Creative Dialogues is a free conversation series designed to spark cross-disciplinary conversations around issues that inspire and motivate artists to create their work. Moderated by Kojo Nnamdi, these events are intended to raise awareness, while encouraging debate and exploration of the subject matter. Creative Dialogues are presented both at the Center and at locations throughout the community. Panelists include artists and UMD faculty as well as voices from other academic institutions and organizations.

The 2013–2014 Creative Dialogues Series
Join the conversation.

In honor of the 50th anniversary year of the March on Washington and the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, the Clarice Smith Center's 2013–2014 Creative Dialogues explore the issues of civil rights in a modern-day context. The right to pursue freedom of all kinds is a founding principle of our nation, but in today’s complex and changing society, freedom can be elusive. The 2013–2014 Creative Dialogues series will address a range of ideas on liberty and justice in the United States — the imbalance of hunger and nutrition, gay rights and marriage, war and pacifism — all with an emphasis on the artists' experience and interpretation. Sparking discussion and new thinking around all civil liberties, the series will explore such questions as "Are we really free and equal?" and "How far have we come?"

BEYOND SLAVERY: FREDERICK DOUGLASS AND THE QUEST FOR UNIVERSAL RIGHTS
Tuesday, February 4, 2014 . 7:30PM . Dance Theatre . FREE
Dr. Ira Berlin, Department of History, University of Maryland
Colin McCann, Distinguished Professor of Creative Writing, Hunter College
Dr. Patricia O’Shea, Vice President for Research, University of Maryland
Dr. Shari L. Parks, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Humanities, University of Maryland
This conversation will feature writer and educator Colin McCann who will be joined by UMD Professors Ira Berlin, Patrick O’Shea and Shari L. Parks, as we explore the influence Douglass had on religion, freedom, gender issues and slavery.

FAST FOOD, SLOW FOOD AND FOOD JUSTICE: GLOBAL POLICIES CREATING GLOBAL HUNGER
Monday, April 21, 2014 . 7:30PM . Gildenhorn Recital Hall . FREE
Dr. Luka Arsenjuk, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, University of Maryland
Dr. Perla M. Guerrero, Department of American Studies, University of Maryland
Dr. Orlando R. Serrano Jr., Department of American Studies & Ethnicity, University of Southern California
Dr. Psyche Williams-Forson, Department of American Studies, University of Maryland
Join UMD professors Perla M. Guerrero, Luka Arsenjuk and Psyche Williams-Forson, along with USC’s Orlando R. Serrano Jr., as they discuss how food is at the heart of major policy flaws and societal disparities in the United States and around the world.

HOMER’S ILIAD: AN ANTI-WAR MANIFESTO?
Thursday, May 1, 2014 . 7:30PM . Dance Theatre . FREE
Dr. Sudip Bose, Emergency Medicine Physician and Founder, The Battle Continues
Drew Cameron, Director, Combat Paper Project
Dr. Lillian Doherty, Department of Classics, University of Maryland
Denis O’Hare, actor
This discussion of Homer’s epic will feature perspectives from actor Denis O’Hare, Iraq veteran and artist Drew Cameron, UMD Classicist and Homerist Lillian Doherty, and emergency medicine physician and combat veteran Sudip Bose, who founded the organization The Battle Continues after his 15-month deployment to the front lines during the Iraq War.

Support for Beyond Slavery: Frederick Douglass and the Quest for Universal Rights
This season is supported in part by an award from the NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS.

ABOUT KOJO NNAMDI
Kojo Nnamdi is host of The Kojo Nnamdi Show, a live talk show produced by WMUA 88.5 that airs weekdays at noon. Nnamdi welcomes a lineup of interesting and provocative guests who offer new perspectives about current events, political issues, social policy, art, science and other topics. The show encourages listener calls, creating a dynamic dialogue about issues that are important or interesting to the Washington DC region. Nnamdi is a native of Guyana who immigrated to the United States in 1968 to attend college and explore the Civil Rights Movement.

Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center and The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission present

31st ANNUAL CHOREOGRAPHERS’ SHOWCASE
Sidra Bell and Zvi Goetheiner, adjudicators
Saturday, January 25, 2014 . 3PM
Saturday, January 25, 2014 . 8PM
Dance Theatre
IF ONLY I KNEW
Choreographer: Bethany Disque
Assistant Choreographer: Chelsea Brown
Dancers: Chelsea Brown, Bethany Disque
Music: Fjögur Píanó by Sigur Rós

*If Only I Knew* plays with the elapse of time, showing the transformation of relationships and emotions. This dance involves two people going through one, or many, of the experiences universal to most of our lives. Their relationship to each other changes constantly, while the presence of a mysterious light becomes anything and everything they want it to be.

3
Choreographer: Nicole A. Martinell
Dancers: Melissa Brady, Kelly Hall, Olivia Serrill
Music: Cuong Nguyen

“3” is the number of truth and strength. “3” mediates, harmonizes and connects. “3” is the key to divine perfection. Exploring this sacred number reveals its connection to the integrity of existence. Order is organically sustained through the underlying pulse of “3.”

THE CONSTRUCTION
Choreographers: Robin Neveu Brown and Connor Voss
Dancers: Robin Neveu Brown, Connor Voss
Music: Mike Wall

*The Construction* is a performance about making a performance.

BENCHMARKS
Choreographer: Adrienne Clancy
Dancers: Jessica Ellis, Jason Fowler, Mao Hamada, Natalia Pinzon, Jade Treadwell
Music: Jon Scoville and Hauschka

*Benchmarks* highlights ClancyWorks’ trademark of architectural partnering and working with unique sets as a metaphor for building relationships. Inspired by an interest in rejoicing in the “now” of relationships instead of the “what could be,” or instead of waiting for those relationships to pass, *Benchmarks* celebrates the value of daily interactions through the physical athleticism that Adrienne Clancy’s work is known for.

The program will be approximately 75 minutes including intermission.

Join the artists for a Talk Back following each performance.
ABOUT THE ADJUDICATORS

SIDRA BELL, artistic director of Sidra Bell Dance New York, is currently a master lecturer at The University of the Arts (Philadelphia), was adjunct professor at Barnard College (Columbia University), and has a degree in history from Yale University and an MFA in choreography from Purchase College Conservatory of Dance. She received a First Place Award for Choreography from the Solo Tanz Theater Festival in Stuttgart, Germany (2011) for the solo *Grief Point*. Her critically acclaimed company and work has been seen throughout the United States and internationally in Denmark, France, Austria, Germany, China, Canada, Aruba, Korea, Brazil and Greece. The company was lauded in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette’s 2010 Best in Dance for the evening-length work *ReVUE*. Bell has received many commissions for new work from internationally renowned companies and institutions around the world. Most recently she was commissioned as the lead choreographer for the feature film *TEST* (2013) directed by Chris Mason Johnson and shot on location in San Francisco. She is a sought-after master teacher and was featured in *Dance Teacher* magazine (2012). She has taught her unique creative practice of movement, improvisation and technique entitled *Contemporary Systems – An Interior & Material Approach to Movement*© at major institutions for dance and theatre throughout Canada, Europe, South America and the United States.

ZVI GOTOHEINER was born and raised in Israel. He began his artistic career as a gifted violinist with the Young Kibbutzim Orchestra, where he attained the rank of soloist and concertmaster at age 15. He began dancing at 17, and soon after formed his first performance group. He first came to New York in 1978 on a dance scholarship from the American-Israeli Cultural Foundation, and went on to dance with the Joyce Trisler Dance Company, Feld Ballets/NY and the Bat-Sheva Dance Company. After directing Tamar Ramle and the Jerusalem Tamar Dance Companies in Israel and the Israeli Chamber Dance Company in New York, he founded ZviDance (previously Zvi Gotheiner & Dancers) in 1989. The company’s performances have received critical acclaim in New York City at The Kitchen, The Joyce Theater, Joyce Soho, the Fiorello Festival, Lincoln Center Out of Doors and Central Park’s SummerStage, as well as a variety of experimental venues. Gotheiner is a recipient of two New York Foundation for the Arts choreography fellowships and The National Arts Club Weiselberg Award, and has received commissions from Zurich Tanz Theater, Utah’s Repertory Dance Theater, Colloquium Contemporary Dance Exchange, the American Dance Festival and three times by The Joyce Theater’s Altogether Different series. Gotheiner has earned an international reputation as a ballet teacher. In New York, he serves as a company teacher for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and teaches ballet regularly at City Center.

The Choreographers’ Showcase celebrates its 31st year in 2014. The Showcase was first held at Prince George’s County’s Publick Playhouse in 1982, helping to bring that theater into prominence and establishing the Showcase as an important event in the regional dance community. The Showcase was moved to the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center when it opened in the 2001–2002 season, and is an important part of the on-going partnership between the Center and The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC).

Each year live auditions are held to determine the Showcase program. Auditions are open to any choreographer aged 18 or older who resides in Maryland, Virginia or the District of Columbia. Those auditioning must present original works, not exceeding 15 minutes, that have been created within the most recent two years. During the Showcase’s history many critically renowned choreographers such as Jane Comfort, Beverly Blossom, Doug Varone, Sean Curran, and this year Sidra Bell and Zvi Gotheiner, have served as adjudicators. The Showcase gives all those who audition the opportunity to have their work seen and critiqued by respected national dance professionals, and those awarded additionally have their work professionally produced, presented and video recorded. The Showcase also gives audiences the chance to see the diverse and dynamic range of works being created by dance artists in the region.

We extend our thanks to all of the choreographers and dancers who participated in this year’s auditions, and congratulate those selected for the Showcase. Thanks also to adjudicators Sidra Bell and Zvi Gotheiner, to Christel Stevens and Peggy McCaskill at the M-NCPPC, and to Kate Gibson and Jane Hirshberg at the Clarice Smith Center.
CHARLI BRISSEY (choreographer) is a dance and video artist currently residing in Richmond, Virginia, where she is completing her MFA in kinetic imaging. Brissey’s dance and video work has been screened throughout the U.S. and abroad, including the Dance on Camera Festival at Lincoln Center, Dance New Amsterdam, the Center for Performance Research, the Seattle Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, Sans Souci Festival of Dance Cinema, The Nottingham Playhouse, DANCE:Film Scotland’s Dance Film Festival, LOIKKA Dance Film Festival of Finland and the CURRENT SESSIONS in New York City. Brissey has recently been awarded a graduate fellowship from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts for film and video, as well as a Graduate Scholar Award from the Fourth Annual Conference on the Image.

CHELSEA BROWN (assistant choreographer) is a junior dance and psychology major at the University of Maryland. She is a Creative and Performing Arts Scholar, president of Delta Chi Xi Honorary Dance Fraternity Inc. and co-director of Phunktions Hip Hop Dance Company. Brown’s most recent performances include If Only I Knew (Spring 2013, co-choreographer), The Heaven Index (Spring 2012), Alloy (Spring 2012) and Insert / J Here (Fall 2013).

ROBIN NEVEU BROWN (choreographer) is a Virginia native and received her BFA in dance from the University of Florida. While living in Florida and New York, she had the pleasure of working with choreographers Deganit Shemay, Neta Pulvermacher, David Dorfman and Tzveta Kassabova. Brown is currently an MFA candidate in dance at the University of Maryland and also dances with PEARSONWIDRIG DANCETHEATER. She has performed her own work with her husband/creative partner, Kevin Brown, throughout New York, Florida and Maryland, and is interested in the intersection of dance with theatre, film, public art and community.

ADRIENNE CLANCY (choreographer) has more than 20 years of professional dance experience. Her work has been presented nationally and internationally in Colombia, England, Israel, Japan, Paraguay, Poland and Mexico. Clancy has earned a reputation for working with conservatory students and dance enthusiasts alike. She has directed many community arts projects that have culminated in both informal site-specific and formal concert events. Prior to founding ClancyWorks Dance Company, she worked as a company member for such respected choreographers as Bella Lewitzky, Liz Lerman, Nora Reynolds-Daniel and Bill Evans, and has been a guest artist for Maida Wiltith, Doug Hamby and Victoria Marks. Clancy holds an MA in dance from the University of New Mexico and an MFA in dance from Texas Woman’s University, where she is also in the process of completing her PhD in dance. She was recently honored with the National Dance Education Organization’s 2013 Outstanding Dance Educator of the Year Award.

BETHANY DISQUE (choreographer) received her Bachelor of the Arts at the University of Maryland this past year. While there, she was the president of the Student Dance Association and the director/choreographer for Phunktions Hip Hop Dance Company. Disque’s work, If Only I Knew, has been performed with Maryland Dance Ensemble, Spark Movement Collective in New York and will be featured in the Dance Bethesda concert in March 2014. She is currently dancing for PEARSONWIDRIG DANCETHEATER.

FRANCESCA JANDASEK (choreographer) has performed locally and internationally with City Dance Ensemble, BosmaDance, Sami Budaya, Sharma Fabiano Tango Company, Deviated Theatre and Dakshina. In 2004 Jandasek worked with Dance Praba’s International Modern Dance Festival to enhance and further develop modern dance in the Czech Republic. In 2006 she received the Artist Fellowship for Dance from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities and the Kennedy Center’s Local Dance Commissioning Project fellowship, and in 2007 she was nominated as a Dance/Metro DC Awards finalist for “Emerging Choreographer.” In 2009 she established baredances, a collaborative contemporary dance project, with Stephanie Yezek Jolivet. Baredances was originally commissioned by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and has been expanded to include collaboration with other artists, choreographers, musicians, dancers, actors and filmmakers. Jandasek continues to choreograph for and perform in dance, film and theater productions nationally and abroad. Beyond dance, she is a certified GYROTONIC® and GYROKINESIS® instructor, performs with Synetic Theater and plays violin with the Tango Mercurio Orchestra.

STEPHANIE YEZEK JOLIVET (choreographer) is grateful to have been selected to perform in the 31st Annual Choreographer’s Showcase at UMD. She has been dancing professionally throughout the Washington Metropolitan area and beyond since returning in 2003 with a BA in English and minor in dance from Bucknell University. She trained and performed with The Playground, Dakshina, Jane Franklin Dance Company, AirDance Bernasconi, Gesel Mason Performance Projects, Deviated Theatre and BosmaDance. She has performed in the works of David Dorfman, Anna Sokolow, Darla Stanley, Florencia Lopez-Boo, Ofra Idel Lipshitz, Samantha Speis, Er-Dong Hu, Dunia Frangione and Kelly Knox. In 2006 Jolivet helped to co-found Freefall, Oxford University’s contemporary dance ensemble, while earning her MA in English literature and language. In 2009 she established baredances with Francesca Jandasek, and her choreography has been presented through baredances and separately by the Kennedy Center, Baltimore Theatre Project, Oxford University, Cambridge University, Bucknell University, Howard Community College, Oxford Playhouse, Dance Place, BosmaDance and Dragonfly Dance Experiment. Jolivet was a finalist in the 2009 Dance/MetroDC awards for “Emerging Choreographer.” She was selected as the sole dancer finalist in the 2010 Howard County Rising Star competition, and as one of ten dance artists to the 2010 Dance Omi International Dance Collective. Outside the studio, she shares the power of “Stylates” (her own style of Pilates) with her clients in and around the city as a certified instructor. You can find her new online Pilates-on-the-go resource at www.sayezz.com.
ABOUT THE ARTISTS

NICOLE A. MARTINELL (choreographer) grew up in the small town of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. A passion for injury prevention and dance led her to receive a BS in kinesiology from Pennsylvania State University, an MFA in dance from Texas Woman’s University, and she became a Certified Movement Analyst upon receiving an elementary certificate in Labanotation. Her research on ballet pedagogy was published in the Journal of Dance Education. Moving to Baltimore in 2008, Martinell became the founder and artistic director of Deep Vision Dance Company (www.deepvisiondancecompany.org), as well as the creator of Baltimore’s annual site-specific dance festival, AKIMBO (www.akimbobaltimore.com). Martinell’s work highlights the flux of human emotions, arouses curiosity and challenges her audiences’ views of reality. Her choreography has been featured at such venues as Theatre Project (MD), Baltimore Museum of Art (MD), Dance Place (DC), GALA Hispanic Theatre (DC), Green Space (NY), Triskelion Theater (NY), Dan’s Silverleaf (TX) and the American College Dance Festival Gala Concert (VA). Martinell was honored as a b-grant winner for the 2013 Baker Artist Awards. She is currently an Adjunct II faculty member at Towson University, where she teaches composition, modern dance, ballet and repertory, and manages the Towson University Dance Company. She has received additional training at Allegheny Ballet Company, Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet and Alvin Ailey American Dance Center.

STEPHANIE MIRACLE (choreographer) is an independent choreographer, performer and teaching artist. Using a movement palette that ranges from gestural and pedestrian to highly physical and idiosyncratic, Miracle’s work investigates the intersections between the everyday and the invisible/spiritual through the relationships between bodies and space. Inspired by film, Miracle borrows cinematic devices to frame and edit dance into visually and emotionally rich compositions. Her choreography has been featured at Rooftop Dances (NYC), 100 Grand (NYC), Triskelion Arts (NYC), Round House Theatre (MD), Dance Place (DC), Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center (MD), Supernova (VA) and Dance on Camera Festival at Lincoln Center (NYC). She was awarded a Smith Scholarship Grant, the Kitchen of Innovation Grant 2012, the Merit Scholarship for Bates Dance Festival 2013 and a 2013/2014 Block Grant. In 2012 she was selected as one of nine dance artists from around the world to attend OMI International Artists Residency. As a performer she has had the privilege of dancing for Deganit Shemly, Elizabeth Dishman, Shannon Gillen & Guests, Laura Peterson Choreography, alex/xan: the Median Movement, David Dorfman Dance, Joseph Poulson, Susan Marshall and Company, Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, Graham Brown, PEARSONWIDRIG DANCETHEATER and Deborah Hay. Miracle is a graduate teaching fellow at the University of Maryland, where she is completing her MFA in dance. She is also in the process of certification in the Klein Technique and regularly teaches for the Dance Exchange. She currently resides in Takoma Park, Maryland with her husband, visual artist Jimmy Miracle.

CONNOR VOSS (choreographer) was born in Takoma Park, Maryland in 1991. He studied dance at the University of Maryland and the San Francisco Conservatory. Voss is the recipient of a Creative and Performing Arts Scholarship, the 2012 Meriam Rosen Scholarship and the 2013 Nancy Law Scholarship. He currently performs with PEARSONWIDRIG DANCETHEATER, feath3rtheory and Miguel Gutierrez & The Powerful People. His work has been presented at the American College Dance Festival Gala, Maryland Day, UMD Dance Ensemble and the 30th Annual Choreographer’s Showcase.

JEDIDIAH ROE (lighting designer) holds an MFA from the University of Maryland and a BA from Florida State University. Roe’s previous credits include Our Town (Carroll College); Goodnight Moon (Adventure Theatre); Becky Shaw (Round House Theatre); Pas de Deux (The Studio Theatre); Canterbury Tales (Pointless Theatre Company); The Show-Off (American Century Theater); The Seagull, Everything in the Garden, Gilgamesh (University of Maryland). His associate and assistant credits include Maryland Opera Studio, Theatre J, Round House Theatre and Olney Theatre.

EMMA SQUIRE (stage manager), since graduating from Gustavus Adolphus College in 2011, has worked as a stage manager and properties designer for theatres in Missouri, West Virginia and Minnesota. In the summer of 2013 she was the assistant stage manager on Failure: A Love Story at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival.