Tulane University's Newcomb Dance Company Launches Odyssey, a New Work in Collaboration with Guest Artists

New Orleans, LA: On Thursday, April 20th, 2023, Newcomb Dance Company and Tulane’s Department of Theatre and Dance will premiere Odyssey, an original dance piece featuring video projections from Hsuan-Kuang Hsич with spoken word by Sha’Condria “iCon” Sibley.

Conceived and choreographed by Artistic Director Leslie Scott along with the company, Odyssey weaves movement with projections from experimental film and video installation artist Hsuan-Kuang Hsич, while layering in the work of New Orleans-based spoken word artist Sha’Condria “iCon” Sibley. The performance uses The Odyssey, the epic erasure poem by Ken Hunt created from NASA’s Apollo 11 voice transcripts as a springboard to explore variations on the theme of women in space. The creative team examines how women strive to hold physical and emotional space, and what occurs when that work is unrecognized.

“Odyssey is a devised dance work by the Newcomb Dance Company that features video, spoken word, and movement, in a piece centered on humanity’s journey to the moon. A deeply collaborative work from Tulane students, faculty, and guest artists, NDC is proud to share this new foray into live and digital storytelling with New Orleans and space as our backdrop,” says lead choreographer Leslie Scott, Associate Professor of Dance and New Media at Tulane. “Looking up with a sense of wonder is not new movement, but has been a surprising, and welcome, connecting conversation for all involved in the process.”


Tulane MFA Design candidates Kaylee Drake designs costumes with props designed by Sammy Verdino, Kaeanne Louks and Ali Robinson are scenic designers. The lighting is designed by Professor Rachel Levy, whose credits include So You Think You Can Dance and multiple shows at Chicago’s Victory Gardens. James Lanius, whose prior collaborators include Urban Bush Women and Le Petit Theatre, is the projection engineer.

The score includes music by Elton John, Max Richter, MIA, Black Sabbath, and three original sound collages by Rychel Abrahams.

The show will run Thursday, April 20th through Tuesday, April 25th, 2023. Evening performances are at 7:30pm, with a 2:00pm matinee on Sunday April 23rd. Due to limited seating, reservations are encouraged. General admission is $15, students and Tulane employees are $10. Performances are in the Lupin Theatre located in 150 Dixon Hall Annex on Tulane’s uptown campus, just off the Newcomb Quad.

To reserve media passes please contact Marketing and Box Office Manager, Mary Guiteras at mguiteras@tulane.edu or (504) 865-5106. Tickets for the public are available at www.purplepass.com/TULANETD

Tulane University’s Department of Theatre and Dance is committed to making relevant, diverse, and dynamic art and shaping young talents to do the same. For more information, please visit https://liberalarts.tulane.edu/departments/theatre-dance