



NEW ORIGINAL WORKS FESTIVAL 2022

LINDSEY RED-TAIL, X'ENE SKY, ACHINTA S. MCDANIEL

AUGUST 18 - 20, 2022

8:30pm

presented by

REDCAT

Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater

California Institute of the Arts

CaLARTS

We gratefully acknowledge that we operate on the traditional lands of the Tongva, Tataviam, and Chumash peoples—including the Gabrieleño, Fernandeño, and Ventureño; members of the Takic and Chumashan language families; and other Indigenous peoples who made their homes in and around the area we now call Los Angeles. We honor their ancestors past, present, and future, and recognize their continued existence and contributions to our society.

NEW ORIGINAL WORKS FESTIVAL 2022

LINDSEY RED-TAIL: YOU CAN VISION WITH THEM

Directed by Lindsey Red-tail

Choreographed and Performed by Lindsey Red-tail, Vanessa Neva, Tallulah Aujay, Aminah Jackson
Moon Medicine Songs by Abuela Malinalli ("Unidas Por Pluams," "Amanecer,"

"Hubo Un Tiempo"); Marisa Reyes ("Hubo Un Tiempo (cover)"); Stellamara ("Leda");

José González ("Slow Moves"); Marry Lattimore and Meg Baird ("Between Two Worlds")

Costume Design by Terry Lollie

Lighting Design by Chu-Hsuan Chang

Thank You to my family and friends for their love and support, to Ancestor of Wind and the Red-tail Hawks and to Abuela Malinalli for her medicine songs

Conjuring both seen and unseen forces of nature, Red-tail's You can vision with Them ensemble dance work explores the journey to finding well water. Inspired by the story of an ancestor who received visions through the wind, this work is a call to be present with nature and those who have lived here before us. In this piece Red-tail dedicates Indigenous-Mexican and Cherokee songs to her ancestors, acknowledging the healing power of grief, love and strength in their language that still lives today.

Lindsey Red-tail is a dancer and choreographer from Altadena California, located on Tongva land, home of the Gabrielino Tongva people. Daughter to Teresa and Gerard Lollie, Lindsey grew up in a home of eclectic world music with Indigenous-Mexican, Cherokee and African-American roots. Lindsey found refuge in dance at Calarts and continues training in house, Chicago footwork, and yoga. While making dances over the last decade Lindsey toured with szalt dance co., taught at Renaissance Arts Academy and staged pieces with the LA Contemporary Dance Company, Cal State LA and Scripps College. She is a recipient of the R+D Residency and ACCELERATOR Program through LA Performance Practice.

Vanessa Neva is the Artistic Director/Founder of PiYoDa Flow. Her life mission is to bring people together, keep CULTURE alive, and benefit the mind/body/spirit. Our global community needs more cultural understanding from each other; teaching one another in order to be open to the world and its various communities is imperative. When not in the studio, you can find me gardening, making all kinds of DIY projects and enjoying the beach with my family.

Aminah Jackson is an Afro-Latin, LA native with a dance foundation in West African traditional dance and Mexican Folklorico. She received her formal dance training from the Debbie Allen Dance Academy, The Ailey School Summer Program and Howard University. She has interned with Ronald K. Brown EVIDENCE Dance Company (Brooklyn, NY) during and post college. She toured with CONTRA-TIEMPO Urban Latin Dance Theatre (Los Angeles, CA) 2017-2018. Aminah is a dancer for "Ocandeniye Dance Company", an AfroCuban performance ensemble.

Tallulah Aujay is a French performance artist who got her start as a child doing dance, music and theater. Her movement background is primarily in Hip Hop. After taking a break from dance to focus on other mediums such as singing and painting, she is now returning to performance, training in House dance for the past three years. Her teachers include Toyin Sogunro and Rickysoul and she recently performed in a short dance film with producer Michael Acevedo. Tallulah just got accepted to the internationally acclaimed street dance school, Juste Debout School in Paris and will begin training in October.

— INTERMISSION —

X'ENE SKY: VENGEANCE

Composed by X'ene Sky

Performed by Nailah Hunter, Greg Paul, Yafeu Tyhimba, X'ene Sky

Set and Landscaping Design by Kristen Edmond

Lighting Design by Chu-Hsuan Chang

Music and performance artist X'ene Sky's new musical work Vengeance explores the connectivity between inheritance, state violence, and the way vengeance manifests itself in all parts of our being. Conceptualized in the summer of 2020, while under lockdown in Los Angeles amidst the noise of parrots in her backyard—an invasive species that began to push out the native birds—and the constant helicopters and police surveillance above and on the ground of her neighborhood, this work is inspired by texts from Angela Davis and Toni Morrison, where themes of flying, surveillance, and surrender permeate.

X'ene Sky is a pianist, vocalist and composer. She is a product of migratory patterns of black americans: born in Venice Beach, LA; raised in Inglewood and Houston, Texas with ancestral roots in Brooklyn, New York; Americus and Crawfordville, Georgia. Her art is an extension of her spiritual practice and situates itself in the legacies of enslaved Africans, hoodoo and queer/gender minorities. X'ene's music features rhythmic, vocal and instrumental repetition as a way to access trance-like states that move us beyond who we are outside of our name, class and education.

Greg Paul is a Buffalo raised drummer, composer and band leader based in Los Angeles, CA. He is a graduate of the USC Jazz studies Masters program and currently tours the world with artist like Kamaal Williams (Henry Wu), China Moses and Mark de Clive-Lowe. Greg is also heavily involved in LA's recording community, playing on records for Gary Bartz, Roy Ayers, Joao Donato, Chronixx, Protoje, etc. Greg's primary focus is the Katalyst, a band of talented musicians, composers, producers and creatives that he established in 2014.

Nailah Hunter is a multi-instrumentalist and composer based in Los Angeles. Her music for harp, electronics and voice shimmers with spiritual radiance, full of magic, wonder and healing energies.

Bass player and Composer **Yafeu Tyhimba** moved to LA in 2015 to study jazz music at USC. He is now in his doctoral studies program and has played with several acclaimed musicians including Roy McCurdy, Paul Jackson Jr, Patrice Rushen, Patrick Gandy, and Faye Carol.

— BRIEF PAUSE —

ACHINTA S. MCDANIEL: *RESTLESS AUTUMN. RESTLESS SPRING*

Artistic Director: Achinta S. McDaniel

Choreographed by Achinta S. McDaniel and Dancers

Assitant Choreographer: Jon Paul

Performed by Bella Allen, Jackie Buckmaster-Wright, Emily Carr, Alisa Carreras, Chelsea Correa, Shea Hancock, Shreya Patel, Alondra Perez, Hayden Rivas

Songs by Sheila Chandra ("Speaking in Tongues I," "Speaking in Tongues II," "Speaking in Tongues III," "Speaking in Tongues IV")

Lighting Design by Brandon Baruch

Special Thanks to Arjun Kochhar for a fierce score phrase, and to Earl for his sound advice

Utilizing improvisation and collaboration to foreground process, Achinta S. McDaniel and the ensemble strip away production to explore the impact of movement alone in Restless autumn. restless spring. Relying on chance, performers revisit contemporary dance, revealing the multiplicity of intersectional global majority identities, seemingly incongruous to a basic dance score. Largely a response to the isolation and separation of the pandemic, Restless autumn. restless spring. is a return to collaboration and a rediscovery of what it means for artists to unite in a space to reflect on shared experiences and create work together.

Achinta S. McDaniel's work lives at the intersection of diaspora and disruption and traverses commercial, concert, and community engagements that challenge monolithic expectations of Indianness. Most recently, USC's Gloria Kaufman School of Dance commissioned her new work, *1947*, which she set on 44 dancers for world premiere at the Wallis Annenberg Center in April. McDaniel is the Founding Artistic Director of Blue13 Dance Company, whose critically acclaimed world premiere of *Terpsichore in Ghungroos* was also presented by the Wallis in 2020. McDaniel was a 2021 NEFA National Dance Project finalist, and recently choreographed on Fox TV's *So You Think You Can Dance*, and for AR Rahman at the Hollywood Bowl. McDaniel is passionate about audience engagement and approaches all aspects of her work with her ABIDE (Access, Belonging, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity) principle. Her first foray into film was *Firebrand Sway*, official selection of the San Francisco Dance Film Festival. Keep in touch with her @achintablue13 and with the dancers @blue13dance.

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Lighting Programmer: Shannon Barondeau

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