

CONTEMPORARY DANCE CONCERT

SPRING 2026 | UNDERGRADUATE CHOREOGRAPHY



APRIL 23 at 8pm

APRIL 24 at 8pm

APRIL 25 at 2PM • 8pm

Martha B. Knoebel Dance Theater

**CSULB
DANCE**

CSULB • *College of the Arts*
Dance

COLLEGE OF
THE ARTS
CSULB



CONTEMPORARY 20 DANCE CONCERT 26

**New works choreographed by
undergraduate dance majors**

Colin Dean
Alexis Gutierrez
Isabella Ladine
Elisa Murray
Miriam Nguyen & Miguel Vasquez
Laney Patton & Kacey Ura
Maya Sabbah
Dylan Shube

Concert Director Tsiambwom "T" Akuchu
Lighting Designer Stacy Fireheart
Technical Director Stephanie Losleben
Costume Supervisor Kelsey Vidic
Costume Technician Erika Hansen
Music Director Don Nichols
Video Director Gregory R.R. Crosby

APRIL 23 - 25, 2026
Martha B. Knoebel Dance Theater

COLLEGE OF
THE ARTS
 CSULB

WELCOME TO THE CONTEMPORARY DANCE CONCERT!



We are so glad you are here.

The concert you are about to experience brings together a dynamic collection of choreographic voices, each offering a distinct lens on what it means to navigate the complexities of being human. These works, created by our dedicated student artists, reflect deep personal inquiry, collaborative exploration, and an ongoing commitment to both craft and storytelling.

Across the evening, you will encounter a wide range of themes and worlds. *Hands of Time* considers the pressure of productivity and the anxiety of time's relentless movement, while *Palimpsest* invites us into a layered landscape where memory and imagination coexist. In *Sunken City*, a historical tragedy becomes a metaphor for love and loss, and *You* examines the fragmentation of self and the search for alignment between ego and soul.

Other works confront the external forces that shape identity. *Broadcast* explores manipulation and conformity through a surreal theatrical journey, and *GRWM* reflects on the physical and emotional toll of societal beauty standards. *Inyo* (陰陽) gestures toward balance and duality, while *Streetlight* offers an intimate, improvisational reflection on personal aspiration and acceptance.

Though each piece stands firmly on its own, together they form a larger conversation about time, memory, identity, and transformation. The order of the program has been thoughtfully arranged to guide you through shifting emotional landscapes, allowing moments of intensity, reflection, and release.

This performance is also the result of extensive collaboration. Our choreographers have worked closely with dancers, mentors, designers, and production staff to bring these visions to life onstage. We encourage you to take in not only the movement, but also the environments, soundscapes, and visual elements that shape each world.

Enjoy the show.

Tsiambwom M. Akuchu, Concert Director

order of performance

Hands of Time

(premiere)

CHOREOGRAPHY

Colin Dean

MUSIC

"Hands of Time" performed by Slightly Stoopid, written by Kyle McDonald, Miles Doughty, Adam Lawrence; "Time" performed by Easy East All-Stars, written by Nick Mason, David Gilmour, Richard Wright, Roger Waters

COSTUME DESIGN

Kaleigh Herrera

PERFORMERS

Jeffrey Bull, Carina Ford, Indigo Jacobs, Jade Madrigal, Matthew Manuel, Ageha Nagatomo, Kyra Wescom

MENTOR

Tsiambwom Akuchu

Palimpsest

(premiere)

CHOREOGRAPHY

Isabella Ladine

MUSIC

"Infra 1" written by Max Richter; "Pools" performed by Samia, written by Samia Finnerty

VIDEO

Nathan Waters

TEXT

Isabella Ladine

SOUND DESIGN

Nathan Waters, Don Nichols

COSTUME DESIGN

Kelsey Vidic

PERFORMERS

Timneat Daniel, Quartney McCraw, Zoe Miller, Tlakatl Soberanis, Nathan Waters, Maddie Youmans

MENTOR

Tsiambwom Akuchu

Sunken City

(premiere)

CHOREOGRAPHY

Miriam Nguyen & Miguel Vasquez

MUSIC

Audio clips of ocean waves; "Hammers" performed by Remy van Kesteren, written by Nils Frahm; "Music for Weather Elements: Thunders and Lightnings" performed by Ezio Bosso, Giacomo Agazzini, Relja Lukic, written by Ezio Bosso

SOUND DESIGN

Miguel Vasquez, Don Nichols

COSTUME DESIGN

Malia Marchant

PERFORMERS

Miriam Nguyen, Miguel Vasquez

MENTOR

Rebecca Lemme

You

(premiere)

CHOREOGRAPHY

Maya Sabbah in collaboration with the dancers

MUSIC

"Personal Contact" by Michel Colombier; "Hold on Tight" performed by Thomas Azier, written by Azier and Ellen Treasure; "The Middle of the World" by Nicholas Britell; "Au Revoir" performed by Bon Iver, written by Justin Vernon, Andrew Fitzpatrick, Sean Carey, Matthew McCaughan, Jennifer Wasner, Michael Lewis, Christopher Messina

SOUND DESIGN

Maya Sabbah, Don Nichols

COSTUME DESIGN

Kelsey Vidic

PERFORMERS

Mia Katsaros, Mady Leier, Sydney Robinson, Maya Sabbah, Madeline Skalet

MENTOR

Andrew Vaca

Intermission

Broadcast

(premiere)

CHOREOGRAPHY

Elisa Murray in collaboration with the dancers

MUSIC

"I Still Dream About Her" by Steve Gabry;
"Robotkisses.Temp" by Graham Kartna;
"Aerodynamic" performed by Daft Punk, written by
Thomas Bangalter, Guy-Manuel de Homem-Christo;
"Perfect Nothing" by Ghost and Pals

ANIMATION

Kaylee Keepers

SOUND DESIGN

Elisa Murray, Don Nichols

COSTUME DESIGN

Brooke Grayton

PERFORMERS

Kushi Aeri, Eva Galindo, Lauren Kay,
Fransheska Martinez, Nicolette Miguel,
Rachel Olivier, Kaiya Rodriguez, Autumn Ruiz

MENTORS

Tsiambwom Akuchu & Danzel Thompson-Stout

Inyo (陰陽)

(premiere)

CHOREOGRAPHY

Laney Patton & Kacey Ura

MUSIC

"Must Have Been Good" performed by LEYA (featuring
Eartheater), written by Marilu Donovan, Adam Markiewicz
with Alexandra Drewchin, Kirina Stensby; "WHAT DO
YOU SAY" performed by Ròis, written by Rose Connolly;
"ANGELUS 3" performed by Ròis; written by Rose
Connolly; "Eternalflowersquestionstars" by
Max Richter; "Flugeldar" by Jóhann Jóhannsson

SOUND DESIGN

Kacey Ura

COSTUME DESIGN

Kelsey Vidic

PERFORMERS

Laney Patton, Kacey Ura

MENTOR

Rebecca Lemme

GRWM

(premiere)

CHOREOGRAPHY

Alexis Gutierrez

MUSIC

"Anaconda" performed by Nicki Minaj, written by Nicki Minaj, Sir Mix-a-Lot, Jamal Jones, Jonathan Solone-Myvett, Ernest Clark, Marcos Palacios

SOUND DESIGN

Nathan Waters

COSTUME DESIGN

Kelsey Vidic

PERFORMERS

Ava Barrett, Niko Black, Lilah Havner, Solana Laszlo, Lisa Lauloto, Ava Carolina Mora, Xene Sommers

MENTOR

Rebecca Bryant

Streetlight

(premiere)

CHOREOGRAPHY

Dylan Shube

MUSIC

"Streetcar" performed by Daniel Caesar, written as "Street Lights" by Kanye West, Esthero, Mr Hudson, Tony Williams

COSTUME DESIGN

Kelsey Vidic

SET DESIGN

Stephanie Losleben

PERFORMER

Dylan Shube

MENTORS

Danzel Thompson-Stout & Steve Zee

PRODUCTION STAFF

GREGORY R.R. CROSBY is the resident photographer and video director for CSULB Dance, where he produces publicity materials and directs live-streamed performances. He teaches filmmaking courses with an emphasis on screendance and collaborates with BFA students to develop professional artist portfolios that include headshots and studio dance photography.

Mr. Crosby earned his BA in Film and Electronic Arts with a concentration in Film and Video Production from California State University, Long Beach. He is also the founder of Lost Heart Productions, where he creates original works. Select projects are available to stream on Amazon Prime and Vimeo OnDemand.

 lostheartproductions.com  [@lostheartproductions](https://www.instagram.com/lostheartproductions)

ERIKA HANSEN always wanted to sew Halloween costumes for a living but never thought it was feasible until she realized that theatre is costumes, year-round. She has several degrees in clothing and costume construction and has experience in theatre, opera, ballet and more. CSULB is her favorite job, challenging her in costumes that allow and enhance movement instead of restricting the body to create the character. She is passionate about her love of making patterns and sewing and is thrilled to share her knowledge with CSULB Dance.

STACY FIREHEART is an educator and Lighting Designer for theater, dance, opera, and event lighting. Over the last twenty years, she has enjoyed designing and assisting on numerous stage productions working with dance and theater companies such as On the Edge Dance, International City Theater, A Noise Within, Rogue Theater Ensemble, South Coast Repertory Theatre, Utah Shakespeare Festival, and Great River Shakespeare Festival. Mrs. Fireheart joined the Backhaus Dance company as resident lighting designer in 2021 and has enjoyed designing lights for the majority of CSULB's dance concerts since 2017. Currently, she is an Adjunct Professor at CSULB and UC Irvine, teaching courses in lighting design and production.

STEPHANIE LOSLEBEN received her BA in Technical Theatre with an emphasis in Lighting Design from CSU Northridge; but her experience in theater dates back to her childhood days as a performer. Credits include international performances before distinguished Russian and American Ambassadors at the Geneva Peace Talks in 1984, award winner for her lighting design of Tainted Blood at the Road Theatre in Los Angeles, as well as years of lighting and production coordination of special events and gala parties in Southern California. Ms. Losleben's natural environment has always been in education, and she is excited to be a part of CSULB Dance.

DR. DON NICHOLS is a composer, percussionist and long-time collaborator with dance. He is a former Fulbright scholar to Sweden and recipient of an Indiana Arts Commission Grant for his solo electro-acoustic recording "Station of Small Sounds." Previous artistic collaborators include Steven Schick, Roger Reynolds, Evelyn Glennie, Sean Griffin, Ron Athey, Peter Carpenter, bkSoul, Kim Epifano, Ray Dillard, and Lower Left Performance Collective. Don has performed at Carnegie Hall, REDCAT and Disney Hall, and his music for dance has been presented at the ACDA National Festival, 92nd Street Y, Judson Church and Joyce SOHO. His latest project is a solo recording of improvisations on a circuit-bent Omnichord.

 donnichols.bandcamp.com

KELSEY VIDIC was born in Florida. She began her career in costumes by interning with Brevard Music Center, STAGES St. Louis, Gomez-Gracia in London and the Santa Fe Opera. She received an MFA in Costume Design at the University of Texas at Austin. Working with bodies, textiles and space opened doors to work with the Intel Corporation, Opera på Skåret Sweden, American Players Theatre, and LA Contemporary Dance Company. Vidic works as the Costume Shop Supervisor and Costume Designer for CSULB Dance. She strives to listen with her eyes and prefers the present moment.

 kelseyvidic.com

CONCERT DIRECTOR BIO

TSIAMBWOM "T" AKUCHU

is a hip-hop and theatre artist based in Los Angeles, CA. He works as a choreographer and movement director, creating works for concert dance that stage hip-hop and street dance fused with physical theater. He has choreographed and performed in shows and festivals such as DANCE NOW NYC, SoloDuo, Dumbo Dance Festival, Austin Dance Festival, (de) Color-es Festival and more. "T" is also faculty at CSULB (California State University, Long Beach), teaching street dance.



akuchu.com



[@tsebwom](https://www.instagram.com/tsebwom)

CSULB DANCE

Give to Dance

The CSULB Dance faculty and staff are committed to creating an inclusive, student-centered community where students will discover educational pathways that reflect and expand upon their creative potential, intellectual curiosity, and career aspirations.

While state support and student tuition fund basic operations of the university, gifts from donors like you make this Department and institution truly exceptional. Can you help support our next generation of dance artists and practitioners?

Visit our donation page:

[Giving for CSULB Dance](#)

Gifts may be directed to Dance scholarships, the Department, or you can create a scholarship in your name or the name of a loved one. For more information, contact Department Chair Colleen Dunagan at **Colleen.Dunagan@csulb.edu**



**CSULB
DANCE**

CSULB • *College of the Arts*
Dance

PRODUCTION CREW

ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTORS

Julian Fernandez, Adrian Padilla

STAGE MANAGERS

Amy Ernst, Cammie Kao, Sofia Linggi-Perez

STAGE MANAGER MENTOR

Erin Longhofer

HOUSE MANAGER

Sierra Tanji

CAMERA OPERATORS

Nick Neira, Erick Tapia Escalera

STAGE CREW

Bruno Hernandez, Elisa Koike, Mia Amaris Lopez, Roberto Morales, Signe Rodrigues, Emily Schwartzfarb, Dylan Tillman

STAGE CONSTRUCTION CREW

Isabella Ladine

HOUSE/PUBLIC RELATIONS CREW

Mary Dale, Emily Dufour, Jane Allie McLaurin, Kiera Salley

COSTUME CONSTRUCTION CREW

Kushi Aeri, Tallulah Bingham, Joycie Montillo, Jasmine Valdez

WARDROBE SUPERVISOR

Kelsey Vidic

WARDROBE ASSISTANT

Isabella Gonzalez-Leggs

WARDROBE CREW

Melodee Aguilera, Janelle Diaz, Luke Higuera, Aaliyah Ybarra

PHOTOGRAPHY/PROGRAM DESIGN

Gregory R.R. Crosby

SOCIAL MEDIA LEAD

Lillian McKenzie

 [CSULBDance](#)

CSULB DANCE

CSULB COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Royce W. Smith, Ph.D, **Dean**

Chiara Ferrari, Ph.D, **Associate Dean**

Anthony Byrnes, **Interim Associate Dean**

CSULB DANCE SPRING 2026

Dr. Colleen T. Dunagan, **Chair**

FACULTY

Tsiambwom M. Akuchu, Zakiya Atkinson, Rebecca Bryant, Amy Champion, Gregory R.R. Crosby, Liz Curtis, Stacy Fireheart, Erika Hansen, Tashara Gavin-Moorehead, Francesca Jandasek, Teresa Jankovic, Lisa Johnson, Lorin Johnson, Rebecca Lemme, Stephanie Losleben, Manuel Macias, Brenna Monroe-Cook, Justin Morris, Don Nichols, Danzel Thompson-Stout, Andrew Vaca, Kelsey Vidic, Lora Wilson, Brooke Winder, MJ Wolff, Steve Zee

STAFF

Gregory R.R. Crosby, Erika Hansen, Stephanie Losleben, Lillian McKenzie, Don Nichols, Sylvia Rodriguez-Scholz, Anali Saldivar, Kirsten Sumpter, Kelsey Vidic

DANCE CLINIC

John Siegel - Head Athletic Trainer

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

Kennedy Berthiaume, Amy Jan Ernst, Cammie Kao, Sofia Linggi-Perez, Ricky Medina, Maggie Ogle

2025-2026 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

CSULB DANCE AWARDS

CR Carolyn R. Cunningham Endowed Scholarship Mandi Jeffery

Celeste Kennedy Endowment

Amy Jan Ernst, Cammie Kao, Sofia Linggi-Perez

DANCE DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Kaela Alvarez, Elise Conlay, Grace Hager, Alana Lopez, Kenya Smith

DANCE, MUSIC, THEATRE

Martin Figoten Endowed Scholarship-Arts Tlakatl Soberanis

Lana Alper Endowed Scholarship Amanda Campos, Aimee Ilog

Jamiesson-Pechstein College of the Arts Endowed Scholarship

Melodee Aguilera, Trinity Massey, Maya Sabbah, Elyse Turner

Harvey and Amy Waggoner Endowed Scholarship Colin Dean

COTA COMPETITIVE AWARDS

Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld COTA Endowed Kennedy Berthiaume

Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld COTA Endowed Sydney Robinson

COTA AWARDS

Donald W. Leonard Endowed Scholarship

Indya Bluford, Mateo Esparza, Isabella Ladine

Richard Baker Endowed Scholarship Leah Leon

DAAG Scholarship Salvador Gutierrez

Fine Arts Affiliates Scholarship Mady Leier, Kylie Sanders

CSULB AWARDS

CSULB Graduate Fellowship Ricky Medina, Maggie Ogle

This program made possible through funds from CSULB's Instructionally Related Activities Fees.

For more information on CSULB Dance, visit

csulb.edu/dance

Come back for more amazing
concerts from CSULB Dance!

FALL 2026 PERFORMANCES

2026 Variance Dance Concert | *OCTOBER 8-10*

Presenting works by our BFA dance students and Guest Artist Ruthie Fantaye

2026 CSULB Dance In Concert | *NOVEMBER 18-21*

Presenting works by Dance Faculty and Guest Artists

CSULB DANCE

For more information, visit [CSULB.EDU/DANCE](https://www.csulb.edu/dance)