

5-3-2024

Spring Dance Concert

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SPRING DANCE CONCERT

Directed by
Jennifer Backhaus
and
Liz Curtis

May 3 & 4, 2024



**College of
Performing Arts**
Department of Dance



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



Dear Friends:

Without you, our audience, the performance you are about to enjoy would be incomplete. On behalf of our students, faculty, and staff, thank you for supporting Chapman University's Department of Dance through your attendance at today's performance.

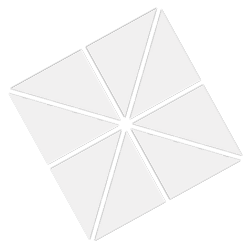
Our students are at the core of everything we do in the College of Performing Arts (CoPA), and we are passionately dedicated to providing them the best possible education. Our mission is to help them master their craft and prepare for today's performing arts professions by providing access to all the tools necessary to succeed.

Training artists and transforming lives: that's our focus each and every day. Our students have exceptional opportunities to learn; whether from master artists and residencies or experience performing in venues ranging from intimate studios to state-of-the-art facilities, thanks to the extended support of patrons like you. The end result is a strong record of alumni who have enjoyed rich and diverse careers in the performing arts around the world.

Please enjoy this performance and come back for another CoPA event soon! To view our full season of events, visit [Chapman.edu/tickets-copa](https://chapman.edu/tickets-copa).

Giulio Ongaro, Ph.D.

Dean and Professor
Bertea Family Chair in Music
College of Performing Arts
Chapman University



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF DANCE PRESENTS

SPRING DANCE CONCERT

Directed by
Jennifer Backhaus
and
Liz Curtis

*An evening of new choreography
by senior dance majors.*

May 3 & 4, 2024
7:30 p.m.

MUSCO CENTER FOR THE ARTS

CREATIVE TEAM

Co-Directors.....**Jennifer Backhaus**
Liz Curtis

Lighting Designer.....**Camille Roberts**

Costume Designer.....**Kim DeShazo**

PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Manager.....**Leeor Oshri**

Assistant Stage Managers.....**Makaila Teagle Bryant**
Bianca Cappana

Light Board Operator.....**Raina Manazanares**

Sound Board Operator.....**Kaia Goddard**

Deck Crew.....**Riann Limmitt**
Adria Lybbert
Roman Romero
America Sanchez

Costume Crew.....	Taylor Briar	Liv Nielson
	Jackson Adkins	Kennedy Heard-
	Cate Andrews	Longino
	Kennedy Barry	Jessica Henry
	McKenna Dyer	Emma Lajeune
	Yazzy Picazo	Skylar Peterson
	Izzy LaSusa	Aubrie Stoehr

FACULTY MENTOR

Stage Management.....**Jennifer Backhaus**

PROGRAM

GAIA: SEASONS OF THE SOUL

*The moment in between what you once were
and who you are now becoming
is where the dance of life really takes place.*

Choreographer Emerson Donohoe

Dancers Macy Deppe
Taylor Fetterman
Julia Gaspari
Grace Gontarek
Rose Lindblom
Abbie Reyes
Vivian Unkart
Erin Weinke

Music *Broken Haze* by Paul Leonard Morgan; *All That
is Left Behind* by Magnum Opus; *Warming* by
Jonathan Pilcher; *Petals* and *Spring Thaw* by
Samuel Karl Bohn

PROGRAM

282

Choreographer

Coco Backshall

Dancers

Sofia Barrientos

Sarah Chandler

Skylar Draper

Charlotte Foldes

Kamryn Funk

Bel Housner

Kevin Ivins

Izzy Nelson

Ava-Grace Vermillion

Music

Hope Is a Scary Thing by Coco Backshall;

Under Our Control by Coco Backshall and

Niko Vuckovich; *I Promise* and *282* by Coco Backshall

PROGRAM

WITHIN WITHOUT

Choreographer

Remington Christensen

Dancers

James Ades

David Burn

Jimena Casasola

Ryann Christensen

Delany Dyer

Ande Godwin

Valentina Marcano

Lindsey Salkeld

Music

False Idol, Unbound and Wild North by Espen
Haagensli, Hyperscore Productions; *Spirit Lights*
by Ronnie W. Verboom, Hyperscore Productions

PROGRAM

VEDETTE

To be a woman is to perform.

Choreographer

Maya Palmer

Dancers

Kira Bartholomew

Mary Crum

Braylan Enscoe

Bel Housner

Haley Kekow

Grace Luiso

Izzy Nelson

Sophia Seymour

Erin Wienke

Music

Sing, Sing, Sing (With a Swing), written by Louis Prima, courtesy of Sony/ATV Music Publishing; *I Put A Spell On You*, written by Jay Hawkins, performed by Annie Lennox, courtesy of Sony/ATV Music Publishing; *Don't Take It* (Thomos Edit) by Thomos

PROGRAM

COVENANT

Choreographer	Ashton Titus in collaboration with the dancers
Dancers	Sarah Chandler Macy Deppe Cailey Fono Kamryn Funk Elle Holland Kasey Latten Valentina Marcano Lyssy Salvador (US) Nanea Yu
Music	<i>From Lilith</i> by Dale Titus <i>Elements: Air, Fire</i> by Katerina Gimon, performed by the Hamilton Children's Choir

PROGRAM

BEYOND THE PANE

*In honor of my beloved Grandpa Deppe,
whose timeless guidance illuminated the magical essence of life
through the harmony of music and dance.*

Choreographer Macy Deppe in collaboration with the dancers

Dancers Zach Buri
 David Burn
 Ande Godwin
 Elle Holland
 Kevin Ivins
 Ashton Titus
 Nanea Yu

Music *Blue Child* by Dave Deppe; *Superwide Desert*
 Night, Small Hours and *How To Start A Heist*
 by Pierre Duplan

PROGRAM

SHĀH MĀT (the king is helpless)

Choreographer Lindsey Salkeld

Dancers Coco Backshall
Mary Campbell
Remington Christensen
Skylar Draper
Charlotte Foldes
Zoé Imler
Nate Milledge
Maya Palmer
Sloane Ritterbush
Ava-Grace Vermillion

Music *Succession* by Magnum Opus; *Arrived Anxious*,
Left Bored by Flume; *The Way We Feel* by
JAMESIK

PROGRAM

AMARA TERRA MIA

What does cultural heritage mean to you?

Choreographer	Lyssy Salvador in collaboration with the dancers
Dancers	Sofia Barrientos Isa Bayona Kacie Collins Ariana de Leon Kala'i Fong Kasey Latten Mia McGarity Jean Park
Music	<i>Amara Terra Mia</i> by Tsar B; <i>Susukino</i> and <i>Nora Uchi</i> by Paul Frazer and Chris Constantinou; <i>Árbakkinn—Island Songs I</i> by Ólafur Arnalds and Einar Einarsson

PROGRAM

THE ART OF REALITY

True reality is not always what we perceive.

Choreographer Skylar Draper

Dancers Coco Backshall
 Zach Buri
 Ryann Christensen
 Cailey Fono
 Rose Lindblom
 Maya Palmer
 Abbie Reyes
 Lindsey Salkeld

Music *Shadow Journal* by Max Richter; *Consolations*,
 S. 172: No. 3 in D-Flat Major by Franz Liszt,
 performed by Elena Urioste and Tom Poster

NUMBER 3

Choreographer Elle Holland

Dancers Jimena Casasola
 Kacie Collins
 Kate Constantini
 Delaney Davis
 Julia Gaspari
 Nate Milledge
 Karen Oliver
 Ashton Titus

Music *Paradoxe* by Keeper Lo; *Nobody Like Me* by
 Chris Penny and Skinny Williams; *Dim Them*
 and *Punk Kid* by Runman

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

JENNIFER BACKHAUS (director) is the Founder and Artistic Director of Backhausdance, Orange County's award-winning contemporary dance company. Jennifer was included in OC Metro's 40 Under 40 in 2009 and was recently honored by Chapman University, where she is a faculty member of the dance department, as Alumni of the Year for her success with Backhausdance. As a choreographer, Jennifer's works have been commissioned and produced by the Los Angeles Ballet, Orange County Regional Ballet, McCallum Theatre, Orange County Performing Arts Center, Utah Regional Ballet, Chapman University, Mount San Antonio College, Santa Ana College, Impact Dance Theater, TDC of the Bay Area, and Brigham Young University, among others.

Many of Jennifer's works have been honored by Regional Dance America, and her piece "Disintegration" was selected for national performances with the American College Dance Festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. For Backhausdance she has created twelve pieces, three of which ("Sitting on January", "Love and Other Impossibilities" and "Shift") have received multiple Lester Horton Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Choreography. At the McCallum Theatre's Dance Under the Stars Choreography Festival, Jennifer has been the recipient of three consecutive choreography awards for her work with Backhausdance.

Jennifer is currently on the dance faculty at Chapman University and Irvine Valley College. She is a certified Pilates instructor and teaches modern dance technique, choreography, dance improvisation and dance conditioning. She is also a teaching artist for the Orange County Performing Arts Center's Education Programs where she shares her love for dance and choreography with local students.

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

LIZ CURTIS (director) is a dance educator, performer, multimedia dance choreographer who received her BA and MFA in Dance from California State University, Long Beach, where she was awarded the Distinguished Achievement in Creative Activity Award. She is thrilled to work with Chapman University's talented dancers where she teaches a broad range of courses and serves as the founding Faculty Advisor for both the Chapman Dance Film Club and The Stilettos heels-dancing club. In Fall of 2022, Liz was honored to create a new screendance commissioned for the Department of Dance's Masters at Chapman concert. She has also choreographed works for all of the Chapman site-specific dance concerts. In addition to Chapman, Liz is an adjunct faculty member of the California State University, Long Beach, Department of Dance and has taught at summer intensives throughout southern California including Backhausdance and Los Alamitos Ballet.

Liz has experience teaching, performing and choreographing in both the commercial and concert dance worlds. Her performance experience includes concert works by Doug Varone, Gerald Casel, Michael Getman, Gloria Newman, John Pennington, Susan McLain, Cyrus Parker-Jeannette and Rebecca Bryant, and commercial work in film, television, music videos, international tours and Las Vegas shows. Her choreography has been presented on stage and television, conferences, and in screendance and site-specific works. Her work has also been produced nationally at dance festivals including the American College Dance Festival. Her dance films have screened in film festivals in Europe, Asia and the U.S., including at New York's 92Y. Her recent film, a docu-dance film entitled *Being in this Body*, is receiving accolades worldwide with screenings and multiple awards.

Liz is a BASI-certified Pilates Instructor with Dance Specialization and a graduate of The Sanford Meisner Center's Professional Acting Certificate Program in North Hollywood.

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

CAMILLE ROBERTS (lighting designer) is an L.A.-based designer and recent alumnus of Chapman University. She has had the privilege to design for a multitude of productions, including illuminate at the STRAT Casino and Hotel in Las Vegas, off-Broadway in New York and a variety of dance shows and musicals in the L.A. area. Additionally, she has worked as a lighting technician on music festivals including EDC Las Vegas, Countdown, HARD Summer and others with Insomniac Events. Camille is very excited to be working on this production, and hopes that you enjoy it as much as she does! camillerobertsdesign.com

KIM DESHAZO (costume designer) is Costume Instructor for the Theatre and Dance departments at El Camino College, as well as Resident Costume Designer for International City Theatre in Long Beach. Other theatres that have showcased her skills include Pasadena Dance Theatre, L.A. Opera, the L.A. Philharmonic, Long Beach Opera, Shakespeare Festival/LA, the Gary Marshall Theatre, the Odyssey Theatre, Theatricum Botanicum, PCPA, Cygnet Theatre and Ebony Rep. Academic collaborations also include designing for the Theatre and Dance Department at UCI, Cal State Dominguez Hills, LB City College and Mt. San Antonio College. Her work has been seen at industrial shows for Nike, Adidas, Skechers, Cherokee and Diesel clothing. Commercials include AFLAC, Target, Disney, McDonald's and Mattel. Television credits range from *The Real*, *The Price is Right* and an *Ozzy Osbourne's Variety show*, to work for the Academy Awards, Nickelodeon and the Disney Channel.

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHERS

COCO BACKSHALL is set to graduate this spring, earning a BFA in Dance Performance alongside a minor in Musical Theatre. While she deeply appreciates and shares her enthusiasm for dance with her peers, her heart truly belongs to music. Coco is excited to relocate to Los Angeles where she will chase her dreams of becoming a singer and songwriter. Additionally, she plans to explore opportunities in acting and modeling, and will continue her dance training. She extends her heartfelt thanks to her friends and family for their unwavering love, support, and guidance throughout her journey.

REMINGTON CHRISTENSEN is from Pendleton, OR, and is receiving a BFA Dance Performance with a Business Administration minor. With a deep passion for dance performance and choreography, Remington is excited to embark on a career exploring both realms. Post-graduation, Remington aims to contribute to the dance community through performance, choreography and teaching. Special thanks to friends, family and professors for their unwavering support and inspiration throughout this journey.

MACY DEPPE is from Stilwell, KS, and will graduate this spring with a BFA in Dance Performance and a minor in Musical Theatre. Macy will move to New York City post-graduation to pursue her passion for musical theater and concert dance. Deeply touched by the unwavering love and support from her cherished friends, family, faculty and mentors, Macy extends her sincerest gratitude for their guidance and encouragement throughout her transformative journey of the past four years.

EMERSON DONOHOE will be graduating with his BFA in Dance Performance this spring. He currently performs with Emergent Dance Company in Huntington Beach, CA, as well as in live entertainment at the Disneyland

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHERS

Resort. Emerson is immensely grateful for his incredible cast and all their hard work. Lastly, he thanks his family, friends and numerous mentors for their love and support.

SKYLAR DRAPER is from College Station, TX, and is graduating this spring with a BFA in dance performance with minors in leadership studies and advertising. After graduation, Skylar is moving to London, UK, where she will attend Trinity Laban in pursuit of her MFA in dance performance. Skylar plans to join a dance company as well as perform, choreograph and teach both dance and Pilates in the future. She gives thanks to her family and friends for all of their support and encouragement throughout her journey at Chapman.

ELLE HOLLAND is from Dallas, TX, and is graduating with a BFA Dance Performance and a minor in Creative and Cultural Industries. After graduation, she will be pursuing a performing career in both concert and commercial dance in Los Angeles. She wants to thank her friends, family and faculty members for all of their support.

MAYA PALMER is graduating with a BFA Dance Performance and a minor in Business Entrepreneurship. She is originally from Indianapolis, IN, where she trained at Expressenz Dance Center. After graduating, she will pursue a career in commercial dance performance and choreography, and plans to move to Los Angeles. She wants to thank her family, roommates, teachers and friends for their constant love and support.

LINDSEY SALKELD will graduate with a BA in Dance and a BA in Strategic and Corporate Communication. She is eager to merge her two degrees as she pursues a career in the arts in New York City upon graduation. Special thanks to her family for the support, her friends and peers, as well as her cast who inspired this piece.

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHERS

LYSSY SALVADOR trained in the Bay Area, CA, and will graduate with a BFA in Dance Performance and a minor in Creative and Cultural Industries. She plans to remain in Southern California to pursue a career in dance performance, choreography and teaching within the commercial and concert industries, as well as continue her work at World of Dance as a part of the Marketing and Live Events team. She thanks her family and surrounding communities for providing her the support system needed to achieve her dreams.

ASHTON TITUS is from Folsom, CA, and is graduating with a BFA in Dance Performance and a minor in the University Honors Program from Chapman University. After graduating, she will pursue a career in performing, choreography and teaching dance in Southern California. She is forever grateful for her family, friends and teachers for their unending support!



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Be the first to know about our news and events —
just tap the icon.

Tap an icon to follow us on these
social platforms (@ChapmanCoPA)

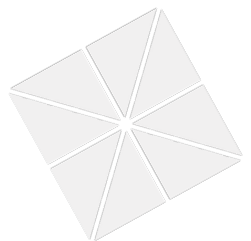
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COMING UP NEXT

EMBARK

2024 BFA DANCE SHOWCASE



MAY 16TH AT 6PM
MEMORIAL HALL
TICKETS.CHAPMAN.EDU



ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF DANCE

Consistently ranked “**Best College Dance Program**” by DanceUS.org, Chapman University’s Department of Dance is the artistic home of roughly 160 dance majors, supported by a team of expert dance faculty and renowned artists **Dwight Rhoden** and **Ido Tadmor**.



Our highly competitive program offers two degrees: the broad-based BA in Dance and the pre-professional BFA in Dance Performance. We also offer a Minor in Dance.

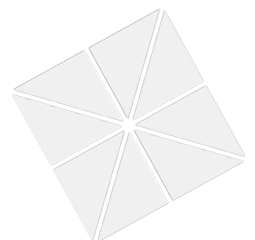


Dance students come to Chapman because they know they’ll receive diverse, rigorous training in award-winning spaces like the Sandi Simon Center for Dance and Musco Center for the Arts. This training includes our core courses as well as masterclasses and residencies with artists and companies like **Pilobolus**, **Mark**

Morris Dance Group, **Chloe Arnold**, **Doug Varone**, **Camille A. Brown & Dancers**, **Fatima Robinson**, **MOMIX**, **Hubbard Street**, **Diavallo** and many more.

Sound exciting? [We invite you to tour the department](#) and the Chapman campus, either in person or virtually. We think you’ll understand why there’s so much excitement about Dance @ Chapman!

Chapman.edu/dance | dance@chapman.edu



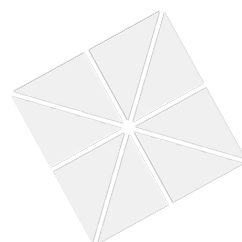
SUPPORT THE STARS OF TOMORROW

One of the best ways to help support CoPA students is to give to the **Fund for Excellence**. This invaluable program gives students access to a variety of high-caliber resources so they can create and perform their best work.

Every dollar donated to the Fund has an immediate impact on the performing arts student experience. Donations are used exclusively to help CoPA students through enhancement of student productions, recruiting professional artists for master classes and supporting touring student ensembles, to name a few. For example, the Fund allowed us to bring Complexions Contemporary Ballet to campus for a week-long intensive with our dance students, giving them a valuable opportunity to train with working professionals from an award-winning, internationally renowned company.

If you're already a contributor to our Fund for Excellence, THANK YOU! And if you haven't yet joined hands with others who support the performing arts at Chapman University, please, consider making a gift today. Any amount helps!

To learn more about how you can make a direct impact on our students' education, contact Bobby Reade at reade@chapman.edu.



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CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS

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