



Visiting Artist Series presents

**WENDY WHELAN, BRIAN BROOKS,
AND BROOKLYN RIDER**
Some of a Thousand Words

December 9, 2017 . 8PM
KAY THEATRE
at The Clarice

ARTIST PARTNER PROGRAM

VAS
VISITING ARTIST SERIES

The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center's
Visiting Artist Series presents

WENDY WHELAN, BRIAN BROOKS & BROOKLYN RIDER

Some of a Thousand Words

Wendy Whelan
dancer (formerly principal dancer of NYC Ballet)

Brian Brooks
dancer and choreographer

Brooklyn Rider
string quartet

This performance will last approximately 1 hour.

**Join the artists for a conversation with the audience
following the performance.**

First Movement

Music Composed by Jacob Cooper

Second Movement

Music Composed by Tyondai Braxton

Third Movement

Original Music Composed by Colin Jacobsen

Fourth Movement

Music Composed by John Luther Adams

First Fall (2012)

Music Composed by Philip Glass

First Fall was originally commissioned by Damian Woetzel for the 2012 Vail International Dance Festival. Additional choreography was added to *First Fall* as part of *Some of a Thousand Words*.

WENDY WHELAN was born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky. She began taking ballet lessons at the age of three. At age 9, she began intensive training at the Louisville Ballet Academy. In 1981, she auditioned for the School of American Ballet and was accepted to the summer program. A year later, she moved to New York to continue her studies there as a full-time student. In 1984, she was named an apprentice with New York City Ballet and in 1986, she joined the corps de ballet.

Wendy went on to spend 30 years at New York City Ballet, 23 of those years as principal dancer. She has danced virtually every major Balanchine role, and worked closely with Jerome Robbins on many of his ballets. She originated leading roles in works by such notable choreographers as William Forsythe, Twyla Tharp, Alexei Ratmansky, Christopher Wheeldon, Jorma Elo, and Wayne McGregor. In 2007, Wendy was nominated for both an Olivier Award and a Critics Circle Award for her performances of Christopher Wheeldon's work in London.

Wendy has been a guest artist with The Royal Ballet and the Kirov Ballet and has performed on nearly every major stage across the globe. She received the Dance Magazine Award in 2007, and in 2009 was given a Doctorate of Arts, honoris causa, from Bellarmine University. In 2011, she received both The Jerome Robbins Award and a Bessie Award for her Sustained Achievement in Performance.

On October 18, 2014, Wendy took the stage for her final performance with New York City Ballet. Immediately following her retirement as a dancer from City Ballet, she joined the faculty of New York City's Ballet Academy East and was appointed Artistic Associate at New York City Center.

In 2013, Wendy premiered her inaugural independent project, *Restless Creature*, co-produced by The Joyce Theater, at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. The project went on to tour London and the U.S through May of 2015. Following *Restless Creature*, she premiered two more independent projects, *Whelan/Watson: Other Stories*, at London's Royal Opera House, and *Hagoromo* at BAM's Next Wave Festival.

Choreographer **BRIAN BROOKS** has recently been appointed as the inaugural Choreographer in Residence at Chicago's Harris Theater for Music and Dance. This innovative three-year fellowship supports several commissions for Brooks each season with the first year featuring Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and Miami City Ballet, as well as his own New York-based group. Brooks is the recipient of a

2013 Guggenheim Fellowship. Other recent awards include a NY City Center Fellowship and the Joyce Theater's Artist Residency. His work has toured nationally and internationally since 2002 with recent presentations by the Joyce Theater, Jacob's Pillow, the American Dance Festival, and BAM as part of their 2013 Next Wave Festival. The American Dance Institute, where Brooks is a member of the Artist Advisory Board, has presented his company three times and supported him with two Incubator Production Residencies.

Brooks has been commissioned by Damian Woetzel at the Vail International Dance Festival to create three new works featuring dancers from NYC Ballet and Pacific Northwest Ballet, including "First Fall", in which Brooks dances with former NY City Ballet Principal Dancer Wendy Whelan. Theatre for a New Audience has invited Brooks to choreograph two Off-Broadway Shakespeare productions – *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2013), directed by Julie Taymor, and *Pericles* (2016), directed by Trevor Nunn. Brooks has created new dances at schools including The Juilliard School, The Boston Conservatory, The School at Jacob's Pillow, and Harvard University. He dedicated 12 years as a Teaching Artist of Dance at the Lincoln Center Institute for the Arts in Education and has been on the part-time faculties of both Rutgers University and Princeton University.

Hailed as "the future of chamber music" (Strings), **BROOKLYN RIDER** offers eclectic repertoire in gripping performances that continue to attract legions of fans and draw rave reviews from classical, world, and rock critics alike.

Last season, Brooklyn Rider toured with composer/singer/multi-instrumentalist Gabriel Kahane with music from their 2016 acclaimed collaborative album *The Fiction Issue*, as well as works from the groundbreaking multi-disciplinary project Brooklyn Rider *Almanac*. This season Brooklyn Rider releases *So Many Things* with mezzo-soprano Anne Sofie von Otter, an album of contemporary music featuring pieces by Colin Jacobsen, Caroline Shaw, John Adams, Nico Muhly, Björk, Sting, and Elvis Costello, among others. Together they embark on a worldwide tour, including stops at Carnegie Hall and the Opernhaus Zurich.

Other recent recording projects include 2013's *A Walking Fire* and *The Impostor* with Béla Fleck, plus 2011's much-praised *Brooklyn Rider Plays Philip Glass* on the composer's Orange Mountain Music label. Violinist Johnny Gandelsman launched In A Circle Records in 2008

with the release of Brooklyn Rider's eclectic debut recording, *Passport*, followed by *Dominant Curve* in 2010, and *Seven Steps* in 2012. A long-standing relationship between Brooklyn Rider and Iranian kamancheh player Kayhan Kalhor resulted in the critically acclaimed 2008 recording, *Silent City*.

Brooklyn Rider is managed by Opus 3 Artists.

PERSONNEL

Wendy Whelan / Brian Brooks / Brooklyn Rider in

Some of a Thousand Words

A JOYCE THEATER PRODUCTION

CHOREOGRAPHY & DIRECTION Brian Brooks

PERFORMED BY

Wendy Whelan

Brian Brooks

Brooklyn Rider

Johnny Gandelsman, *violin*

Colin Jacobsen, *violin*

Nicholas Cords, *viola*

Michael Nicolas, *cello*

MUSIC

Jacob Cooper, "Arches"

Colin Jacobsen, "BTT"

© Colin Jacobsen / Vavavooviemusic (BMI). Used by permission.

John Luther Adams, "Maclaren Summit" and "Looking Towards Hope"

from "The Wind in High Places"

Tyondai Braxton, "ArpRec1"

Philip Glass, "String Quartet No. 3 (Mishima)"

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PRODUCTION MANAGER Emily McGillicuddy

LIGHTING DESIGN Joe Levasseur

STAGE & COMPANY MANAGER Meredith Belis

COSTUME DESIGN Karen Young

CHOREOGRAPHIC ADVISOR & REHEARSAL COACH Risa Steinberg

PRODUCERS Ilter Ibrahimof, Sunny Artist Management, Inc.
Barbara Frum, Sharing Spaces, Inc.
Joyce Theater Productions

CREDITS

Some of a Thousand Words is co-commissioned by The International Festival of Arts & Ideas New Haven, The Joyce Theater Foundation's Stephen and Cathy Weinroth Fund for New Work, The Kentucky Center for the Arts, and the Modlin Center for The Arts at University of Richmond.

This engagement was made possible in part by Joyce Theater Productions, a producing partnership of The Joyce Theater Foundation and Sunny Artist Management that supports select projects from inception to premiere and subsequent tours, as well as generous funders Deborah and Charles Adelman, Michael Lillys, Michele and Steve Pesner, and Peace.

JOYCE THEATER PRODUCTIONS (JTP) is a producing partnership of The Joyce Theater Foundation, Inc. and Sunny Artist Management, Inc. (SAM). It was formed to create and tour works by some of today's most exciting dancers and choreographers. Through the partnership, JTP supports new productions created outside of a traditional dance company model, such as Daniil Simkin's INTENSIO and Wendy Whelan and Brian Brooks' *Some of a Thousand Words*; as well as the work of existing troupes through its Associate Company program, which currently includes Malpaso Dance Company from Cuba and L.A. Dance Project. www.Joyce.org

Worldwide Representation: Sunny Artist Management Inc. Ilter Ibrahimof, Director – ilter@sunnyartistmanagement.com

This presentation of Wendy Whelan/Brian Brooks/Brooklyn Rider's *Some of a Thousand Words* was made possible with generous support from LUMBERYARD Contemporary Performing Arts (formerly American Dance Institute) and supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

On Thursday, Wendy Whelan taught in a combined ballet class of three levels that was opened up to all students in the School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies. Brian Brooks taught in a combined modern dance class of three levels, also opened up to all students in the School. These were the classes of faculty members Patrik Widrig, Alvin Mayes, and Mané Rebelo-Plaut.

Please join us for a conversation with the artists following tonight's concert, moderated by Dance ICONS founder Vladimir Angelov. Dance ICONS is The International Consortium for Advancement in Choreography, based in Washington, DC. For information about Dance ICONS see www.danceicons.org.

do good by doing

THIS SEASON, MANY OF THE CLARICE'S ARTISTS ARE WORKING TO RAISE AWARENESS OF A MULTITUDE OF PRESSING SOCIAL ISSUES, INCLUDING THE ENVIRONMENT, HUMAN TRAFFICKING, RACE RELATIONS, HOMELESSNESS AND MUCH MORE. WE STAND BY THEIR EFFORTS AND DEEPLY BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF THE ARTS TO CREATE CHANGE.

Wendy Whelan speaks about the challenge of aging gracefully in the dance world in the documentary, *Restless Creature*.

www.vogue.com/article/wendy-whelan-restless-creature-documentary-ballet

For more information about aging in the dance world, consider dancer/writer Wendy Perron's article *Aging Dancers: An Alternate Vision*.

wendyperron.com/aging-dancers-an-alternate-vision/

YOUR CURIOSITY IS AN INDICATION OF YOUR CONCERN AND WE APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTFUL CONSIDERATION. WE HOPE YOU MAY BE MOVED TO *do good by doing* SOMETHING, TOO.

Artists lead complicated lives. They collect material for new work, they often teach and engage with community groups and they are always developing their craft.

In **SIDE NOTES**, we are providing good reads and fun facts to give you a sense of who our visiting artists are and what makes them do what they do. Contributing writers include students, faculty, staff and alumni from the extended Clarice family.



BRIAN BROOKS & WENDY WHELAN IN WORDS

BB: “When you make work in the studio with Wendy she has an unbelievable masterful sense of time, and it comes through her gesture, her impulse, her reaction... In making work with her I feel my sense of time has been stretched. I trust now in ways I didn’t trust before... the time and distance one can take to complete a movement—those decisions become the choreography.”

“The project seemed broader than what could be contained in one hour, so ‘Some of a Thousand Words’ became the title and started to really work for us because it seemed like the show would be some of things we could say and some of the things we wanted to say, and started to really make sense with our history.”

“The way she moves, she’s like the aria of an opera—that suspension, that lift, the way she holds a moment with her extension or her port de bras or her focus... Her urge to suspend, pause, elongate—I saw that integrated, and I feel it when collaborating with her.”

WW: “I’m finding myself working with very simple nouns: challenge, joy, excitement. They all go back to youth; they take me back to when I was a kid... Brian was one the first people I chose to work with [after thirty years at the New York City Ballet]... and to be given this new opportunity, this new life—actually, to be giving it to myself at this age—it was a renaissance, it revitalized me.”

“[Brooks’] sort of codependent choreography, where we are moving each other’s limbs around to make the dance, is nothing I’d ever done before collaborating with him.”

“The minute I got myself out of leotards, my body opened up: I didn’t feel so strict and tight and bound... I never expected you could change so much from the outside-in.”

“There’s a hierarchy in dance where ballet is the higher art and that’s the way a lot of people see it... I don’t know what to think or say about that.”

Excerpts taken from a mini-documentary on YouTube created by the Joyce Theater, as well as dancemagazine.com

FURTHER READING / VIEWING:

Perron, Wendy. *Through the Eyes of a Dancer: Selected Writings*. Middletown, Connecticut: Wesleyan University Press, 2013. CALL NUMBER: GV1599 .P47

Stahl, Jennifer. “Wendy Whalen has Reinvented Herself—And She Doesn’t Care What You Think About It.” *Dance Magazine*, May 6, 2017. <http://go.umd.edu/x5c>.

Saffire, Linda and Adam Schlesinger, dir. *Restless Creature*. New York, NY: Abramorama, 2016. Netflix, 2017.

“Wendy Whelan / Brian Brooks / Brooklyn Rider about their collaboration in *Some of a Thousand Words*,” by T.M. Rives and Laura Diffenderfer at the Joyce Theater, Dec. 22, 2016, <https://go.umd.edu/x5e>.

ABOUT THE ARTIST PARTNER PROGRAM

THE ARTIST PARTNER PROGRAM at The Clarice curates a multi-arts performance with regional, national and international artists and creative innovators program dedicated to creating performance and learning opportunities for students and our community through artist residencies workshops, master classes, K-12 student matinees and artistic exchange. We believe artists can be a catalyst for community change, leadership and empowerment.

As part of a major public research university, the Artist Partner Program is committed to the creation and investigation of new work and new ways of participating in the performing arts.

The Artist Partner Program has three primary missions:

- To supplement and extend the academic learning and investigation of the classroom for UMD students;
- To provide artistic and cultural opportunities as part of the UMD experience for students, faculty, staff, alumni and university friends;
- To enhance and develop the artistic and cultural ecology of the community that surrounds and supports the university.

Visit theclarice.umd.edu/app for more info.

ARTIST PARTNER PROGRAM STAFF

MARTIN WOLLESEN

Executive Director, The Clarice

BOBBY ASHER

Senior Associate Director

RICHARD SCERBO

Director, National Orchestral
Institute and Festival

MEGAN PAGADO WELLS

Associate Director

JANE HIRSHBERG

Assistant Director, Campus and
Community Engagement

YARINA CONNERS

Artistic Administrator

ANDREW GIZA

Artist Services Coordinator

AMANDA STAUB

Graduate Assistant

For the 2017-2018 season, The Clarice is proud to present several artists whose beliefs in social justice and the power of the human spirit inform the art they make. These powerful voices will speak about their work through a series of public events in a variety of formats. Designed to complement UMD's **Do Good** campus initiative to create a hub of activity for philanthropy, nonprofit management, public policy, social change and leadership; these events will educate, inspire and reinforce the importance of taking action to make a positive change in our society and in the world.

DO GOOD DIALOGUE
ARTMAKING AS AN ACTIONABLE TOOL

TUE, FEB 13 . 7PM
MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

In this Do Good Dialogue, wild Up founder Chris Rountree and UMD faculty from the College of Arts and Humanities host a public conversation, examining how artists create change in society. Rountree writes, "what a set of gargantuan tasks lays out before us. Many of us feel like our work couldn't possibly be enough to do what it needs to do...but I'm eager to talk about how it can and what we can do to make that happen."

DO GOOD DIALOGUE
TAKING ACTION:
UPSTANDING AND STANDING UP

WED, APR 4 . 7PM
MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

During this Do Good Dialogue, we discuss the 600 Highwaymen's unique way of making work, usually with a diverse body of performers, in what co-founder Abigail Browde describes as, "sculpting our animal instinct to look at each other."

DO GOOD DIALOGUE
NO PLACE TO HIDE: A CONVERSATION
ABOUT PRIVACY OR THE LACK THEREOF

WED, FEB 28 . 7PM
MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

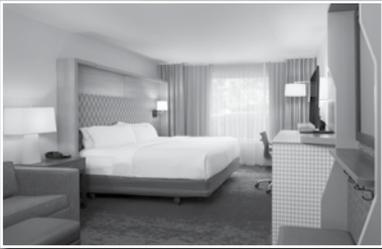
The Plurality of Privacy Project in Five-Minute Plays (P3M5) is a transatlantic theater project focused on the value of privacy. In cooperation with the Goethe-Institute Washington, theaters across the US and Europe have commissioned playwrights to write five-minute plays exploring the central question, "What does privacy mean to you in the digital age?" The results will be presented in different formats by a network of theaters, including The Clarice, between January 2017 and June 2018. In this dialogue, UMD faculty members will host a round-table conversation with three of the participating artist/playwrights.



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UPCOMING VISITING ARTIST SERIES PERFORMANCES

35TH ANNUAL CHOREOGRAPHERS' SHOWCASE

SAT, JAN 27 . 3PM & 8PM

The 35th annual showcase featuring an evening of works by new and established choreographers. Presented in partnership with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

GRUPO CORPO (BRAZIL) SUITE BRANCA / DANÇA SINFÔNICA

WED, JAN 31 . 8PM

An evening of hypnotic, athletic contemporary Brazilian dance, accompanied by original instrumental music by Samuel Rosa of the band Skank.

STEFAN JACKIW & JEREMY DENK WITH UMD SCHOOL OF MUSIC VOCAL QUARTET (USA)

CHARLES IVES VIOLIN AND PIANO SONATAS

THU, FEB 1 . 8PM

Two of America's most thought-provoking, multi-faceted and compelling classical chamber artists perform Charles Ives' complete sonatas for violin and piano.

ETIENNE CHARLES (TRINIDAD)

CREOLE SOUL

FRI, FEB 2 . 7PM & 9PM

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

Trumpeter and bandleader Etienne Charles ushers jazz into new territory in this buoyant performance embracing his Afro-Caribbean roots.

WILD UP (USA)

FRI, FEB 16 . 8PM

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

This modern music collective committed to creating visceral, thought-provoking happenings, believes that great ideas, empowered by art, are capable of affecting great social change.

KYLE ABRAHAM/ABRAHAM.IN.MOTION (USA)

DEAREST HOME

FRI & SAT, FEB 23 & 24 . 8PM

An interactive theatre performance focused on loving, longing and loss. Experience the show in silence, or don headphones to layer on a rich soundscape.

ST. LAWRENCE STRING QUARTET (CANADA)

THU, MAR 1 . 8PM

This world-class chamber ensemble brings every piece of music to the audience in vivid color.

PRIVACY PROJECT (INTERNATIONAL)

FRI & SAT, MAR 2 & 3 . 8PM

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

This groundbreaking theater project created by the Goethe-Institut Washington, features five-minute plays exploring the question, "What does privacy mean to you in the digital age?"

LINDA MAY HAN OH GRP (MALAYSIA/AUSTRALIA/USA)

THU, MARCH 8 . 7PM & 9PM

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

Though the bass rarely takes center stage, in this jazz performance, Linda Oh showcases the instrument's funky, soulful potential.

CYRO BAPTISTA & BANQUET OF THE SPIRITS (BRAZIL)

FRI, MAR 16 . 8PM

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

A wild, unstoppable world beat percussive band featuring international musicians and spontaneous dance breaks!

RENÉ MARIE (USA)

EXPERIMENT IN TRUTH

THU, MAR 29 . 7PM & 9PM

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

This GRAMMY-nominated vocalist borrows various elements of folk, R&B and even classical and country to create a captivating style uniquely her own.

MILKBOY

ARTHOUSE

VENUE | ART | KITCHEN | BAR

A neighborhood gathering place for refined comfort food, craft beverages and eclectic performances. A partnership between The Clarice at UMD + MilkBoy of Philadelphia.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

December 11
BOHEMIAN CAVERNS
JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Some of DC's best perform jazz & big band

January 20
BOAT HOUSE ROW: THE PREMIER
YACHT ROCK EXPERIENCE

Prepare to be rocked...lightly

February 2
ETIENNE CHARLES (TRINIDAD)

Buoyant Afro-Caribbean influenced Jazz

February 16
WILD UP (USA)

An LA-based experimental modern-classical music collective

March 2 & 3
PRIVACY PROJECT (PARTS 1&2)

Groundbreaking transatlantic theater project focused on the value of privacy

March 8
LINDA MAY HAN OH GRP

The undeniable beating heart of the jazz combo, the bass takes center stage

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APP Visiting Artists Third Coast Percussion engage with K-12 students during a special matinee performance.



NURTURE THE FUTURE OF THE ARTS

We believe artists can be catalysts for community change, leadership and empowerment.

This season, our Visiting Artists will:

- CREATE opportunities for young audiences to experience live performances and creative conversations through the K-12 School Partner Program
- ENHANCE our understanding of the world through Do Good Dialogues, exploring social justice and the ways the human spirit informs art
- SUPPORT creation and development of new work by UMD students through master classes, coaching and performances of their work by visiting artists
- ENGAGE students through intimate, unplugged performances in residence halls throughout the year, creating connections through art, food, and shared experiences

Immerse yourself in a world of artistic discovery with our 2017-2018 visiting artists and strengthen the future of the arts by making your gift today.

To support the Visiting Artist Series visit theclarice.umd.edu/make-gift. Or call 301.405.4517.

THE CLARICE