UMD SCHOOL OF THEATRE, DANCE, AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES PRESENTS

SHARED MFA DANCE THESIS CONCERT

FULL CIRCLE: BRIDGING THE GAP
by SARAH BETH OPPENHEIM

DECEMBER 9 - 11, 2016
DANCE THEATRE
at The Clarice

by CHRISS LAW
THE CALL
by Tanya Barfield
Eleanor Holdridge, director
KAY THEATRE
SEPTEMBER 30- OCTOBER 8, 2016

MFA DANCE THESIS CONCERT
WAKING DARKNESS. WAITING LIGHT.
by Colette Krogol and Matt Reeves
KOGOD THEATRE
OCTOBER 7-9, 2016

THE WILD PARTY
Book, Music, and Lyrics by Andrew Lippa
Based on the Poem by Joseph Moncure March
Alvin Mayes and Scot Reese, directors
KOGOD THEATRE
NOVEMBER 4-11, 2016

MFA DANCE THESIS CONCERT
RENDER EDIT
by Sarah Beth Oppenheim
FULL CIRCLE: BRIDGING THE GAP
by Chris Law
DANCE THEATRE
DECEMBER 9-11, 2016

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST
by Oscar Wilde
Amber Paige McGinnis, director
KOGOD THEATRE
FEBRUARY 10-18, 2017

THE AMISH PROJECT
by Jessica Dickey
Mitchell Hébert, director
KAY THEATRE
FEBRUARY 24-MARCH 3, 2017

THE SCHOOLING OF BENTO BONCHEV
by Maksym Kurochkin
translated by John Freedman
Yury Urnov, director
KOGOD THEATRE
APRIL 28-MAY 6, 2017

UMOVES: UNDERGRADUATE DANCE CONCERT
Christopher K. Morgan, director
DANCE THEATRE
MAY 5-7, 2017
RENDER EDIT

Choreographer .............................................................................. Sarah Beth Oppenheim
Scenic Designer.............................................................................. Tyler Herald
Lighting Designer .............................................................................. Brandi Martin
Costume Designer .............................................................................. Alexa Duimstra
Sound Designer .............................................................................. Jeff Dorfman
Stage Manager .............................................................................. Tori Ujczo
Rehearsal Director ........................................................................ Chelsea Boyd Brown
Performers ..............................................................................................

Stage 1
Amber Lucia Chabus
Kate Folsom
Juliana Mascelli

Stage 2
Sarah Beth Oppenheim

Stage 3
Emily Ames
Patricia Mullaney-Loss

Understudy .............................................................................................. Chelsea Boyd Brown

FULL CIRCLE: BRIDGING THE GAP

Choreographer .............................................................................. Chris Law
Scenic Designer.............................................................................. Tyler Herald
Lighting Designer .............................................................................. Brandi Martin
Sound Designer .............................................................................. Jeff Dorfman
Projection Designer ........................................................................... Mark Costello
Associate Projection Designer .............................................................. Paul Deziel
Dramaturg ......................................................................................... Khalid Yaya Long
Stage Manager ................................................................................... Tarythe Albrecht
Performers ..............................................................................................

Minilik Addis
Reyna Fox
Jonathan Hsu
Ama Law
Olivia Lynes
Sanya Oluwfemi
Jared Porter
Nicole Sneed

VIDEO OR AUDIO RECORDING OF THE PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

This performance will last approximately
2 hours and 15 minutes including a 15 minute intermission.
Special Thanks for RENDER EDIT

Special Thanks to the Prancing Leopards: I would actually touch a cat for you. Or whatever else is in our office. To all of my HSB Dancers, thank you for your time and subversive antics. I look forward to more projects together and a continued foray into learning your most favorite snacks and preferred hem lines. CBB, you always have a place in my heart and on my stage despite your blonde hair. To my beloved Dance Faculty, thank you for being the most amazing cohort of inspiration-sparkers, confidants, and champions. It is my mission to continue in your traditions, nuances, and regard for walls. Dr. P, my mentor: thank you for everything and one more thing. Thank you to Professor Collier and ENGL499 for your guidance and workshopping of poetry integral to Two Women and the development of this piece. Tori: props! (Not Tarzan, but actual love.)

-Sarah Beth Oppenheim, choreographer/performer

Choreographer’s Note for RENDER EDIT

My papers are always marked up with Strunk & White’s Rule #17: Omit needless words. This dovetails nicely with a lady who told me to stick to dancing and leave the writing to her. So, I guess we’re done here.

-Sarah Beth Oppenheim, choreographer/performer

Parts of RENDER EDIT were commissioned by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts as part of the 2016 Local Dance Commissioning Project.

Special Thanks for FULL CIRCLE: BRIDGING THE GAP

Thank you to my ride or die lady and soul mate Ama Law for the love and support you’ve provided throughout this adventure. Special thanks to my family, friends and cohort (The Prancing Leopards). I couldn’t imagine embarking on this journey without you all. Thank you to my incredible cast and stage managers as well as the TDPS faculty and staff for all of your support and guidance. Lastly, thank you to the marketing team, production faculty, staff, and MFA designers at the Clarice for an excellent collaborative experience. I’m forever grateful for this opportunity and will cherish the lessons and memories for a lifetime.

-Chris Law, choreographer/performer
BRIDGING GAPS: A Conversation with Chris Law and Khalid Yaya Long

Below is an excerpt of an interview with choreographer Chris Law and production dramaturg Khalid Yaya Long.

Khalid: Let’s start with a most basic question: What is Full Circle: Bridging the Gap?

Chris: Full Circle: Bridging the Gap is a culmination of a three-year study I’ve been conducting based on personal and social conflicts. It started with my study on generational disconnects within hip-hop communities. There were a lot of issues that I fell into with dancers in the area. If I was dancing a certain style [the elders] would question whether I was versed in the history of that style. And on the flip side I think there’s a need when you’re young, when you’re discovering yourself within dance, within your artistry, within hip-hop, that need for self-expression. I was trying to gauge for a while whether I wanted to honor that side of myself that just wanted to be me, and how important it was for me to be informed by history. And whether there were things I needed to change within my progression of hip-hop and dance. When I say change, [I ponder] would I have been better off as an artist or dancer if I had more of an historical knowledge of dance before I started dancing – to understand exactly what that progression is all about.

Khalid: What subject matter does Full Circle: Bridging the Gap explore?

Chris: I’m using a hip-hop lens to examine my progression through human experiences. That said, my goal is to examine how I have come to learn about hip-hop, not only hip-hop dance, but also the cultural history of hip-hop. Even more, I have found that we all need an outlet and a relatable environment in which to discover one’s self and learn about one’s identity. I’m also highlighting some very prominent issues that we’re facing today within our political arena and our social arena, such as racial conflict. For example, #BlackLivesMatter is a heavy movement right now. And so I have I have a couple things referencing #BlackLivesMatter and other Black liberating movements. I am puzzled by this notion that All Lives Matter as opposed to #BlackLivesMatter. Yes, I’m all about balance. I want the audience to get a better sense of the balance that is needed in these
moments. However, we must acknowledge that there are certain things that needed to be put into the spotlight – such as #BlackLivesMatter – particularly as we think about where we are today.

Khalid: Do you see your work as a form of activism?

Chris: I do. I’ve realized over the years that I’ve always performed for the sake of bringing social change or trying make people aware. I was part of a group called Colors: Arts and Education Program; that was my introduction to performing. It was a group of diverse students from Prince George’s County. We would tour all over the county trying to push the message of social change. We often talked about race and all sorts of things. Coming out of high school I joined Dynamic Dance Team and eventually Culture Shock D.C. and they’re all about cultivating the youth through hip-hop; teaching them about the culture and helping them to find their voice in society. I have always been using the arts to spread awareness, but I have just come to fully accept my role as an activist. Since I’ve been working towards my M.F.A. at the University of Maryland, I have recognized how important and powerful we are as artists. And so I have fully realized my contribution to both the arts and social activism.

Khalid: As a choreographer you lean towards ensemble work. Is that a way in which you create community through practice?

Chris: Absolutely! A large part of my process is interviews. [In the performance] I’m sharing these thoughts my dancers have in regards to current events and things that they’re experiencing – personal things that have shaped them over the years throughout their progression in dance. Ensemble work is driven through the notion that it helps to build and sustain community. And where my art is community oriented, it is strongly important that I highlight ensemble work.

Khalid: Any last words?

Chris: I hope people enjoy and take away something important. I appreciate the opportunities and the new perspectives that this has brought out.
Minilik Addis (performer, Full Circle), is from Salisbury, Maryland. He has earned his Bachelor of Arts in dance from the University of Maryland, College Park. Addis has been dancing since he got onto Dynamic Dance Team in 2012, based out of the University of Maryland, College Park. He was the Co-Director of the team for his last season. Addis also continued to audition and join Culture Shock, a non-profit professional hip-hop dance company. He is a company member of the Washington D.C. chapter of Culture Shock. Additionally, he is a company member of Culture Shock Washington D.C.’s Freestyle Team. Addis is also a company member of Capitol Movement. Currently, he is a dance instructor/choreographer for ZD Dance Academy and subs for various studios in the DMV area.

Tarythe Albrecht (stage manager, Full Circle), graduated from the University of Maryland, summa cum laude in 2010. Select stage management credits: Lounge Regime, Of Land and Sea, and New Visions/New Voices (Kennedy Center); The Great One-Man Commedia Epic (Faction of Fools); Hauntings, Invoking Justice, and Waking Darkness. Waiting Light. (UMD). Tarythe has also worked for UpRooted Dance, Maida Withers Dance Construction Company, Round House Theatre, and Wolf Trap, among others.

Emily Ames (performer, Render Edit), third-year dance and history dual degree. George and Ruth G. Tretter Performing Arts Award recipient. UMD credits: Sentiments of a Doormat, rapture. Outside credits: Skirt the Wall, Kitchen Sink Fest. President of Delta Chi Xi Honorary Dance Fraternity.

Chelsea Boyd Brown (rehearsal director/understudy, Render Edit), UMD Dance alumna, member of PearsonWidrig DanceTheater, teacher in Anne Arundel County’s Performing and Visual Arts Magnet Program. Received Dance Place’s New Releases Commission for 2015-2016.

Amber Lucia Chabus (performer, Render Edit), third-year kinesiology and dance double degree Honors College student. UMD credits: Sentiments of a Doormat, Satch, Flux in Floe, Out of Place. Outside credits: Skirt the Wall. Delta Chi Xi Honorary Dance Fraternity Vice-President.


Mark Costello (projection designer, Full Circle), second-year projection design MFA candidate. UMD credits: Waking Darkness. Waiting Light., Baltimore, Tom in the Machine, rapture. Outside credits include Girl Versus Corinth (Capital Fringe/NY Fringe/Joe’s Pub, Special Award in Projections, DC MetroTheaterArts), Live Source’s Bohemian Lights (Pregones/HERE Arts Center), Decoda’s Line and Expression (Metropolitan Museum of Art), Mr. Confidential (NYMF, Signature Theatre). Founding member of Merkins, Daniello & Sons.

Paul Deziel (associate projection designer, Full Circle), first-year MFA candidate in projection design. Credits: Merge (The New Colony), Churchill (SoloChicago), United Flight 232 (The House Theatre), The Glass Menagerie (The Hypocrites), Mike Mother (The Neo-Futurists). Assistant Credits: This Is Modern Art (Steppenwolf), Baskerville (Syracuse Stage), Grounded (AmericanBluesTheater).

Jeff Dorfman (sound designer), is a freelance Composer/Sound Designer based in Washington, D.C. He has studied theatre at SUNY Buffalo and University of Maryland, College Park. Jeff utilizes his background in music, composition, and theatre arts in order to immerse the audience in worlds of imagination. He could not function as a theatre artist without his inspiration,

**Alexa Duimstra** (costume designer), second-year MFA Costume Design candidate. UMD credits: *Troilus and Cressida*. Her recent design work includes *Flying V’s Be Awesome: A Theatrical Mixtape of the 90’s*.

**Kate Folsom** (performer, *Render Edit*), resides in Maryland but hails from the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. She graduated from the School of Theatre and Dance at James Madison University. Folsom has been dancing with Sarah Beth Oppenheim (Heart Stück Bernie) since 2013 and has enjoyed dancing in small spaces, sharing secrets onstage, throwing hammers, and combing confetti out of her hair ever since. In the DC area she has also performed with Stephanie Miracle, Emma Crane Jaster, Dance Exchange, and UpRooted Dance. Folsom has been dancing with dance graduate students at UMD for so long she feels like she also went here.

**Reyna Fox** (performer, *Full Circle*), junior dance major, human development minor. Creative and Performing Arts Scholar. Member of DyNaMiC and Delta Chi Xi Honorary Dance Fraternity. UMD credits: *Flux in Floe*, *Excerpt*, *See Below the Surface*, *Rip The Floor*, *New Dances*.


**Jonathan Hsu** (performer, *Full Circle*), recent graduate from the University of Maryland with a dual degree in dance and kinesiology. Currently performing, teaching, and creating media content (photography, videography, and projection design) in the DMV. UMD credits: *Spring Awakening* (*Elemental*), *The Last World* (*Apatasaurus*), *If Only I Knew* (dancer). Other performances include trips to Russia, Cuba, and the Kennedy Center with PEARSONWIDRIG DANCETHEATER, San Diego Civic Theater and Historic Lincoln Theater with Culture Shock DC, and Give Kids the World with VF Dance. Projection designs include: *Bare* (Devin Seldon), *The Mind’s Eye* (Jessa Hudock), and *Analog* (Sarah Ewing).

**Sierra King** (assistant stage manager), junior theatre major. Outside credits: *Taming of the Shrew*, *The Giver*, *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, *Into the Woods*, *Avenue Q*, *Distracted*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Reasons to Be Pretty/Happy*.

**Ama Law** (performer, *Full Circle*), first-year MFA dance candidate. Dynamic and Culture Shock DC alumni. Former Broadway Dance Center intern, adjunct faculty member at Howard Community College and previous workshop instructor with Kids Artistic Revue. Currently a member of KickRocks and collaborator of Project ChArma.

**Chris Law** (choreographer/performer, *Full Circle*), is an accomplished Hip Hop movement artist from the DMV area who has established a focus on inspiring the creative minds of young artists. After graduating from the University of Maryland with a BA in Modern Dance, he began teaching workshops and master classes at various venues including Joe’s Movement Emporium and
MD Dance Council. He performed locally, nationally, and internationally with Culture Shock Washington D.C. and was captain of the freestyle team. His investment into the cultivation of the next generation of dance makers has lead him back to College Park as a graduate student with the Department of Theatre Dance and Performance Studies. It is his mission to examine the cycles of human behavior that have shaped our worldwide communities and to lend himself as a bridge for young artists to build upon previous accomplishments.

Khalid Yaya Long (dramaturg, Full Circle), is adjunct faculty and doctoral candidate in the Theatre and Performance Studies program at UMD. Khalid’s research and creative works center on Black theatre and performance, with specific attention paid to the intersection of race, class, gender, and sexuality within marginalized and oppressed communities. Informed by his academic interests, Khalid’s practical areas include dramaturgy, directing, and acting.

Olivia Lynes (performer, Full Circle), is a senior dance major at the University of Maryland. Fourteen years of training prepared her to be named executive director of the Prima Dolls Dance Team. Her career goal is to own a multidisciplinary Pediatrics practice.

Brandi Martin (lighting designer), second-year MFA candidate in lighting design. Brandi has a BA in Theatre from California State University of Fresno. She has worked as the resident Lighting and Sound Designer at the Mercedes Edwards Theater in Clovis, CA. UMD credits: Shared Grad 2016, Spring ’16 MFA Dance Thesis Concert: Invoking Justice, Don Giovanni, Outside credits: Once on this Island (Mercedes Edwards Theatre), Tone Clusters (Theatricum Botanicum), The Comedy of Errors (2nd Space Theatre), The Normal Heart (StageWorks Fresno), La Boheme (Fresno State School of Music), Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (Roger Rocka’s Dinner Theater).

Juliana Mascelli (performer, Render Edit), co-manages the Dance program at the National Endowment for the Arts. While attending college at the George Washington University, she danced in the work of guest artists Nicholas Leichter, Neil Greenberg, and Jennifer Nugent. In addition to sometimes making short, absurd films with her friends, she also performs with the DC-based dance company, darlingdance. Juliana first had the honor of dancing with Heart Stück Bernie in Skirt the Wall, at the Kennedy Center this past September and she’s excited to continue her work with the company.

Patricia Mullaney-Loss (performer, Render Edit), originally from Minneapolis, MN, has been studying and working in the DC area for seven years. She performs and teaches locally, and is currently venturing into making her own work. She is a researcher at the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies and holds a Master’s of public policy and a dual Bachelor’s in dance and government from the University of Maryland. During college and beyond, she has performed in works by Sarah Beth Oppenheim, Chelsea Brown, BodyCartography, Jillian Peña, Stephanie Miracle, Jessie Laurita-Spanglet, Susan Marshall, Tere O’Connor, and Sharon Mansur.


Sarah Beth Oppenheim (choreographer/performer, Render Edit). I was born in the Wild, Wild West, now I live down the road aways. I read back inside covers of the following books to determine how to write this bio: Night Sky
with Exit Wounds, 1Q84, and Freedom. When I line everything up, I have one white flag on a pencil, one black sheep on a stick, and ten fake flowers in a corner. Also: my desk is currently decorated with a packet of sugar in the raw. It’s turbinado cane sugar, if you give a whoop. I do give many whoops, on a daily basis, about the importance of dance.

Jared Porter (performer, Full Circle), Culture Shock DC, Culture Shock DC Freestyle (Captain), the Elusives, HeavenZ Crew, Major Definition.

Nicole Sneed (performer, Full Circle), senior dance and kinesiology double major. UMD credits: Beneath, Tom in the Machine, Excerpt, Un Castell built for two, Full Circle, Skirt the Wall. Training: Brooklyn Music School, Power Explosion Dance Studio, Judy’s Studio of Dance.

Katherine Stepanek (assistant lighting designer), first-year MFA candidate in scenic and lighting design. This is her first UMD production.

Tori Ujczo (stage manager, Render Edit), senior theatre major. UMD credits: The Call (SM), New Visions/New Voices (SM), Baltimore (ASM). Outside credits: The Little Mermaid (PA), Imagination Stage; Blue Straggler (ASM), Source Theatre Co.; Upcoming: Midwestern Gothic (PA), Signature Theatre.

PRODUCTION STAFF

ASSISTANT DESIGNERS AND STAGE MANAGERS

Assistant Costume Designer Jeannette Christensen
Assistant Stage Manager Sierra King
Assistant Lighting Designer Katherine Stepanek

BUILD/LOAD–IN CREW

COSTUMES

Draper Dorothy Driggers
First Hand Amy Vander Staay
Graduate Assistant Maureen Kelly
Stitchers Monica Albizo. Summer Brown, Aitana Garrison, Marley Kabin, Jennifer Kasnadi, Moyenda Kulemeka, Sanya Oluwafemi,
Students of THET 284
Wardrobe Supervisor Aubrey Mazzaferri

PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY

Lighting Crew Justin Alston, Claudia Brownlee, Gabriel Metzger, Hassan Juma, Joey Mitchell, James Nelson

PROPERTIES

Properties Construction Crew Lauren Chilton, Andrea Moore, Samina Vieth
Prop Shop Graduate Assistant Katie Stepanek
Prop Shop Student Workers Rachel Grandizio, Sydney Morrison, James Stubbs
Properties Student Crew Karen Dolle, Kristen El-Yaouti, Sarah Hirsch, Jameelah Johnson, Chelsey McLaughlin, Gabriel Metzger, Sydney Morrison, Ariela Sirota

PAINTS

Assistant Scenic Artist Lisa Dreibelbis, Kristin Brain
Student Scenic Painters Alex Beveridge, Samarra Coakley, Hannah Donaldson, Nikki Lust, Sydney Morrison, Sofia Moustahfid, Lei Yan
SCENIC
Set Construction Crew Mike Delaney, Justin DeVos, Christian Farley, Madison Freeman, Kaitlin Graham, Ryan Harvey, Jordan Jones, Devin Kohn, Alex Milewich, Alex Monsell, Nisha Nawab, Mikala Nuccio, Macy Regner, Ruth Shatkay, Richard Yu
Student Set Construction Crew Ilana Bernstein, Aijha Byrd, Ivan Carlo, Karen Dolle, Kathleen Elliott, Tamar Gasko, Rina Goldman, Mikey Greenblatt, Denis Guntilake, Lilia Hinojosa, Shaina Patel, Maureen Roulit

SHOW CREW
Dressers Tierra Coates, Jorian Rosenmertz
Light Board Operator Anders Tighe
Projection Operator Tyasia Velines
Sound Board Operator Sofia Moustahfid
Run Crew Amber Chaney, Bridget Ling, Tehuti Miles, Gabrielle Welsh

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Korey Rothman Theatre History
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Christopher K. Morgan  
Dance Technique

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Technical Production

Susan Chiang  
Costume Construction

Ann Chismar  
Scene Painting

Paige Hathaway  
CAD Design and CAD Lab Supervisor

Kelsey Hunt  
Costume Design Support

Raye Leith  
Figure Drawing

Khalid Yaya Long  
Black Theatre and Performance

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Ballet

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