

Star-Crossed Lovers: A Romeo and Juliet Like No Other

UNLV Dance celebrates its 40th Anniversary year with a collaboration between the UNLV Department of Dance and the UNLV Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Taras Krysa, to present an inventive and new version of Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet*. "In Orchestra 3" will be presented at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 20, and 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21 in Artemus Ham Concert Hall.

Rather than simply reconstruct the original ballet, the goal of the work is to collect a creative group of choreographers and tell the traditional story through the lens of numerous dance styles and genres, including ballet, modern dance, jazz, contemporary dance, hip hop, and folk dance. UNLV Dance faculty Cathy Allen, Victoria Dale, Margot Mink Colbert, Richard Havey, Louis Kavouras, and Dolly Kelepecz-Momot, and guest artists James Jeon, choreographer in residence at Seoul Ballet Theatre, and Jiyeon Kim, dance faculty at Korea National Sport University are the eight choreographers who tell the story.

"In Orchestra 3" will also bring members of the UNLV



BFA Dance Major Cosette Richardson as Juliet and BFA Dance Major Malik Gray as Romeo

Department of Theatre under the direction of theatre professor Michael Lugering to weaving Shakespeare's poetic original text throughout the piece.

Performance highlights:

- Dance & full orchestra
- A mix of dance styles, genres, and forms
- Live Music by Prokofiev performed by the UNLV Symphony Orchestra
- Lighting by Elizabeth Kline

• Original Shakespeare Text

Tickets are \$18 for general admission, \$10 discounted tickets 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, at pac.unlv.edu, or by calling 702-895-ARTS (2787).

Season subscriptions are available.



Kristine Alice Keppel Artist-In-Residence Focus

As a young girl from the Bronx, Kristine Alice Keppel was captivated by Jerome Robbins' choreography which led her to follow her dream to dance for life. She is an accomplished choreographer, dance instructor, international jazz performer, director, and playwright who has been trained in the styles of José Limón, Lester Horton, Bill Evans, and Phil Black jazz technique. Her career has taken her all over the globe, as a long-standing member of the legendary Les Folies Bergère and the famed Copa Girls. Keppel studied at the University of Utah and is an Integrated Movement Analyst in Laban/Bartenieff techniques. She is a certified yoga instructor, and has completed numerous modern dance

certifications in teacher-training workshops throughout her career. Keppel has completed graduate degrees in both Dance and English Literature. She has spent the past two decades as an founding member of the faculty for the prestigious Las Vegas Academy of the Arts. Kristine is delighted to be a UNLV Dance Artist-in-Residence.

Composing for the Dance: Prestigious Dorian Wind Quintet Plays the Music of Beth Mehocic

On September 14, 2017, the internationally recognized New York woodwind ensemble, Dorian Wind Quintet performed Beth Mehocic's original work "Conversations" in the Doc Rando Hall at UNLV. Beth Mehocic, Music Director/Composer-in-Residence for the Department of Dance, contacted the Dorian Wind Quintet in the Fall of 2015. The quintet confirmed that they loved Mehocic's composition and that they would be traveling to Las Vegas and would love to perform the work.

"The Dorian Wind Quintet was the very first woodwind quintet to perform in Carnegie Hall, so I am honored that they traveled here and not only performed my piece but also took up a mini residency, teaching master classes to students in the music school along with the concert," Mehocic stated. "This was a lifelong dream come true to have an performance ensemble of this caliber perform a piece like that, and I owe so much to the UNLV Dance Department and the Dean of the College of Fine Arts, Nancy Usher, for their constant support and help to make this dream come true."



Summer Research: UNLV Dance Faculty on the Move

While some may have spent Summer 2017 chilling by the pool or soaking up the sun, the UNLV Department of Dance was busy traveling across the globe and making its international mark on the world.

Louis Kavouras, Chair of the UNLV Department of Dance, spent five weeks of the summer in residence at Korea National Sport University. During this time, he presented papers on Erick Hawkins for the 29th International Sport Science Congress at Dankook University in Cheonan, South Korea. He also collaborated with James Jeon, Jiyeon Kim, and Jaesun Lee to create a collaborative work of choreography that was presented at the Yeonsu Five-sense Dance Project in Incheon, South Korea. Kavouras also taught classes in Hawkins modern dance technique at KNSU.

In June, Kavouras conducted research at the Noguchi Museum in New York City. Katherine Duke, artistic director of the Erick Hawkins Dance Company, Kavouras, and UNLV sculptor Dave Rowe, were allowed by the Noguchi Museum to assemble original sculptures by Noguchi for two 1940's dance works by Hawkins, Stephen Acrobat (1947), and John Brown (1945). The goal is to recreate these sculptural dance environments and resurrect these lost dance works from the 1940's.

Dolly Kelepecz-Momot traveled to both Mexico and Korea this summer, and while in Korea, training and implementing a pilates program for the dancers of the KNSU. The Department of Dance has maintained a long-standing partnership with KNSU in regards to choreography and dance training, but Kelepecz-Momot has now created a relationship between KNSU and UNLV in regards to pilates. In the two weeks that she spent in Korea, approximately 40 students underwent training, receiving pilates certification, that has now led to new pilates jobs in Korea.

"KNSU has followed UNLV's lead and has created a pilates program. They now teach my method and it is beginning to inform the dance curriculum at KNSU. It's a big deal, and we here in the dance department are

very excited about this new relationship," Kelepecz stated.

Margot Mink Colbert traveled to Copenhagen with BFA dance major Cosette Richardson and recent Dance/Kinesiology graduate Laura Schaffer. They were joined by two New York dancers in Copenhagen's Krudttønden Teater on June 23rd and 24th to perform "Midsummer Night's Dances." As choreographer, Mink Colbert spearheaded a program of collaborations and contrasts by her company, Ballet Mink, and the Nicole Colbert Dance Theatre of New York. Ballet Mink's selections were in collaboration with composer Cynthia Wong, a recent addition to the faculty of UNLV's School of Music. Wong's charming abstract works provided a setting for the solos and duets by Mink Colbert and a delightful contrast to choreographer Nicole Colbert's popular genre musical settings.

Professor Richard Havey traveled to Germany with a group of UNLV dance majors for a one-week adventure packed with dance and exploring the German culture. They attended master classes in ballet, modern, jazz, and hip hop during the day and performed three concerts in three different venues. The last night was performed in the Kiel Castle with over 600 in attendance. When asked about his favorite part of the trip, Havey replied, "My favorite part, of course, were the performances. Each night brought a different audience, and the students got better each night with the pieces we brought. Spring 2017 graduate Mandie Evan's choreography even got a write up in the newspaper and was a great success!"

Havey added, "I always enjoy bringing students to a different culture and experiencing dance. It makes me and the students appreciate what we do have and how we are proud in what we do, as well as how we can share it."

Cathy Allen's "*Red Desert Dance Ensemble*" performed in New York City this past summer with Heather Harper's "*Harper Continuum Dance Theater*". It is the fourth-consecutive year presenting her work to NYC audiences and the

second successful year in collaboration with HCDDT.

The Company this year included alumni Avree Walker, Summer Reece, Lonnie Chaney III, L'Jay Luevanos, Kaitlyn Marcus along with UNLV Dance students Kristina Hakobyan, Katie McLaughlin and Carolyn Lajara.

The piece titled "Not Far From the Tree" was inspired by a conversation with a dancer's mother about the struggles of parenting a daughter. Mother and Daughter relationships are wonderful yet often complicated. Even though the space between them becomes necessary for growth and maybe only momentary; it is still heart breaking and difficult to "Let Go". This piece connected 12 short essays on different relationships. Both performances at the Medicine Show Theater in Hell's Kitchen were sold out.

"Red Desert Dance Ensemble" is planning their next NYC summer tour 2018.

The UNLV Department of Dance is so proud of our students and faculty and the incredible experiences and exposure we received in the duration of Summer 2017! Congrats to all who explored and learned this summer. We cannot wait to see you take the knowledge and skills you have learned and apply it to your training this school year.



BFA Dance Major Cosette Richardson performs in Copenhagen, Denmark.

UNLV
COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
DANCE

2017-2018
concert
season
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Season tickets on sale NOW:

In Orchestra 3

Fri., Oct. 20, 7:30pm
Sat., Oct. 21, 2:30pm, 7:30pm
Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall

In Between

Thu., Nov. 16, 7:30pm
Fri., Nov. 17, 2:30pm, 7:30pm
Sat., Nov. 18, 2:30pm, 7:30pm
Sun., Nov. 19, 2:30pm
Dance Studio One (HFA 111)

In Composition

Fri., Mar. 2, 7:30pm
Sat., Mar. 3, 2:30pm, 7:30pm
Judy Bayley Theatre

In Stride

Thu., Apr. 26, 7:30pm
Fri., Apr. 27, 2:30pm, 7:30pm
Sat., Apr. 28, 2:30pm, 7:30pm
Sun., Apr. 29, 2:30pm
Dance Studio One (HFA 111)

Save up to 20%
on season subscriptions:
\$60 (\$15 per concert)
\$32 (\$8 per concert)

Single tickets:

\$18 general
\$10 (seniors, students, military,
UNLV faculty, staff, and alumni)

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Photo: Josh Hawkins



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