

# 2022 contemporary dance festival

program B

featuring choreography by undergraduate CSULB dance students

José Argueta  
Rafael Austria  
Natalie Bojorquez  
Mia Clark & Kylie Kaneshiro  
Kyrea Eubanks & Melissa Valenzuela  
Kevin Holland  
Imran Khan  
Eliza Loran  
Jayde Spiegel

Martha B. Knoebel Dance Theater  
April 22 & 23 at 8PM  
Streamed Live on April 22 at 8PM

Concert Director	Keith Johnson & Andrew Vaca
Technical Coordinator	Stephanie Losleben
Lighting Design	Stacy Fireheart
Costume Design Supervisor & Shop Manager	Kelsey Vidic
Costume Technician	Erika Hansen
Video Director	Gregory R.R. Crosby
Music Director	Don Nichols

# Welcome to the Contemporary Dance Festival!

On behalf of the entire Department of Dance, we welcome you to the 2022 Contemporary Dance Festival. With 18 original dance pieces presented over two programs, the Contemporary Dance Festival is the largest presentation of dance in the 50-year history of the CSULB Department of Dance. After a year of online dance study, the 20 Festival choreographers bring to fruition over six months of arduous research and work to imagine, process, and spotlight their choreographic intentions.

Imagine for a minute going from full-contact, in-person dance classes to more than a year of online dance classes held in the miniscule boxes of Zoom...when we think back about the journey our Dance community has had over the past two years, the accomplishments of these 20 choreographers are even more exciting, astounding, and meaningful. This is our first concert experience with live audience members since November 2019, so thank you for your patience and understanding as we do all that we can to maintain the health and safety of our entire Department community. We now invite you to sit back and revel as these dance works premiere for you, whether you are watching in person or via our live stream. We look forward to seeing you in the fall semester as we anticipate returning to a four-concert season of dance performances.

Enjoy the show!

**Keith Johnson and Andrew Vaca**  
**Concert Directors**

## program

### suprematism

Choreography

Mia Clark and Kylie Kaneshiro

Performers

Halle Cardoza, Mia Clark, Kylie Kaneshiro,  
Kaylee Kollins, Molly Longchamps, Rachel Stanfield,  
Carmen Thumm

Music

"Out of Reach" by Myles Mineer

Costume Design

Kaylee Kollins

Faculty Mentor

Rebecca Bryant

## **bpd**

Choreography	Imran Khan
Performer	Imran Khan
Music	"040311_ao3" by James Geetar, "Violin Scare" by SirBedlam, "Remembered" by Modestas Mankus, "Sad Waiting Time" by code_box, "The Wind in the Willows" by amether, "Acoustic Guitar Chords" by Garuda1982, "Horror Strings" by MCMorrise, "Cello Bowed5" by juskiddink
Costume Design	Yukiko Nimura
Faculty Mentor	Keith Johnson

## **Tias**

Choreography	Natalie Bojorquez
Performers	Natalie Bojorquez, Chloe McClure, Topanga Scherf, Sierra Tanji
Music	"Escape Artist" by Zoe Keating
Costume Design	Natalie Bojorquez
Faculty Mentor	Keith Johnson

*Special thanks to my Tias for inspiring this piece. I wouldn't be where I am without each of you.*

## **In Reach**

Choreography	Kyrea Eubanks and Melissa Valenzuela
Performers	Kyrea Eubanks and Melissa Valenzuela
Music	"What Dreams May Come" by Jameson Nathan Jones
Costume Design	Kelsey Vidic
Faculty Mentor	Keith Johnson

## **crossroads**

Choreography	José Argueta
Performer	José Argueta
Music	"Forever Gone" by Oli Jogvansson, "High Flight" by Michele Nobler, "Below the Surface" by Kyle Preston
Sound Design	Robert Huerta
Costume Design	José Argueta and Kelsey Vidic
Faculty Mentor	Keith Johnson

## **crush me mush me**

Choreography	Eliza Loran in collaboration with the dancers
Performers	Baylee Ferrerra, Odessa Newman
Sound Design.	Eliza Loran and Gregory R.R. Crosby
Costume Design	Mary Leopo
Camera Operator	Eliza Loran
Production Assistant	Mae Kail
Faculty Mentors	Gregory R.R. Crosby and Keith Johnson

*Special thanks to Lexa Frazier and Linda Yaven.*

## **Listen Closer**

Choreography	Jayde Spiegel
Performer	Jayde Spiegel
Music	“Great Mother in the Sky” by Lionmilk, “Approach” by Jameson Nathan Jones, original composition by Jayde Spiegel and Don Nichols
Sound Design	Jayde Spiegel and Don Nichols
Costume Design	Jayde Spiegel
Faculty Mentor	Keith Johnson

## **Pivot**

Choreography	Kevin Holland
Performers	Trinity Canga, Kat Giannini, Julia Gonzalez, Kevin Holland, Madison Moura, Julia Russell
Music	Caden Bartlett
Costume Design	Odessa Newman
Faculty Mentor	Keith Johnson

## **The Gift of Dance**

Choreography	Rafael Austria
Performers	Natalia Anderson, Jazmyne Anorve, Rafael Austria, Elizabeth Bugayong, Anessa Davies, Sane Davis, Jacqueline Escamilla, Jesus Gallardo, Megan Lardin, Ashley Magaña, Esmeralda Andrea Ortiz, Lexi Portillo, Araceli Rosales, Shanti Topzand
Music	“The Gift of Dance” by John Graves
Costume Design	Savera Hussain
Faculty Mentor	Tsiambwom Akuchu

## ARTIST BIOS

**JOSÉ ARGUETA** (he/him/his), a queer immigrant from El Salvador, is currently finishing his Dance BFA and Psychology BA at CSULB. José has a love for learning and aims to become a Clinical Forensic Psychologist to help people in the cognitive realms alongside his creative work as a choreographer. Drawing upon his upbringing and the knowledge he has acquired from his psychological studies for inspiration, José creates realistic and psychologically engaging works. He has choreographed for CSULB, CalArts, Pasadena City College, Glendale High School, and various Southern California high schools. His choreography has also been featured in festivals such as ACDA, NACHMO, HHII Dance Festival, and the LA County Fair. José has danced with artists such as Andrew Vaca, Issa Hourani, Alan Perez, Andrea Guise, and Rachel Turner, among others. José aspires to continue his work as a choreographer, creating more works that are synonymous with his personal life experiences.

**RAFAEL AUSTRIA** is a Filipino-American dancer and choreographer who fell in love with hip-hop in high school, and later started his formal dance education at Cypress College. While obtaining his AA in Dance, Rafael was involved in dance competitively and professionally, performing with BeatJerkeez Dance Crew, and Maha & Company, for whom he spent three years performing, teaching, and choreographing. Since then, his interest in dance has grown and he studies a variety of dance forms such as cultural dances, modern dance technique, and social dance, while pursuing his BFA in Dance at CSULB. Rafael specializes in movement improvisation and his educational focus is on choreography and teaching. Committed to strengthening the connection between dance communities, he currently teaches at Melodies Dance Theater, Dance 4 Joy Ministries, and for the "Saints" dance team of St. Anthony High School.

At the age of twelve, **NATALIE BOJORQUEZ** left her extensive gymnastics training to pursue her passion for dance. She began training at her local studio, joined their competition team, and soon after was accepted into the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. At LACHSA she rigorously trained in concert styles such as modern, composition, and ballet. After graduating, she attended Boston Conservatory at Berklee. She was fortunate to continue her training at Pasadena City College and is eager to graduate from CSULB with a BFA in dance. Natalie has performed repertoire ranging from Jiří Kylián to Lester Horton. Alongside her training, she currently enjoys teaching the next generation of dancers at Elements Dance Space. Natalie is an ambitious artist who equally loves performing, choreographing, and teaching within the dance community.

**MIA CLARK** is a dancer and choreographer from Newbury Park, California, who has trained in dance for over 15 years and is pursuing her Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance at California State University, Long Beach. Mia specializes in modern, contemporary, hip hop, and jazz. She has worked with well-known choreographers such as Colleen Dunagan, Andrew Vaca, Nancy Rivera, Scotty Nguyen, Mandy Korpinen, Elizabeth Petrin, and Chad McCall, and repetiteur Brenna Monroe-Cook (who taught Mia the "Sphinx" segment of *The Winged* by José Limón). Nancy Rivera included Mia in two of her BlatinX Dance Festival works and a concept video titled *Binding Perceptions*. Mia has taught at various dance studios, including Bobbies School of Performing Arts and Dance Alliance, and choreographs solo work for local high school dance teams. Mia's choreography focuses on the feelings behind movement in correlation with the feeling of the sound score being used.

**KYREA EUBANKS** (she/her) has danced and performed for over seventeen years. She began her training in ballet, and later continued her dance education in contemporary, jazz, and modern dance forms. Kyrea has nurtured her curiosity in both choreography and movement throughout her training. In 2017, she performed in Jacob Jonas The Company's show, *To the Sea*, highlighting Vincent Patterson's work. She began instructing dance in 2019 at studios in Orange County, CA. Currently, Kyrea is continuing her education as a third-year student at California State University, Long Beach pursuing a BFA in Dance and BA in Communication Studies. She hopes to integrate creative instructional and nonverbal communication work into her artistic and pedagogical pursuits in the future.

**KEVIN HOLLAND** (he/him) is a dancer and choreographer born and raised in Ventura, CA. Kevin's passion for movement sparked when he began aerial training in 2012, learning how to navigate various apparatus and condition the body. After being encouraged to dance in college, he began to incorporate both dance and aerial into his training. Kevin's experience in modern and jazz developed during his time dancing at Moorpark College, with Beth Megill in Megill & Company, and with Robert Salas in Movement Theater Collab. While pursuing dance in college, Kevin has also taught aerial silks, hammock, and trapeze classes to all ages, participated in stunt work for a Dixie Consumer Products national commercial, and performed in Terry Beeman's *Mental Head Circus* in Los Angeles, CA. Kevin is currently attending CSULB as a BFA Dance candidate, graduating in Spring 2022.

**KYLIE KANESHIRO** is a dancer and choreographer with 15 years of dance experience. She started her training at Pacific Ballet Conservatory in Orange County where she trained in ballet, contemporary, and lyrical. She also was a part of her high school dance team learning jazz, hip hop, and modern dance styles. Currently, Kylie is pursuing her BFA in Dance and her BA in Dance, Option in Dance Science at California State University, Long Beach. During her time at CSULB, she has danced in pieces by Andrew Vaca, Raul Cruz, and Kevin Holland. Kylie was also heavily involved at CSULB in Nancy Rivera's work, as she danced in two of her concert pieces, performed in her film: *Blinding Perceptions*, and for Nancy at the Blatinx Dance Festival. Kylie's inspirations for her choreographic process are from the naturally occurring relationships in nature and in human behavior, as she seeks to understand and show people's inherent desires.

**IMRAN KHAN** (they/them) is a dance artist born in Long Beach, California. Starting their artistic journey at Renaissance High School for the Arts, they experimented with visual, theater, and musical theater arts, until pursuing dance in higher education. They focused on several styles of modern dance such as Horton, Limon, release technique, and other forms of somatic dance practices, while also training in ballet and jazz technique. Imran has worked with choreographers such as Manuel Macias and Erin Rose Reynolds in their process-based thesis works, exploring site-specific dance and theatrical dance works. Now pursuing a BFA in Dance, Imran incorporates their distinct identity and perception of the world into their artistic pursuits, wanting to explore the intricacies of being human and trying to shine light upon the deeper, hidden aspects of life.

**ELIZA LORAN** is a junior at CSULB and is working towards her BFA in dance. Born and raised in Berkeley, CA, Eliza has been dancing since she was young. She spent three years training and cultivating her artistry as part of the ODC Dance youth company in San Francisco. Throughout her time at CSULB, Eliza has had the opportunity to work with faculty members Rebecca Lemme and Keith Johnson, guest choreographer Marjani Forté-Saunders, as well as student choreographers and MFA candidates. She presented her screendance, *3000 and 6*, in the CSULB 2021 Spring Dance Festival. During her last semesters at CSULB, Eliza hopes to continue strengthening her creative voice through process-based choreography and improvisational work.

**JAYDE SPIEGEL** is a sophomore BFA dance student at CSULB. She got her start in competitive gymnastics but found her passion for dance later as she entered high school. She began her training with Evolve Dance Project in Las Vegas, Nevada. There, she participated in touring competitions and conventions and performed in two Legends in Concert annual holiday shows on the Las Vegas strip. In 2019, Jayde traveled to Kiel, Germany where she took several master classes and performed modern pieces choreographed by Cheryl Snow. Since attending CSULB, she has performed in Rebecca Lemme's *The Lark*, Yukiko Nimura's *See the X*, and Kevin Holland's *Simmer*. Jayde aspires to work as a choreographer, utilizing her experience creating competition and concert routines for Evolve Dance Center. She also hopes to connect her interests in graphic design, physical art, and dance to create cohesive artistic works.

**MELISSA VALENZUELA** is a first-generation college student in her third year as a BFA dance candidate and Psychology minor at CSU, Long Beach. She began training at the age of seven at Elements Dance Space, under the direction of Tu DeVera and Beau Fournier, where she was able to develop her passion, curiosity, and affection for dance. Melissa has furthered her training through participating in numerous intensives and studying with artists such as Angel Mammoliti, Andrea Marjiay, Bridget McNally, Laura Ksobiech, Leslie Duner, Mary Grace McNally, and Matt Cady. During her time at CSULB she has danced in pieces by Aisha Reddick, Amber Beth, Rebecca Lemme, Elenna Derkach, Elizabeth Smith, Rivka Villaneuva, and Queala Clancy. Melissa's choreography explores the societal pressures of belonging and the instinctual choices made when one discards such pressures. Melissa is a faculty member at Elements Dance Space where she enjoys sharing her passion for dance with the next generation of artists.

## FEATURED COMPOSERS

**CADEN BARTLETT** (Pivot) is an independent bedroom producer, singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist based in Long Beach, California. Combining sounds of lo-fi rock and folktronica, he has crafted soft and intimate music with hints of experimental electronics. His work is vast, crafting music for several short films ranging anywhere from horror to dramatic comedy. Caden has released two titles on all streaming platforms, with many others available for streaming on soundcloud.

**MYLES MINEER** (suprematism) is a singer and composer who has 11 years of musical experience. He began his musical training taking piano lessons and playing the baritone saxophone, then transitioned to a focus in vocal performance. Currently, Myles is completing his Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance at California State University, Long Beach. During his time as CSULB, he has been involved in the Chamber Choir and Jazz & Tonic (Vocal Jazz) ensembles. He plans to go into music production and earn a Master of Music. In his compositions, he tries to evoke emotions that do not have language descriptors that explain them and share them with the listener.

## PRODUCTION STAFF AND FACULTY BIOS

If you are interested in learning more about the production staff and faculty who have contributed countless hours of their expertise to this production, please visit <https://www.csulb.edu/dance/department-of-dance/faculty-staff-directory>.

CSULB DANCE AND COLLEGE OF THE ARTS PRESENT

### 2022 CONTEMPORARY DANCE FESTIVAL



## PRODUCTION CREW

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR & STAGE MANAGER:

ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR:

RESIDENT HOUSE MANAGER:

PHOTOGRAPHY/PROGRAM DESIGN/VIDEO DIRECTION:

CAMERA OPERATORS:

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS:

HEAD ATHLETIC TRAINER:

ASSISTANT ATHLETIC TRAINER:

STAGE CREW:

HOUSE/PUBLICITY RELATIONS CREW:

COTUME DESIGN SUPERVISOR & SHOP MANAGER:

COSTUME TECHNICIAN:

STITCHERS:

WARDROBE CREW:

WARDROBE LAUNDRY CREW:

Stephanie Losleben

Adrien Padilla

Sylvia Rodriguez-Scholz

Gregory R.R. Crosby

Artur Lago-V, Sarah Stanley

Julianna Bingham,

Samantha Kayombo, Natalie Lovan

John Siegel

Alexes Freeman

Antoine Armstrong, Brynn Gagne,

Nicole Haro, Hope Hensley,

Elizabeth Sanchez-Reyes,

Violet Zulick

Monica Antunes, Emily Boudreau,

Stephany Nuñez, Lexi Portillo,

Dylon Spahr

Kelsey Vidic

Erika Hansen

Emily Brandt, Niza Galindo Cardenas,

Kevin Holland, Daylen McWhorter,

Valerie Puentes

Jewell Curtiss, Heather Davis,

Faith Garner

Ashley Magaña, Kaitlyn Wood



## CSULB COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Anne D'Zmura, ACTING DEAN

Dr. Colleen Dunagan, ACTING ASSOCIATE DEAN

Johannes Müller Stosch, INTERIM ASSOCIATE DEAN

## CSULB COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Betsy Cooper, CHAIR

FACULTY: Tsiambwom M. Akuchu, Rebecca Bryant, Amy Campion, Gregory R.R. Crosby, Liz Curtis, Stacy Fireheart, Erika Hansen, Teresa Jankovic, Keith Johnson, Lisa Johnson, Lorin Johnson, Dr. Grace Shinhae Jun, David Kim, Renee Kim, Sarah Leddy, Rebecca Lemme, Stephanie Losleben, Shyamala Moorty, Dr. Don Nichols, Erin Reynolds, Steven Sofia, Sarah Stanley, Pat Taylor, Danzel Thompson-Stout, Thomas Tsai, Andrew Vaca, Kelsey Vidic, Gracie Whyte, Dr. Lora Wilson, Dr. Brooke Winder, Steve Zee

STAFF: Gregory R.R. Crosby, Erika Hansen, Stephanie Losleben, Dr. Don Nichols, Sylvia Rodriguez-Scholz, Kirsten Sumpter, Kelsey Vidic

DANCE CLINIC: John Siegel-Head Athletic Trainer, Alexes Freeman

MUSICIANS: Paul Blackwell, Ron Ciago, Monti Ellison, Tyler Hunt, Satomi Kanazawa, Edward Nazarro, Dr. Don Nichols, Ben Rempel, Deanna Watkins, Brian Wood

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS/STUDENTS: Santi Rivera, AJ Sharp, Katie Summers, Azuki Umeda

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2021-22

**DEPARTMENT OF DANCE SCHOLARSHIP** - EDUARDO HERNANDEZ, ROBERT HUERTA, MATTHEW KINDIG, SANTI RIVERA, AJ SHARP, KATIE SUMMERS, AZUKI UMEDA

**LANA ALPER SCHOLARSHIP** - KEVIN HOLLAND, TIFFANY MARTINEZ-DELGADO

**RICHARD & JOHANNA BAKER SCHOLARSHIP** - NATALIE LOVAN

**AMEDA J. AND JULIE M. BERGERON SCHOLARSHIP** - JOSÉ ARGUETA

**DRAMATIC ALLIED ARTS GUILD SCHOLARSHIP** - TORI CONE

**MARTIN FIGOTEN SCHOLARSHIP** - ROBERT HUERTA, DAMIAN SANCHEZ-HERNANDEZ

**FINE ARTS AFFILIATES SCHOLARSHIP** - TATIANA BEVERLY, EMILY PILLITTERE

**JAMIESSON-PECHSTEIN ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP** - NICHAELE HALL, AYIANNA HENRY, EDUARDO HERNANDEZ, REESE RADANOVICH

**CELESTE KENNEDY SCHOLARSHIP** - SANTI RIVERA, AJ SHARP, KATIE SUMMERS, AZUKI UMEDA

**LILLIAN NEWMAN KOMAROFF MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** - KAT GIANNINI

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GIVING SPECIFICALLY TO CSULB DANCE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS OR NAMING A SCHOLARSHIP AFTER YOURSELF OR A LOVED ONE, PLEASE CONTACT DEPARTMENT CHAIR BETSY COOPER AT [BETSY.COOPER@CSULB.EDU](mailto:BETSY.COOPER@CSULB.EDU).

FOR INFORMATION REGARDING 2022-23 CSULB DANCE PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS, PLEASE VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.CSULB.EDU/DANCE/CSULB-DANCE-EVENTS](https://www.csulb.edu/dance/csulb-dance-events).