

# CSULB DANCE IN CONCERT

FALL 2022 | A FACULTY & GUEST ARTIST CONCERT



**Nov 16 at 8pm**

**Nov 17 at 8pm**—*Live Stream Available*

**Nov 18 at 8pm**

**Nov 19 at 2pm • 8pm**

Martha B. Knoebel Dance Theater

**CSULB  
DANCE**

CSULB • *College of the Arts*  
**Dance**

**50<sup>th</sup> ANN.**

# CSULB DANCE

# CSULB DANCE in concert

**presenting works by  
dance faculty** Tsiambwom Akuchu  
Lorin Johnson  
Rebecca Lemme  
Danzel Thompson-Stout  
Andrew Vaca

**and Guest Artist** Donna Uchizono

**Concert Director** Keith Johnson  
**Lighting Designer** Stacy Fireheart  
**Technical Director** Stephanie Losleben  
**Costume Director** Kelsey Vidic  
**Costume Technician** Erika Hansen  
**Music Director** Don Nichols  
**Video Director** Gregory R.R. Crosby

Nov 16 - 19, 2022  
Martha B. Knoebel Dance Theater

COLLEGE OF  
**THE ARTS**  
 CSULB

## A MESSAGE FROM CONCERT DIRECTOR KEITH JOHNSON



I'd like to welcome you to the CSULB Dance in Concert! As Concert Director, I am excited to showcase faculty choreographers who display their talents in various genres and forms of dance. Each dance is thought-provoking and inspired by the choreographer's personal aesthetics. Celebrating new voices, ideas, and inclusion is foundational in the philosophy of the Department of Dance, and I am proud that this concert represents those ideals.

We are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Department of Dance. As part of this celebration, we have invited Donna Uchizono, a Dance alum who received her BA in Dance in 1983, to be our Guest Artist. Donna Uchizono was recently distinguished by the New York Public Library as the first and only American-born choreographer of Asian ancestry in the history of modern dance to have received the recognition of both cumulative esteemed national awards and significant national and international touring of an eponymous dance company. Donna continues to be an active dance community member and supports new artistic voices through outreach and education programs. She has served as a mentor for Sugar Salon, DoublePlus at Gibney Dance Center, and currently through her own company's choreographic mentorship program, Shared Choreographic Practice. She founded the Artist Advisory Board at Danspace Project, initiated a panel series on issues in the Dance Field at Gibney, and served as a grant panelist for various funding institutions. I am thrilled she has returned to share her artistry and vision with us.

We would also like to acknowledge and remember Emeritus Professor Pat Finot, an educator and choreographer who was an integral part of the development and growth of the Department of Dance throughout her 27 years of service to California State University, Long Beach. We celebrate Pat's many contributions to CSULB Dance, in addition to her wit, humor, and killer fashion sense! We dedicate this concert to Pat.

Enjoy the show!

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Keith Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Keith Johnson, Concert Director

order of performance

# SPACE (premiere)

## DIRECTION & CHOREOGRAPHY

Danzel Thompson-Stout

## MUSIC

"Reflective Orbits" by Don Nichols

## SOUND DESIGN

Don Nichols &

Danzel Thompson-Stout

## COSTUME DESIGN

Kelsey Vidic

## MOVEMENT DEVELOPMENT & PERFORMANCE

Isabella Farris, Malani Harrell,

Domitila Nuñez, Joanne Olivo,

Shanti Topzand, Reanna Zoellers

*Special thanks to the people and communities that hold space for us to exist fully, work through our truths, hold us accountable, celebrate us, and see us as whole beings. We honor you. We cherish you.*

# Winter Hymn (2006)

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## CHOREOGRAPHY

Andrew Vaca

in collaboration with the dancers\*

## MUSIC

Original composition by Eric Ruskin;

“O’ Come All Ye Faithful”

composed by John Reading and

John Francis Wade,

performed by Nando Lauria

## COSTUME DESIGN

Liz Carpenter

## PERFORMERS

Cambria Anderson, Morgan Dragsbaek,

Isabella Mendoza, Madison Moura,

Topanga Scherf

*Winter Hymn is a hymn set in movement instead of words; a dance whose purpose is to bring healing. Originally a quartet danced by two sets of CSULB dancers, I am thrilled to premiere the five-dancer version in this concert, affectionately recreated and expanded by this stunning cast. Thank you to Kaitlyn Helms Wood for her many contributions, and my deepest appreciation to Liz and Eric and my phenomenal original cast (Erin B, Sam, Pysa, Andrea, Denice, Erin R, Abby, and Donica) for their magical artistic contributions.*

# State of Heads (1999)

## CHOREOGRAPHY

Donna Uchizono

## MUSIC

James Lo

## LIGHTING DESIGN

Original: Stan Pressner

Recreated: Stacy D. Fireheart

## COSTUME DESIGN

Original: Naomi, Recreated: Kelsey Vidic

## PERFORMERS

Tori Cone, Taylor Jackson,

Ashley Magaña (11/16, 11/18, 11/19 2pm),

Natasha Guyulzaryan, Eliza Loran,

Sierra Tanji (11/17, 11/19 8pm)

*State of Heads* was commissioned by Dance Theater Workshop, New York, NY, and premiered in 1999. This CSULB version has been condensed in time from the original.

*Acknowledgments: I'm touched by the commitment, time, and generosity of the performers, who remained focused in the remounting process. I thank Eliza, Ashley, and Taylor, for their intelligence, nuance, and quiet playfulness, Sierra and Tori for their understanding of weight, groundedness, and power, and Natasha for her openness, willingness to dive in, and energy. Thank you to Keith Johnson, the most generous and best rehearsal director whose experience and knowledge informed the process; Betsy Cooper for inviting me back to my alma mater (graduated in 1983) and for her support during this residency; Christina Morales-Grace for the difficult task of running the music, and a thank you to Kelsey and Stacy for recreating the original intention of the costumes and lighting. I so appreciate California State University Long Beach's Dance Department's warm welcome and support. -donna uchizono*

**intermission**

# My Breath Comes Differently (2010)

## CHOREOGRAPHY

Lorin Johnson

with contributions from the dancers

## MUSIC

Joan Jeanrenaud ("Tug of War,"  
"Dervish," and "Axis" from her album,  
*Strange Toys* -- 2008)

## COSTUME DESIGN

Kelsey Vidic

## COSTUME TECHNICIAN

Erika Hansen

## PERFORMERS

Trinity Canga (11/16, 11/19 8pm),

Kaia Collins (11/17, 11/19 8pm),

Elaina Greenawalt, Damian Sanchez,

Aly Levy (11/16, 11/18, 11/19 2pm),

Wilma Tsutsui (11/17, 11/18, 11/19 2pm)

## UNDERSTUDY

Victoria Viveiros

*My Breath Comes Differently was first commissioned in 2010 for the Celebrate Dance Festival. It was performed by Kimberly Hannah, Belinda Lutes, Emma Storey, and Andrew Palomares, with original costume designs by Liz Carpenter. The present version has been re-imagined with contributions from the cast. Thank you for your trust, honesty, and curiosity.*

# To Sleep Rough (premiere)

## CHOREOGRAPHY

Tsiambwom M. Akuchu

## MUSIC

"Autumn (L'Autumno) Op. 8 No. 3  
Major Allegro", "Winter (L'Invern No.4  
F Minor: Allegro Non Molto"

by Antonio Vivaldi;

"Exposurise Soundscape"

by Don Nichols

## SOUND DESIGN

Don Nichols

## COSTUME DESIGN

Kelsey Vidic

## SET DESIGN

Stephanie Losleben

## PERFORMANCE

Jayden Cardona, Malia Lyons,  
Esmeralda Ortiz, Bella Zeddies,  
Fabian Zuniga

*To Sleep Rough* is a new work that recontextualizes Vivaldi's music. Building off the accompanying sonnets Vivaldi wrote for his music, this work explores ideas of perseverance, survival, and extreme weather in an urban landscape. Particularly, which communities are most at risk of exposure to the forces of nature.



# ASSEMBLY (premiere)

*...to hold on to the parts of oneself, while carrying the whole.*

## DIRECTION & CHOREOGRAPHY

Rebecca Lemme

## MUSIC

"as may be felt" by River Song Quintet,  
originally composed for Acts of Matter;  
"Jules Jewel" by Don Nichols

## SOUND DESIGN

Rebecca Lemme, Don Nichols

## COSTUME DESIGN

Odessa Newman

## MOVEMENT DEVELOPMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Kendall Chatham, Tori Cone,  
Morgan Dragsbaek, Baylee Ferrerra,  
Kat Giannini, Deven von Griffith,  
Amanda Grunloh, Imran Khan,  
Eliza Loran, Ashley Magaña,  
Odessa Newman, Joanne Olivo,  
Esmeralda Ortiz, Alexandra Portillo,  
Julia Russell, Damian Sanchez,  
Jayde Spiegel, Melissa Valenzuela

*Special thanks to the parts of our whole who are not with us on stage: Kian Bucup-Menjivar, Nikki Hall, Jen Vieweg, and Kaitlyn Wood who are integral to our community and the creation of this piece.*

# ARTIST BIOS

## GUEST ARTIST

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**DONNA UCHIZONO** is a dance artist based in New York City and the artistic director of Donna Uchizono Company, which has performed throughout the United States, Europe, South America, Australia, and Asia. Uchizono has received public and critical recognition for her innovative movement language and distinct wit, recognized by notable collaborations with Mikhail Baryshnikov, Paula Vogel, David Hammons, and Oliver Sacks. In 2011, after decades of critically-acclaimed dance works that toured nationally and internationally, Donna Uchizono was identified by the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts (NYPL) and Dance Heritage Coalition as a master choreographer whose works require preservation. Donna Uchizono Company received a 2021 National Endowment for the Arts award for Phase One of the archival and preservation of her work. In addition to being a Guggenheim Fellow, United States Artists Fellow, and Bessie Award winner, Uchizono has been recognized by many awards including an Alpert Award in Dance and grants from the Rockefeller Foundation, National Dance Project, National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, Creative Capital Foundation, Altria Group, Inc., the Jerome Foundation, the Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Foundation, Arts International, Foundation for Contemporary Performance, National Performance Network, Harkness Foundation for Dance, the Greenwall Foundation, Meet the Composer, among many others.

Donna Uchizono Co's office at 140 2nd Avenue #501 New York, NY 10003 is located on Lenapehoking, the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands of the Munsee Lenape.

[donnauchizono.org](http://donnauchizono.org)

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## FACULTY

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**TSIAMBWOM M. AKUCHU** is a street dance and theatre artist whose work has been presented on stages like the Kennedy Center and Joe's Pub at The Public. He often creates work for concert dance that stages hip-hop and street dance fused with physical theater to create a unique performance experience. He has been working for the past several years as a solo artist creating new work, performing his repertoire, and in stage plays for festivals and shows like the Arts On Site NYC, DANCE NOW New York Festival, TEDx Providence, Big Sky Summer Theatre Festival, and the Atlanta Spring for Spring Festival. Tsiambwom received his BA in Theatre from Georgia Southern University and his MFA in Theatre from the University of Montana. He's taught at Colby College and is currently an Assistant Professor of Dance at CSULB.

[@tsebwom](#)   [akuchu.com](#)

**LORIN JOHNSON** has been a Professor at CSULB Dance since 2006. His choreography has been commissioned nationally by the Pacific Symphony Orchestra at Segerstrom Concert Hall, LA Grand Ensemble in downtown Los Angeles, the Celebrate Dance festival, the Orange County Performing Arts Center's Invitational Dance Festival, the Laguna Dance Festival, the Dance Under the Stars Choreography Festival in Palm Springs, and at the Los Angeles Dance Invitational at the Ford Amphitheater. Johnson's choreography has been presented internationally at The Garage Museum in Moscow, Russia and at the Fabbrica Europa Dance Festival in Florence, Italy. He has also been an artist in residence at Skidmore College, New York and at the Orange County High School of the Arts in Southern California.

**REBECCA LEMME** is a choreographer, performer, educator, and visual artist, as well as Artistic Director of the performance group Acts of Matter. Currently an Associate Professor of Dance at CSULB, Rebecca has been commissioned and presented by LA Contemporary Dance Company, Visceral Dance Chicago, Santa Barbara Dance Theater, River North Dance Chicago, Thodos' New Dances, California Institute of the Arts, Loyola Marymount University, Columbia College Chicago, Loyola University Chicago, among others. Additionally, she has toured nationally with contemporary repertory companies Luna Negra Dance Theater and River North Dance Chicago. Lemme was formerly a full-time faculty member at CalArts and has additionally been on faculty at Columbia College Chicago, Roosevelt University, Hubbard Street's Lou Conte Dance Studio, Visceral Dance Center, and Joffrey Ballet Chicago. Rebecca holds a BA in English and Theater from Princeton University and an MFA in Choreography from California Institute of the Arts. [@actsofmatter](#) [actsofmatter.com](#)

**DANZEL THOMPSON-STOUT**, a native of Allentown, PA is a performer, choreographer, and educator of Afro-American dance forms. With an embodied cultural history in street and club dance forms, Thompson-Stout commits to being an agent who brings authentic representation of these forms into the academy through his work as a choreographer and teaching as a Professor of Dance at CSULB. As a performer, he has worked with several street dance artists such as Rennie Harris, Kyle Clark, and Vince Johnson. He is a principal dancer for The Nance Dance Collective and a guest performer for the Stella Maris Dance Ensemble of Kingston, JA. He is one of the last generation of performers who has worked under Dr. Kariamuwelsh and holds a teaching certification in her contemporary African technique, "Umfundalai". Thompson-Stout holds a BFA in Dance from Temple University and an MFA in Dance from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

**ANDREW VACA** has served CSULB Dance for almost 24 years as an instructor of jazz and modern dance, a creator of 26 original concert dances, and Department Chair (2011-2018). Andy began dancing with Dale Scholl at Sacramento State and later completed an MFA in dance at UCLA. He has danced in Jazzworks, Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company, Keith Johnson/Dancers, and was Assistant Project Coordinator for Kennedy Center Honoree Twyla Tharp's, THARP! With over 30 years in the sports dance team industry, Andy has choreographed nationally televised halftime shows, is an instructor with Pro Action Dance, and is a choreographer for the Pro Bowl Cheerleaders. He is proud to be the creator and Director of Masters Pro Dance Workshop, an annual fundraising event for CSULB Dance scholarships that celebrated its 10th year this October. Andy is the former President of the American College Dance Association and recently celebrated 15 years teaching for the LA Music Center's Dance DTLA and past TMC Arts programs.

## CONCERT DIRECTOR

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**KEITH JOHNSON** has danced for Ririe/Woodbury Dance Company, Creach/Koester, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company and Doug Varone and Dancers. In addition, he has performed with Bili Young/Colleen Thomas and Dancers, Nancy Bannon, and Victoria Marks. Keith is the Artistic Director of Keith Johnson/Dancers and the Co-Director of Fistbomb Films with Gregory R.R. Crosby. He was named the Distinguished Alumni for 2012/13 from The Department of Modern Dance at the University of Utah. He has been awarded two Lester Horton Awards for Choreography, been a Djerassi Artist Resident, has taught at ADF, Doug Varone and Dancers Summer Intensives, Beijing International Dance Festival and has performed in major venues internationally. [keithjohnsondancers.com](http://keithjohnsondancers.com)

## PRODUCTION STAFF

**GREGORY R.R. CROSBY** is the resident photographer and video director for CSULB Dance, producing publicity material and directing concert Live Streams. He teaches classes in filmmaking to graduate and undergraduate students to produce Screendance, and works with BFA students to create working performance artist portfolios; complete with headshots, studio dance photography, and websites. Mr. Crosby obtained his BA in Film and Electronic Arts - Film and Video Production from CSULB and runs a production company, Lost Heart Productions, where he produces his own creative works along with collaborators like Keith Johnson through Fistbomb Films.

[@lostheartproductions](#) [lostheartproductions.com](http://lostheartproductions.com)

**ERIKA HANSEN** always wanted to sew Halloween costumes for a living but never thought it was feasible until she realized that Theatre is costumes year-round. She has several degrees in clothing and costume construction and has experience in Theatre, Opera, Ballet and more. CSULB is her favorite job, challenging her in costumes that allow and enhance movement instead of restricting the body to create the character. She is passionate in her love of making patterns and sewing and is thrilled to share her knowledge with the Dance Department.

**STACY FIREHEART** is a Lighting Designer for theater, dance, opera, and event lighting in the Orange County and Los Angeles areas. Over the last sixteen years, she has enjoyed designing and assisting on numerous stage performances working with theaters and theater companies such as International City Theater (Long Beach), Sierra Repertory Theatre (Sonora), Rogue Theater Ensemble (Los Angeles), Griot Theater (Los Angeles), South Coast Repertory Theatre (Costa Mesa), Utah Shakespeare Festival (Cedar City) and Great River Shakespeare Festival (Winona). She received her BA in Drama & Sociology and MFA in Drama (Lighting Design) from University of California, Irvine

**STEPHANIE LOSLEBEN** received her BA in Technical Theatre with an emphasis in Lighting Design from CSU Northridge; but her experience in theater dates back to her childhood days as a performer. Credits include international performances before distinguished Russian and American Ambassadors at the Geneva Peace Talks in 1984, award winner for her lighting design of Tainted Blood at the Road Theatre in Los Angeles, as well as years of lighting and production coordination of special events and gala parties in Southern California. Ms. Losleben's natural environment has always been in educating, and is excited to be a part of CSULB Dance.

**DR. DON NICHOLS** is a composer, percussionist and long-time collaborator with dance. He is a former Fulbright scholar to Sweden and recipient of an Indiana Arts Commission Grant for his solo electro-acoustic recording "Station of Small Sounds." Previous artistic collaborators include Steven Schick, Roger Reynolds, Evelyn Glennie, Sean Griffin, Ron Athey, Peter Carpenter, bkSoul, Kim Epifano, Ray Dillard, and Lower Left Performance Collective. Don has performed at Carnegie Hall, REDCAT and Disney Hall, and his music for dance has been presented at the ACDA National Festival, 92nd Street Y, Judson Church and Joyce SOHO.

**KELSEY VIDIC** was born in Florida. She began her career in costumes by interning with Brevard Music Center, STAGES St. Louis, Gomez-Gracia in London and the Santa Fe Opera. She received an MFA in Costume Design at the University of Texas at Austin. Working with bodies, textiles and space opened doors to work with the Intel Corporation, Opera på Skåret Sweden, American Players Theatre, and LA Contemporary Dance Company. Vidic works as the Costume Designer and Manager for the Dance Department at California State University, Long Beach. She strives to listen with her eyes and prefers the present moment.

## PRODUCTION CREW

**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR** Stephanie Losleben

**ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR** Alvaro Nuñez

**STAGE MANAGER** Josie Austin

**RES. HOUSE MANAGER** Sylvia Rodriguez-Scholz

**PHOTOGRAPHY/LIVE STREAM DIRECTOR** Gregory R.R. Crosby

**CAMERA OPERATOR** Artur Lago-V.

## PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS

Christina Morales-Grace, Delaney Richards

## STAGE CREW

Nathaniel Acido-Macareg, Yajaira Amaya, Levi Christensen, Brooke Grayton, Trinity Massey, Sydney Robinson, Araceli Rosales, Jennifer Sandoval, Karley Taylor

## HOUSE/PUBLIC RELATIONS CREW

Eva Anderson, Natalia Anderson, Evie Barakat, Jordan Barker, Konstantina Ohanian

## COSTUME CONSTRUCTION CREW

Cambria Anderson, Kendall Chatham, Morgan Dragsbaek, Niza Galindo, Brisa Gelber, Kat Giannini, Malani Harrell, Taylor Jackson, Vivian Mulvihill, Odessa Newman, Valerie Puentes

**WARDROBE CREW** Abril Fajardos, Naturelle Garcia-Taylor

**PROGRAM TEMPLATE DESIGN** Kianna Peppers

**PROGRAM DESIGN** Gregory R.R. Crosby

**SOCIAL MEDIA LEAD** Hannah Hesseltine

**SOCIAL MEDIA** @CSULBDance

Annelise Licata, Valerie Puentes, Topanga Scherf, Azuki Umeda



## CSULB COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Anne Justine D'Zmura, **Acting Dean**

Colleen Dunagan, **Interim Associate Dean**

Tanya Cummings, **Interim Associate Dean**

## CSULB DANCE FALL 2022

Betsy Cooper, **Chair**

### FACULTY

Tsiambwom M. Akuchu, Rebecca Bryant, Betsy Cooper, Amy Champion, Gregory R.R. Crosby, Liz Curtis, Stacy Fireheart, Erika Hansen, Tashara Gavin-Moorehead, Teresa Jankovic, Keith Johnson, Lisa Johnson, Lorin Johnson, David Kim, Renee Kim, Sarah Leddy, Rebecca Lemme, Stephanie Losleben, Brenna Monroe-Cook, Shyamala Moorty, Don Nichols, Santi Riviera, AJ Sharp, Steven Sofia, Katie Summers, Pat Taylor, Danzel Thompson-Stout, Azuki Umeda, Andrew Vaca, Kelsey Vidic, Lora Wilson, Brooke Winder, Aimée Wodobodé, Steve Zee

### STAFF

Gregory R.R. Crosby, Erika Hansen, Hannah Hesseltine, Stephanie Losleben, Don Nichols, Sylvia Rodriguez-Scholz, Kirsten Sumpter, Kelsey Vidic

### DANCE CLINIC

John Siegel - Head Athletic Trainer

### GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

Santi Rivera, AJ Sharp, Katie Summers, Azuki Umeda

# 2022-2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

## CSULB DANCE AWARDS

Celeste Kennedy Scholarship - Katie Summers, Azuki Umeda

Department of Dance Scholarship -

Eva Anderson, Dana Bermudez Hernandez, Emily Boudreau,  
Faith Garner, Jazmine Gregory, Tara Hadley, Hope Hensley,  
Jessica Marin, Topanga Scherf, Wilma Tsutsui, Eva Watson

Joan Schlaich Award - Hope Hensley

## COTA COMPETITIVE AWARDS

Kleefeld Award- AJ Sharp

Fine Arts Affiliates Endowed Award - Tori Cone

## COTA AWARDS

Jamiesson-Pechstein COTA Endowed Award -  
Cambria Anderson, Ashley Magaña, Nichaella Hall

Richard Baker Award - AJ Sharp

Lana Alper Award - Eve Barakat, Jacqueline Escamilla

Dramatic Allied Arts Guild Award - Isabella Farris

Martin Figoten Award - Baylee Ferrerra

Fine Arts Affiliates Award - Levi Christensen

Carolyn R. Cunningham Award - Kaitlyn Helms Wood

Harvey & Amy Waggoner Award - Christina Morales-Grace

This program made possible through funds from CSULB's  
Instructionally Related Activities

For more information on CSULB Dance visit

[www.csulb.edu/dance](http://www.csulb.edu/dance)

## Give to **Dance**

The CSULB Dance faculty and staff are committed to creating an inclusive, student-centered community where students will discover educational pathways that reflect and expand upon their creative potential, intellectual curiosity, and career aspirations.

While state support and student tuition fund basic operations of the university, gifts from donors like you make this Department and institution truly exceptional. Can you help support our next generation of dance artists and practitioners?

The link above will take you directly to **Giving for CSULB Dance**.

Gifts may be directed to Dance scholarships, the Department, or you can create a scholarship in your name or the name of a loved one. For more information, contact Department Chair Betsy Cooper at [Betsy.Cooper@csulb.edu](mailto:Betsy.Cooper@csulb.edu)



**CSULB  
DANCE**

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**Dance**

# SPRING 2023 CSULB DANCE PERFORMANCES

## **MFA Thesis Festival** | *MARCH 16-18*

A series of unique choreographic works from our Master of Fine Arts Candidates: Santi Rivera, AJ Sharp, Katie Summers, and Azuki Umeda. Each choreographer presents their work in a separate evening allowing for a unique experience with each performance.

## **Contemporary Dance Festival** | *APRIL 20-22*

Two programs of choreographic works by our undergraduate dance students featuring both stage work and screendance.



**For More Information Visit** [WWW.CSULB.EDU/DANCE](http://WWW.CSULB.EDU/DANCE)