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UW DANCE PRESENTS

Chamber Dance Company

Presenting modern dance works of artistic and historic significance.

30th Anniversary Season

Thursday–Saturday, October 21–23, 2021, 7:30pm
Sunday, October 24, 2021, 2pm

Meany Hall—Katharyn Alvord Gerlich Theater, UW Campus

Tickets: \$10–22 / ArtsUW Ticket Office / ArtsUW.org / 206-543-4880

Info: dance.uw.edu / [UW Department of Dance Facebook](#)

For Meany Hall's current COVID-19 policy and other information go to:
artsevents.washington.edu/covid-protocols

Described as a “pure, buoyant delight for audiences” by *The Seattle Times*, the Chamber Dance Company celebrates its thirtieth anniversary in October 2021. This year’s concert investigates the empathy, intimacy, and confusion that comprise human relationships. The program includes choreography by Camille A. Brown (2010), Joe Goode (2004), Zvi Gotheiner (1992), Shapiro & Smith (1999) and Doug Varone (1988).

With a mission of restaging and archiving significant works from the modern dance canon, Chamber Dance Company is one of the only companies in the country ensuring that these seminal masterworks are kept alive and accessible.

About the Program & Choreographers:

City of Rain (2010), by Camille A. Brown

An homage to Gregory “Blyes” Boomer, who passed away in 2009—a dear friend and fellow dancer.

Camille A. Brown is a prolific Black female choreographer, who is reclaiming the cultural narratives of African American identity. Her bold work taps into both ancestral stories and contemporary culture to capture a range of deeply personal experiences. Ms. Brown has received numerous honors including a Guggenheim Award, Bessie Award, Jacob’s Pillow Dance Award, a Doris Duke Artist Award, a Dance Magazine award, a United States Artists Award, two Audelco Awards, five Princess Grace Awards, and a New York City Center Award. She has received a Tony nomination, three Drama Desk and three Lortel nominations for her work in theater. She is an Emerson Collective fellow, a TED fellow and the recipient of a Ford Foundation Art of Change Fellowship, among others. She is the 2021 Distinguished Artist, presented by The International Society for the Performing Arts. Other honors include the 2020 *Dance Magazine* Award recipient and 2020 Obie Award Winner for Sustained Excellence in Choreography. As

Artistic Director of Camille A. Brown & Dancers, Ms. Brown strives to instill curiosity and reflection in diverse audiences through her emotionally raw and thought-provoking work. Her driving passion is to empower Black bodies to tell their story using their own language through movement and dialogue. Through the company, Ms. Brown provides outreach activities to students, young adults, and men and women across the country. Before starting her Company, Ms. Brown was a dancer with Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE for five seasons. Ms. Brown is a graduate of the LaGuardia High School of the Performing Arts and received a B.F.A. from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Among her many performance and choreographic credits, Ms. Brown is the choreographer of The Metropolitan Opera's *Porgy & Bess*. She made her feature film debut in *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* directed by George C. Wolfe. Later this year, Brown will make her directorial debut with the Broadway revival of *for colored girls who have considered suicide/ when the rainbow is enuf*, *Fire Shut Up In My Bones* for The Metropolitan Opera (co-directed with James Robinson), and *Ain't Misbehavin'* at Westport Country Playhouse. *City of Rain* is an homage to Gregory "Blyes" Boomer, who passed away in 2009—dear friend and fellow dancer.

Excerpt from *grace* (2004), by Joe Goode. Staging by Rachael Lincoln.

Goode created grace as part of a trilogy exploring the "extraordinary dimensions of ordinary people." Commissioned by the College of Saint Benedict-Benedicta Arts Center in St. Joseph Minnesota, grace premiered on June 3, 2004 at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco.

Joe Goode (1951) is a choreographer, writer, and director widely known as an innovator in the field of dance for his willingness to collide movement with spoken word, song, and visual imagery. Joe Goode Performance Group, formed in 1986, tours regularly throughout the U.S., and has toured internationally to Canada, Europe, South America, Africa, and the Middle East. Goode was awarded the United States Artists Glover Fellowship in 2008, a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship in 2007, and the New York Dance and Performance Award (Bessie) for the creation and choreography of his work *Deeply There*. Goode's performance-installation works have been commissioned by the Fowler Museum of Natural History in Los Angeles, Krannert Art Museum, the Capp Street Project, the M.H. de Young Museum, and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. Pennsylvania Ballet, Zenon Dance Company, AXIS Dance Company, and Dance Alloy Theater have commissioned his dance theater work, among others. He is a member of the faculty of the University of California, Berkeley in the department of Theater, Dance and Performance Studies.

Excerpt from *Chairs* (1992), by Zvi Gotheiner. Staging by Joseph Blake and Jason Ohlberg.

As is often the case in Gotheiner's work, this duet looks into the heart of a relationship.

Zvi Gotheiner (1952) was born and raised in Messilot, a kibbutz in northern Israel. He began his artistic career as a gifted violinist with the Young Kibbutzim Orchestra, where he attained the rank of soloist and concertmaster at age fifteen. He began dancing at seventeen, and soon after formed his first performance group. He visited New York in 1978 on a dance scholarship from the American-Israeli Cultural Foundation, and went on to dance with the Joyce Trisler Dance Company, Feld Ballet/NY, and the Bat-Sheva Dance Company. After directing Tamar Ramle and the Jerusalem Tamar Dance Company in Israel, and the Israeli Chamber Dance Company in New York, he founded Zvi Gotheiner & Dancers in 1989. Gotheiner is a recipient of a New York Foundation for the Arts choreography fellowship and The National Arts Club Weiselberg Award, and has received commissions from Zurich Tanz Theater, Utah's Repertory Dance Theater, Colloquium Contemporary Dance Exchange, the American Dance Festival, and The Joyce Theater's Altogether Different series. As is often the case in Gotheiner's work, *Chairs* looks into the heart of relationships and the power of community.

"Moonlight," excerpt from *Notes from a Séance* (1999) by Shapiro & Smith

Moonlight epitomizes Shapiro & Smith's signature biting wit and breathtaking physicality.

Danial Shapiro (1958–2006) and Joanie Smith (1951) founded Shapiro & Smith Dance in 1985 after meeting in the companies of Murray Louis and Alwin Nikolais. Shapiro & Smith Dance has performed across the U.S., Europe, Asia and Canada, presented by major festivals and venues including the Joyce Theater, Lincoln Center Out-of-Doors, Dance Theater Workshop, St. Mark's Danspace Project, PS 122,

Festival of Milano, Teatro de Danza in Mexico City, Recklinghausen RuhrFestSpiele, and the Korean International Festival. Danial Shapiro died of complications from prostate cancer in 2006, and now Joanie Smith continues as sole artistic director of Shapiro & Smith Dance, which has received support from the National Endowment for the Arts, the McKnight Foundation, the Target Foundation, New York State Council for the Arts, and the Jerome, Harkness, Greenwall, *Dance Magazine*, and Joyce Mertz-Gilmore foundations.

Home (1988), by Doug Varone

Varone considers Home the grandfather of all the dances he has made about relationships.

Award-winning choreographer and director Doug Varone works in dance, theater, opera, film, and fashion. His New York City-based Doug Varone and Dancers has been commissioned and presented to critical acclaim by leading international venues for close to three decades. On tour, the company has performed in more than 125 cities in 45 states across the U.S. and in Europe, Asia, Canada, and South America. In the concert dance world, Varone has created a body of works globally. Commissions include the Paul Taylor Dance Company, Limón Company, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Rambert Dance Company (London), Martha Graham Dance Company, Dancemakers (Canada), Batsheva Dance Company (Israel), Bern Ballet (Switzerland) and An Creative (Japan), among others. In opera, Varone is in demand as both a director and choreographer. He has staged multiple premieres and new productions for The Metropolitan Opera, Minnesota Opera, Opera Colorado, Washington Opera, New York City Opera, and Boston Lyric Opera. His numerous theater credits include choreography for Broadway, Off-Broadway and regional theaters across the country. Varone received his BFA from Purchase College where he was awarded the President's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2007. Numerous honors and awards include a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, an Obie Award (Lincoln Center's Orpheus and Euridice), the Jerome Robbins Fellowship at the Bogliasco Institute in Italy, two individual Bessie Awards, a Doris Duke Artist Award, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Dance Guild.

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About the Chamber Dance Company:

Founded in 1990 by Hannah Wiley, the Chamber Dance Company is a favorite of Pacific Northwest audiences and is revered throughout the country. At a time when much of the modern dance canon is being lost to history, the Company's mission to present, record and archive works of historical and artistic significance is more important than ever. The UW Department of Dance proudly supports this effort to ensure these dances are kept alive and accessible for local dance audiences and scholars.

The Company is comprised of professional dancers from nationally and internationally acclaimed dance groups who are pursuing the Master of Fine Arts degree in dance, plus other accomplished members of the UW dance community.

"[A] vibrant company with terrific repertory...[making] this annual concert one of the best in Seattle, local or otherwise."
(Seattle Weekly)

<https://dance.washington.edu/chamber-dance-company>

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All photos by Steve Korn:

- Camille A. Brown, *City of Rain*. Dancer: Abdiel Jacobsen
- Shapiro & Smith, *Moonlight*. Dancers: Jenn Pray, Gary Champi
- Zvi Gotheiner, *Chairs* (excerpt). Abdiel Jacobsen, Roel Seeber

High-quality photos available; contact lisakwak@uw.edu or visit <https://dance.washington.edu/press-releases-and-photos>.

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