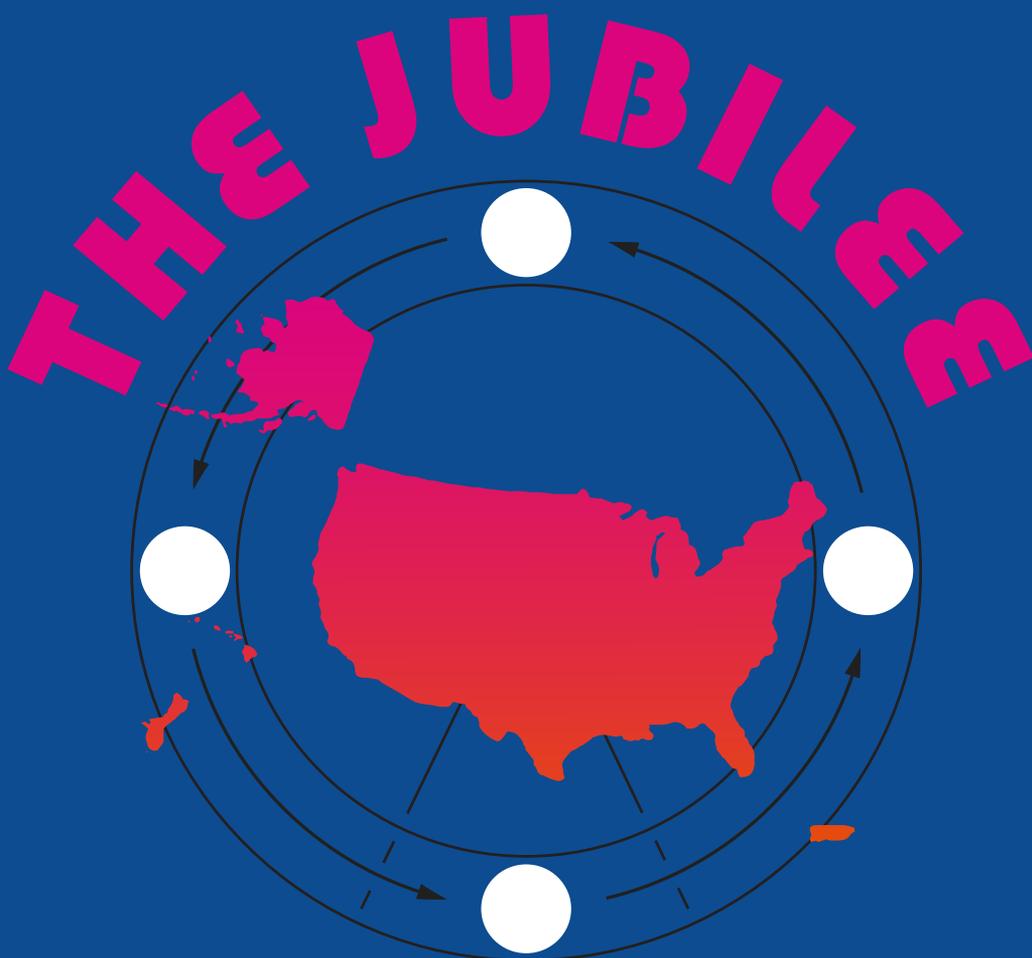


# SENIOR *5x5* DANCE SHOWCASE



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**MEMPHIS**

Department of  
Theatre & Dance



The University of Memphis Department of Theatre & Dance joins theatres nationwide in Jubilee: A year-long celebration of performances generated by individuals that have been historically excluded from our country's stages.

Dear University of Memphis Community:

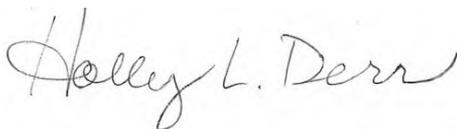
Welcome to the Department of Theatre and Dance's 2020 – 2021 Jubilee season! We are proud to join theaters nationwide in Jubilee, a celebration of historically excluded voices that examines previously marginalized perspectives and stories, and places as many of those voices as possible at the center of our programming.

In the midst of this celebration, we recognize that COVID-19 health precautions pose unprecedented challenges to nearly every aspect of our lives, including our ability to create performances and share them the way they are meant to be shared: Live! In a way, we are all test subjects in a grand experiment that asks, "How do humans behave when their ability to share space with other people—to even breathe the same air—is compromised?" Likewise, our season is an experiment: What happens when a performance has to travel not only across an orchestra to reach its audience, but also through cyberspace to your screen?

We believe that audiences watching these shows in separate spaces and times can still find and feel human connections, albeit in a different fashion from our previous norms and in-person customs. In addition to the shared experience of viewing a work of art, we are all living in an unprecedented moment in time. As such, we enter this performance with a more commonly shared frame of reference than any other time in modern history. Thus, it is fitting that we present this Jubilee season—showcasing diverse artistic points of view in a dramatic new fashion—while grounded together by a more shared humanity.

We invite you to join us in this Jubilee celebration with the same curiosity that these ingenious artists have. We hope that these performances resonate with you, wherever you are, and we hope that you, too, are keeping safe.

Holly L. Derr, Artistic Director

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Holly L. Derr".

Jacob Allen, Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacob Allen".

# 5x5:Senior Dance Concert

## Entanglement

Choreographer/Dancer: Charlye Murrell

Music Composers: Curtis Eugene Cross II, Guy Farley, George Georgia

## DIVERGENT

Choreographer: Victree Hayes

Dancer: Lauryn Adair

Music: *Let It Rain On Me* by James Pickering and Matthew Clark

## starting

Choreographer/Dancer: Ivy Wetherill

Composer: Michael Wall

Faculty advisor: Kristen Lukas

## Un[chain]ged

Choreographer/Dancer: Aiyanna LaRue

Music Composers: David Tobin, Jeff Meegan, Jason Pedder and Matt Nasir

## Lost Things

Choreographer/Dancer: Catherine Barkley

Music Composers: Paul Mottram, Oliver Ledbury, and Erik Satie

Lighting Designer: Jenni Propst

Sound Designer: Anthony Pellecchia

Costume Designer: Heather Duzan

# **DESIGN/PRODUCTION TEAM**

Scenic Designer: Brian Ruggaber

Lighting Designer: Jenni Propst

Sound Designer: Anthony Pellecchia

Costume Designer: Heather Duzan

Properties Artisan: Mollie West

Production Stage Manager: Corinne Fann

## **Stitchers**

Lauryn Adair, Marrissa Cherry, Taylor Edwards, Lydia Fisher, Avery Hall, Gabby Johnson, Takia Miller, NaTorius Ransom, Ja'Sha Triplett and Reagan Warwick

## **Lighting and Sound**

James R. Baker, Matthew Beecher and Natalina DeFusco with Emily Barron, Bryce Horton, Tevin Mabone, Kaylin Martin, Massai Twitty, Austin Wall and Dirk Wentz

## **Scenic and Props**

Paul Cartwright, Erica Causi, Aaron Chang, Natalie Ervolino, Moy Hinojos, Triston P. Pullen and Mollie West with Elizabeth Acton, Yasmin Aksel, Evelyn Day, Hattie Fann, Matthew Russell, Reagan Warwick, Raina Williams, Andrew Boone, Nicholas Davis, Oscar Garcia, Jesse Gomez, Mateo Rueda Calvo, Michael Sarabia, Amelia Scott and Joshua Waits

## **Publicity**

Angela Shultz with Jordan Cardell, Ashley Clinton, Lucas Dabney, Cameron Donlin, Pershon Harper, Rachel Liske, Bennett McCluskey, Michael Meitzier, Aly Milan, Nikki Monson, Lelan Odom, Zyunia Palmer, Taylor Roberts, Emily Seavet and Stephanie Shepard

## **Special Thanks**

R.P. Tracks and the UofM Student Activity Fund

## WHO IS WHO IN THE CAST AND CREW

**Lauryn Adair** (*Dancer*) (she/her) has been dancing since she was 4 years old. She is currently a freshman at the University of Memphis. Lauryn previously danced with Collage Dance Collective for 7 years performing in pieces such as **RISE**. I have had the opportunity to train with The NashvilleballetSI and Ailey Summer intensive.

**Catherine Barkley** (Choreographer) (she/her) is a recent graduate of the University in December 2020 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre with a concentration in dance. She is thrilled to be able to return to the University for one last send off as a senior in the production of **5x5**. Some of her previous credits at the University include **Lest We Forget**, **Falling/Up**, **Momentum**, and **New Voices**. She would like to thank all of her friends and family for their love and support over her college career. Catherine would also like to thank all of her dance professors for having such a huge impact on her artistic development as a dancer. To the cast, crew, and designers of **5x5**, she thanks you for all your hard work to create such a special show for the seniors.

**Heather Duzan** (*Costume Designer*) (she/her) is an MFA candidate with a concentration in costume design. This is her first design at the University of Memphis. Previously, she has served as Crafts Head for the University's fall 2020 productions of **Or**, and as the first hand on **Trouble in Mind**.

**Corinne Fann** (*Production Stage Manager*) (she/her) is a junior BFA major with a concentration in design and technical production and an emphasis in lighting and stage management. She has previously stage managed the U of M's production of **Or**, and worked actively as an electrician for most shows since her time here began. Corinne would like to thank the entire **5x5** team for working together to create an amazing show!

**Victree Hayes** (*Choreographer*) (she/her) is currently a senior at the University of Memphis who is graduating in May 2021. Getting a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre with a dance concentration and a minor in American Sign Language. Some of her past university credits include: **Momentum**, **New Voices**, and **Lest We Forget**. I want to thank my Mom and Dad for being so supportive in my dance journey throughout college. I want to so say thank you to all the professors at the University of Memphis for the long lasting lessons I have overcome and the wonderful support I have gotten in my years here. Special shoutout to Michael Medcalf and Jill Nee.

**Aiyanna LaRue** (*Choreographer/Dancer*) (she/her) is an University of Memphis alumni who graduated this past fall with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre with a dance concentration. She is grateful to her professors for the opportunity to create work for the production of **5x5**. As an undergrad, she performed in **New Voices**, **Falling Up**, **Momentum**, and **Lest We Forget**. Aiyanna would like to thank all of her professors for their constant support and countless opportunities. Special thanks to the cast, crew, designers, and choreographers for their contributions in creating a great show!

## WHO IS WHO IN THE CAST AND CREW

**Charlye Murrell** (*Choreographer/Dancer*) (she/her) is a soon to be graduate of University of Memphis in the Spring of 2021, graduating with a BFA in Theatre with a concentration in dance. During her dance journey at the university, she has performed in several pieces of the previous years' dance concerts. Charlye is very thankful and appreciative for her experience in the department over the years, through both the ups and downs. She would like to give a huge thank you to the department for continuing to push her toward bigger and better things contributing to her grow as an artist. Also, thank you to all of the dance and theatre department that had part in producing such an amazing performance environment. Seniors, it's our time!

**Anthony Pellecchia** (*Sound Designer*) (he/him), Associate Professor, MFA – 2009 - The Ohio State University. Anthony joined the University of Memphis Department of Theatre & Dance in 2015 as the BFA and MFA faculty in the areas of lighting and sound design, stage management and multimedia control systems. Anthony's creative scholarship explores the fusion of composition, automation, and projections with live performance. Anthony's professional and academic work in theatre, dance, and opera, has received awards and recognition from various organizations, including the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Region V, USITT, and USA Weekender.

**Jenni Propst** (*Lighting Designer*) (she/her) is an MFA candidate with a focus in lighting and sound design. Some of Jenni's professional lighting design credits include lighting for Dwight Rhoden's *Ballad Unto*, Sasha Janes' *Sketches from Grace*, and Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux's *Peter Pan*. She has designed for Charlotte Ballet, Charlotte Symphony Orchestra and the Chautauqua Ballet, among others. Her touring credits include international tours with Complexions Contemporary Ballet and Alonzo King LINES Ballet. Recently, she created the sound design for the University of Memphis' *Lest We Forget* and *The Women of Lockerbie*.

**Brian Ruggaber** (*Scenic Designer*) (he/him) is an award-winning Scenic Designer who is proud to be in his eighth-year with the University of Memphis. Currently, he heads the Department of Theatre & Dance's scenic design program and has designed scenery for over 140 productions including Opera, Drama, Musical Theatre, and Dance. His work has been seen in regional theatres, international festivals, and Off-Broadway. Prior to joining UofM's faculty, he was an Assistant Professor and Resident Scenic Designer for The University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) and an Associate Professor of Design at The University of North Carolina at Charlotte. His students have successful careers in theatre, film, television, and themed entertainment. He is a proud member of United Scenic Artists Local 829 and active member of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT). Brian has an MFA from The University of Massachusetts and BFA from Virginia Commonwealth University. In addition to design, Brian has worked extensively in entertainment production and has built, propped, and painted scenery for both commercial production shops and regional theatres.

## WHO IS WHO IN THE CAST AND CREW

**Mollie West** (*Properties Artisan*) (she/her) is in her first semester as a MFA candidate with a concentration in scenic design at University of Memphis. She recently graduated from The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) obtaining her BFA in Theatre Design and Technology. Mollie's worked with props teams for *Or*, at UofM; *Matilda*, *Leap Of Faith*, *HONK*, *Blood Brothers*, *Freaky Friday*, and many more at Stagedoor Manor, Loch Sheldrake, New York; *Around the World in 80 Days*, *Galileo*, *Trojan Barbie*, at USM in Hattiesburg, MS; As well as scenic design at USM in Spring 2019 with *Blues for An Alabama Sky*, directed by Amanda Washington. Other opportunities included assistant scenic design for *Cabaret* and *Peter and the Starcatcher*. [molliewest.wixsite.com/design](http://molliewest.wixsite.com/design)

**Ivy Wetherill** (*Choreographer/Dancer*) (she/her) will be graduating in may of 2021 with a BFA in Theatre with a concentration in dance. She is excited to be taking the stage one last time with her senior class and wants to thank her fellow dancers for sharing these past four years with her. Some of her past university credits include: *Momentum*, *New Voices*, and *Lest We Forget*. You can also find her teaching modern dance and ballet at Beth Cross Center. Her biggest takeaway from her time at the University of Memphis has been to always be inquisitive and confident in what she has to offer. She would also would like to thank Jill, her mom and Jim Ed, and Bean for their constant support.

# **Theatre and Dance 2021-2022 Season** **Welcome Home**

## **Ordinary Days**

By Adam Gwon  
September 22-25

## **R & J & Z**

By Melody Bates  
October 28-30 & November 4-6

## **From Me to You: A Dance Concert**

November 19-20

## **The Wolves**

By Sarah DeLappe  
February 2-5

## **A Bright Room Called Day**

By Tony Kushner  
February 24-26 & March 3-5

## **EMERGE: New Student Dance Works**

March 25-26

## **Pippin**

By Stephen Schwartz and Roger O. Hirson  
April 14-16 & 21-23