

Contact: Lila Hurwitz/Doolittle+Bird  
lila.hurwitz@gmail.com | 206.650.3305

---

March 25, 2026  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **UW Department of Dance: MFA Dance Concert 2026**

*Premiering original dances choreographed by MFA candidates and performed by undergraduate students*

Thursday–Saturday, May 14–16, 2026, 7:30pm  
Sunday, May 17, 2026, 2pm  
Meany Hall—Studio Theatre, UW Campus

**Tickets:** \$13–24; \$5 TeenTix available / ArtsUW Ticket Office / [arts.uw.edu](https://arts.uw.edu) / 206-543-4880  
**Info:** [dance.uw.edu](https://dance.uw.edu) / [UW Dance Facebook](#) / [UW Dance Instagram](#)

The University of Washington invites you to the MFA Dance Concert: an evening of original works created by the current MFA cohort, featuring over fifty undergraduate dancers. The artists explore humanity and community drawing from a variety of movement languages including contemporary modern, “splatter and spill,” wh/aacking and punking, groove, body percussion, and more.

**Choreographers:** Jake Bone, marco farroni leonardo, Jillian Amadi Roberts, Tracey Wong  
**Concert Director:** Jennifer Salk

### **ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES:**

**Jake Bone**, originally from Dallas, Texas, is a dance artist, choreographer, educator, and arts administrator. He earned a BFA in Dance with honors from the University of North Texas, where he performed works by Bebe Miller, Nick Cave, and Kihyoung Choi. Jake performed and taught nationally and abroad as a company member with Doug Varone and Dancers from 2015–2025. He also served as company manager and tour manager and has set Varone’s repertory at universities across the country. As a choreographer, he has created works for Brenau University and Awakening Movement, among others. He is currently pursuing his MFA at the University of Washington.

**marco farroni leonardo** (b. 1995) is a Dominican interdisciplinary artist based in Seattle, Washington, whose practice spans dance, performance, oral history, and mixed media. They hold a BFA in Dance from The University of the Arts (2017). Grounded in embodied research and community-based stories, marco’s work explores themes of home, the body as an archive, the Black diaspora, and memory. Their work has been presented at numerous cultural and performance venues across Seattle, including Velocity Dance Center, Wa Na Wari, Base Arts Space, 10 Degrees Arts, Spectrum Dance Theater, The AIDS Memorial Pathway, River, and 12th Ave Arts. marco is a recipient of the Artist at the Center Residency 2025, as well as a member of Black Collectivity and the second cohort of Wa Na Wari’s Seattle Black Spatial History Institute.

**Jillian Amadi Roberts** is an Afrodiasporic dance educator, choreographer, and performing artist from Washington, DC, with a decade of experience teaching, creating, and performing in New York City. She holds a BA from Wesleyan University, an MS from Touro College Graduate School of Education, and is currently an MFA candidate and pre-doctoral instructor in the University of Washington's Department of Dance. Jillian has taught technique, choreography, and cultural foundation of Black American street and club dance forms in NYC public and charter schools, as well as at Mark Morris Dance Center, Modega, NXGN West New York, House of Movement, PMT, and Peridance. Applause Dance Theater, Lakeside Academy of Dance, RAW Artists, Our Canvas, and MOPTOP Crew's 35th Anniversary Showcase have all featured Jillian's commissioned work. She served as Managing Director of Mint Dance Company from 2016–2023 and Foundations Judge for Prelude New York's Junior and Adult Divisions in 2025. Jillian has conducted workshops and lectures at Dartmouth College, Cornell University, Princeton University, Northeastern University, University of Colorado: Boulder, University of California: Riverside, Prelude Dance Competition, Billie, and Netflix.

**Tracey Wong** (she/her) is a Teochew-American interdisciplinary dance artist that lights up and inspires spaces through her art. She was born and raised in Seattle, WA, in the Beacon Hill neighborhood, raised by her loving parents who were refugees from Vietnam. Tracey's global presence in the dance world is marked by her multiple hats as a competitor, judge, teacher, choreographer, and performer. Throughout the past decade, she has won numerous national and international titles in competitions for Wh/aacking, Open Styles, and various categories in Ballroom, such as Performance and Hands. She would not be here today without the support of her loved ones and elders that have paved the way.

The **University of Washington Department of Dance** believes dance is for everybody. We expand the meanings and experiences of dance as a field of study and a living art form. We employ pedagogical perspectives, research approaches, dance-making methods, and performance philosophies that are historically and culturally informed to elevate the value of play, creativity, critical thinking, and embodied knowledge for our students and global communities.

[dance.washington.edu](http://dance.washington.edu)

::

**[Photos](#) by Michael C. Maine, from the 2025 MFA Dance Concert**

- **20250513\_UW-MFA-Dance-Concert\_Dance\_03-2\_0012\_Print 1:** Alan Phan, Samantha Stratman, Katie Rice in *Fragments of... One* choreographed by Annie Franklin in collaboration with the dancers at the 2025 MFA Dance Concert. Lighting Design by Gwen Cabbage. Costumes by Doris Black.
- **20250513\_UW-MFA-Dance-Concert\_Dance\_03-1\_0001\_Print 1:** Maximillian Yu in *Fragments of... One* choreographed by Annie Franklin in collaboration with the dancers at the 2025 MFA Dance Concert. Lighting Design by Gwen Cabbage. Costumes by Doris Black.
- **20250513\_UW-MFA-Dance-Concert\_Dance\_01\_0024\_Print:** UW Dancers in *Meteor* choreographed by Cameo Lethem in collaboration with the dancers at the 2025 MFA Dance Concert. Lighting Design by Jessica Roxann Baca Jones. Costumes by Doris Black.

High-quality photos available; contact [dancepr@uw.edu](mailto:dancepr@uw.edu)

:: :: ::