

HEALING HANDS I

Saturday, February 19, 2022 | 8 p.m.

and

HEALING HANDS II

Sunday, February 20, 2022 | 3 p.m.

SHARP THEATER



EMBEDDED MEMORIES

Choreography: Marisa f. Ballaro, with inspiration from the *Community Imprints* collection

Performers: Nicole Daniell, Sophia Diehl, Hannah Dillenbeck

Narrator: Steve Rewinski

Illuminated Installation Design: Allison Patrick

Costuming: Marisa f. Ballaro & Allison Patrick

The unique sound score is composed of snapshots from personal journals, community letters, conversations, quotes, and musical themes collected throughout the 13-month process of project development.

Embedded Memories is rooted in honoring personal histories through the lens of scars and their images which live permanently on, and inside of, our bodies. Investigating the memories and stories these imprints hold, we can learn from one another and promote community healing.

Inspired first by Kintsugi, the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery while highlighting the areas of breakage, golden accents illuminate these stories through numerous lighted lanterns and inventive light pieces affixed to the dancers' bodies. Deeper connections to Japanese philosophy and the process of healing have been explored through additional research and experiences in Reiki and Butoh.

Embedded Memories premiered in Sandy Hook, CT (August 2021) then toured to Brockport, NY (October 2021) collecting community stories which have been added to this unique version of the piece – similar to the small but powerful contributions of a community-made quilt. The recorded audio, live readings, and sound score reflect both the process of building the work and the people who have experienced it already, as do many of the physical gestures performed by the dancers. As part of this project, **Ballaro Dance** invites dancers and non-dancers to participate in *Community Imprints* workshops which enable people to use their own personal histories as a place for exploration, creativity, and healing. Do you have a story to share? Connect with Marisa at marisa@ballarodance.com and learn how you can gift your own *Community Imprint* to future performances of ***Embedded Memories***. We'd love to hear from you!

About the Company:

Ballaro Dance builds community through the creation and presentation of modern dance while inviting its audience, often first-time dance viewers, to SEE, MOVE, & SHARE with the Company in an approachable, welcoming environment. Founded in 2014, **Ballaro Dance** is proud to call New York City its home. We dance to **engage** with people; we choreograph to **tell stories**; we produce art to **build community**.



WILLIAM DOAN

presents “My Anxiety Project”

William Doan, Ph.D. is a past president of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education and a Fellow in the College of Fellows of The American Theatre. Doan has co-authored three books and several plays. He has created solo performance projects at a variety of venues across the U.S., and abroad. Current work includes the performance piece, *Frozen In The Toilet Paper Aisle of Life*, part of a larger project, *The Anxiety Project*, which includes multiple short graphic narratives published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine/Graphic Medicine*, *Cleaver Magazine*, and *Intima*. He is a Professor of Theatre in the College of Arts and Architecture, and Director of the Arts and Design Research Incubator at Penn State. Doan served as the Penn State Laureate for 2019-2020. His collaboration *Inhale, Exhale, Draw*, a short animated film, was selected as a prize finalist in the World Health Organization’s Health For All Film Festival, 2021. *Sticks and Stones*, his newest animation collaboration has been selected for six festivals nationally and internationally to date.

48 ST. STEPHEN

presents works by composers **Bongani Ndodana-Breen, Yoon-Ji Lee, and Olivier Messiaen**

48 St. Stephen is an adventurous ensemble interested in creating connections across a wide range of repertoire. As classically trained musicians living in the 21st century, they are deeply committed to works by living composers as well as masterpieces from the traditional canon. Their mission is to develop a sense of closeness between the old and new, and a timelessness that holds them together.

48 St. Stephen is dedicated to working with living composers towards unified programs and meaningful projects. During their 2020-2021 season, they video-recorded and premiered two new pieces written for them by Bongani Ndodana-Breen (Harvard Radcliffe Institute) and Yoon-Ji Lee (Berklee College of Music).

The project was generously funded by the St. Botolph Club Foundation and Metropolis Ensemble, and was aired on the German public radio WDR 3's program "Tonart".



PROGRAM NOTES

"Khanyisa" (from Xhosa: "to shine light on") an elegy for violin and piano (2020) by Bongani Ndodana-Breen (1975) is reflective, elegiac music, contemplating the brutal killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and many others. This music born of the range of feelings that come with these distressing times, was written as the shadow of the COVID pandemic moved across the US in late spring 2020.

"Getting Closer" by Yoon-Ji Lee started from an imagination - a bow of the violin travels through the fingerboard and strings to meet with the bridge of the violin. Musically, there is another subset of a distance between the violin and the piano as they get apart from each other, the emotions get more intensified."

Volunteers Needed

Interested in the arts? Do you want to do something that is satisfying, fun and of service to the community? Then become a Berrie Center volunteer! We are in need of individuals who have a passion for the arts combined with outstanding patron service skills and are committed to the spirit of volunteerism. Volunteering at the Berrie Center is a great way to expand your knowledge of our multidisciplinary programs, meet new people, and share your love of the arts.

For more information and an application, please contact **Edouard Eloi** at **(201) 684-7341** or email us at **eeloi@ramapo.edu**

Check out our upcoming performances!

mignolo dance presents Self Help

Saturday, March 5, 2022, 8 p.m.

Decoda

Thursday, March 10, 2022, 8 p.m.

Mack Brandon's Gospel Explosion

Saturday, April 23, 2022, 8 p.m.

Miwa Matreyek

Saturday, April 30, 2022, 8 p.m.

Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass

Saturday, May 7, 2022, 8 p.m.

For the more information visit our website at

ramapo.edu/berriecenter

or call the box office at **201.684.7844**

