

I RESIST THIS

7:30pm September 6, 2024 | Kogod Theatre, Clarice Smith Center for the Performing Arts

CAST

Director — Charlotte Richardson-Deppe

Assistant choreographer — Peter Pattengill

Sound designer — Leo Grierson

Original piano composition — Tony Cui

Performers — Christina Collins, Charlene (Char) Cowan, Daniel Miramontes, Peter Pattengill, Charlotte Richardson-Deppe, Morgan Smiley

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Children's games are structured attempts at connection: the essence of learning how to be in community with one another. I've often had children's games as my inspiration as I make and perform my works, but in the rehearsal process for this piece, the movement language of children's games became even more thematically prominent. We were inspired by many games including hopscotch, jump rope, human knot, hand-clap games, tag, red rover, and that one day in gym class when the teacher would get out a huge multi-colored parachute and you would all lift it up together.

Many of my works are playful and a bit ridiculous—socks for two people or sculptures with squishy brightly-colored limbs flopping all over the place. It's silly, but silly things are often profound: **children's games are playful, but they are no joke.** Who gets included in hopscotch, and who is standing on the sidelines? Who feels comfortable playing dress-up and who is afraid to try on a princess dress? How can we make a world where we can all play together, a world where we are all held in safety and care?

BIOS

Christina Collins (she/her) is a dancer, choreographer, and music lover. She is currently a 3rd year MFA Dance candidate at the University of Maryland, College Park where she is researching Afrofuturism in the dance world.

Charlene (Char) Cowan (she/her) received her bachelor's in Dance from the University of Maryland, College Park. She is a performer at Six Flags America but also performs throughout the DMV. She hopes to continue to use dance to find ways to spread body positivity, by being an advocate for different body types through the arts.

Tony Cui (he/him) is a PhD candidate in early modern art history at the University of Maryland, College Park. He studies the Atlantic world and especially intersections between visual culture and environmental history. He is also a pianist, musician, and singer who likes to experiment with musical theories and compose original scores.

Leo Grierson (they/he) is a digital theatre artist with a focus on digital integration and meme theatre. They are currently in their third year of the MFA Multimedia Design program at the University of Maryland. They are so thrilled to be a part of I Resist This and the Next Now Festival.

Daniel Miramontes (he/him) is a bright and whimsical dance artist from Los Angeles, CA. He is currently pursuing an MFA in Dance at the University of Maryland, College Park. He's also a capricorn, a devoted cat dad, and likes the color green.

Peter Pattengill (he/they) is a Maryland Based choreographer and performance artist. They received their BFA in Dance Performance as a member of the inaugural class from the Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University. Currently Pattengill is an MFA candidate in Dance at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Charlotte Richardson-Deppe (she/her) is a queer feminist artist working between performance and soft sculpture. She received her MFA in Studio Art from the University of Maryland, College Park, where she currently teaches drawing, sculpture, and photography as a Lecturer in the Department of Art.

Morgan Smiley (she/her) is a senior dance major with a minor in criminal justice at the University of Maryland, College Park. She has been dancing since the age of two and continued when going to college. She is the president of Forward Motion Dance Company.