WINTER DANCE
Feb. 29, Mar. 1, 2 at 7:30 p.m.
Mar. 3 at 2 p.m.
FREEDMAN THEATRE

Robert Garland
CHOREOGRAPHER

Rena Butler
CHOREOGRAPHER

Juel Lane
CHOREOGRAPHER

Sidra Bell
CHOREOGRAPHER

Wesley L. Williams, Jr.
CHOREOGRAPHER

PRESENTED BY
UNCSA

Brian Cole
CHANCELLOR

Endalyn T. Outlaw
SCHOOL OF DANCE, DEAN

Michael J. Kelley
SCHOOL OF DESIGN & PRODUCTION, DEAN
Women Dance

The Joplin Dances (Excerpts) A Celebration in Ragtime, Pastime Rag, Ragtime Nightingdale, Maple Leaf Rag (13:00)

Choreographer: Robert Garland
Stager: Da'Von Doane and Courtney Cochran
Music: The Joplin Dances
Composers: Scott Joplin, James Scott, Joseph Lamb, Artie Matthews
Music Arrangement: David LaMarche
Instrumentalists: Robert Rocco - piano
Costume Design: Carl Michel
Costume Execution: Pamela Allen-Cummings
Costume Rentals: DTH Costumes
Original Lighting Design: Kevin Meek (B.F.A. Design & Production '89)
Lighting Recreation: Noelle Longenberger
Implementation: Da’Von Doane
Rehearsal Director: Jared Redick
Scenic & Properties Designer: Carl Michel

FEBRUARY 29 & MARCH 2

Principals: Margaux Bellar, Elliott Mumm
Demi Couple 1: Wendy Proeschel, Harry Cooper
Demi Couple 2: Audrey Cannon, Noah Braun
  Variation 1: Amanda Ovitt
  Variation 2: Natalie Taylor
  Variation 3: Vanessa Meikle
Corps: Nifa Omondi, Ella Champion

MARCH 1 & 3

Principals: Elsa Herr, Liam Hutt
Demi Couple 1: Mika Hannah, Nate Nettles
Demi Couple 2: Kayla Guay, Xavier Cacanindin
  Variation 1: Tess Cogley
  Variation 2: Olivia Boutin
  Variation 3: Vivi Hughey
Corps: Jenny Firschein, Leah Thomas
WINTER DANCE

A Symphony of Cracks, Part 1 (14:00)

Choreographer: Rena Butler
Music: “Celui qui fera paraître le Christ au temps fixé” performed by Fabienne Martet, Le Jeune Choeur Liturgique
Composer: Aelf, Michel Wackenheim, Saint Paul
Music: “Fauré: Madrigal, Op. 35” performed by Emmanuel Strosser, Ensemble Vocal Jean Soursise, Jean Soursise
Composer: Gabriel Fauré
Music: “Cello Concerto in E Minor, RV 409: II. Allegro” performed by European Union Chamber Orchestra, Hanspeter Hofmann, Jiaxin Lloyd Webber, Julian Lloyd Webber
Composer: Antonio Vivaldi, Julian Lloyd Webber
Music: “Less” performed by Ljova & The Kontraband
Composer: Ljova
Music: “Laudate Dominum, RV 606” performed by Aradia Chorus, Aradia Ensemble, Kevin Mallon
Composer: Antonio Vivaldi
Music: “Audite, silete” performed by Capella Vocalis Boys Choir, Eckhard Weyand
Composer: Michael Praetorius
Costume Design: Marissa McCullough
Lighting Design: Noelle Longenberger
Choreographic Assistant: Madison Pineda
Rehearsal Assistant: Fernando Carrillo

FEBRUARY 29 & MARCH 2

Nadia Chudzik, Anaya Gonzalez, David Gouldin, Will Meeks,
Jack Cerminaro, Karley Childress, Spencer Fitzgerald, Hayden Preskitt,
Melayna King, Julianna Pittman, Brendan Juengling

MARCH 1

Lisa Fink, Tessa Ledbetter, Devon Drybread, Seth Roberts,
Nick Buynitzky (Duet), Naya Gonzalez, Hayden McCann, Jen Kim (Duet),
Hikaru Smith (Soloist), Zion Mack

MARCH 3

Lisa Fink, Tessa Ledbetter, Devon Drybread (Duet), Seth Roberts,
Nick Buynitzky, Naya Gonzalez, Hayden McCann, Jen Kim (Solo),
Hikaru Smith (Duet), Zion Mack
WINTER DANCE

FINAL BUTTON (16:00)

Choreographer: Juel Lane
Music:
“Besane Mucho,” Josephine Baker
“Lovely Lady,” Change
“Real Love,” Jody Watley
“Never Too Much,” Luther Vandross
“Somebody Watching Me,” Rockwell
“Din Dan Da,” George Franz
“Call Me,” Aretha Franklin
Vocal Arrangement & Performance: Rahbi, Sharell Luckett
Composer: Munir Zakee
Costume Design: Marissa McCullough
Lighting Design: Stephen Smart
Assistant to the Choreographer: Gabrielle Roulhac
Rehearsal Director: Brenda Daniels
Rehearsal Assistant: Jacy Bartlett
Scenic Designer: Jenna Carroll
Set Decorator: Isy Kessler

PERFORMERS


SPECIAL THANKS

Gregory Miller, Kibwe Chase-Marshall

Thank you Patrick Kelly for your brilliance!

INTERMISSION
WINTER DANCE

The Gardens That Were Watered For Us (15:00 - 20:00)

Choreographer: Sidra Bell
Music: “The Gardens That Were Watered For Us”
Instrumentalists: Dylan Ward (alto saxophone), Isabel Aviles (flute),
    Elijah White (cello), Nicholas Lazzara
Composer: Nia Franklin
Costume Design: Marissa McCullough
Lighting Design: Garrett Deutsch
General Manager: Mary Kate Sheehan
Assistant to the Choreographer: Maddie Winterhalter
Rehearsal Director: Ming-Lung Yang

PERFORMERS

Nadia Avery, Alea Brown, Liv Cacanindin, Lexie Campbell, Rose Castell,
    Bailey Goss, Fox Hamblen, Reagan Hammond, Anna Horton, William Jalkut,
    Lilith Marchetti, Andrew McGee, Darby Moody, Katherine Nettles,
    Eugene Ocheing, Karl Pil, Abigail Pontius, Allie Roos, Landon Shields,
    Luke Slavich, Jayla Thacker, Chloe Webster, Kiley White, Madison Wilson
WINTER DANCE

Death of a King (17:00 - 20:00)

Choreographer: Wesley L. Williams, Jr.
Music: “Soundiata”
Composer and Instrumentalist: Famoro Dioubate
Vocalist: Chelsea Ross
Balafon: Famoro Dioubate
Djembe and Balafon 2: Forrest Matthews
Djembe: Wesley Knight
Doundouns: Jeremiah Williams
King 1: Corey McClain
King 2: Benjamin Free
Young King: London Isaiah Williams
Costume Design: Marissa McCullough
Lighting Design: Sage Green
Properties Director: Jenna Carroll
Assistant Properties Director: Isy Kessler
Assistant to the Choreographer: Trisha Mohta
Rehearsal Director: Sean Sullivan

PERFORMERS

SPECIAL THANKS
Big loving thanks to my wife, Gabrielle Williams, and my all-star assistant, Trisha Mohta.

Thanks to my brother and mentor Sean Sullivan.
PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Stage Manager .......................................................... Catelynn Adams
Stage Manager .............................................................................. Olivia Kurima
Assistant Stage Manager .............................................................. Sam Albritton
Sub Assistant Stage Manager .................................................... Arden Jakubovic
Production Assistant ................................................................. KD Borden
Director of Production ............................................................. Seavor M. Roach
Production Manager ............................................................... Carson Rainey
Sound Supervisor ........................................................................ Alexander G. Farlow
Dance Costume Shop Director/Wardrobe Supervisor ............... Marissa McCullough
Costume Shop Drapers ................................................................. Robin Ankerich, Kelsey Burns
Sticher ........................................................................................... Sarah Horvath
Costume Work Study ................................................................. AJ Helms, Marquita Horton, Bailey Goss
................................................................................................. Santina Leone, Meghan Snetzky
Costume Volunteers ............................................................ Carolyn Fay, Evie Beard
Electrics Shop Foreman ............................................................... Bill Nowlin
Production Electrician ................................................................. Chris Mendell
Assistant Lighting Designers ....................................................... Cameron Toler
Console Operator ........................................................................ Cameron Toler
Programmer ................................................................................ Rocco Turano
Electrician ..................................................................................... Emma Perch
Head Electrician ........................................................................... Trevor Kirschenheiter
Run Crew ...................................................................................... Bishop Strasburg, Jami Duncan
................................................................................................. Mars Morton, Carly Seto
Spotlight Operator .......................................................................... Sage Green

SPECIAL THANKS

The Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts
ROBERT GARLAND

Robert Garland was a member of the Dance Theatre of Harlem Company achieving the rank of principal dancer. After creating a work for the DTH School Ensemble, Arthur Mitchell invited Garland to create a work for The Dance Theatre of Harlem Company and appointed him the organization’s first Resident Choreographer. He was also director of the Dance Theatre of Harlem School. In addition to choreographing several ballets for DTH, Garland has also created works for New York City Ballet, Britain’s Royal Ballet, Oakland Ballet and many others. Garland's commercial work has included music videos, commercials, and short films, including the children's television show “Sesame Street,” a Nike commercial featuring former New York Yankee Derek Jeter, the NAACP Image Awards, a short film for designer Donna Karan, and the “Charmin Cha-Cha” for Proctor and Gamble.

Garland holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from The Juilliard School in New York City. He has most recently been appointed the third artistic director for The Dance Theatre of Harlem.

DA’ VON DOANE

Da’ Von Doane is a former Principal dancer with the Dance Theatre of Harlem. He began his training at the Salisbury Dance Academy, where he trained with Betty Webster, Tatiana Akininieva-Smith and Elena Manakhova. At age 15, he began training at the Atlantic Contemporary Ballet Theatre as a full-time academic student training with Phyllis Papa and Marius Iorgulescu and performed as a company member of the Atlantic City Ballet. In 2008, he moved to New York City to join the Dance Theatre of Harlem Ensemble. In 2009, Doane performed with Ballet Noir at East River Park as part of Summer Stage and at Jacob's Pillow. In the fall of 2009, he began dancing as part of the Dance Theatre of Harlem ensemble (DTH), and that winter he began touring with DTH as a part of its Dance for America Tour. Again in 2009, he was a guest artist with choreographer Ja’ Malik in his E-moves Emerging Choreographers Showcase. In the summer of 2010, he performed with Ballet Noir in the 200th Anniversary Chopin Celebration and the 2010 World Dance Gala in Kielce, Poland. Doane joined the newly reborn Dance Theatre of Harlem in 2012 and was featured as one of Dance Magazine’s ‘Top 25 to Watch ‘ 2014. He appeared in a music video for London-born artist Estelle entitled ‘Conqueror’ from her album “ True Romance” Directed by Paul Jung alongside Darius Barnes.

With the Dance Theatre of Harlem, Doane has been seen in Principal roles in Black Swan pas de Deux Staged by Anne Marie Holmes, Raymonda Act III Pas De Dix, Dancing on The Front Porch of Heaven by Ulysses Dove, Balanchine’s Agon, Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux, Glinka Pas de trois and Valse Fantasie, Nacho Duato’s Coming Together, and several works by other choreographers such as Robert Garland, Tanya Wideman and Thaddeus Davis, Helen Pickett, Donald Byrd, Billy Wilson, Arthur Mitchell, Darrel Moultrie, Francesca Harper, John Alleyne and more.
BIOGRAPHIES

Doane has been invited as a guest artist of the Vail International Dance Festival’s International Evenings of Dance as well as their Now: Premieres Program alongside dancers from NYCB, ABT, and others in 2016. As an independent artist, he has performed with numerous companies and worked with choreographers and festivals such as Ballet Noir, New York Dance Theatre, Continuum Contemporary Ballet, Classical Contemporary Ballet Theater, Ballet Verité, Ballet Chesapeake, Tulsa Ballet, New York Dance Theatre, Guggenheim Works and Process, Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival, The New York International Ballet Competition, Fire Island Dance Festival, The Virginia Arts Festival, Mobile Ballet, Appalachian ballet, The New Jersey Ballet, Madison Ballet, The Eastern Shore Ballet theatre, and Wideman Davis Dance.

Doane has choreographed several original dance works presented by Bryant Park, Thelma Hill Performing Arts Center, Dance Theatre of Harlem’s Sunday Matinee series, Periapsis Music and Dance, The CUNY Graduate Center (The Composers Now Festival), and Symphony Space (Wall to Wall John Coltrane Celebration). He was also featured in Dance Magazine as a standout performer in 2017 for his work in Robert Garlands. Brahms Hayden Variations and as a cover star in 2019. His most recent work was commissioned by Periapsis Music and Dance, Long Island University Post, and American Repertory Ballet fall 2022 season and their 2023 Spring Gala. At present, he is pursuing his master’s degree at The University of The Arts where he is building a foundation for creative and pedagogical work through the lens of African Spirituality and Sacred science, understanding the nature of energetic forces moving through and around the physical body; the archetypes of human consciousness and our activation of these archetypes through the embodiment of the physical form.

COURTNEY COCHRAN

Courtney Renee Cochran is a NYC based freelance dancer, teacher and choreographer. Born in Sacramento, CA, Cochran received her training from Sacramento Ballet, Lines Ballet, Alvin Ailey, Ballet X, Dance Theatre of Harlem, and Crockett-Deane Ballet where she was selected as an emerging choreographer for Regional Dance America.

Since moving to New York, Cochran’s work has been featured in programs such as Brooklyn Ballet’s First Look, Norte Maar’s Counter Pointe, Dance Theatre of Harlem’s Sunday Matinee, Thelma Hill’s Dance Festival and Works & Process’ Artists Virtual Commission Series where her piece entitled “From cage of teeth and jaw” was awarded “Best Solo Performance” in Earl Mosley’s Dance is Activism Film Festival. In 2019 Cochran was nominated for Dance Lab New York’s first Female Choreographers of Color residency in collaboration with The Joyce Theatre where the culmination of her work was presented at Works & Process at the Guggenheim.
Cochran has over 10 years of freelance experience dancing with companies including Eglevsky Ballet, Brooklyn Ballet, The Black Iris Project, Collage Dance Collective, Columbia City Ballet, and Dance Theatre of Harlem; has performed in ballets such as “Swan Lake,” “La Bayadere,” “Les Sylphides,” “The Nutcracker”; and she starred as Puck in Sierra Nevada Ballet’s “A Midsummer’s Night Dream.” Cochran has taught at Brooklyn Ballet, The Billie Holiday Theatre, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Limon Dance, Harlem School of the Arts, and after completing her ABT NTC certification, joined the JKO School in the fall of 2021.

RENA BUTLER

Rena Butler hails from Chicago, IL. She began her studies at The Chicago Academy for the Arts, studied overseas at Taipei National University of the Arts in Taiwan, and received her BFA from SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Dance. Rena danced with companies including Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, AIM by Kyle Abraham, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company, David Dorfman Dance, The Kevin Wynn Collection, Gibney Company, and Pasos Con Sabor Salsa Dance Company.


Butler served on the Consortium for Chicago Dancemakers Forum and currently serves on Dancewave’s Artistic Advisory Council in NYC.

JUEL LANE

Juel D. Lane, an Atlanta native, honed his artistic talents at Tri-Cities High School, The Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, and The University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Dance Magazine recognized him as one of their “25 to Watch,” and his captivating performances have enthralled audiences worldwide. He’s shared the stage with luminaries like Ronald K. Brown/Evidence and is currently a vital member of the acclaimed Bessie Award-winning Camille A. Brown & Dancers. Lane’s choreography has graced Ailey II, Dallas Black Dance Theater, Atlanta Ballet, Carolyn Dorfman Dance Company, and various universities.

Lane has also performed in productions such as The Metropolitan Opera’s “Fire Shut Up In My Bones,” Harlem, Amazon Prime’s series, and NBC’s “Jesus Christ Superstar Live.” His theatre credits include PCLO’s “Once” (Associate
BIOGRAPHIES

Choreographer) and choreographer for The DCPA & ACT Theatre’s “Choir Boy.” Lane received the Bronzelens film festival award for his remarkable film, “The Maestro” and showcased his directing and choreography talents in the captivating collaboration “Only-1” with Roc Nation artist Dixson.

SIDRA BELL

Sidra Bell is the founder of Sidra Bell Dance New York and a dancer, choreographer and educator. She has been an artist in residence at University of Oklahoma (Brackett Distinguished Visiting Artist Chair), visiting lecturer and Artist in Residence at Harvard University, and an adjunct professor at Barnard College. Bell received a Bachelor of Arts in history from Yale and an Master of Fine Art in choreography from Purchase College. She is the founder of the award winning MODULE Laboratory. She has won several awards, notably a First Prize for Choreography at the Solo Tanz Theater Festival in Stuttgart, Germany, a National Dance Project Production Award from NEFA and Creative Capital Wild Futures Award. In 2017 Mayor Thomas Roach named February 3 “Sidra Bell Day” in White Plains, New York

Her work has been seen throughout the United States and in Denmark, France, Austria, Bulgaria, Turkey, Slovenia, Sweden, Germany, China, Canada, Aruba, Korea, Brazil and Greece. Bell has created over 100 works notably for Nevada Ballet Theater, Nashville Ballet, BODYTRAFFIC, Ailey II, The Juilliard School, Whim W’Him, Boston Conservatory at Berklee College, River North Dance Chicago, NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Sacramento Ballet, Boulder Ballet, among many others.

Bell was the first Black female commissioned to create work for New York City Ballet where she created works for film and the Lincoln Center stage (Fall Fashion Gala 2021). Her work was performed at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. for New York City Ballet’s engagement in May 2022. She was nominated for a Bessie New York Dance & Performance Dance (Outstanding Choreographer) for “Suspended Animation” for New York City Ballet. She was Bessie nominated once again as Outstanding Choreographer for the Gibney presented show “IN | REP: Introspection.”

Recent features of Bell’s historical work at New York City Ballet include Essence Magazine, NY1, News12, Playbill and Amsterdam News. She has also been featured in press outlets Town & Country, Cero Magazine, Meet the Dance Company Theater Development Fund, Good Company Cleveland WYKC, Dance Magazine, DancePulp, Home4Dance, BiT TV Bulgaria, Turkish TV and CityLights Vancouver. She has been a featured guest speaker on numerous podcasts and at institutions for dance and theater. She was highlighted in an aired feature on TODAY (NBC) “How choreographer Sidra Bell is blazing a trail for next generation” in June 2023. Barocco,” “Serenade,” and many others. She originated roles in works by William Forsythe, Richard Tanner, Ib Andersen, Trey McIntyre and Peter Martins, including
Martins’s “Les Petit Riens,” “Fearful Symmetries,” “Zakouski” and his production of “The Sleeping Beauty,” in which she appeared both as Princess Aurora and Princess Florine.

WESLEY L. WILLIAMS, JR.

Wesley L. Williams Jr. is a native of Baltimore, Maryland. Williams is a dancer, choreographer, entrepreneur and teacher of West African Music & Dance and African contemporary dance styles. Williams has performed with Jan Van Dyke Dance Company, Ballethnic Dance Company of Atlanta, Georgia and North Carolina Black Repertory Company. Williams was also a member of the Chuck Davis African American Dance Ensemble. He is the founder and Artistic Director of SUAH African Dance Theatre (formally known as Wesley Williams Urban Dance Theatre) based in Greensboro, North Carolina. Williams attended North Carolina Central University where he studied psychology and received a full four-year scholarship in two sports, football as well as track and field.

Williams has been featured in an issue Dance Magazine as well as Dance Teacher Magazine. Williams travels all over the country sharing his gift to create dance works with all arts lovers. He has been in residency at several colleges and universities, such as Duke University, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Fayetteville State University, Winston Salem State University, Radford University, Lincoln University, Stephens College and University of North Carolina School of the Arts, to name a few. Williams has also worked alongside master teachers such as Chuck Davis, Mabel Robinson, Maya Angelou, Sherone Price, Jan Van Dyke, the late Rod Rogers, Ava Vinesett and Thaddeus Bennett.

Williams is very humbled to have work and been taught by so many great past and present legends in his lifetime. Today, Williams is still building his dance company with passion and love. In Williams words, “Live, Life and Love Dance.”
The Dean’s Circles support each of the five arts schools at UNCSA — Dance, Design & Production, Drama, Filmmaking and Music. Dean’s Circle members support the school of their choosing with an annual gift of $5,000 or more in support of discretionary funds, scholarships, or other fundraising priorities. Members enjoy special events and opportunities to interact with the school’s dean, faculty and students. If you are interested in joining one or more UNCSA Dean’s Circles, please contact Shannon Wright, Director of Development for Leadership Annual & Family Giving, at wrights@uncsa.edu or 336-770-1427.

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UNCSA MISSION
The University of North Carolina School of the Arts provides gifted emerging artists with the experience, knowledge, and skills needed to excel in their disciplines and in their lives, and it serves and enriches the cultural and economic prosperity of the people of North Carolina and the nation. UNCSA is the state’s unique professional school for the performing, visual, and moving image arts, training students at the high school, undergraduate, and master’s levels for professional careers in the arts. (Approved by the UNC Board of Governors 2/2014)

THE SCHOOL OF DANCE
As one of the world’s premier dance schools, the School of Dance offers a rigorous yet nurturing approach to developing talented young performers into technically sound, artistically sensitive, and stylistically versatile professional dancers. A world-class, resident faculty is complemented by visiting guest artists, choreographers, and company residencies that bring current trends from the field. Students concentrate in either classical ballet or contemporary dance, but train and perform in both. Numerous performance opportunities allow students to explore a diverse repertory.

THE SCHOOL OF DESIGN AND PRODUCTION
Unlike other schools that incorporate design and production within theatre studies programs, the School of Design and Production is a highly regarded, independent conservatory. The school is ranked #3 in the nation. Employing a resident faculty of experienced professionals, the school offers a comprehensive curriculum in every aspect of modern stagecraft, from scene design to stage management. Students gain practical experience working on a variety of productions inside theaters of all styles and sizes, and within 100,000 square feet of production space. Graduates have careers in theater, film, television, dance, opera, live and themed entertainment, and more.

THE ASSOCIATES
The Associates, UNCSA’s volunteer organization, invites you to join them. For more information about the organization and volunteer opportunities, visit www.uncsa.edu/associates or email them at UNCSAassociatesportal@uncsa.edu.
UNCSA Chamber Music Festival  
Mar. 19 and 23 at 7:30 p.m.  
WATSON HALL

The spring Chamber Music Festival presents brilliant music in the continuing 20th anniversary celebration of Watson Hall.

Pianist Pavel Nersessian(opens in new tab), known for his collaboration with chamber music groups and other musicians, appears as a special guest and, along with other musicians, leads students and faculty in concertizing on an intimate scale. Faculty and students will gather for engaging music-making and a public master class will be held for student chamber music groups.

UNCSA Jazz Ensemble in Concert  
Mar. 26 at 7:30 p.m.  
AGNES DE MILLE THEATRE

Don’t miss an opportunity to hear the acclaimed UNCSA Jazz Ensemble in concert under the direction of the newly appointed jazz and contemporary department chair, Steven Alford. The Jazz Ensemble, consisting of talented student musicians from the graduate, undergraduate and high school programs of the School of Music, has received widespread acclaim, performing across the state and around the Southeast at jazz festivals, concert halls, public schools and other colleges.

Spring Dance  
Apr. 25-27 at 7:30 p.m.  
Apr. 27 at 2 p.m.  
HIGH POINT THEATRE

The School of Dance and the School of Music will collaborate on a spectacular Spring Dance event that will also serve as the final UNCSA Symphony Orchestra performance of the year.

Students from both the ballet and contemporary programs will perform, along with student musicians. The first half of the program will feature premieres by UNCSA alumni, including two premieres of contemporary dance by Peter Pucci (B.F.A. ’81) and Trey McIntyre (H.S. Diploma ’78), as well as a new ballet work by Jim Vincent (Dance ’78).