



proudly presents:

EMERGING CHOREOGRAPHERS SHOWCASE & AWARDS



June 2nd. 2024

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San Diego Dance Theater acknowledges that our company and performances occur on the unceded territory of the Kumeyaay Nation. This land acknowledgement is a starting point of much needed awareness and action. Kumeyaay means "those who face the water from a cliff." We honor those who have come before us.

Emerging Choreographers Biographies

Emily Deskin is a professional dancer, artist, and student at SDSU. She started dancing at a young age, and she has a background in ballet, tap, jazz, and hip hop. Since starting college, she has begun to focus her artistic energy into forms such as contact improvisation and low-fly, which is a form of vertical dance. In recent years, she has gone on to collaborate and begin a research project with peer Julia Elbert. Their research on different forms of touch and how it's perceived through the lenses of desire and desperation have manifested in the form of a duet.

Julia Elbert started competitively dancing at an early age. While doing so she received training in many different styles, such as ballet, jazz, tap, acrobatics, and hip-hop. Currently, she is in her third year at San Diego State University where she studies Dance and Public Relations. While at SDSU she has focused on honing her abilities in Contact Improv and vertical techniques with an emphasis on Lowfly. She recently started presenting her work and research on touch with her research partner Emily Deskin.

Natalie Koski-Karell, the lead investigator and primary choreographer of this piece, The Ouroboros Collaborative is a multidisciplinary production platform for visions, creations, and offerings, devised by its - Natalie's inspiration comes to her at random (though she has tried channeling once or twice), so all she does it walk around and listen.

Eliana (Elle) Krasner is a San Diego native who puts her mind and body to work exploring the ways that dance informs the complexities of her own identity and her lifestyle of questioning. She began her training at Step in Step Dance studio and continued through graduation at the San Diego School of Performing Arts. In 2022, she received her BFA in Dance from The Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University under the direction of danah bella. Between Peabody and SCPA, she has worked with world renowned artists including Kyle Abraham, Danielle Agami, Yin Yue, Marjani Saunders, Tessandra Chavez, and Hope Boykin to name a few. Post-graduation, Eliana has been seeking any opportunity to perform or create, in between working as a teaching artist in underserved elementary schools. She's looking forward to beginning a Masters program and teaching credential program at San Diego State this upcoming fall. See more at elianarosedance.com and @elianarosedance on Instagram!

Lauren Lee (she/her) is a movement artist and dance maker in her senior year at UC San Diego. She will graduate in June 2024 with a B.S. in Public Health and a minor in Dance. Growing up in Singapore, Lauren discovered her love for movement through modern and contemporary forms. She has since supplemented her training through intensive programs with A.I.M by Kyle Abraham and at the American Dance Festival. Lauren is passionate about using movement as a mode of advocacy and community building; she strives to create work that explores authentic narratives and celebrates our common humanity.

Patrick Li (he/him) is a human who loves dance. He recently graduated from UCSD with a dance BA and a biology BS, accompanied by the Theatre & Dance Undergraduate Scholarship Award. His movement practice showcases a commitment to pushing the boundaries between technology and dance, navigating the grey area that exists between the two realms. Growing up and training abroad, he observed the distinctions among individuals. However, rooted in his firm belief that people share more similarities than disparities, he embraces dance as a potent art form. Patrick envisions to unite people across diverse backgrounds through the universal language of dance.

Ranier Martinez uses he/they pronouns and is a dancer, choreographer, and dance teacher. Ranier has been dancing since he was a child; going from learning dance through after school programs to taking his first ballet classes at Grossmont College to teaching children for San Diego Dance Theater as well as at Creative Dance Theatre. Ranier has experience in multiple styles of dance and has danced mainly in San Diego, most recently choreographing and performing for The Thoughtful Beasts' Motions & Emotions, performing alongside Alexa Lopez for Live Arts Fest, and dancing for Erin Kracht for last year's ECSA. Ranier would love to make dance that would mix with other various forms of medium (art, film, etc.) in order to create contemporary works of art that have been inspired from his own past experiences while intertwining experiences from future collaborations.

Nick McGhee began his dance training at the age of fifteen at Canyon Crest Academy in San Diego, California. He continued his education at Mira Costa College before obtaining his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance from California State University, Long Beach. During his undergraduate studies, Nick had the distinguished opportunity to perform under the direction of renowned choreographers such as Keith Johnson, Kevin Williamson, and Micaela Taylor. Nick is currently a member of LITVAKdance, a company based in Encinitas, California, directed by Sadie Weinberg, and has also recently joined the Malashock Dance Company. His professional collaborations include work with notable choreographers such as Josh Manculich, Ronen Izhaki, Chuck Wilt, Rebecca Margolick, and Ido Gidron. Nick's performance credits include appearances at prestigious venues and festivals, including the Barclay Theatre in Irvine, California, the CDC Festival in Orlando, Florida, and the Seattle International Dance Festival.

Tanz Tanz Revolution is a collective made up of four artists; Anna, Eva, Emily, and Julian. All from different training backgrounds they came together after meeting in Los Angeles. They have recently completed and performed in a choreographic residency under Volta x Hoover Haus. Julian Grubman graduated from SUNY Purchase in 2023 under the direction of Nelly Van Bommel. Eva Silverton is a Biracial American with movement experience in ballet, jazz and GYROKINESIS®. **Emily O'Rourke** grew up in Burbank, California and went to UCLA where she has trained in release technique and floor work. Anna Kazwell is a dancer/creator and is a recent graduate of the University of Utah.

Jayden Pagsoligan, from Newark, CA, found his passion for dance through the 700 breaking club at Newark Memorial High School. From then on, he began training in choreography at various studios in the Bay Area, started teaching, and joined a community dance team called Snackpack. Currently, he attends SDSU and is on Culture Shock San Diego. With a passion for storytelling through dance, Jayden is dedicated to crafting stories that reflect his life experiences and perfecting his artistry.

The Place I Look When I'm Thinking

****Flash Warning****

Choreographer: Nick McGhee

Music: Trance #2 by Angus MacLise, Tony Conrad, John Cale, Ploosh by Someone Else, Echo Sax End Caleb Arredondo

Dancers: Ashley Akhavan, Jacquleen Schweighardt, Micah Parra, Odessa Uno

What brings us back to the present moment? What makes us drift away? Where do we wish to be?

Here with you

Choreographer: Emily Deskin

Music: Happiness - 2019 Remaster: Jónsi and Alex Somers

Dancers: Emily Deskin and Julia Elbert

Epekto

Choreographer: Ranier Martinez

Music: Goodbye to a World- Porter Robinson

Dancers: Ranier Martinez

System Error Code 405

Flash Warning

Choreographer: Emily O'Rourke

Music: Cognitive Modules Party II by AGF, Permanent Mute by Helm, U_01-2-0 by alva noto, Drumming - Four Tet Remix by Steve Reich

Dancers: Julian Grubman, Anna Kazwell, Emily O'Rourke, Eva Silverton

A special thank you to MNR.

...as the wind...

Choreographer: Eliana Krasner

Music: Statue of a Woman by Novo Amor and “i remember...” by Scott Li

Dancers: Chase Benjamin (dancer, collaborator, and sound mixer), Eliana Krasner

“Absence diminishes small loves and increases great ones, as the wind blows out the candle and fans the bonfire.” -La

Rochefoucauld

Petrified

Flash Warning

Choreographer: Jayden Pagsolingan

Music: Petrified (Live at NPR's Tiny Desk) by Omar Apollo

Dancers: Jayden Pagsolingan

(we)ave

Flash Warning

Choreographer: Patrick Li & Lauren Lee

Music: No Man's Land (Piano Trio No. 1) by Ezio Bosso

Dancers: Patrick Li & Lauren Lee

As we carve out our own corner of the universe, how do we weave in and out of each other's lives and make an impact through the legacies that we leave behind?

Palindrome, or, WHY ARE WE SHOUTING AT EACH OTHER

Choreographer: Natalie Koski-Karell/ The Ouroboros Collaborative

Music: "Alone in Kyoto" - Air; "Fantino" - Sebastien Tellier; "City Girl" - Kevin Shields

Dancers: Tess Collins, Meesh Herd, Yarrow Severn, Natalie Koski-Karell, Zack Stillwater

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