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DEPARTMENT OF DRAMA'S DANCE PROGRAM TO PRESENT
SPRING DANCE CONCERT
April 28-30 at 8:00 p.m.
in the Ruth Caplin Theatre

After a year filled with many challenges, the Dance Program of the Department of Drama is extremely proud to share this collection of choreographic works devised over the past several weeks by 5 students, 1 faculty member, and 5 guest artists. Via non-traditional creative and rehearsal practices, choreographers worked together with 22 dancers to create these 10 distinct pieces for our Spring Dance Concert. From exploring concepts encompassing an escape to fantastical creatures and our imaginations, to how we accept where we are during a pandemic while not knowing where we are headed, to an exploration of space, place, and connection in an ever-changing environment, this virtual concert dives into some of the experiences and ideas that have made this year challenging for our students and our communities.

In her piece, *Each One of Us*, Jessica Terry wanted to “explore the idea of each of us having our own identity and having that come to light even if we are in similar situations in time...showing that even in similar experiences or moments we all add our own perspective to it and our own unique touch to what we do.”

glass self, a collaboration between guest artists slowdanger and dancers Libbie Ryan and Katie Yared, examines how we mirror the people and environment around us. As we see ourselves reflected in our surroundings, we begin to notice the subtleties that make up our own personhood. Third year dance minor Zohar “Zoe” Ziff said of her work, “After an exploratory and collaborative rehearsal process between dancers and choreographer, “networks” features dancers in different locations linked through a mixture of choreography, body-focused improvisation, and place.”

And fourth year dance minor Kidada Ferebee-Wellington shared, “In my piece, *beYOUtiful*, I explore what it means to be vulnerable as Black women and how embracing our own definitions of identity, and not those placed on us by oppressors can be a transformative experience.”

The dance faculty want to express their gratitude to all of the artists, staff, and crew involved in pulling this virtual concert together. Being able to come together through collective creative dance making practices has proven to be both a challenge and a gratifying experience this semester. We offer these works to share how our artists have been using dance to process, challenge, find joy, and make sense of the world we are currently moving in and through.