The UGA Department of Dance

# **UGA Dance Company**

Spring Concert 2022



Photo by Jason Thrasher

New Dance Theatre UGA Dance Building

April 7, 8, 9, at 8:00pm April 10 at 2:30pm

### The UGA Department of Dance Presents



UGA Dance Company Spring Concert 2022 April 7, 8, 9 at 8:00pm, April 10 at 2:30pm

### Choreographers

Jason Aryeh Lisa Fusillo Rebecca Gose Barbara Powers

#### **Guest Choreographers**

Virginia Carver Seyong Kim

### **UGA Dance Company**

Grace Anderson Olivia Byers Alyssa Dula Devyn Hannon Emery Martin Erin O'Keefe Haley Roberson Avery Scott Audrey Snow Grace Weigel Cameron Brake Isabelle Collins Haleigh Green Madeleine Johnson Ana Mattingly Alyssa Nesmith Brooke Rogers Rose Sebaugh Aria Surka Madelyn Wolfe Mary Margaret Bruce Elizabeth Clark Katie Hanna Abigail Lawson Vivian Munce Sky Poole Abigail Schulze Juliette Skelton Lauren Taylor Casey Wesolowski

**The UGA Department of Dance** offers the Bachelor of Arts degree through the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences. The program of study is a comprehensive dance curriculum with professional training in contemporary dance and ballet with an emphasis on performance. Jazz, hip hop, urban and world dance forms, ballroom, folk and tap classes are also offered. Coursework in dance explores the technical, stylistic, historical, analytical, cultural and performative aspects of the art of dance, providing a strong foundation for student to explore, experiment and develop personal creativity and artistry. Students also have the option to earn Teacher Certification in Georgia along with the degree in Dance. UGA is the only University System of Georgia school to offer P-12 Certification in Dance. The University of Georgia is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD).

# ~ PROGRAM ~

### Limerence

Music: *Fall* composed and performed by Louis Romanos Choreographed and performed by Barbara Powers

### **Still Pointe**

Music by *Koyasan* by Deuter Choreography by Virginia Carver, Associate Professor Emerita Costumes by Virginia Carver & L. Fusillo

Erin O'Keefe Rose Sebaugh Madelyn Wolfe

~Pause~

### **Pink Panther Tribute**

In loving memory of my grand aunt

Music: *Pink Panther Theme* by Henry Mancini Choreography by Barbara Powers Costumes by Barbara Powers in collaboration with the performers

Elizabeth Clark	Emery Martin	Ana Mattingly	Vivian Munce
Abigail Schulze	Juliette Skelton	Madelyn Wolfe	

### Intrada – short excerpt from Swan Lake

Music by P.I. Tchaikovsky

Choreography re-staged & arranged with additional choreography by Lisa Fusillo, after M. Petipa

Costumes by Evan Ayotte of EureKA Designs, courtesy of UGA Ballet Ensemble

Isabelle Collins Avery Scott Rose Sebaugh Lauren Taylor

~Pause~

### **Roots Suite**

Choreography by Rebecca Gose

Musicians: Skip Taylor, guitar and vocals Louis Romanos, percussion Daniel Bermel, fiddle Josh Allen, bass

Gone

Music written by Bill Monroe

Cameron Brake Erin O'Keefe

"Goin' Down the Road Fellin' Bad "Wildwood Flower"

#### **Strumming Somatic**

Music: opening composed by Louis Romanos & Skip Taylor "Difficult Run" (unknown author)

Cameron Brake	Devyn Hannon	Katie Hanna
Erin O'Keefe	Brooke Rogers	Grace Weigel
Casey Wesolowski	Madelyn Wolfe	Understudy: Kendyl Hayes

### ~ Intermission~

### **Phoenix Rising**

Blurring the lines between an imaginary ballroom where everything is beautiful and the current reality of the pandemic and upheaval, this ballet offers gestures of hope and resilience. Phoenix Rising is dedicated to the people of Ukraine.

Music by Aram Khachaturian Choreography by Lisa Fusillo Costumes by L. Fusillo and Tina Hantula

Mary Margaret Bruce	Isabelle Collins	Haleigh Green	Erin O'Keefe
Sky Poole	Avery Scott	Vivian Munce	Rose Sebaugh
Lauren Taylor	Madelyn Wolfe	Understudy: Amira Kuhaneck Guir	

### Pursed Mortem (film, 2021)

Created and performed by Rebecca Gose Music by Rebecca Gose Mix Engineer: Louis Romanos Text by Roz Chast Photography by Audrey Enghauser

From *Pleasant Dances Series (2021)* curated by Lisa Yaconelli (Small Box Series) a dance response to *New Yorker* Cartoonist Roz Chast's 2014 graphic memoir, *Can't We Talk about Something More Pleasant?* 

### Bach's Pas de Cinq

Music by J.S. Bach Choreography by Seyong Kim, guest artist Costumes by Seyong Kim & L. Fusillo

Thurs. & Sat.:	Vivian Munce Rose Sebaugh	Erin O'Keefe Madelyn Wolfe	Sky Poole
Fri. & Sun.:	Isabelle Collins Lauren Taylor	Avery Scott Madelyn Wolfe	Ana Mattingly

#### ~Pause~

### "Uasi" Revolt

Music by Louie Choreography by Jason Aryeh Costumes courtesy of CORE Contemporary and Aerial Dance Company

Grace Anderson	Cameron Brake	Olivia Byers	Elizabeth Clark
Alyssa Dula	Haleigh Green	Devyn Hannon	Madeleine Johnson
Abigail Lawson	Alyssa Nesmith	Sky Poole	Haley Roberson
Abigail Schulze	Audrey Snow	Aria Surka	

### Withinnan

Inspired by the poem, The Weather in Space, by Tracy K. Smith

Music - *Let there be light* composed and performed by Louis Romanos Choreography by Barbara Powers in collaboration with the performers Costumes by Barbara Powers

Elizabeth Clark	Emery Martin	Ana Mattingly	Vivian Munce
Abigail Schulze	Juliette Skelton	Madelyn Wolfe	

#### ~Pause~

#### Amani

Music: *Madan Exotic Disco* by Salif Keita Choreography by Jason Aryeh Costumes by Emmanuel Saim Essuman

Grace Anderson	Cameron Brake	Olivia Byers	Elizabeth Clark
Alyssa Dula	Haleigh Green	Devyn Hannon	Madeleine Johnson
Abigail Lawson	Alyssa Nesmith	Sky Poole	Haley Roberson
Abigail Schulze	Audrey Snow	Aria Surka	

Please join us in a reception celebrating the dancers and choreographers following the Friday night performance.

# Meet the Choreographers

### **Guest Choreographers**

Virginia Carver began dancing at an early age studying with Anna Ludmilla and at the Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music in Indianapolis. She then went to New York for several summers continuing her studies with many of the most highly recognized teachers of her time, including Edward Caton, Anatole Vilzak, Madame Schollar, Agne de Mille, Vera Nemtchinova, and others. Her versatilti allowed her to begin performing professional when she was sixteen in Indianapolis Under the Stars. After attending Northwestern University for two years, she returned to New York to perform on Broadway in Where's Charley? (Balanchine) and Gentlemen Prefer Blondes (DeMille) and in New York television in the 1950s on the Four Star Revue, The Frankie Lane Show, The Jackie Gleason Show with the June Taylor Dancers, and others. Upon leaving New York, she began teaching ballet in Columbia, MO, Houston, TX and finally in Athens, GA, where she taught in the community and in 1971 was invited to join the faculty of the University of Georgia Department of Dance. During her twenty-year tenure there, she taught ballet, modern, tap, jazz, improvisation, and theory courses in the dance major program. In addition, she was director of the pioneering Non-Stop Dance Company for which she received a UGA Service Award and was choreographer of over twenty pieces for the UGA Concert Dance Company. Virginia holds an M.F.A. in dance from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. In 2002, she was awarded the first DANCE ATHENS Award for Excellence. Virginia Carver is Associate Professor Emerita of the University of Georgia. (photograph by Dennis McDaniel).

Seyong Kim is an international professional dance artist and holds an MA in Dance Education from New York University and an MA and BA in Dance from Sung Kyun-Kwan University in South Korea. Mr. Kim has also earned the CMA (Certified Movement Analyst) from Laban/Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies in New York City, the RSME (Registered Somatic Movement Educator) at ISMETA (International Somatic Movement Education and Therapy Association) and is certified in the American Ballet Theatre® National Training Curriculum. As a professional dancer, Seyong Kim was awarded First Prizes in both the Korean Dance Association Competition and Sung-Kyun-Kwan Dance Competition. He has performed in diverse professional venues across Asia, Europe, and the United States. He has danced with Metropolitan Opera Ballet at Lincoln Center, Albania Opera Ballet Theatre, Korean National Ballet Theater, Terra Firma Dance Theatre, Staten Island Ballet, Baltimore Ballet, Traverse City Dance Project, Neglia Ballet, and Oakland Ballet Company. Seyong's choreographic works have been internationally presented at Landes Theater Coburg in Germany, Dance in ITALY Festival, ProArteDanza in Canada, Dzul International Dance Festival in Mexico, JueDai Taipei International Dance Festival in Taiwan, Lebanon International Contemporary Dance Festival, Seoul International Dance Festival in TANK, Korea-Japan Dance Festival, and Dance Festival at Jazz in Lincoln Center (NYC) among many other dance festivals.

### **Faculty Choreographers**

**Jason Aryeh** is a traditionally trained dancer and historian from coastal area of AccraGhana, born into the Ankrah family of court traditional historians and dancers of the Ga-Ngleshie people. Jason has toured the world extensively with traditional and contemporary African dance groups, and has diverse experience as a performer, teacher, choreographer, and scholar throughout West African and the U.S. Jason Aryeh earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance and African Studies from the University of Ghana and his Master of Fine Arts degree in Performance and Choreography Studies from State University of New York, College at Brockport. As a scholar, Aryeh's research interests explores the West African traditional and contemporary movement practice and performance, embraced with the Cultural components of the West African and the African Diaspora experience through History, creating a performance practice of change intended to lead into deeper conversations, spirituality, community and liberation.

Lisa Fusillo began professional ballet training at the Washington School of Ballet and later trained in New York, London, Russia and Denmark. She holds the Professional Teaching Diploma from the Royal Ballet School (London) and certifications from American Ballet Theatre National Training Curriculum and the New York City Ballet Education Department. Her choreography has been presented in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, England, the Netherlands, Thailand, Taiwan, and at the International Ballet Competition in Jackson, MS. Dr. Fusillo is Fulbright Scholar (Taiwan) and recipient of four National Endowment for the Arts grants. An awardwinning teacher, Dr. Fusillo was a Willson Center Research Fellow and won an M.G. Michael Research Award. Dr. Fusillo is the founder/director of Dance Repertory Project. And was named UGA Foundation Professor in the Arts and Phi Kappa Phi Artist 2020-2022. In 2019, she taught at Oxford University with the UGA at Oxford Program.

**Rebecca Gose** (MFA, BS Ed), was a principal dancer with *Garth Fagan Dance* where she toured across the US as well as Europe, South America, New Zealand and Israel. She also worked extensively in arts education reform. She received her MFA from the University of Washington. As Associate Professor at the University of Georgia she teaches modern technique, dance science, and pedagogy. She has been invited to perform and set work locally, regionally, and beyond. Rebecca's research aims to increase the wellness of the dance learner's environment through motor learning and somatic lenses. She has been published in *Journal of Dance Education, Experimental Brain Research, Frontiers in Psychology*, and *International Journal of Education & the Arts,* and others. Rebecca has been selected to present at numerous annual meetings including National Dance Education Organization, International Association for Dance Medicine and Science, and the World Dance Alliance.

**Barbara Powers** is originally from Milwaukee WI and holds a B.F.A from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and an M.F.A. from the University of Washington. She has danced with the Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company, The Radio City Christmas Spectacular as a Rockette, Li-Chiao Ping Dance, The Catey Ott Dance Collective, and Skybetter and Associates. Barbara's choreography is created collaboratively with the performers and explores relationships, desire, and human behavior. Her work has been performed in Utah, Washington, and Georgia. Ms. Powers teaches ballet, jazz, dance appreciation, and yoga at the University of Georgia. She has presented her written and choreographic research at IADMS, the Association of Contemplative Minds in Higher Education, and the Healthy Dancer Canada Conference. She holds certifications in vinyasa yoga, restorative yoga, Pilates mat, and meditation instruction.

# The 2022 UGA Dance Company

#### \*Graduating/4th-Year Major or Minor



Grace (Gigi) Anderson is a sophomore double majoring in Neuroscience and Dance. Gigi is from Duluth, GA, where she studied at North Atlanta Dance Academy and Joffrey Ballet School before becoming the executive officer for Lambert High School Dance Company. After a year of COVID restrictions,

Gigi is excited to finally be performing in her first UGA Spring Dance Concert.



\*Cameron Brake is a senior pursuing a degree in public relations and a minor in dance. She trained primarily at A Step Ahead Performing Arts Studio in Loganville, GA. She performed in YCS last November and UBUNTU in February. Cameron has loved being a part of the UGA Dance Company this year and cannot wait to perform in her first spring show, Mergence!



\*Mary Margaret Bruce is a fourth-year astrophysics major and dance minor from Dahlonega, GA. She trained for 15 years at The Dance Company in Gainesville, GA before coming to UGA. She was part of The Dance Company's competition team for 7 years and competed at Atlanta competitions like StarPower and Applause. Mary Margaret is grateful for the experiences she's had at the UGA dance department.



\*Olivia Byers, a Georgia Native, is a fourth-year student pursuing a degree in dance and a Human Development and Family Sciences minor. Olivia has performed in CORE Aerial and Dance company, YCS, and the Black History month concert UBUNTU during her time at UGA. Olivia plans to continue her education and pursue her Master's degree in Dance AB Non-Profit Business and Leadership after she graduates.



Elizabeth Clark is a first-year dance major with a minor in exercise and sport science. Prior to attending UGA, Elizabeth trained at Alabama River Region Ballet in Montgomery, AL and Peacock's Performing Arts center in Bonaire, GA. She performed in the Young Choreographers Series this past fall and is very excited to be in the Spring Dance Concert as a part of UGA Dance Company.



Isabelle Collins, a second-year dance and marketing student from San Francisco, CA, studied at the Menlo Park Academy of Dance where she received her membership to the Royal Academy of Dance. Isabelle is grateful for all the amazing opportunities she has been given to learn and grow through the UGA Dance Department. She looks forward to performing on stage for the first time in the UGA Spring Dance Concert!



Alyssa Dula is a third-year Spanish Education Major and Dance minor from Lawrenceville, GA. Alyssa has trained for 17 years in ballet, contemporary, tap, and jazz. She has had the privilege of performing in the Young Choreographers Showcase for the past 3 years and looks forward to performing in her first Spring Dance Concert!



Haleigh Green is a second-year Dance and French Education double major from Newnan, GA. She trained at Star Dance Studio and numerous conventions and workshops throughout the Southeast. Haleigh performed in YCS pieces the past two seasons, Ubuntu this past February, and ACDA this past March. She is excited to perform in the 2022 Spring Dance Concert and grateful for the opportunities the UGA Dance Department has provided.



**Katie Hanna** is a second-year Dance and Exercise and Sports Science double major from Boone, North Carolina. She trained at The Space at Project Dance and has also trained with The Radio City Rockettes, at UNCSA, and at North Carolina Governor's School for summer intensives. She performed in the Young Choreographer's Series show "Untethered" this past fall and is very excited to continue performing with the department.



\*Devyn Hannon is a fourth-year Dance and Biology (Marine Biology emphasis) double major. From Memphis, TN, she trained at the Dance Academy of Bartlett before coming to UGA. She has choreographed and performed in many shows, such as the Young Choreographers Series (2018-2021), CORE Contemporary and Aerial Dance Concert (2019), Spring Dance Concert (2019), and more. Devyn is thrilled to perform one last time in UGA Dance Company's Spring Concert.



\*Madeleine Johnson is a fourth-year Dance and Social Entrepreneurship double major from Newnan, Georgia. During her time at UGA, she has performed in the Young Choreographers Series/Senior Exit Concert for three years, Spring Dance Concert for two years, UBUNTU Black History Month Concert, and was a member of CORE Contemporary and Aerial Dance during her sophomore year. She is so excited to see where the future takes her!



Abby Lawson is a first-year student majoring in Entertainment and Media Studies with a Dance minor at the University of Georgia. Originally from Baltimore, Maryland, Abby trained with Supernova Dance Company and The Moving Company Dance Center. For all four years of high school, McDonogh School, Abby showcased her love of dance through her choreography for the annual dance concert. Abby is super excited to perform in the UGA Spring 2022 Performance!



**Emery Martin** is a Dance major from Oconee, Georgia. She trained at Oconee Youth School of Performance for 14 years where she participated in many musicals and competed at numerous competitions/conventions. Since coming to UGA she has performed in the Young Choreographers Series this past fall and is a member of the 2021-2022 Dance Dawgs team.



Ana Mattingly is a sophomore Dance major and History minor from Newnan, Georgia. She trained at Star Dance Studio and various intensives and conventions prior to UGA. Ana also danced competitively for the past 11 years and is excited for her first performance with UGA Dance Company.



Vivian Munce is a second-year Dance and Human Development and Family Sciences double major with Pre-Occupational Therapy and Dance Teaching Certificate intent. She is from Cumming, GA and trained at Cumming Ballet Theatre and Arseneau Dance Academy. She has performed in the Young Choreographers Series for two years. Vivian has is so excited to perform in the Spring Dance Concert!



\*Alyssa Nesmith is a fourth-year Dance and Psychology (Pre-Med Intent) double major. She is from Snellville, GA and previously trained at Decatur School of Ballet and Greater Atlanta Christian School. Alyssa has performed in previous UGA Dance Department shows however, she is excited as this will be her first time performing in the Spring Dance performance titled, "Mergence" with the UGA Dance Company.



**Erin O'Keefe** is a second-year dance and English (creative writing) double major from Kennesaw, GA. She trained with Georné Aucoin and Musashi Alvarez in the pre-professional program at International City School of Ballet before coming to UGA. She has performed in YCS showcase for two years and choreographed a YCL piece showcased this past fall. She is excited to perform in Spring Dance Concert!



**Sky Poole** is a first-year student double majoring in Psychology and Social Work intended with a minor in dance. She grew up dancing at Colton Ballet School in Augusta, GA. She has enjoyed her time dancing with UGA's dance department and is excited to perform with them!



Haley Roberson is a second-year dance and journalism double major from Tifton, Georgia. She previously trained for 15 years at Carolyn Ellis School of Dance. Haley performed in last fall's UGA Emerging Choreographers Concert and this year's Black History Month Concert, "UBUNTU." She has loved dancing with the UGA Dance Department and is excited to be performing in her first Spring Dance Concert.



\*Brooke Rogers from Morehead City, North Carolina, is a senior Dance and Political Science double major at The University of Georgia. Brooke has performed and choreographed in YCS and is thankful to finally perform in UDAC. Brooke has trained with the Rockettes, interned for Joffrey Ballet School, and is currently a dance and group fitness instructor. After graduation Brooke is looking forward to performing and teaching dance in Atlanta.



Abby Schulze is a Dance Major and intended Nonprofit Leadership and Organization Masters candidate. Abby trained 13 years at N-Step Dance Academy under Alexis Kozar; studied with contemporary company BodyTraffic in 2019; and interned with Traverse City Dance Project in 2020 and 2021. Most recently, Abby performed in UGA Dance Young Choreographer's Showcase and Ubuntu and looks forward to interning with Joffrey Ballet this summer.



**Avery Scott** is a second-year dance and English double major from Johns Creek, GA. She previously trained with Perimeter Ballet and Ballet by Day along with a variety of summer intensive programs. Avery performed in YCS both last year and this fall and is excited to perform in her first UGA Dance Company performance.



\*Rose Sebaugh is a fourth-year Dance and Dietetics double major at the University of Georgia who is also pursuing her Master's in Community Nutrition through the Double Dawgs program. Rose has worked as the Head RA and Lead Intern with Joffrey South, Joffrey Colorado Springs, and Joffrey Dallas, and she is currently working on faculty at The Studio Athens as a ballet teacher and with the competition team.



**Juliette Skelton** is a third-year dance major from Leeds, Alabama. Juliette Has always had a passion for dance and hopes to one day open a studio of her own because as they say, "if you love what you do you never work a day in your life". Juliette is performing in her first UGA spring dance concert!



\*Audrey Snow is a fourth-year student pursuing her Bachelor of Arts at the University of Georgia. Originally from Tifton, GA, she trained for 14 years at Carolyn Ellis School of Dance. At UGA, she performed in Spotlight on the Arts, Young Choreographers Series, CORE, "UBUNTU", and now "MERGENCE". She is honored to be creating and collaborating with her fellow peers in her work and others.



Aria Surka, from Spartanburg, SC, is a junior majoring in dance and journalism. Aria's been dancing for 17 years and trained in numerous styles at Miss Marion's School of Dance. At UGA, Aria performed in the past three YCS shows and a screen dance, "Beholder" choreographed by Jillian Mitchell. Aria is excited to perform in her first Spring Dance Concert since the pandemic has put in-person performances on hold.



\*Lauren Taylor is a senior dance major from Montgomery, Alabama. She received her early training from the Alabama Dance Theatre with an emphasis on ballet. Before transferring to UGA, Lauren has had the opportunity to work with Shawn White, Pam Risenhoover, and Seyong Kim. This will be her first Spring Concert with the Dance Department and cannot wait to perform!



\*Grace Weigel, a fourth year studying dance and landscape architecture, previously studied at The Still Pointe Studios and Bluebird Uncaged, attending summer intensives at Atlanta Ballet, Joffrey Ballet New York City, Staibdance, and Dance Canvas. While at UGA, she danced with CORE Contemporary and Aerial Dance and YCS, presenting choreography in fall 2020 & 2021. Grace is grateful for all the opportunities the Dance Department has provided.



**Casey Wesolowski** is a second-year Computer Science major and Dance minor. Originally Fairfax, VA, Casey previously studied at Dance Arts Centre in Suwanee, Georgia. She performed in the YCS show in the fall and is very excited to perform in her first Spring Dance Concert.



**Madelyn Wolfe** is a second-year double major in Dance and Elementary Education with a Dance Teaching Certificate intent. She is from Statesboro, GA and previously trained with the Statesboro Youth Ballet and Technique Dance Company. Madelyn has recently performed in the Young Choreographers Series. She has really enjoyed dancing with the UGA Dance Department and can't wait for you to see the show.

# MERGENCE

### **Artistic Staff**

Director: Jason Aryeh Co-Directors: Rebecca Gose, Barbara Powers, Lisa Fusillo Lighting Design by Christian DeAngelis Posters and Postcard Design by Bala Sarasvati Publicity Photos by Jason Thrasher

### **Production Staff**

Technical Director & Stage Manager: Carina McGeehin Light Board Operator: Lily Medlock Sound Operator: Lindsey Sewell House Manager: Maggie Huff Tech Crew: Lorelai Crook, Kendyl Hayes, Danielle Hoyle, Amanda Kiefer, Elizabeth Steele Videographer & Livestream Feed: Ron Braxley

# **Department of Dance**

### **Faculty & Staff**

Jason Aryeh, Joan Buttram, Lisa Fusillo, Rebecca Gose, Barbara Powers, Bala Sarasvati, Skip Taylor (Dept. Head) Grace Bagwell Adams, Kaylee Arnold, Natalie Cox, Mike Fulford, Nena Gilreath, Lisa Williamson, Betty Prickett

### **Special Thank You**

UGA Department of Dance Franklin College of Arts & Sciences The Friends of Dance Ron Braxley, College of Education OIT Christian DeAngelis, Theatre & Film Studies Betty Prickett, Business Manager, Department of Dance



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Distinguished Artist

Franklin Visiting Scholar/Artist