

Dimensions of Dance

Artistic Director: Luis Martinez

Assistant Director: Dawud H. Jackson

Lighting and Stage Manager: Lou Hamel

Kean Dance Theatre

Gracemarie Alfano	Daniela Flecca (President)	Celenia Rodriguez
Casey Bell	Vanessa Gaspar (Treasurer)	Sherly Romelus
Valerie Bozza	Kimberly Gonnella	Emily Rosania
Lindsay Brain (P.R.)	Lauren Heteji	Stephanie Schiavo
Sandhya Celestin	Alicia Mele	Teaira Staggers
Johanna Dilone	Ashley Mellios	Lisseth Torre
Christina Esher (V.P.)	Krystina Miller	Tami Walter
Stephanie Fernandez	Lindsay Pish (Secretary)	Victoria Walter

This year's program celebrates the beauty and art of the many dimensions of dance, consisting of diverse works that include contemporary modern, jazz and ethnic dance forms. The works are choreographed and performed by Kean students, faculty, alumni and guest artists. We are pleased and excited to have as our guests, children of Kean faculty and young dancers of the *New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble* and guest dancers from the hot salsa dance company *Cultural Explosion*. They have all committed many hours of their time and much effort for the purpose of sharing their talents and in perpetuating the art, and joy of dance. They especially would like to take this opportunity to express their love and passion of creating and performing for their family, friends and guests. Thank you for joining us and please enjoy the performance.

LM

In consideration of other patrons and the performers, please disengage all cellular phones and electrical devices. The use of photographic or recording devices is strictly prohibited. Latecomers will be seated at an appropriate moment of the performance at the discretion of the usher. Eating, drinking and smoking in the theatre is restricted and enforced.

EL HOGAR DE LAS MUJERES

A tribute to the mothers of civilization and the women of the world.

Choreography: Dawud Jackson

Costumes: Isis & Imani Concepts

1st movement—Madre de la Tierra

The first mother blesses the earth and creates a sacred space where life can grow in balance and harmony.

Music: Dead Can Dance - *Solo for Flute*

Soloist: Dr. Sharon Boyd-Jackson*

2nd movement—The Gathering

Girls and women connect with their ancestral memory, then share their own stories of love, pain, friendship, struggle and change. Joining here provides the strong foundation for body and spirit, so they may full express their gifts in the world outside the circle.

Music: Heritage - *Harmony*

Dancers: (in order of appearance)

Dr. Sharon Boyd-Jackson*, Stephanie Fernandez, Celenia Rodriguez, Krystina Miller, Lauren Heteji with Kiana Hollingsworth**, Victoria Walter (dance captain), Jennifer Appelgren*** with Debonaire Rustick**, Sherly Romelus with Stephanie Dale**, Faith and Imani Jackson**, Lisseth Torre, Teaira Staggers, Johanna Dilone

-Musical Interlude-

3rd movement—Family and Friends

By extending their sense of playfulness to family, friends and community, women bring forth the celebrations and special moments that make life a joy.

Dancers: Full Cast from 2nd including Marisa Takada Martinez** and Tami Walker

Music: Nina Story - *We Will Walk*

*Spoken Word Interlude—Cast featuring Imani Jackson***

4th movement—Mujeres

Having made their rites of passage, a new generation of women emerges with reverence for those who have paved their path, they take on the roles and responsibilities of the women who preceded them. They are a new and powerful force that must enrich the world in their own way, raise the next generation, and be caretakers of the culture of humanity.

Dancers: Jennifer Appelgren, Stephanie Fernandez, Celenia Rodriguez, Lisseth Torre, Teaira Staggers, Victoria Walter, Krystina Miller, Lauren Heteji, Johanna Dilone, Sherly Romelus

Music: Yerba Buena - *Follow Me*

* faculty **guest dancers ***alumnus

- P A U S E -

A DANCE FOR RAY (premiere)

Choreography: Luis Martinez and PED 3120 Students
Music: Ray Charles - *Georgia On My Mind, What I'd Say, Hit the Road Jack*
Dancers: **Duet:** Jobaire Kitchens & Erin Scott
Girls: Ameerah Boone, Danielle Brown, Shaunica Moore, Celenia Rodriguez

CELEBRATION OF EOSTRE (premiere)

Choreography: Luis Martinez
Music: Johann Sebastian Bach - *Violin Concerto No. 1 in A minor 3rd movement: Allegro assai*
Dancers: Lindsay Brain, Daniela Flecca, Kimberly Gonnella, Krystina Miller
Alicia Mele, Lindsay Pish, Lisseth Torre

Eostre (pronounced E-ostra) is the Pagan holiday that celebrates the return of spring and the balance between light and dark. Eostra was the Pagan goddess of dawn, fertility, and new beginnings.

MILONGA de AMOR

Choreography: Luis Martinez
Music: Go Tan Project - *Santa Maria (Del Buen Ayre)*
Dancer: Christina Esher and Dawud H. Jackson

MY IMMORTAL

Choreography: Lisseth Torre
Music: Evanescence - *My Immortal*
Dancers: Lisseth Torre and Roman Gomez

RITE OF SPRING (premiere)

"One was sacrificed for the good of the many"

Choreography: Lorraine Caruso Gilbert
Music: Igor Stravinsky - *Le Sacre du Printemps*
Costumes/Decor: Lorraine Caruso Gilbert
Dancers: Gracemarie Alfano, Christina Esher, Vanessa Gaspar, Ashley Mellios
Emily Rosania

- I. Adoration of the Earth
- II. Dance of the Adolescents
- III. Mysterious Circles
- IV. Procession of the Priestess
- V. Evocation of the Ancestors
- VI. Ritual of the Ancestors
- VII. Glorification of the Chosen One
- VIII. Sacrificial Dance of the Chosen One

LA GASOLINA

Choreography: Stephanie Fernandez
Composer: Daddy Yankee - *Gasolina*
Dancers: Jennifer Applegren*, Casey Bell, Valerie Bozza, Sandhya Celestin, Johanna Dilone, Christina Esher, Stephanie Fernandez, Kimberly Gonella, Lauren Heteji, Krystina Miller, Alicia Mele, Celenia Rodriguez, Stephanie Schiavo, Teaira Staggers, Lisseth Torre, Tami Walter, Victoria Walter

-INTERMISSION-

WHEN MOURNING COMES

An excerpt from *Love, Loss and Universal Healing 2002*. A tribute to both 9/11 and Tsunami victims and family.

Choreography: Dawud H. Jackson and Luis Martinez
Music: Dead Can Dance - *Yulanga*
Dancers: *Father figure:* Casey Bell
Daughter figure: Lisseth Torre - Friday & Sunday performance
Sandhya Celestin - Saturday performance
Souls: Valerie Bozza, Lindsay Brain, Stephanie Fernandez, Daniela Flecca, Kimberly Gonnella, Alicia Mele, Krystina Miller, Lindsay Pish, Teaira Staggers, Victoria Walter

"Look not mournfully into the past. It comes not back again. Wisely improve the present. It is thine. Go forth to meet the shadowy future, without fear"

-Henry Wadworth Longfellow

FEVER

Choreography: Wanda Ruiz, Pete Perez, Enrique Pincay
Music: John Davenport and Eddie Cooley, Sung by La Lupe - *Fever*
Dancers: Rina Errazo and Ed Mattingly, Jessica Kwasnick and Enrique Pincay, Wanda Ruiz and Pete Perez

IT'S A MAN'S WORLD

Choreography: Sandhya Celestin
Music: James Brown - *It's a Mans World*
Dancers: Emily Rosania, Sandhya Celestin, Lisseth Torre

TOO DARN HOT

Choreography: Michele Mossay-Cuevas
Music: Cole Porter - *Too Darn Hot*
Dancers: Casey Bell, Lindsay Brain, Christina Esher, Stephanie Fernandez, Daniela Flecca, Vanessa Gaspar, Kimberly Gonnella, Krystina Miller, Alicia Mele, Lindsay Pish, Stephanie Schiavo, Teaira Stagers,

YEMAYA

Yemaya lives and rules over the seas and lakes. She also rules over maternity in our lives as she is the Mother of All.

Choreography: Francie Johnson
Music: Urban Cuban
Dancers: Gracemarie Alfano, Zaida Balarezo, Johanna Dilone, Ashley Mellios, Denise Ortiz, Celenia Rodriguez, Emily Rosania, Teaira Stagers, Clyde Gaspard, Sherly Romelus

THE ENVELOPE (Premiere)

Choreography: David Parsons (first performed by The Parsons Dance Company in 1986)
Music: Gioachino Rossini
Staged: Elizabeth Koeppen
Costume Design: Judy Wirkula
Lighting Design: Howell Binkley
Dancers: The New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble
Molly Fitzgerald, Christina Soto, Rebecca Meng, Sarah Kramer, Lauren Schott, Jessica Berube, Brielle Kruse

A farcical and hysterical romp where the dancers are pitted against a renegade piece of stationary (an envelope).

SWING BROTHA'S AND SISTA'S SWING

Choreography: Dawud H. Jackson & Luis Martinez
Music: Walter Bishop - *Swing Brotha Swing* from the Broadway Musical *Swing*
Dancers: KDT FULL CAST including Roman Gomez and other secret guests

-FINALE-

MEET THE ARTISTS

Luis Martinez (Artistic Director, assistant professor PERH) has directed and choreographed over thirty dances for KDT. Mr. Martinez is also the faculty advisor for *Ritmo Latino*, a student club dedicated to researching, preserving and performing Caribbean and Latin-American dance forms. He holds a B.F.A. and M.F.A. in Dance from the University of Illinois in Champaign/Urbana. Mr. Martinez has freelanced and performed with various dance companies in Chicago, Cleveland and NYC which have included Ballet Hispanico, Rod Rodgers, and Eleo Pomare. He spent two years teaching and choreographing abroad in Japan and Korea. Thank you to KDT officers and dancers for their commitment to dance, thank you Mr. Jackson and Lorraine for your immeasurable support and creative vision, and many thanks to all the guest choreographers and performers for sharing your professional artistic talents and finally to Kumiko & Marisa my muses⁷.

"IF YOU CAN BREATHE, YOU CAN DANCE; FOR DANCE IS HUMAN, DANCE IS LIFE" LM

Dawud Jackson (Assistant Director, adjunct PERH) an alumnus of Kean University and a former member of KDT believes in giving back to the students of the University where he learned to love dance from his artistic mentor William Chaison. He continued his dance training at North Carolina School of the Arts where he received a certificate in Dance Education. He has performed on stage with several R & B artists, industrial commercials and independent films. He's also performed with numerous dance companies, including Jetté Performance Company (current), Paka Dance Company, Seventh Principle Performance Company, Nommo Dance Theatre, Djuj Dance and The William Chaison Dance Theatre. Dawud would like to thank Mr. Martinez and KDT dancers for inviting him for a fourth year to explore his choreographic vision. With Faith I am complete. *May Peace be unto you.*

Francie Johnson recently earned her M.A. in Dance Education from New York University and received her BA from Sarah Lawrence College. She has performed on stage, TV, video and film and has written works published in dance trade magazines. She is a certified dance teacher in the New York City Department of Education and teaches dance at Benjamin Banneker Academy in Brooklyn. She is also the dance director at MindBuilder's Creative Arts Center in the Bronx. Lastly, she is a founding member of the Dance Learning Network that has presented workshops for the Department of Education of New York City, NDEO, NDA AND CORD. This is Francie's second year as guest choreographer.

Lorraine Caruso Gilbert has been choreographing for over 25 years. Her credits include collaborations in theatre, music, poetry, and her own professional dance company, *DANCEAMERICA*. A native New Yorker, Ms. Gilbert holds a B.A. in dance from Brooklyn College and has received scholarships from the New Dance Group and N.Y.U. Her inspiration comes from nature, social issues and human relationships. Her desire is to transform movement, message and feeling into dance. Ms. Gilbert has enjoyed teaching and choreographing for students from ages 3 to 93.

"I WOULD LIKE TO BE A PART OF THE FUTURE, HELPING TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO MAKE A TOMMORROW POSSIBLE."

Michele Mossay-Cuevas is an adjunct at Kean University's School of Visual and Performing Arts as well as dance instructor at the Paper Mill Playhouse Theatre Conservatory and dance curriculum workshop facilitator for NJPAC. A member of the SSDC, she has choreographed and staged works ranging from classical ballet to musical theatre, as well as, music videos and two Off-Broadway productions. Ms. Cuevas studied dance education at NYU, earned an M. Ed. in dance from Temple University, and an M.A. in Administration and Supervision from St. Peter's College.

Dr. Sharon Boyd-Jackson (associate professor, Psychology) Dr. Sharon Boyd-Jackson began her formal dance training in 1976 when she received a scholarship at Clark Center for Performing Arts in New York City. She also trained at the Alvin Ailey Studio throughout her career and at the Harlem Dance Theatre on a summer scholarship. Dr. Boyd-Jackson trained with notable instructors such as Pepsi Bethel, Thelma Hill, Fred Benjamin, Rod Rodgers and Dianne McIntyre. She also performed professionally with the Pepsi Bethel Authentic Jazz Dance Theatre from 1978 to 1980. Dr. Boyd-Jackson received her BA at The City College of New York, double majoring in Dance and Psychology. She pursued a career in psychology and received her MA and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology in 1987. Dr. Boyd-Jackson is currently an Associate Professor in the Psychology Department at Kean University.

David Parsons born in Chicago and raised in Kansas City, David Parsons enjoys a career as a performer, choreographer, teacher, director and producer. He was a lead dancer with the Paul Taylor Dance Company and in 1987 founded The Parsons Dance Company with lighting designer Howell Binkley. Mr. Parsons has created over 70 works for his company and received commissions from American Ballet Theatre, Paul Taylor Dance Company, New York City Ballet, Het Muziektheater in Amsterdam and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. His work has been performed by the Paris Opera Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Nederlands Dans Theatre, English National Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance Company and BatSheva Dance Company of Israel, among others. Mr. Parsons is a recipient of the 2000 Dance Magazine Award.

Nancy Turano (Artistic Director/Choreographer NJDTE) trained with Ballet Master Alfredo Corvino from 1972-1980 and received her B.F.A. in Dance from SUNY Purchase in 1985. She performed with numerous companies as a principal dancer including, Ballet Hispanico of New York, Martine van Hamel's New Amsterdam Ballet and Buglisi/Foreman Dance Company. Since 1994, as Artistic Director of NJDTE, Ms. Turano has developed innovative ballet training, a modern division, new repertory by "cutting edge" choreographers, expanded performance opportunities and created thirteen original works for the Ensemble. A recipient of numerous grants and awards for her choreography, her work has been presented at the Joyce Theatre, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Dance Theatre Workshop, and the Silvia and Danny Kaye Playhouse in NYC and theatres in Europe, Panama, Israel and Germany. Ms. Turano's choreography has been commissioned by Luna Negra Dance Theatre in Chicago, the Ailey School, New York University, Harkness Youth Ballet, and the Bat-Dor School in Israel. Her acclaimed full-length work Carmen was filmed for a feature on Channel 13 (The Egg: The Art Show).

New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble is a pre-professional company bringing together a world-class faculty with exceptional students, ages 10-21. Our training includes classical, modern and contemporary dance and performance opportunities. We produce strong well-trained dancers who have been accepted into prominent schools and dance companies in the US, Canada, and Europe.

MEET THE DANCERS

Kean Dance Theatre (KDT) is a student based multi-cultural dance company whose members share a common interest in presenting innovative, fun, professionally guided dances. KDT resides in the department of Physical Education under the auspices of the College of Education with support from Student Organization of Kean University, Inc. Auditions are open to all students of all majors and abilities, who are interested in broadening their skills and knowledge in the art of dance for creative and expressive purposes. Auditions are held each year in the beginning of the Fall semester. KDT also provides outreach performances and workshops for campus and community events and schools. For further information go to the KDT website www.geocities.com/keandancetheatre or call (908)737-5511.

Gracemarie Alfano (Junior) Special Education major: "Dancing fulfills me spiritually and emotionally. There are many forms of exercises that one can choose to do, but only the art of dance is so beautiful that it can move the soul."

Casey Bell (Senior) Theatre major: When I hear music my body reacts joyfully to it. It grooves, it shakes, and moves to the beat and rhythm. My body is happy when it hears music. I dance to keep my body happy.

Lindsay Brain (Junior) KDT Director of Public Relations: "You can dance anywhere, even if only in your heart." author unknown

Sandhya Celestin (Freshperson) With thirteen years of experience in dancing under my belt, I have come to realize that I would like to become a professional Choreographer on a more permanent basis.

Christina Esher (Junior/Senior) Interior Design major: I dance simply because I have a great time doing it. "When you take dancing lessons, you learn steps and you learn steps and you learn steps. It can go on for a long time. And then one day, you just learn to dance, and it is so different". - Bill Austin

Stephanie Fernandez (Junior) Business major: I have been dancing since I was three and hope to open my own dance studio. I would also love to do some back-up dancing.

Daniela Flecca (Junior) International Business major/Italian minor: President of Kean Dance Theatre. For me, dance is a passion and a way to express myself without using words.

Vanessa Gaspar (Junior) KDT Treasurer, Elementary Education major in Math, Science, and Technology :Dance is what I am most passionate about because it expresses all of my emotions in life.

Kimberly Gonnella (Sophomore) Elementary Education and Psychology major: Dancing is my greatest passion. It helps me to relieve stress, challenge myself, and most importantly keep me in good spirits. I enjoy performing and sharing my talent with others.

Alicia Mele (Junior) Speech-language and Hearing Science major: I hope to become a Speech Language Pathologist after I finish my graduate work. ... "Keeps a smile on your face and a song in your heart". - Marilyn Wright

Ashley Mellios (Freshperson) Speech Pathology major: Dance isn't about fancy footwork. It requires grace, discipline, and major muscles.

Celenia Rodriguez (Sophomore) Accounting major: I love to dance because it allows me to express what I feel!!!

Emily Pish (Sophomore) Secretary of Kean Dance Theatre and Elementary Education/English major: I don't dance for anyone but myself. I dance because when I dance I feel that a vital part of me is missing. Dance is beautiful and I feel beautiful doing it.

Celeny Rodriguez (Sophomore) Accounting major: I love to dance because it allows me to express what I feel.

Sherly Romelius (Graduate Student) Bilingual /ESL supervision: I am a Bilingual teacher in Elizabeth, NJ. Dancing is part of my life, it makes me feel free to express my soul.

Emily Rosania (Freshperson) Special Education major: I dance because I love to express myself through body movement, and I like to learn new choreography, dancing is always fun for me.

Stephanie Schiavo (Freshperson) Secondary Education major: I dance because it's my favorite thing to do. I love music and I love choreography to go with it. I like entertaining people and I like performing and I wouldn't give up dancing for anything.

Teaira Stagers (Junior) "Dancing is my outlet. It allows me to express myself, be happy, and have fun."

Liseth Torre (Graduate Student) Behavioral Science/Psychological Services: Dance improves coordination, flexibility and strength, it stimulates right and left brain inclusion (holistic thinking). I love dance and art overall.

Tami Walter (Freshperson) Nursing major: I dance because its in my blood, I live to dance.

Victoria Walter (Junior) Pre-Physical Therapy and Psychology major Accounting minor: I dance because dancing is not just an activity for me but a lifestyle.

GUEST DANCERS

Jennifer Applegren (Kean Alumnae) B.A. in Deaf Education January 2005. Former KDT President. Dance allows me to escape and deal with the real world.

Stephanie Dale (6th grade) Grace Wilday, Roselle School District: I like to dance because it makes me happy.

Imani Jackson (Pre-K at Kean U. Child care Center) I feel Love in my heart when I dance.

Faith Jackson: Office of University Relations, Kean University. I'm a wordsmith by trade, but I love and appreciate all art forms. In particular, I enjoy watching and participating in dance because it transcends the limits of language.

Marisa Takada Martinez (10th grade) Millburn H.S.: I've been dancing ever since I can remember. Dance to me is like breathing if I don't do it, life ceases.

Enrique Pincay (Kean Alumnus) M.A. Adjunct professor, Foreign Languages Department. Also works as a Languages Consultant for the Elizabeth Board of Education. Prof. Pincay dances and teaches for the Cultural Explosion Dance Co.

Wanda Ruiz (Kean Alumnae) High School Spanish Teacher: I've been dancing for 15 years and teaching for 7. A Latin-Jazz dance background I began dance training in Puerto Rico at the age of 11 and salsa at 15. Currently teaches and performs for the Cultural Explosion Dance Co.

Production and Stage Technicians & Crew

Lighting Designer & Stage Manager.....	Louis Hamel
Light Board Operator.....	Desiree Yost
Sound Board Operator.....	Stu Burrows
Stage Hands.....	Mickey Kaufmann, Patrick Shaw and Ayemi Finnih
Sound & Video Engineer.....	Robert Velez & Colorblind Productions
Graphics Designers.....	Nicholas Contrino and Marco Vescio
Photographers.....	Mark Mullee and Rich Lemione
Program Designer and Editor.....	Luis Martinez

Theatre Management and Programming Office

Dr. Dawood Farahi, President

Robert Cole, Vice President for University Relations

Lindsay Gambini, *Executive Director*

Dave Porter, *Director of Operations*

Lou Hamel, *Assistant Director/House Operations*

Scott Bowden, *Production Manager*

Wade Handy, *Assistant Production Manager*

Michelle Seymour-Ahearn, *Principal Clerk/Adminstrative Assistant*

April Valdora, *House Operations Manager*

Front of House Staff

Jeannette Casabria, *Box Office Manager*

Melissa Hostetler, *Assistant Box Office Manager*

Jennifer Curving, Amber Glander, Christian Perez, *House Managers*

Box Office Clerks

Dan Fiorelli, Kim Skarzenski, Adalhi Armendirez

Ushers

Scott Czerwinski, Daniel Dominguez, Michele Gonzalez, Kristen Headley, Marisa Landolfi, Michelle Longmore, Jency Mataranz, Mike Moreschi, Erin Steinbrecher, Kathryn Ziethkiewicz

- Acknowledgements and Special Thanks -

Dr. Ana Maria Schuhmann, Dean of the College of Education, and the staff for their continual and gracious support.

The student officers and staff of **The Student Organization of Kean University, Inc.** for their generous support.

NJDTE dancers, Nancy Turanofu and Karin Engel

Frances Newton - The Print Center Staff for their assistance.

Maria Perez and CIRT staff technicians for their technical support.

Roman Gomez for always being there when I need him.

And Last And Certainly Not The Least - The KDT E Board for their inexhaustible work in keeping on top of everything. THANKS!

