November promises an exciting collection of dances from the Bachelor of Fine Arts dance majors. “Synchronicities” presents these works in the Alta Ham Fine Arts Dance Studio One (HFA 111). UNLV has been recognized by Backstage Magazine for its high-caliber choreography program.

“Synchronicities” is a concert of dance that showcases the choreographic talents of the Bachelor of Fine Arts Program. Another highlight of the concert is the lighting design and production management of UNLV’s unique Bachelor of Arts in Dance Production and Management program.

Discount tickets are $10 and are available for seniors, military members, all students, UNLV Faculty and Staff, and UNLV Alumni. Tickets may be purchased at the UNLV Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at (702) 895-ARTS (2787), or online.
Mehocic making music

Dr. Beth Mehocic, UNLV Dance’s Composer-in-Residence and Professor, never fails to make UNLV Dance proud through all of the exciting projects she has in the works.

On May 6, Mehocic began her string of projects with the premier of her “Concerto for Piano and Orchestra”, which she arranged for two pianos. The premier of the concert series took place at Green Valley Presbyterian Church and was performed by Dr. Ekaterina Bessmeltseva and Dr. Spencer Baker, ultimately receiving a standing ovation.

In early July, the “Concerto for Piano and Orchestra” was recorded by Parma Recordings with the Croatian Chamber Orchestra under the direction of the award-winning conductor Miran Vaupotic, and the award-winning Maltese pianist Charlene Farrugia. Mehocic did not travel to Croatia for the recording session, but she was able to connect online with the producers during the session and converse with them throughout the entire duration of the 6 hour session. This recording will be released on a CD of various concertos by the Croatian Chamber Orchestra.

Pianist Charlene Farrugia was so taken with the concerto that she asked Mehocic to collaborate with her on a double concerto for her and her husband Franko Bozac, who is an acclaimed accordionist in Europe. Mehocic had never written for accordion, but the experience proved to be an exciting, new undertaking for her. This double-concerto utilizes the tango, which is very idiomatic for the accordion. Mehocic wrote this concerto in July, and it is set to premiere by the end of 2018.

On May 19, Mehocic’s solo cello piece titled “Somewhere Between D and C#” had its concert premiere at Weill Hall, Carnegie Hall, NYC by the Romanian cellist, Ovidiu Marinescu. This piece was recorded by Ovidiu for Parma Recordings on a compilation album called Moto Bello, which has had quite a bit of radio airplay. This was a CD release concert produced by Parma Recordings. “Somewhere Between D and C#” was originally written for UNLV Professor of Modern Dance Cathy Allen’s choreography by the same name and was premiered as a dance piece in NYC in 2014.

In mid-September, Mehocic’s orchestra work titled “Left of Winter” was recorded for Parma Recordings by the notable Janáček Philharmonic Orchestra in Ostrava, CZ with acclaimed conductor Jiri Petrdlik. “Left of Winter” was originally written for choreography by UNLV Jazz Dance Professor Richard Havey in 2014. The recording will be released with a compilation of new orchestral works by the Janáček Philharmonic Orchestra in 2019.

Mehocic’s string quartet titled “Picasso’s Flight” will be recorded for Parma Recordings by the Altius String Quartet from Denver, Colorado in January 2019. “Picasso’s Flight” was originally used for UNLV Jazz Dance Professor Vikki Baltimore-Dale’s choreographic piece titled “Flight of an African Grey” in 2018.
UNLV Dance and Korea National Sport University (KNSU) proved yet again that they belong together this Fall. Together 7, the biennial concert celebrating the long-standing partnership of 12 years between the two universities, contained pieces brought by both institutions. This collaboration allowed 21 dance majors from KNSU to travel to Las Vegas, partner with UNLV Dance, and present a concert of dance works at the Judy Bayley Theatre. While at UNLV, there was an exciting week of master classes and a chance to see how the phenomenon of dance manifests itself in each country.

When the concert ended, the journey continued as 21 UNLV Dance majors travel to Seoul, South Korea, and presented the concert again. While in Seoul, the UNLV Dance majors got the opportunity to experience the dance of Korea, and bask in its rich cultural offerings.

Together 7 featured an exciting collaborative program of modern, jazz, ballet, and traditional Korean dance with choreography by UNLV Dance faculty (Cathy Allen, Victoria Dale, Miguel Perez, Louis Kavouras, and Doly Kelepecz-Momot) and faculty from KNSU (James Jeon, Kim Hyun Nam, and Baek Hyun Soon). Together 7 also included a special performance by College of Fine Arts Dean Nancy J. Uscher of UNLV Dance composer Beth Mehocic’s “Interactions,” and lighting by new UNLV Dance design specialist Michael Jarett.

We are thankful that UNLV Dance was able to provide this opportunity to these ambitious, adventurous students, who now come out of this experience having experienced a new culture and cherishing memories that will last a lifetime. We can’t wait to continue our relationship with KNSU and continue to enrich the lives and experiences of students in both Las Vegas and Seoul.
James Jeon: Welcoming Our New Ballet Professor

James Jeon began his ballet studies at the Menlo Park Dance Academy in California and in 1982 he was accepted into The Juilliard School. He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1985. In Europe, Jeon performed with the 20th Century Ballet-Maurice Bejart in 1984. In 1985, he danced with the Florida Ballet at Jacksonville for two years and went to Korea and joined the Universal Ballet Company in 1987. In Korea, he was a leading dancer and choreographer with both the Universal Ballet Company and the National Ballet of Korea. In 1995, he became a resident choreographer in Seoul Ballet Theatre.

For 15 years now, Jeon has created over 60 works for Seoul Ballet Theatre. His major works include “Being I, II, III”, “Warehouse”, “Inner Moves”, “Snow White”, “Alice in Wonderland”, “Variations for Twelve”, and “Nutcracker”. In 2001, Jeon was the first choreographer in Korea to set his own work “Line of Life” for Nevada Ballet Theatre in America and also in 2002, he became the first and only choreographer in Korea to be commissioned by Nevada Ballet Theatre.

Jeon joins the UNLV dance faculty as a ballet specialist in January 2019.

Upcoming Shows:
Join the MOVEMENT for our 2018-2019
Tickets on sale now at the Performing Arts Center Box Office!

Collective Visions
Fri, March 1 - Sat March 2, 2019
Judy Bayley Theatre

Harmonious Motions
Thu, April 25 - Sun, April 28, 2019
Dance Studio One (HFA 111)

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