

## WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome you to the Salem Dance Ensemble Spring 2023 Concert! You will experience original choreography created by faculty, students and our esteemed guest choreographer in residence, DeAnna Pellechia, as well as a debut performance by the Salem Hip Hop Dance Ensemble, which features current students, alumni and community members, and is directed by dance faculty member Joanne Caidor.

In this concert, we invite you both to witness and to engage with live performance that deals with a broad array of subject matter. You'll see works that represent a range of dance styles and choreographic approaches. As artists, we attempt to push our own boundaries: we investigate the edge of physical possibility, we search for original paradigms, and we sometimes delve into the depths of difficult emotion and memory. We invite you to come along with us on our journey.

The semester was full of deep learning from a number of guest artists who visited our campus and inspired the community. In January, we hosted our second International Dance Film Festival, featuring 12 films selected from among over 800 submissions from around the world. Our community enjoyed masterclasses led by artists including Gregory Coles (West African), Soumya Rajaram (Bharatanatyam classical Indian Dance), Noa Barankin (Tap and percussive dance), Colleen Ndemeh Fitzgerald (Contemporary Dance), and an informal performance and masterclass by Marin Day and Lindsey Jennings. DeAnna Pellechia, Artistic Director of Boston's KAIROS Dance Theater, worked with an ensemble of dance majors throughout the semester, re-setting an excerpt from the company's repertory, which you will have the opportunity to see in this performance.

In March, dance students and faculty attended the American College Dance Association (ACDA) Northeast regional conference at Montclair State University, where we attended masterclasses, performances, film screenings, and feedback sessions. Dance major Sarah Soares' (they/them), solo dance work, *Petri Dish*, was selected for performance at ACDA's 2023 National Conference, held at California State University, Long Beach in May. Sarah's solo was adjudicated by a panel of internationally-renowned dance artists and was selected from works by students, faculty, and guest artists from 31 participating colleges and universities in New England and Northeast regions. This is the first time in the SSU dance program's history that a piece has been selected for this tremendous recognition. Additional works and screen dances were presented by students Jack Caravallo and Kaija Schram, Arianna Cavallaro, Aiden Jones, and Austin Guin; and dance faculty Meghan McLyman and Betsy Miller, in informal showings throughout the conference.

We thank you for joining us for this concert and welcome you to share your thoughts and experiences with us afterwards! If you enjoyed the evening, consider a monetary donation to the CCPA dance program. More information can be found here: <https://www.salemstate.edu/campus-life/arts/support-arts>.

Thank you for experiencing and supporting the arts!

Meghan McLyman, Dance Program Coordinator  
Betsy Miller, CCPA Dance Liaison

### **Dance Program Faculty**

Meghan McLyman, Professor of Dance / Dance Program Coordinator  
Betsy Miller, Associate Professor of Dance / CCPA Dance Liaison  
Audrey Albert King, Visiting Lecturer  
Joanne Caidor, Visiting Lecturer  
Ann-Marie Ciaraldi, Visiting Lecturer  
Michelle Deane, Visiting Lecturer

### **Technical Crew**

Lighting Designer: Stephen Petrilli  
Master Electrician: Violet Gayzagian  
Assistant Stage Managers: Vasia Fotopoulos, Savannah Kimber  
Sound: Kaija Schram, Sarah Soares  
Dance Program Associates: Vasia Fotopoulos, Aiden Jones, Savannah Kimber, Kaija Schram

Tremendous thanks to Stu Grieve, Jerry Johnson, Ashley O'Toole, Michael Harvey, and Karen Gahagan for their support, without which this production would not be possible.

### **Dance Program Associates**

#### **Program Notes**

##### *Contrast of Being*

Choreography, Performance and Video: Austin Guin  
Music: "Amandla's Interlude," by Steve Lacy and "Farewell, Angelina," by Joan Baez

##### *pushing limits*

Choreography and Performance: Magen Beaudet  
Music: "An Overwhelming Hope of Heartbreak" by Michael Wall

*...and then the weight of the world rolled off our shoulders...*

Choreography: Kassidie Thibodeau

Performance: Caroline Canty, Aiden Jones, Kassidie Thibodeau

Music: "Memory in Vivo Exposure, Pt 1 & 2" by Tomaga

*The Translator*

Choreography and Performance: Samantha Gurney

Music: "Atom 9" composed and performed by Sleeping at Last, "Audrey Hepburn French

Interview 1959" conducted by Selim Sasson, "Mauvaise journée" by Stromae, edited by

Samantha Gurney

*Gangsta Alley*

Choreography: Joanne Caidor

Performance: Rochellyne Altidor, Sydney Collazo, Kaisha Glass, Aquissana Gomes, Naomi Hall,

Kayleigh Sheehan, Nevaeh Scott

Music: "Tear Da Roof Off" by Busta Rhymes, "Ready" by B.O.B ft. Future, "Island," by Migos,

"Dat Raw" by Lil Tigt Eyez Kage 5 rnd 2

*Please be advised that this music contains adult language.*

*your empty side of the bed*

Choreography and Performance: Aiden Jones

Music: "Cigarettes out the Window" by TV Girl

-Intermission-

*Better Put a Spring in Your Step*

Choreography: Betsy Miller and cast

Performance: Faith Bockover, Shakeenah Dautruche, Skyler DeLacy, Morgan Doyle, Danny

Flores-Arroyave, Margaret Gould, Zachary Graves, Samantha Gurney, Abigail Keefe, Yanwen Liu,

Skylar Longley, Ryan McCarthy, Alandra Rich, Maya Sereno, Carmen Serrato

Music: "Dirt" by Penguin Café Orchestra

*Which Road?*

Choreography and Performance: Arianna Cavallaro

Music: "This Road I Know" by Zach Bryan

*Seagulls & Phoenixes (excerpt)*

Conceived, Directed & Choreographed by DeAnna Pellecchia

Performance: Magen Beudet, Austin Guin, Aiden Jones, Kaija Schram, Kassidie Thibodeau,

Mackenzie Trainor

Music: DJ Fraction (used with permission)

*Seagulls & Phoenixes (excerpt)* was created as part of KAIROS Dance Theater's Ministry of Femme Project, a collection of multimedia contemporary dance performances exploring the feminine experience, the spectrum of gender, and the resilience of survivors.

*Weighed-down to Weight-less*

Choreography and Performance: Amber Palmer

Music: "undone- piano reworks" by Ólafur Arnalds and Magnus Jóhann

*A Tap Dance*

Choreography and Performance: Kaija Schram

Music: "Such a Night," Michael Buble

*Bohemian Rhapsody*

Choreography: Vasia Fotopoulos and Savannah Kimber

Performance: Jerelys Canales, Eliza Crook, Vasia Fotopoulos, Savannah Kimber, Jackie Lynch, Amber Palmer, Gianna Sacco

Music: "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen

## **BIOS**

### **Faculty and Guest Artist Bios**

**Joanne Caidor** (Visiting Lecturer in Dance) focuses on making you feel good while doing good. Her education and training comes from Dean College and the University of Massachusetts Boston, where she studied Dance and Business Management. Throughout life, Joanne has been a part of cabarets, musicals, step teams, and many more. Her credits involve Jean Appolon Expressions (a Haitian contemporary), and Street Hype (a hip hop company). Currently, she is the director of Afmohip, a hip hop, African, and modern company. She is also the lead in a Haitian folklore dance troupe known as Arc-en-ciel, focusing in Afro Haitian/West African, hip hop, modern, tap and jazz. Joanne has been featured in movies and has performed for major venues such as the Embassy in Washington, DC, Annual Independence Gala in Boston, José Mateo Ballet Theatre Annual Dance for World Community Festival, Haitian Movie Awards, Boston City Hall, The Boston Contemporary Dance Festival at the Paramount Center in Boston, World of Dance, French Festival, Prelude Dance, Performing Arts Festival, Boston University Theater, Annual Haitian Fund Conference, *Hairspray* the musical, and many more.

**Betsy Miller** (Associate Professor of Dance) is a dance artist, educator, and facilitator based in Salem, MA. Her choreography blends improvisational practice, ritual, athleticism, and theatricality through collaborative practices, and has been presented extensively in New York, Ohio, Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Iowa, Nevada, New Jersey, and Texas. She has performed with Lostwax Multimedia Dance and Fusionworks, and has recently appeared in works by Kathleen Hermesdorf, Heidi Henderson, Rose Pasquarello Beauchamp, Audrey MacLean and Rachel Boggia, and in collaborations with Matthew Cumbie, Lida Winfield, and Shawn Hove. She has recently presented at the International Association for Dance

Medicine Science (Helsinki, Finland), Dance Studies Association (Vancouver, Canada), National Dance Education Association (Miami, FL), and TEDxSalemStateUniversity. Miller was a 2017 Bates Dance Festival Emerging Artist, a 2016 Rhode Island State Council on the Arts Choreography Fellow, and a 2019 Next Steps for Boston Dance Awardee. She has received support from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, New England Foundation for the Arts, Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Somerville Arts Council, The City of Salem, Gloucester Cultural Council, The City of Providence Department of Art, Culture & Tourism, and The Ohio State University. Prior to coming to Salem State, Miller was on faculty at Providence College, Connecticut College, Dean College, and AS220 (Providence, RI). She holds an MFA in Dance from The Ohio State University and a BA in Dance from Connecticut College.

**DeAnna Pellecchia** (Guest Artist in Residence) is an artist, activist, feminist, dancer, choreographer, aerialist, equestrian, producer, director, mentor and educator who works collaboratively with visual artists, musicians, composers, and costume & set designers to create emotionally powerful, multi-sensory performances for the stage, site-specific landscapes and non-traditional public spaces that take audiences on a visceral journey. She has collaborated with Grammy-nominated musicians Dave Eggar, Joshua Pierce and Kenny Werner; NYC musician, composer Johnny Reinhard; Mexican fashion designer Carla Fernández; and internationally acclaimed visual artist Shinique Smith. Over the past 23 years, DeAnna has established herself as one of Boston's most prominent dance-makers, creating and performing critically acclaimed dance works which have toured locally, nationally and internationally. She has danced with horses, in trees, on stilts, underwater and through air; been featured in movies, operas, plays, fashion shows, books, magazines, and music videos; and toured throughout India, Russia and France. As Artistic Director/Choreographer of KAIROS Dance Theater, her work has been presented by Charles Playhouse/Broadway Across America, Jazz at Lincoln Center (NYC), Institute of Contemporary Art Boston, The Gardner Museum, Compass Theater (Russia), Busan Biennale (Korea), and ZOU Arts Festival (France), among others. Her work has been funded by Boston Cultural Council, Massachusetts Cultural Council, New England Foundation for the Arts, and The Boston Foundation, among others. DeAnna has been a principal dancer with Paula Josa-Jones / Performance Works, ANIKAYA Dance Theater, Kinodance Company, Nicola Hawkins Dance Company, and Anna Myer & Dancers; and has performed as a guest artist with choreographers Elaine Summers, Ann Carlson, and Heidi Latsky. Ms. Pellecchia received a B.A. in Dance / Performance from Roger Williams University. She has taught at Boston Ballet, Boston Conservatory, India's National School of Drama, and Russia's Evolution Dance Project, among others. Currently, she resides on dance faculty at Boston University and New England Conservatory. [deannapellecchia.com](http://deannapellecchia.com) / [kairosdancetheater.org](http://kairosdancetheater.org)

**Stephen Petrilli** (Lighting Designer) has designed several shows for Salem State Dance. He has also designed for Anikaya Dance Theatre, Island Moving Company, Prometheus Dance, Zoe Dance, Doppelganger Dance Collective, A+B, Pilobolus Dance Theatre and Ailey II. In the theatre world, he has worked with Theatre Workshop of Nantucket, The Hanover Theatre, Provincetown Theater, Gloucester Stage, Bridge Rep of Boston, Arlekin Players' Theatre,

Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater, The Pearl Theatre Company, NAATCo and The Three Rivers Shakespeare Festival in his hometown of Pittsburgh. [stephen-petrilli-lighting.com](http://stephen-petrilli-lighting.com)

### **Student Choreographer Bios**

**Magen Beaudet** is a dancer and choreographer based in Melrose, Massachusetts and is a current Junior at Salem State. She is a double major in Dance and Psychology and hopes to use her studies to become a dance therapist for children. Magen has been dancing for nineteen years and has taken classes in many styles of dance. This is Magen's second time choreographing for Salem Dance Ensemble and the first showcase of her solo work.

**Arianna Cavallaro** is from Merrimac, Massachusetts. She is a Junior at Salem State with a double major in Geological Science and Dance. She has been dancing for 18 years in a variety of styles and competitive dance. Arianna has been choreographing for the past two years for Salem Dance Ensemble and Repertory Dance Theatre. Arianna's piece, *Which Road?* was performed this semester at American College Dance Association in New Jersey.

**Vasia Fotopoulos** is from Lynn, Ma and has been dancing for 16 years and has trained in many forms of dance. She is currently a senior and a double major in dance and criminal justice and is a two-time recipient of the Presidential Arts Scholarship. This is Vasia's fourth time choreographing for SDE.

**Austin Guin** (he/they) is a double major in dance and two dimensional art. This is Austin's second solo work at Salem State. His group works have been featured in *Dances in the Raw*, previous spring concerts, and in the Repertory Dance Theatre's concert. He pulls inspiration from his notable education at Dance It Up!, located in Grafton, MA, the Bates Dance Festival, and from his professors here at Salem State!

Born and raised in East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, **Samantha Gurney** is a dancer, choreographer, and creator. She has studied various styles of dance from artists Betsy Miller, Meghan McLyman, Michelle Deane, Ann-Marie Ciraldi, and the late Julie-Ann Mack, among others. Sam has choreographed for the Salem Dance Ensemble and Repertory Dance Theatre at Salem State University, and the Community Life Center of Salem. She is a senior finishing her BA in Dance and World Languages and Cultures - French, and a Certificate in Translation. Sam hopes to choreograph and teach English in France after she graduates.

**Aiden Jones (he/they)** is attending his sophomore year at Salem State University with a double major in Elementary Education and Dance, and is enrolled in the Elementary Education 4+1 program. A lifelong dancer, they are ecstatic to have their work shown on the Salem Dance Ensemble stage for the first time!

**Savannah Kimber** is originally from Lynn, MA, and is a senior at Salem State University. Savannah is a double major in Psychology and Dance with concentrations in Hip-Hop and Applied Behavior Analysis, and is a two-time recipient of the Presidential Arts Scholarship. She

has been dancing for 18 years and this is her fourth time choreographing for Salem Dance Ensemble.

**Amber Palmer** is from Salem, Massachusetts and is attending her senior year at Salem State University. She is a double major in both Exercise Science and Dance and is also a member of the Honors program. She has choreographed many dances for herself and her students at A Performing Arts Academy. *Weighed-down to Weight-less* has challenged her to go beyond her comfort zone, and she's excited to perform this piece.

**Kaija Schram** is a junior double majoring in Dance and Social Work, with a two-dimensional art minor. Dancing since age two, Kaija has recently explored the dance world in a non-academic setting and hopes to continue her exploration this summer by attending a workshop led by dance artists Angie Hauser and Bebe Miller. This is Kaija's third solo work to be presented at Salem State and she has had group works performed in Repertory Dance Theatre. Kaija recently performed a duet, co-choreographed with fellow dancer and close friend Jack Caravallo, at the American College Dance Association Northeast conference.

**Kassidie Thibodeau** is a dancer and choreographer from Methuen, Massachusetts. She is a senior at Salem State University preparing to graduate with a BA in Dance. Growing up, she explored many styles of dance but in early high school found love for ballet. In college she fell in love with modern dance, enjoying the styles of modern dance pioneers like Martha Graham, Doris Humphrey, and others. In 2022, she performed at the American College Dance Association regional conference in a piece choreographed by recent Salem State graduate Erin Hanafin. Performing in Salem Dance Ensemble guest artist Maree ReMalia's piece in Spring 2022, Kassidie gained inspiration to explore using large improvisational portions in her work.