

# CONTEMPORARY DANCE OKLAHOMA



**APRIL 25-MAY 3**

**Elsie C. Brackett Theatre**

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WEITZENHOFER FAMILY COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS  
**UNIVERSITY THEATRE**  
*The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA*

and  
**SCHOOL OF DANCE**  
present

# **CONTEMPORARY DANCE OKLAHOMA**

Guest Choreographers

**BAYE & ASA and NETTA YERUSHALMY**

CDO Artistic Director/School of Dance Choreographer  
**ROXANNE LYST**

School of Dance Choreographers

**AUSTIN HARTEL, MEEGAN HERTENSTEINER**

Costume Designers

**NATALIE LANE, SAM VERBENSKY**

Lighting Designers

**LUCAS KNAPP, CONNER LIN**

Sound Designer

**RICHARD SPRECKER**

Stage Managers

**CHRIS SADLER, ERICKA DODSON**

Director, School of Dance

**MICHAEL BEARDEN**

This production is suitable for all audiences.

**8 P.M. APRIL 25, 26, MAY 1, 2, 2025**

**3 P.M. APRIL 27, MAY 3, 2025**

Elsie C. Brackett Theatre

**OU FINE ARTS BOX OFFICE**

**(405) 325-4101**

**THEATRE.OU.EDU**

On behalf of the University of Oklahoma School of Dance students, faculty, and staff, welcome to our final main stage production of the season: Contemporary Dance Oklahoma. It is our privilege to share this innovative program with you. I would like to say a special thank you to CDO Director Roxanne Lyst for all her efforts in bringing this production to fruition. I am grateful for the faculty members Austin Hartel and Leslie Kraus as well as, the staff and students in the School of Dance who have worked so tirelessly in preparation for these performances. We are also fortunate to collaborate once again with our colleagues in the School of Drama, without whom this production could not be fully realized.

It is our honor to present two new guest artist works as part of this program. The first by award-winning New York-based artist Netta Yerushalmy and the second by up-and-coming dynamic duo Baye and Asa. Their works push the boundaries of what dance can be, and our students have significantly benefitted in their educational experience from collaborating with them.

Rounding out the program are three world premieres by School of Dance faculty members Austin Hartel, Roxanne Lyst, and Graduate Teaching Assistant Meegan Hertensteiner. Rehearsing these works has pushed the dancers to develop their versatility as dance artists beyond what they imagined possible. These dance works, along with the aforementioned pieces, are an integral part of our student's education as performers, problem solvers, and artists. They are challenged to explore new ways of moving, and in turn, they inspire us, the observer, to look at the art of dance in a fresh, contemporary way.

We hope you enjoy this program of all new works!

Warm Regards,

Michael Bearden  
Director, School of Dance  
University of Oklahoma

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Dear Friends and Patrons,

Welcome to Contemporary Dance Oklahoma, the finale production of our 2024-2025 University Theatre season!

It's an exciting and celebratory way to close a season that has brought the richness of the performing arts from Shakespeare to Kurt Weill, and Bertolt Brecht to a 1930's taxi drivers' strike, ballet from classic to contemporary, and the outrageous fun of an unpredictable spelling bee. In this production, five talented choreographers create dance experiences that are at once human and theatrical collaborations with lighting, scenic, sound, and costume designers. Each contributes uniquely to the production as it becomes a synthesis of thought, imagination, physicality, and generosity - brought to life, of course, by the cast of dancers in each piece.

I invite you to observe the dancers carefully as they inhabit a world of choreography and design. It's a world in which no two performances are the same - each has its own flavor, breath, and timing. Holding it all together backstage is the stage manager with cue sheets and headphones at the ready. The stage manager is a conductor of a special species coordinating the dancers, lights, music, house curtains rising and falling and avoiding the tiniest mistake before anyone else is even aware of it. Every performance is literally in the stage manager's hands and this special species deserves our thanks for their incredible collaborative talent. Tonight, we thank our stage managers and all the stage managers of this and every season. Truly, we could not do it without them! We also thank every audience member who has joined us this season. We have the joy of sharing the art we love with you, and we'll be waiting for you in September!

Professor Mary Margaret Holt  
Dean, Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts  
Nichols' Chair, Regents' Professor, and  
Presidential Professor  
University of Oklahoma



## A special thank you to our current Dean's Circle members!

- Membership as of March 5, 2025 -

### **CENTENNIAL CONTRIBUTORS**

Sandra Carpenter • Jack & Stephanie Chapman • David Hatton  
Bette Jo & Frank Hill • Linda & Keith Miller • Charles L. Oppenheim  
George Records • A. Max Weitzenhoffer

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Nancy Yoch • Linda Young • Carolyn Zachritz



100% of the funds raised through the OU Dean's Circle membership  
go toward providing students in the College of Fine Arts  
opportunities off-campus that promote artistic and intellectual development.

Questions? Contact David Barocio, Executive Director of Advancement,  
OU Foundation at [dbarocio@ou.edu](mailto:dbarocio@ou.edu) or call (405) 325-7376.

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## CONTEMPORARY DANCE OKLAHOMA 2025

### *pluralisms*

Choreographer: Netta Yerushalmy  
Costume Designer: Natalie Lane  
Lighting Designer: Lucas Knapp  
Music: *After the Treewatcher*  
*Capriccio on the Departure of a Beloved Brother*  
composed by Jeffrey Brooks, performed by  
Bang on a Can

This dance in two sections aims to suffuse the space with a plethora of movement forms, rhythms, and gestures. Gradually introducing more movement forms, and more individual dancers, by the end of the second section the stage explodes with a dynamic collage of remixed styles and idioms. Supported by a poignant and then quirky and raucous musical score, this piece allows the large ensemble of dancers to manifest the power of a pluralistic society while still joining together as a community in movement.

Diego Aguilar, Alana Benton, Alma Borges, Karmela Carbajal  
Noël Cornelius, Gabriella Garbarini, Lauren Konkol, Kennedy McCann  
Madison McVey, Trisha Pariezs, Ruby Peterson, Layla Rickman, Isabella Rondon  
Caitlin Smith, Kira Smith, Joslyn Swinney, Kaylynn Thompkins  
Gillian Todd, Blake Vest

### OMNE TRIUM PERFECTUM Everything that comes in threes is perfect

Choreographer: Meegan Hertensteiner  
Costume Designer: Samantha Verbsky  
Lighting Designer: Lucas Knapp  
Music: *28 Theme, Welcome to Britain, Go Go Go*  
*Fire-Bombing London, Going Home*  
composed by John Murphy  
*28 Weeks Later* Original Motion Picture  
Soundtrack

Dionne Bracey, Meegan Hertensteiner, Isabella Rondon

## CONTEMPORARY DANCE OKLAHOMA 2025

# LOST

Choreographer: Roxanne Lyst  
Costume Designer: Natalie Lane  
Lighting Designer: Lucas Knapp  
Music: *Four Dirges, Sz. 45, Op. 9a:1. Adagio*  
composed by Béla Bartók, performed by  
Alexei Lubimov

*Primary Colours*  
composed by Peter Gregson,  
performed by Peter Gregson, Warren  
Zielinski, Magdalena Filipczak, Meghan  
Cassidy, Richard Harwood

*.....quasi una fantasia....., Op. 27/1: Intro  
duzione*  
composed by György Kurtág,  
performed by Tamara Stefanovich, Asko  
Schönberg, Reinbert de Leeuw

*Lost* explores the chaos, destruction, and grief of a community that has been destroyed.

Quartet Dancers  
April 25, 27 & May 2  
Noël Cornelius, Anthony Glosson, Jr., Kennedy McCann, Averie Warren

April 26 & May 1, 3  
Kameron Bryant, Noël Cornelius, Ben Nemmers, Trisha Pariezs

Group Dancers  
Alana Benton, Leo Carter, Carli Medina, Lily Polemis, SarahAnn Posey

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*15-minute intermission*

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## CONTEMPORARY DANCE OKLAHOMA 2025

### J.D.O.T.D.O.T.G.O.

Choreographer: Austin Hartel  
Costume Designer: Samantha Verbsky  
Lighting Designer: Conner Lin  
Music: *(All Along the) Watchtower* instrumental  
composed by Bob Dylan, James Devlin  
performed by Devlin

*Heroes*  
composed by Brian Eno, David Bowie  
performed by Peter Gabriel, Ben Foster,  
London Scratch Orchestra

*Rockit*  
composed by Bill Laswell, Herbie Hancock,  
Michael Beinhorn  
performed by Herbie Hancock

Diego Aguilar, Darby Bauer, Danielle Bush, Zooey Cooley, Sophia Ferguson  
Gabriella Garbarini, Andie Gioino, Katharine Hart, Amelia Hertlein  
Meegan Herstensteiner, Madison Hoadley, Morgan Lingerfelt, Mario Lopez  
Madison McVey, Amari Norman, SarahAnn Posey, Amelia Scott, Kira Smith  
Joslyn Swinney, Olivia Williams, Emily Wyatt

### COMEBACK

Choreographers: Baye & Asa  
Costume Designer: Samantha Verbsky  
Lighting Designer: Conner Lin  
Music: *Aheym*  
composed by Bruce Dessner,  
performed by Kronos Quartet

*Untitled*  
composed and performed by Pavel Milyakov,  
Bendik Giske

Alma Borges, Dionne Bracey, Gwen Deiter, Anthony Glosson, Jr., Amelia Hertlein  
Morgan Lingerfelt, Amari Norman, Ruby Peterson, Layla Rickman  
Blake Vest, Averie Warren, Olivia Williams

Understudies: Madison McVey, Karmela Carbajal, Danielle Bush  
Kameron Bryant, Leo Carter



## CONTEMPORARY DANCE OKLAHOMA 2025



Diego Aguilar



Darby Bauer



Alana Benton



Alma Borges



Dionne Bracey



Kameron Bryant



Danielle Bush



Karmela Carbajal



Leo Carter



Zooley Cooley



Noël Cornelius



Gwen Deiter



Sophia Ferguson



Gabriella Garbarini



Rylie Gatlin



Andie Gioino

## CONTEMPORARY DANCE OKLAHOMA 2025



Anthony Glosson, Jr.



Katharine Hart



Meegan Hertensteiner



Amelia Hertlein



Madison Hoadley



Lauren Konkol



Morgan Lingerfelt



Mario Lopez



Kennedy McCann



Madison McVey



Carli Medina



Ben Nemmers



Amari Norman



Trisha Pareizs



Ruby Peterson



Lily Polemis

## CONTEMPORARY DANCE OKLAHOMA 2025



SarahAnn Posey



Layla Rickman



Isabella Rondon



Amelia Scott



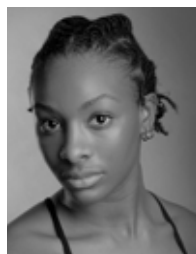
Caitlin Smith



Kira Smith



Joslyn Swinney



Kalynn Thompson



Gillian Todd



Blake Vest



Averie Warren



Olivia Williams



Emily Wyatt

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

**DIEGO AGUILAR** is a modern dance performance sophomore with a minor in arts management from Dallas, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: CDO '24; *Orfeo Ed Eurydice*.

**DARBY BAUER** is a modern dance performance freshman from Orange, CA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Young Choreographers' Showcase '25. Lyric Opera: *Romeo et Juliet*.

**ALANA BENTON** is a modern dance performance and microbiology sophomore from Houston, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Very, Very Human* and *Pariah* (YCS '25); *Awakening* and *Bittersweet Symphony* (CDO '24); *Therefore I Am* (YCS '24). OU School of Music and OU School of Dance Collaboration: *Orfeo Ed Eurydice*.

**ALMA BORGES** is a first-year MFA in modern dance student from Mexico. She is a Mexican dancer, choreographer, and teacher with a diverse range of performances, including participation in the Opening of the Volleyball World Championship 2023, the musical "Pica, Pica" and with the Atayde Circus. She was a member of the CCC Contemporary Dance Company from 2019 to 2022. Her choreographic works, "Vulnerability of the Canvas" and "Emptiness," have been featured in "Primate Esénico International Dance Festival" and "Pigmentos Dance Festival". Ms. Borges holds a BFA in Dance Performance.

**DIONNE BRACEY** is a modern dance performance senior from Houston, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Awakening*, Five Moons Festival; *Vespers*, *Clear the Air* (CDO '24); *Sensory Memories* (YCS '24); *This Old House Is All We Have*, *Night Light* (CDO '22); *5, 7, 5*, *Somebody to Love* (YCS '22); *Falling Angels*, OFB 2022; *Facets*, *Overpass* (CDO '21).

**KAMERON BRYANT** is a modern dance performance sophomore from Fort Worth, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: *The Nutcracker*; *Deliverance*, *The Community that Fails Us* (YCS '24)

**DANIELLE BUSH** is a modern dance performance freshman from Houston, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25.

**KARMELA CARBAJAL** is a modern dance performance and biology junior from Dallas, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25; YCS '24; *Vespers* (CDO '24); YCS '23; *Awakening* (CDO '22). OU School of Music and OU School of Dance Collaboration: *Carmina Burana*. OU School of Dance: Once Upon a Dream. Perry Mansfield Summer Intensive 2023: Dancer.

**LEO CARTER** is a modern dance performance and biomedical engineering freshman from Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Credits: OU University Theatre: Young Choreographers' Showcase '24.

**ZOOEY COOLEY** is a modern dance performance and advertising freshman, minoring in art, from Flower Mound, TX. This is her University Theatre debut performance.

**NOËL CORNELIUS** is a modern dance performance and religious studies minor senior from Houston, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Vespers*, *Orangery* (CDO '24); *Overpass* (CDO '21); *FACET* (CDO '21); *Let Me Introduce Myself* (CDO '21); *This Old House is All We Have* (CDO '22); *Night Light* (CDO '22); *The Way You Hide* (CDO '22); YCS '22, '23, '24. Pigmentos Dance Festival: *Lost*.

**GWEN DEITER** is a modern dance performance freshman from Olathe, KS. Credits: OU University Theatre: Young Choreographers' Showcase '25.

**SOPHIA FERGUSON** is a modern dance performance freshman from Houston, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Pariah* (YCS '25) **GABRIELLA GARBARINI** is a modern dance performance junior from Lake Worth, FL. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25; CDO '23, '24.

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

**GABRIELLA GARBARINI** is a modern dance performance junior from Lake Worth, FL. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25, CDO '24.

**RYLIE GATLIN** is a modern dance and pre-physical therapy junior from Fort Worth, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Galatians 5:17*, *Foreign Metal* (YCS '25); *Vespers*, *Clear the Air* (CDO '24); *Awakening* (CDO '22); *This Old House is All We Have* (CDO '22); *REM* (YCS '23). OU School of Music and OU School of Dance Collaboration: *Carmina Burana*.

**ANDIE GIOINO** is a modern dance performance and English literature freshman from Suwanee, GA. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Orfeo Ed Eurydice*; YCS '24.

**ANTHONY C. GLOSSON JR.** Is a modern dance performance junior from Dallas, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Arts! Arts! Arts! Gala; Dancer, Choreographer (YCS '25); Pigmentos Dance Festival; Once Upon a Dream; Five Moons Dance Festival; CDO '24; YCS '24; *The Nutcracker*; YCS '23; CDO '22; OU School of Dance: Riley Henderson Capstone; Alycesandra Martinez Capstone; Lina Davis & Kira Robinson Capstone; OU School of Dance: Once Upon a Dream '22; Once Upon a Dream '23.

**KATHARINE HART** is a modern dance performance sophomore from Jenks, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: *It's About Time* (CDO '24); YCS '24; *Orfeo Ed Eurydice*. OU School of Dance: Dancer, 2023 Summer Intensive.

**GLENNE HARVELL** is a modern dance performance and letters senior from Overland Park, KS. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Betty* (CDO '20); *Bothy Breed* (CDO '21); *This Old House is All We Have* (CDO '22); *Night Light* (CDO '22); YCS'22; YCS '23; YCS '24; *The Sleeping Beauty*, Act III (OFB '22).

**MEEGAN HERTENSTEINER** is a second year MFA graduate student in modern dance. In 2005, Meegan received her BFA in Modern Dance Performance from OU. Since then, she has performed and taught throughout the United States and spent the last 15 years in San Francisco, CA. She has worked with Ballet New England, SoulForce Dance Company, Number 9 Dance Company, CALI & CO., Punkki Co, Deborah Slater Dance Theater, and numerous other projects. In 2008 she co-founded Human Creature Dance Theatre with partner and fellow OU alum Derek Harris.

**AMELIA HERTLEIN** is a modern dance performance junior from Highlands Ranch, CO. Credits: OU University Theatre: Dancer and Choreographer (YCS '25); Dancer, (CDO '24); Dancer and Choreographer (YCS '24); CDO '22; YCS '23; Crew, *Everybody*. OU School of Music and OU School of Dance collaboration: *Carmina Burana*; Dancer, Giordano Dance Intensive.

**MADISON HOADLEY** is a modern dance performance freshman with a minor in health and exercise science from Eldersburg, MD. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25.

**LAUREN KONKOL** is a modern dance performance junior from Austin, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Orangery* (CDO '24); *Foreign Metal*, *Discarded* (YCS '24); *Awakening* (CDO '22); *Divine* (YCS '22); *Apothosis of OCD* (CDO '22); *Pink Lemonade* (YCS '24). OU School of Music and OU School of Dance collaboration: *Carmina Burana*.

**MORGAN LINGERFELT** is a modern dance performance and nonprofit & public administration freshman from Broken Arrow, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: Young Choreographers' Showcase '25.

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

**MARIO LOPEZ** is a modern dance performance and advertising junior from Dallas, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25; CDO '22; YCS '23; *Carmina Burana*.

**KENNEDY McCANN** is a modern dance performance and marketing senior from Coppell, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Foreign Metal* (YCS '25); *Very, Very, Human* (YCS '25); *Lost*, *Pigmentos Dance Festival*; *Vespers* (CDO '24); *Clear The Air* (CDO '24); *Overpass* (CDO '21); *Night Light* (CDO '22); *This Old House is All We Have* (CDO '22). OU School of Music and OU School of Dance collaboration: *Carmina Burana*.

**MADISON MCVEY** is a modern dance performance junior from Jupiter, FL. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Vespers* (CDO '24); *This Old House is all We Have*, *Awakening* (CDO '23); CDO '22; YCS '23; YCS '24. OU School of Dance: *Once Upon a Dream* 2022, 2023. Perry Mansfield Summer Intensive 2023: Dancer.

**CARLI MEDINA** is a modern dance performance and human health & biology senior from San Antonio, TX, with a minor in biology and has completed the pre-PA professional track. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Where the Mind Goes*, *Very Human* (YCS '25); *Go Forth and Conquer* (YCS '24); *Vespers*, *Clear the Air* (CDO '24); REM, *Apotheosis of OCD* (YCS '23); *Night Light* (CDO '22); *Somebody to Love*, *Mammoth* (YCS '22); *Facets*, *Overpass* (CDO '21). OU School of Music and OU School of Dance collaboration '23: *Carmina Burana*.

**BEN NEMMERS** is a ballet performance junior from Dallas, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Whereabouts Unknown* (OFB 24); *Another Doodle* (OFB 24); *Berio Suite* (OFB 24); *Nutcracker Prince*, *The Nutcracker*; *Deux Amours* (OFB '23). Aspen-Santa Fe Ballet: *Jack in the Box*, *The Nutcracker*. Tupelo-Balle: *Bluebird*, *Sleeping Beauty*. Victoria Ballet Theatre: *Franz*, *Coppelia*.

**AMARI NORMAN** is a modern dance performance and pre-med senior from St. Louis, MO. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25; *Vespers* (CDO '24); *Overpass* (CDO '21); Brooke Strachan's piece (YCS); *This Old House is All We Have* (CDO '22); *Night Light* (CDO '22); Emma Hallin's piece (YCS); Carson McHugh's piece (YCS); Averie Warren's piece (YCS); *Falling Angels* (OFB '22) . OU School of Music and OU School of Dance collaboration: *Carmina Burana*. Pigmentos Dance Festival 2023: *Sharing Ideas*; *Thunderstruck*; *Sobre La Orbita*.

**TRISHA PAREIZS** is a modern dance performance junior from Augusta, GA. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25; CDO '22. OU School of Music and OU School of Dance collaboration: *Carmina Burana*.

**RUBY PETERSON** is a modern dance performance sophomore from Fayetteville AR. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Orfeo Ed Eurydice*; YCS '25; YCS '24; *Awakening*, *Orangery* (CDO '24) American College Dance Association Screendance: *Try a Little Tenderness*.

**LILY POLEMIS** is a modern dance performance and sociology with criminology emphasis freshman from San Diego, CA. Credits: OU University Theatre: *By Any Means Necessary* and *The Carnival* (YCS' 25).

**SARAHANN POSEY** is a modern dance performance sophomore from Plano, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Orangery* (CDO '24); *La Carnival* and *By Any Means Necessary* (YCS '25); *Orfeo Ed Eurydice*.

**LAYLA RICKMAN** is a modern dance performance junior from Oklahoma City, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25; *Vespers* (CDO '24); CDO '23; YCS '24. OU School of Music and OU School of Dance collaboration: *Carmina Burana*.



## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

**ISABELLA RONDON** is a modern dance performance senior from Carrollton, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Vespers* (CDO '24); *Bitter Sweet Symphony* (CDO '24); *Awakening*; Five Moons Dance Festival; *Awakening* Ballet Under The Stars. *Overpass* (CDO '21); *Let Me Introduce Myself* (CDO); *The Way You Hide* (CDO); *Night Light* (CDO '22). Pigmentos Dance Festival 2023: Pieces by Austin Hartel and Glenn Edgerton.

**AMELIA SCOTT** is a modern dance performance and pre-med junior, with minors in psychology and general business, from Boulder, CO. Credits: OU University Theatre: Contemporary Dance Oklahoma '24.

**CAITLIN SMITH** is a modern dance performance and marketing junior from Katy, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25; *Awakening* (CDO); YCS. Alonzo King LINES Ballet Summer Intensive: Ensemble, *The Equation*.

**KIRA SMITH** is a modern dance performance sophomore with a focus in pre-physical therapy from Houston, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Orangery* (CDO '24); YCS '23; YCS '24; *The Way You Hide* (CDO '23); OU School of Music and School of Dance collaborations: *Carmina Burana*.

**JOSLYN SWINNEY** is a modern dance performance freshman from Arp, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25.

**KALYNN THOMPkins** is a modern dance performance freshman from Dallas, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25.

**GILLIAN TODD** is a modern dance performance and letters: constitutional studies freshman from Olathe, KS. This is her University Theatre performance debut.

**BLAKE VEST** is a modern dance performance junior from Prosper, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Choreographer (YCS '25); *Awakening* (CDO). OU School of Music and OU School of Dance collaboration: *Carmina Burana*.

**AVERIE WARREN** is a modern dance performance junior from Fort Worth, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: YCS '25; *Awakening* (CDO); *This Old House is All We Have* (CDO); Five Moons Dance Festival; Choreographer, Dancer *Therefore I Am* (YCS). OU School of Music and OU School of Dance collaboration: *Carmina Burana*.

**OLIVIA WILLIAMS** is a modern dance performance sophomore from Edmond, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: *Bittersweet Symphony*, *Awakening* (CDO '24); *Awakening*, Five Moons Dance Festival; *Discarded* (YCS '25); *Orfeo ed Eurydice*; The Community That Fails Us, Sensory Memory, Rift (YCS '24).

**EMILY WYATT** is a modern dance performance major from Oklahoma City, OK. Credits: Choreographer (YCS '25); *Orangery* (CDO '24); *Orfeo ed Eurydice*; *The Community That Fails Us* (YCS '24).

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## NETTA YERUSHALMY

For her choreographic work, Netta Yerushalmy has been awarded a USA Artists Fellowship, Guggenheim Fellowship, Princeton Arts Fellowship, Research Fellowship @New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Toulmin Fellowship for Women Leaders in Dance @Center for Ballet and the Arts, NY City Center Choreography Fellowship, Jerome Robbins Bogliasco Fellowship, Foundation for Contemporary Arts Grants to Artists Award, National Dance Project, among others. Her work has been presented by venues such as Danspace Project, Jacob's Pillow, Joyce Theater, American Dance Festival, New York Live Arts, HAU Berlin, Wexner, La Mama, River to River Festival, Center for the Arts/Buffalo, International Dance (Jerusalem), Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater Foundation, ODC & Bridge Project, Suzanne Dellal Center for Dance (Tel Aviv). Her work has been supported by the Baryshnikov Arts Center, Watermill Center, NCC/Akron, Djerassi, Movement Research, MANCC. Working across genres and disciplines, Netta has contributed to artist Josiah McElheny's Prismatic Park at Madison Square Park, choreographed a Red Hot Chili Peppers music video, worked with cellist Maya Beiser and composer Julia Wolfe on Spinning, and collaborated on evenings of theory and performance at ICI Berlin. As a guest artist and visiting faculty, She's created work with repertory companies and students nationwide: Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company, Juilliard School, NYU Tisch, Rutgers, University of Utah, Zenon Dance Company, American Dance Festival, Alvin Ailey School, University of Texas at Austin, UNC Charlotte, Roger Williams University, and Sarah Lawrence College, Marymount Manhattan and many others. As a dancer, Netta has performed with Pam Tanowitz Dance, Doug Varone and Dancers, Joanna Kotze and others. She received a BFA in dance from NYU's Tisch.



Netta Yerushalmy

**BAYE & ASA** creates movement art projects directed & choreographed by Amadi 'Baye' Washington & Sam 'Asa' Pratt. They've presented their work at The Joyce Theater, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, La MaMa Experimental Theater Club, Baryshnikov Arts Center, Jacob's Pillow, Pioneer Works, Guggenheim Works & Process, The American Dance Festival, and more. They were one of Dance Magazine's "25 to Watch" in 2022, and were recipients of Dance Magazine's 2023 Harkness Promise Award. They've created works for repertory companies including The Martha Graham Dance Company, BODYTRAFFIC, and Alvin Ailey II. Their film work has won numerous awards and has been presented internationally.



Amada "Baye" Washington & Sam "Asa" Pratt



**KASEY ALLEE-FOREMAN** (Associate Producer) has served as Associate Producer/ Production Manager for over 100 productions in the Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts at the University of Oklahoma. She is currently the President of USITT. A short listing of her professional theatre credits include: SphinxCON, a conference promoting Diversity in the Arts; Canterbury Choral: Bernstein's Mass; Houston Grand Opera: Renée Fleming's premiere *La Traviata* (world premiere); Stages Repertory Theatre (Houston); Houston Shakespeare Festival; Shakespeare Festival at Tulane (New Orleans); Theatre West (Los Angeles). Professional film credits include: *Mystery, Alaska, Lost and Found; Austin Powers: The Spy who Shagged Me*. She is proud to have served on the USITT Board of Directors as the VP for Conferences, the VP for Education and Training and as a Director. She has served USITT on the Conference Committee chair and member, IDEAS Committee chair and member, is the co-founder of the Gateway Program, and has been the Co-chair of the Women in Theatre Network. Kasey received her MFA in Costume Design and Technology and Lighting Design and Technology from the University of New Orleans and her BA in Theatre Arts from Furman University.

**ERICKA DODSON** (Stage Manager) is a stage management sophomore from Pryor, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: Production Assistant, Oklahoma Festival Ballet - *The Nutcracker* 2023, Associate Stage Manager, *Crazy for You*. Associate Stage Manager, *As You Like It*. School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Stage Manager, *Bright Star*. Associate Stage Manager for the University of Oklahoma's School of Dance's production of *The Nutcracker*, performed at the Pikes Peak Center in 2024.

**AUSTIN HARTEL** (Choreographer) Austin Hartel brings his extensive international experience to the Oklahoma International Dance Festival as Artistic Director. Originally from Washington, D.C., Mr. Hartel took his first dance class with Mary Day at the Washington School of Ballet at 8. He continued his training at the Pennsylvania Academy of Ballet. He received his BFA in Dance from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. After a 16-year career touring and performing worldwide, he returned to school and received his MFA from CalArts in Dance and Integrated Media.

Mr. Hartel danced for five years as a soloist and co-choreographer with Pilobolus Dance Theater, appearing worldwide and on television. After leaving the company, he continued to work on special projects with Pilobolus for eight more years. In addition, he has danced with Dances We Dance, The Frank Holder Dance Company, Dendy Dance and Theater, Valley Forge Dance Theater, The Opera Company of Philadelphia, The Charlotte Opera Company, and Tandy Beal. Former honors include The U.S. Department of State's selection to serve as a Cultural Specialist touring Central and South America for 10 years.

A 2009 Fulbright Scholar's Grant recipient, Mr. Hartel worked with the National Ballet of Paraguay for 6 months as the Resident Choreographer, presenting three full evenings of his choreography for the Company.

As Artistic Director of Dalton-Hartel Dance and Hartel Dance Group, which toured both nationally and internationally to critical acclaim, his choreography has been presented on five continents and at such prestigious festivals as The Vignale Dance Festival, The Florence Dance Festival, and the Versiliana Festival in Italy, The 5th Festival de Danca de Mercosul and the International Seminar de Danca in Brazil. Additional performance venues include NYC's The Sylvia and Danny Kaye Playhouse, DIA, The Mulberry Street Theater, Hudson Guild Theater, Dance Theater Workshop, Clark Studio Theater at Lincoln Center, and St. Mark's Church. He continues representing American Arts and Culture by teaching, lecturing, and performing internationally while maintaining a national presence. He has been on faculty at the University of Oklahoma's School of Dance since 2001.

## WHO'S WHO BEHIND THE SCENES

**MARY MARGARET HOLT** (Producer) began her early ballet training in Austin, Texas at Austin Civic Ballet, receiving a Ford Foundation scholarship for study with the San Francisco Ballet at the age of 15. Subsequently, she received a Ford Foundation scholarship for study at the School of American Ballet, also appearing with the New York City Ballet. Holt accepted a soloist contract with Houston Ballet upon completing her BFA in Ballet Performance. While a member of Houston Ballet, she danced a wide variety of solo and principal roles in the classical and contemporary repertoire by choreographers including Stevenson, Van Manen, Van Danzig, Petipa, Balanchine, Taras, Dolin, Boris, Clouser, Franklin, Ivanov, de Mille, and O'Donnell. She also performed principal roles in Terekhov's *The Firebird*, *The Snow Maiden*, and *Don Quixote*. She has performed as a guest artist, teacher, and choreographer with ballet and opera companies across the United States.

Holt joined the dance faculty of the University of Oklahoma School of Dance as an assistant professor, following Miguel Terekhov as chair in 1991, and an appointment as director in 1998. As director of Oklahoma Festival Ballet, Holt has choreographed over forty ballets and operas and led Oklahoma Festival Ballet on tours to France (six), the Internationale Haydnstage in Austria (2), Mexico (3), Taiwan, China, and Ecuador. Holt choreography includes the music of Franck, Haydn, The Beatles, Porter, Weill, Mozart, Ginastera, Ikard, Holley, Satie, Bartok, Orff, and Debussy and her ballets have been seen across the U.S. as well as in South America, the United Kingdom, and Europe. Under Holt's leadership, Oklahoma Festival Ballet performed works from the national repertoire by Joffrey and Balanchine as well as de Mille's, *Rodeo*. Her students have performed with Miami City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Ballet Arizona, Ballet Austin, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Orlando Ballet, Oklahoma City Ballet, and Tulsa Ballet, and as finalists and semifinalists in the International Ballet Competition. At the University of Oklahoma

Holt taught every course in the ballet curriculum and her continuing studies in ballet pedagogy include studying Bournonville Technique with Tage Wendt; and Vaganova Technique at the Bolshoi Academy at Vail; and in St. Petersburg and Minsk, Russia.

Holt was an honoree at the second national RDA Festival in Pittsburgh in 2007, and she received the CORPS de Ballet International Lifetime Achievement Award in 2020. She has served on the Dance Panel of the National Endowment for the Arts and been a panelist on Women in the Academy at Oxford. She is the recipient of the Governor's Arts Award, the Presidential Professorship, and the Regents' Professorship at OU where she also holds the John and Mary Nichols' Chair in Dance.

**LUCAS KNAPP** (Lighting Designer) is a lighting and projections design sophomore from Kansas City, MO. Credits: University Theatre: Projections Designer, *Waiting For Lefty*; Lighting Designer, *The Nutcracker* (OFB '24); Lighting Designer, *Berio Suite* (OFB '24); Lighting Designer, *Myosotis* (YCS '25); Lighting Designer, *Go Forth and Conquer* (YCS '25), Assistant Projections Designer, *Crazy For You*; Assistant Projections Designer, *Life is a Dream*; OU Musical Theatre: Assistant Lighting Designer, *Bright Star*.

**NATALIE LANE** (Costume Designer) is a costume design sophomore from Bixby, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: Wardrobe Crew Head, RENT.

**CONNER LIN** (Lighting Designer) is a lighting and sound design sophomore from Allen, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Lighting Designer, *Galatians 5:17* (YCS '25); Assistant Sound Designer, *Crazy For You*; Sound Designer, *As You Like It*; Assistant Lighting Designer, *Rita & L'heure Espagnole*; Lighting Designer, *Sensory Memories* (YCS '24). OU Helmerich School of Drama: Lighting Designer, *Inside Siberia*. Sooner Theatre Armstrong Studio Series: Associate Lighting Designer, *Hadestown*; Associate Lighting Designer, *A Christmas Story*; Associate Lighting Designer, *Fiddler on the Roof*.

## WHO'S WHO BEHIND THE SCENES

**ROXANNE LYST** (Choreographer, Artistic Director of Contemporary Dance Oklahoma) is an Associate Professor of Modern Dance at the University of Oklahoma and Director of Contemporary Dance Oklahoma. A native of Annapolis, MD, Roxanne began her professional dance training in Washington D.C. under the mentorship of Alfred Dove and Adrian Bolton. She continued her studies at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival and as a fellowship student at the Ailey School. Ms. Lyst has been a member of AILEY II, The Philadelphia Dance Company (PHILADANCO), and The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (AAADT). She has toured nationally and internationally performing works choreographed by Alvin Ailey, Judith Jamison, Robert Battle, Twyla Tharp, Ulysses Dove, Lar Lubavitch, Paul Taylor, Ronald K. Brown, Mauro Bigonzetti, Alonzo King, and many more. She has performed independently with Hope Boykin Dance, DANCE IQUAL, and Waheed Works. At PHILADANCO and AAADT Ms. Lyst taught company class, master classes around the world, and their perspective schools. She received her Master of Fine Arts in 2013 from Hollins University. Ms. Lyst joined the faculty at OU in 2016 and became an Associate Professor in 2021. In 2024 she was awarded the Yvonne Choteau and Miguel Terekhov Presidential Professorship.

**CHRIS SADLER** (Stage Manager) is a Professor in the Helmerich School of Drama, leading the stage management emphasis. He holds an MFA in Stage Management from UCSD, and a BFA in Theatre Arts Management from Ithaca College. For OU University and Lab Theatre: Stage Manager for OFB '24; OFB '23; OFB '22; CDO '22; CDO '21; OFB '21; CDO '19; OFB '17; CDO '14; OFB '13; CDO '12; *A Chorus Line*; CDO '09; OFB '09; *Lend Me a Tenor*; *Great Expectations*; and *Pal Joey*. Assistant Stage Manager on *The Nutcracker* (2023 & 2015); OFB '18; OFB '16; *Julius Caesar*; OFB '12; *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*; and *9 Parts of Desire*. OU School of Dance: Stage Manager, *Haydn's Creation* and *The Seasons*. Chris is a contributor and co-editor of *Off Headset: Essays on Stage Management Life, Work, and Career*, released January 2022 by Focal Press & USITT. He is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association and the Stage Managers' Association.

**RICHARD SPRECKER** (Sound Designer) holds an MFA from University of Missouri- Kansas City. He is Associate Professor of Sound Design for the Helmerich School of Drama. Lighting Design credits for OU University Theatre include: *Così fan tutte*; YCS '20; *The Nutcracker* (OFB '19); *The Golden Cockerel*; *A Christmas Carol*; *Nice Work If You Can Get It*; *Hansel and Gretel*; *The Nutcracker* (OFB '15); *Ragtime*; *Carmen In Concert*. Composer and Sound Design credits: *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*. Sound Design credits: *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*; *Pippin*; *She Loves Me*; *Spring Awakening*; *Twelfth Night*; *Noises Off*; *Curtains*; *Little Women*; *Suite From There Is A Time* (CDO '14); *The Cherry Orchard*; *Coram Boy*; *L'Elisir d' Amore*. Projection Design credits include: CDO '14. Other design credits include: *Les Dialogues des Carmelites* (UMKC Conservatory); *Carmina Burana* (UMKC Dance); *Comedy of Asses*; *Oh What a Lovely War*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UMKC Theatre); *Spooky Dog* (Coterie Theatre/UMKC Theatre); *Dead On Her Feet* (North Wall Arts, Oxford, UK).

**SAM VERBSKY** (Costume Designer) is a costume design junior from Frisco, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Assistant Costume Designer, *As You Like It*; Wardrobe Crew Head, *Rita and L'heure espagnole*; Wardrobe Crew Head, *Life is a Dream*; Light Board Operator, *The Merry Widow*; Run Crew, *Everybody*; Wardrobe Crew, *Marie Antoinette*.

## CDO 2025 PRODUCTION STAFF

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Producer                                  | Mary Margaret Holt   |
| Associate Producer                        | Kasey Allee-Foreman  |
| Faculty Advisor to the Costume Designers  | Lloyd Cracknell  |
| Faculty Advisor to the Lighting Designers | Renée Brode  |
| Faculty Advisor to Stage Management       | Christopher Sadler   |
| Design and Production Area Coordinator    | Renée Brode  |
| Technical Director                        | Akari Harada   |
| Production Carpenter                      | E. Pope  |
| Scenic Charge Artist                      | Sydney Hagen   |
| Scenic Undergraduate Assistants           | Elizabeth Elliott, Braxton Ellsworth, Cadence Gates<br>Diego Gonzales, Gillian Kelley, Gage Martinez<br>Michael Millier, Jenna Norton, Cara Oates<br>Abigail Pirtle, Bronwyn Quinlan, Jalisa Reed<br>Goldie Snow |
| Properties Director                       | Margot Glaser  |
| Run Crew Heads                            | Cooper Smith, Goldie Snow  |
| Run Crew                                  | Alivia Downs, Nola McKee<br>Taylor Stephens, Sydney Tuffnell   |
| Fly Rail Operator                         | Oscar Miller   |
| Electrics Supervisor                      | Eric Stehl   |
| Lighting Undergraduate Assistants         | Micah Dooley, Lauren Foster, Matheiu Gay<br>Madison Heckelsberg, Noah Jittawait<br>Lucas Knapp, Madeline Lewis, Conner Lin<br>Emily Morris, Shay Pool, Ruby Ravsten<br>Kellen Sapp, Sophia Smith                 |
| Production Electrician                    | Ruby Ravsten   |
| Light Board Programmer                    | Madeline Lewis   |
| Light Board Operator                      | Federico Hradek  |
| Deck Electricians                         | Larson Frazier, Olivia Costello  |
| Audio Undergraduate Assistants            | Madison Hecklesberg, Conner Lin  |
| Sound Board Operator                      | Jalisa Reed  |
| Costume Studio Supervisor                 | Christina Draper   |
| Cutter/Draper                             | Ananda Keator  |
| Junior Draper                             | Chloe Mullin   |
| Lead Stitcher                             | Amy Kercher  |
| Stitcher                                  | Stephanie Cirar  |
| Costume Undergraduate Assistants          | Emily Heskett, Paige Kasulis, Natalie Lane<br>Emily Matthews, Joy Omeish, Emily Post<br>Landre Sanders, Sydney Tuffnell, Samantha Verbsky  |
| Wardrobe Supervisor                       | Ananda Keator  |
| Wardrobe Crew Head                        | Ian Lee  |
| Wardrobe Crew                             | Ava Collyar, Ava Kabealo, Rylee Luellen<br>Michael Miller, Cara Oates, Paeton Walker   |
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| Marketing Assistant                       | Lane Houk  |
| Production Undergraduate Assistant        | McKenna Bowman   |

# IN MEMORIAM

## ALAN RAY HISERODT

College of Fine Arts Concert Hall Manager

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Alan Hiserodt, our dear colleague, friend, and mentor to countless students, passed unexpectedly in June of this year. With respect and affection, we take this opportunity to pay tribute to his memory and celebrate his life.



Alan started his journey at OU in 2007, when he was hired as a Concert Hall Manager. In 2009, he moved to Reynolds Performing Arts Center as the Sound Supervisor for University Theater, Performance Hall Supervisor for the College of Fine Arts, and was an instructor of sound for the School of Drama. He loved his job and always found a way to solve any problem he encountered, often before anyone else knew there was a problem.

With a passion for mentoring and teaching students, Alan's office often served as a lounge where students went to eat lunch, get advice, do homework, or have a good cry. Alan kept cheese sticks and protein bars in his office, checking in with students to make sure they had eaten that day, and that they were taking care of themselves. Alan held himself to very high professional and personal standards and he expected those students to challenge themselves to meet their potential. He considered his colleagues his Fine Arts Family.

Alan learned to love music listening on an RCA Victor Stereo console in his childhood home. He was a drummer dedicated to creating original music and sharing it with others. He could find a way to make interesting sounds with almost anything and was included in a soundscape performance in Pitman Hall, where his original work was played along with other students. Alan played in many bands, starting in high school. He was in the drum line at Memorial High School in Tulsa, attending Rogers State University on a drum scholarship. He moved to Norman, OK in 1989 to attend the University of Oklahoma, becoming a part of the music scene in Norman starting from 1989 until his death. He played Norman Music Festival several times with different bands and played at SXSW in 2006.

Alan met his wife, Stephnee, at OU and graduated with his degree in psychology in 1993. They were married in 1994. Alan had his own sound business in Norman and worked at Goddard Health Center. He started his own record label, Sprockett Records, spent time playing and mixing albums in a friend's studio, and later built his own home studio. Alan served on the board for the Norman Jazz in June Festival starting in 2017 and as board president for two years.

Some of Alan's former students shared his impact on their lives. One student told Alan, "I'll see and hear you on every stage for the rest of my life. Thanks for letting me in.". Another former student shared, "He became family. He was a motivator, a dedicated artist, a leader, a kind heart, and overall, someone you wanted to share stories with and take advice from. Alan was calm and he taught calm. He reminded me that all I had learned built up to this movement and to sit in the calm. I will never forget that lesson as long as I live." Lastly, "Alan only taught one official class, but he taught more than that. He helped make us better people better equipped to handle the world outside the classroom. He was always on the side of the students, keeping an eye on us even after we graduated. He always listened to what we had to say, and his office was a safe space for us to vent our frustration without being judged. He was a role model who embodied the values the university puts forward."

Alan is survived by his wife Stephnee, his sister Laurie, his golden retriever Rosie, and numerous friends, OU family, bandmates, and his Jazz in June family. Stephnee is certain Alan is probably out there somewhere making noises with his former dogs Sprockett, Ruth, Rowdy, and Bert.

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Kathleen Haynes, Heritage Property Management, \*Matthew and Rebecca Herrin,  
\*Mary Margaret Holt and Andrew Phelan, Kristi Isacksen, Caroline Kenneally,  
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Dane & Mary Gill  
Gregory Kunesch

Julia & John Norlin  
Marilyn Ogilvie  
Erin and Billy Shipley  
Jean & Terrye Ware  
Nancy Yoch

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## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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Oklahoma City Philharmonic • Sooner Theatre

# Announcing The 2025-2026 UNIVERSITY THEATRE SEASON

## **OKLAHOMA FESTIVAL BALLET**

*Featuring the Premiere of  
A Midsummer Night's Dream*

**September 26 – 28, 2025**

Elsie C. Brackett Theatre

## **THE TURN OF THE SCREW**

**October 16 – 19, 2025**

Reynolds Performing Arts Center

## **MEL BROOKS' YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN**

**November 7 – 9, 2025**

Elsie C. Brackett Theatre

## **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**

**December 5 – 14, 2025**

Weitzenhoffer Theatre

## **YOUNG CHOREOGRAPHERS' SHOWCASE**

**January 30 – February 1, 2026**

Elsie C. Brackett Theatre

## **LA CLEMENZA DI TITO**

**February 19 – 22, 2026**

Reynolds Performing Arts Center

## **COMPANY**

**March 6–8, 2026**

Elsie C. Brackett Theatre

## **THE BIRDS**

**April 3 – 12, 2026**

Weitzenhoffer Theatre

## **CONTEMPORARY DANCE OKLAHOMA**

**May 1 – 3, 2026**

Elsie C. Brackett Theatre

**For more information, visit  
THEATRE.OU.EDU**