2021-2022 Season Brochure

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“For this dance/theater work, the facts of lynching act as a springboard into an interior space, a state of mind. Strange Fruit tracks my feelings as a response to these acts of terror and plays out as a series of dance/theater Expressionist vignettes. The piece is abstract but informed by the reality of these brutal acts of violence and terrorism.”

–Donald Byrd
Donald Byrd. Courtesy of Spectrum Dance Theater
“In MOVEMENT, I am weaving together tiny movement sequences from unrelated sources. When I take a snippet of Israeli folk dance, I know its intrinsic rhythm—I know the song in my head. When I take a snippet of a dance from a well-known contemporary choreographer, I know its timing—I’ve performed it hundreds of times. When I dance these two snippets in succession, a new kind of rhythmical pattern emerges.”

—Netta Yerushalmy
“Smashed2 continues our exploration of interpersonal relationships and power dynamics through juggling. There are questions of redemption and revenge, but there’s also a lot of fun juggling with fruits of different sizes. We can’t wait to share this piece in its North American Premiere!”

– Sean Gandini and Kati Ylä-Hokkala
The masks of Hotel Paradiso disclose more than they conceal—they carry a secret and reveal it at the same time. Masks spur our imagination. They help us use our memories creatively. And the masks make us play. When a mask plays, it awakens to life.

—Michael Vogel
The Cameroon philosopher Achille Mbembe’s ideas about archiving and curriculum inform my work process, emboldening me to explore movement phrases interned in the memory bank of mind and body juxtaposed with the ticker tape of topical concerns provoked by the 24-hour news cycle. Climate change, racial violence, identity politics, reparations, decolonization. Mbembe might categorize these concerns as ‘planetary curricula.’

—Bill T. Jones