Celeste Miller
Technical Director	Erik Sanning '89



Dance Ensemble/ACTivate Fall 2017

Liana Butchard '18
Jamie Friedman '20
Zoe Fruchter '21
Emily Gold '19
Leah Harris '19
Da Hyeong Jang '17
Sadie Kirschenman '20
Story Leshner '19
Ilana Luther '20
Ruby Lynn '20
Madison Marcus '19
Ben Nguyen '19
Charlie Rosenblum '18
Zoe Whittle '21



Music:

A mashup including the following tracks: *String Quartet #3 Mishima*, Philip Glass; *Survival*, Beth Quist; Video from Daily Intelligencer “The psychology of tribalism”; Youtube Jeff Sessions announcing the repeal of DACA; Youtube Eric Garner; *Would you harbor me?*, Sweet Honey in the Rock, sung by Three Altos; *Clapping Music* Steve Reich; *Ride in the Woods* Cristobal Tapia De Veer

P41+Deep+Time+Steps+2, Paul Schreiner

Nanga Parbat Deuter

SPECIAL THANKS

Autumn Wilke, Art Department, Grinnell High School



In a September 2017 article in New York Magazine titled “America wasn’t built for humans: Tribalism was an urge our Founding Fathers assumed we could overcome. And so it has become our greatest vulnerability”¹ Andrew Sullivan presents the argument that the divisive times we are living in, where we have become a nation divided, where “mutual incomprehension and loathing” is turning us into a system of behavior that is counter to the project of democracy. This project, “to live beyond such tribal identities, to construct a society based on the individual, to see ourselves as citizens of a people’s republic, to place religion off-limits, and even in recent years to embrace a multiracial and post-religious society” is on a precarious foothold.

For this choreographic exploration, we undertook the first steps of exploration into this idea, which will eventually lead us to our spring production, “Stranger in a Strange Land”.

In the choreography of patterns, assembling, reassembling, we explore how to find spaces of commonality and counterpoint in an attempt to assemble a whole out of disparate pieces.

For Spring Dance Ensemble/ACTivate 2018 three choreographers will build a choreographic triptych. Under the large umbrella “Stranger in a Strange Land” - haven’t we all been a stranger in a strange land at some point in our life? - Guest Choreographer Mersiha Mesihovic will create a work with Ensemble, 4th year Niya Weedon will create a work for a cast that she is assembling, and Celeste Miller will work with Ensemble. Each choreographer will approach the theme from their perspective and the experiences of their casts.

Dance Ensemble/ACTivate THD 205 is open to dancers (from all backgrounds and genres), actors, and all who are interested in developing as dance-based physical performers. Together we build our craft as expressive movers. The next informational session for Dance Ensemble/ACTivate is February 1 from 4:30-6:30 in the Bucksbaum Dance studio. Register for Ensemble during Add/Drop.

1) Handler, Art. “Can Our Democracy Survive Tribalism?” *Daily Intelligencer*, 19 Sept. 2017, nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2017/09/can-democracy-survive-tribalism.html.



Liana Butchard '18 is a French/History double major with a concentration in Global Development Studies. She is from Newton, Massachusetts which is the origin of the Fig Newton. This is her fifth semester dancing with Ensemble and she brings prior training in ballet, tap, jazz, and modern dance. Liana has really valued and appreciated the collaborative opportunities that Dance Ensemble offers, especially being able to develop movement with other dancers.

Jamie Friedman '20 is an intended Political Science major from Weston, Connecticut. She has been dancing since the age of three, and is so excited to be participating in her third semester with Dance Ensemble. Through Dance Ensemble she has gained an appreciation for how dance and movement can bring people together.

Zoe Fruchter '21 intends to double major in Sociology and Russian. She is from New York City, where she was trained in modern dance at Brooklyn Arts Exchange. This is Zoe's first semester in Dance Ensemble and she is overjoyed to have found such a wonderful artistic community at Grinnell.

Emily Gold '19 is a Sociology major from New York. She grew up dancing jazz, tap, and lyrical styles, but since her junior year in high school until the present she has danced Ballroom and Latin styles competitively. She is back for her fourth semester with Ensemble, as she loves the supportive community that it fosters! Dance Ensemble has taught Emily how to be confident in her dance ability as well as how to give and take in a collaborative dance space!

Leah Harris '19 is a Psychology and Anthropology double major from Seattle, Washington. She has been dancing since she was four years old and has taken classes in ballet, tap, jazz, and modern dance. She is excited to perform for her third semester with Dance Ensemble, and would like to thank everyone involved in the Ensemble for making this show possible and for helping her learn how to improvise and collaborate in dance.



Da Hyeong Jang '18 is a Physics major from Korea graduating this semester. It is her second and last time in Dance ensemble, but she will always remember deeply in her heart the warmth she felt from her fellow dancers, stage crew and staff, and director Celeste Miller.

Sadie Kirschenman '20 intends to major in Psychology and GWSS. She comes from Omaha, Nebraska and has loved to dance ever since she was three. She participated in Dance Ensemble both semesters last year and is back for more fun. From this experience she is taking away an appreciation for art and how it can help one understand some of the world's biggest problems.

Story Leshner '19 is a Biology major and intended Environmental Studies concentrator from Yankton, SD. This is her fourth semester in Dance Ensemble and she has many years of ballet experience from her home dance studio. Story has loved having the opportunity to learn different styles of dance and how dance can be used to make a statement during her time in Ensemble. She hopes you enjoy the show and find as much meaning in it as the dancers have!

Ilana Luther '20 is an intended Anthropology major from Long Island, New York. She's really excited to perform for her first time with Dance Ensemble and has a background in jazz, tap, modern, ballet, and pointe training. From her time in class, Ilana has learned a lot about exploring the creative potential of improvisation. She would like to thank all of the cast and crew who made this show possible!

Ruby Lynn '20 is an intended GWSS major for San Diego, California. Ruby has been dancing for many years and is excited to be back with Dance Ensemble for her second semester. Through Dance Ensemble Ruby has learned the importance of creating socially aware and conscious art.



Madison Marcus '19 is a Psychology major from Davidson, North Carolina. She is excited to perform for her fifth semester with Dance Ensemble. Her previous experience includes extensive training in ballet, pointe, modern, lyrical, jazz, and musical theater dance. This semester she has enjoyed experimenting with ways to portray various aspects of her identity through movement.

Benjamin Nguyen '19 is a Psychology major from Grand Rapids, Michigan. This is his third semester in the Dance Ensemble; he had no dance training prior to Grinnell. This semester he is taking away the partitioning of self-consciousness and self-awareness for the sake of intentional, carefree development.

Charlie Rosenblum '18 is an Economics and French double major from Minneapolis, MN. This is his fourth semester performing with Dance Ensemble/ACTivate. He would like to thank everyone for teaching him how to push the boundaries of self-expression through movement.

Zoë Jasmine Whittle '21 is an intended English major from Santa Fe, New Mexico. She loves performing and has received extensive training in flamenco dance. This is her first semester in dance ensemble, and she feels honored to be able to work with such a wonderful group of unique and creative dancers.



Joe Fitzpatrick '21 (Assistant Stage Manager) hails from New Orleans, LA and has expressed interest in Sociology and Environmental Science as potential fields of study. Joe has 5 years of mixed Ballet/Modern/Contemporary dance training. As a first year, this is his first time participating in Dance Ensemble, and his first experience as a stage manager. One thing Joe has taken away from Dance Ensemble this semester is the value of each ensemble member's ideas and input regardless of experience level in the field of dance.

Keith Hoagland '18 (Light Board Operator)

Luis Rojas '18 (Sound Board Operator) is a Theatre and Dance major. He has acted in a variety of theatrical productions ranging from main stage productions, such as *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Tempest*, to student-led productions like the One Acts and the Salman Rushdie adaptations. He also directed a one act play called March during last years One Act festival.



Kate Baumgartner '15 (Assistant Technical Director) has been building, designing, and tech directing with various performance groups in the Grinnell area since 2005.

Kyle Jaeger (Lighting Designer) graduated with a degree in theater from Wartburg College. He has designed and been a technician on many productions around the Grinnell Community since '06. Kyle moved to Denver CO temporarily in '11 to work as a technician at Curious Theater. He is excited to be working with Grinnell College after a 10 year hiatus. When Kyle isn't working on theater shows he manages the bicycle shop in Grinnell.

Celeste Miller (Artistic Director/Choreographer) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance. She holds an MFA from Hollins University/American Dance Festival. As an Artist/Scholar her work encompasses solo and ensemble work for the stage, as well as dance-based community engagement projects. Most recently she performed with Salt Marsh Suite, a collaborative installation/performance project under the direction of Carol Burch-Brown that was presented at the American Natural History Museum at the Smithsonian Institute. She is currently working on a project with two Mexican artists, *Women at Waters Edge/Mujeres al Filo del Agua*. This project is supported by a National Performance Network Creation Fund grant. Celeste is, as always, empowered by the commitment of the Ensemble members to explore and embody ideas in the creative process towards creating new work.

Erik Sanning '89 (Technical Director) is a graduate of Grinnell College. He spent the first two years after graduation working as the Technical Director/Lighting Designer for Ballet Iowa. In the summer of '91 Erik was able to return to Grinnell as the Technical Director. In addition, he is also one of the founding members of Grinnell Productions, a semi-professional theatre company that was based here in Grinnell. Erik has also been a member of IATSE, the professional stagehands union, since 1990.



Niya Weedon '18: (Stage Manager) is a Theater and Dance major from Washington D.C. She danced for Dance Ensemble in the spring of 2016 and has worked with two guest choreographers in collaboration with the Dance Ensemble productions. She has a background in modern dance and just came from a year studying off campus in New York and South Africa. It has been her pleasure to work with this group, as it is her first time working as stage manager. Through Dance Ensemble she has found an outlet and place to cultivate skills in theatrical administration.



Stage Manager	Niya Weedon '18
Assistant Stage Managers	Joe Fitzpatrick '21
Sound Board Operator	Luis Rojas '18
Light Board Operator	Keith Hoagland '18
Costume Crew Chief	Jamie Friedman '20
Poster & Program Design	Joyce Bergan



ADMINISTRATION

Production Stage Manager	Sooji Son '18
Assistant Production Stage Manager	Lily Fitzsimons '20
Front of House Manager	Jeremy Epstein '19
Archivist	Rodas Hailu '18
Props Manager	Joseph Robertson '19
Assistant to the Chair	Amaris Bates '18

FRONT OF HOUSE

Front of House Staff	Jessica Daly '18	Shudi Pan '19
	Kira Duff '20	Luis Rojas '18
	Francess Dunbar '20	Kavya Shah '18
	Vedika Haralalka '18	Roberta Silva '18

COSTUME STUDIO

Costume Storage Coordinator	Anh Thu Pham '19
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Stitchers	Jamie Friedman '20	Autumn McMillan '20
	Emily McClure '18	Shudi Pan '19
	Hannah Hong '18	Anh Thu Pham '19

SCENE SHOP

Scene Shop Staff	Ashley Alto '19	Emily Mamrak '19
	Joshua Ball '18	Sooji Son '18
	Yonu Cha '20	Carlos Ventura '20
	Julia Dursztman '19	Andrew Zdechlik '19
	Nathan Gifford '20	



One Act Festival

The Wall Theatre

December 1-2, 8:00 P.M.

December 2-3, 2:00 P.M.

MAP Performance:

Next to Normal

Director: Jessica Daly '18

Roberts Theatre

December 8-10, 2017

Please check back for spring performances
www.grinnell.edu

Audition/Informational Workshop for
Dance Ensemble/ACTivate Spring 2018 will be held on
Thursday, February 1, 2018, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
in the Bucksbaum Dance Studio.
Register during add/drop.

www.grinnell.edu
641.269.3064