RHYTHMS OF RESISTANCE
DORRANCE DANCE, TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY,
AND M.A.D.D. RHYTHMS

APRIL 22

2022–23 SEASON

AUDITORIUM THEATRE
CHICAGO’S LANDMARK STAGE’ EST. 1889
Dear Friends,

For more than 130 years, the Auditorium Theatre has been bringing artists and audiences together to celebrate the transformative power of the performing arts. Thank you for joining us and being part of that legacy.

We come to a close on our Global Dance series with the legendary American Ballet Theatre but still have more dance in store for audiences with our final Chicago Dance event with the much-anticipated triple threat engagement with Dorrance Dance, Trinity Irish Dance Company, and M.A.D.D. Rhythms! Don’t miss our last National Geographic Live programs with the explorers themselves as we dive into the depths of the world’s oceans and learn more about what lies beneath the surface.

In addition to stellar performances, we are continuing our efforts to preserve our National Landmark Theatre which is known internationally for its perfect acoustics, innovative design, and stunning architecture. Take a look around and soak in the golden glow of our historic arches. Our home is your home!

Whether you are visiting the Auditorium for the first time or have been here too many times to count, we cannot do what we do without your support. We hope to continue the shared hope that only the performing arts can provide and grow our community in 2023 and beyond. Thank you for being part of the Auditorium family.

ENJOY THE PERFORMANCE!

Rich Regan
Chief Executive Officer

Thomas R. Baryl
Chair, Auditorium Theatre Board of Directors

UPCOMING EVENTS

National Geographic Live — Coral Kingdom and Empires of Ice
APR 30

The Batman In Concert
MAY 6

An Evening with Tom Hanks in Conversation with Peter Sagal
MAY 10

The National
MAY 18–21 (3 NIGHTS SOLD OUT!)

South Chicago Dance Theatre
JUNE 10

NEW SEASON COMING SOON
**Auditorium Theatre Venue Policies & Amenities**

**BABY CHANGING TABLES** are located in both the men’s and women’s restrooms, located in the Lower Level and on Level 3 of the Theatre.

**CHILDREN:** All guests must have a ticket for entry, and in all instances, babies in arms are not permitted. It is the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian to research and judge the content of a performance as appropriate for their child’s age and level of maturity. There is no official rating system for live performance.

**COAT CHECK** is located between Aisle 2 and Aisle 3 in the Main Floor Lobby. Please note that our Coat Check only accepts credit card transactions. The Coat Check also features complimentary seat cushions/booster seats, disposable ear plugs, and assisted listening devices.

**ELECTRONICS, PHOTOGRAPHY, AND VIDEO:** Please turn off ALL electronic devices that may ring, beep, vibrate, or otherwise produce a sound that may disrupt performances. The use of video, photography, or any other recording devices is strictly prohibited during performances.

**EMERGENCY EXIT:** Please take a moment to locate the nearest emergency exit closet to your seating area. In the unlikely event of an emergency, please remain calm, and follow the instructions from the Auditorium Theatre team members.

**FILMING NOTICE:** Please be aware there may be video recording and/or photography of audience members taking place throughout the day. By entering the theatre, you consent to your voice, name, image, and/or likeness being used, without compensation, by the Auditorium Theatre, its members, agents, employees, and board from any liability.

**FIREARMS:** In compliance with the Illinois Firearms Concealed Carry Act, the Auditorium Theatre prohibits the carrying of weapons of any kind in the theatre and on theatre property.

**FIRST AID SERVICES:** In the event you require medical assistance, please see an Auditorium Theatre team member.

**FOOD & BEVERAGE:** Concessions are open on the Main Floor Lobby for all performances. Additional concession locations will be open throughout the Theatre lobby for certain performances. Outside food and beverages are not allowed inside the building. Please note that our Coat Check, Merchandise, and concession locations only accept credit card transactions.

**HEALTH SAFETY:** Our priority is the safety and comfort of all our guests in our theatre. To find out more information and for the most up to date protocols for our venue and your specific event, please check the Safety Page on the Auditorium Theatre website at auditoriumtheatre.org

**LATE SEATING:** The Auditorium Theatre has a strict policy of no late seating. Guests arriving after a performance has begun, or leaving the seating area for any reason, will be seated in a designated section and may take their ticketed seats at intermission, if available. For further information regarding late seating policies for your specific event, please see any Auditorium Theatre team member.

**LOST AND FOUND:** Found articles should be left with any Auditorium Theatre team member. To determine whether a personal article has been turned in to the Lost and Found, please call 312.341.2300. Any items lost or presumed stolen are not the responsibility of the Auditorium Theatre. Lost and Found items will be held on-site for 30 days only.

**PROHIBITED ITEMS:** Cameras (photo or video), professional camera equipment (tripods, monopods, etc.) and/or audio recording equipment of any kind are NOT permitted in the theatre during an event. In addition: firearms, weapons of any kind, large bags, backpacks, outside food and drinks, helium balloons, bullhorns or noisemakers, gifts, costumes, masks covering face, confetti or glitter, UAVs/drones, hover boards, luggage, signs of any type, and other items deemed unsuitable by management are prohibited.

**RESTROOMS/ACCESSIBLE RESTROOMS** are located on the Main Floor, Lower Level, and Level 3 of the Theatre. There are 2 accessible gender-neutral restrooms located in the Southwest corner of the Main Lobby and 2 additional accessible gender-neutral restrooms located on Level 3 of the Theatre.

**SECURITY:** Upon arrival, all guests will be required to follow all security protocols and screenings, which may include walk through metal detectors and/or handheld wands in order to gain access into the venue.

**SMOKING:** of any kind, including e-cigarettes and vaporizers, is strictly prohibited inside the theatre and within 25 feet of any entrances.

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**133 YEARS OF HISTORY AND COUNTING!**

Designed by Louis Sullivan and Dankmar Adler at the behest of Chicago businessman Ferdinand Peck, the theatre was immediately hailed as one of the most beautiful venues in the world, with its gilded elegance, graceful design and perfect acoustics. Architectural giant Frank Lloyd Wright, who for one of his first jobs served as a draftsman on the project, would later note the Auditorium is: “The greatest room for music and opera in the world—bar none.”

During its early decades, the Auditorium stage was the venue of choice for leading entertainers of the era, including John Philip Sousa and Sarah Bernhardt, as well as political figures including Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Booker T. Washington. It also played host to not only operas and orchestras, but indoor baseball games, as well as a bowing alley while acting as a Servicemen’s Center during WWII.

Since the late 1960s, the Auditorium earned a reputation as Chicago’s home for music superstars, world premier dance companies, and even Broadway musicals!

We are a theatre that endures. To this day, the staff and Board of the Auditorium Theatre continue to preserve and restore this treasured building. Typically, more than 250 performances and events attract over a quarter of a million people every year to Chicago’s landmark theatre, making it a true staple in Chicago and the rest of the world.

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**2021-22 SEASON IMPACT**

**ON OUR STAGE**
- 24 Cultures + countries represented
- 179 In-person performances + events
- 1,446 Paid artists + theatre professionals
- 106,010 Audience members + counting!

**IN OUR COMMUNITY**
- 5 Signature education + outreach programs
- 4 Neighborhoods reached
- 954 People strengthened their communities through the performing arts

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**Opening Night Snaps, courtesy of the Auditorium Theatre. My Morning Jacket, photo by Todd Rosenberg.**

**RHYTHMS OF RESISTANCE | 5**

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**1889**
Auditorium Theatre officially opened

**1893**
US Congress decision to host World’s Fair in Chicago

**1945**
Post WW II closes our doors

**1960s**
Beatrice Spachner: renovate and restore!

**1967**
Re-opening night performance

**1975**
Declared a National Historic Landmark

**2020**
Covid-19 pandemic closes Auditorium’s doors

**2021**
Reopened after 600 days with a record-breaking season!

**And beyond!**
Home for the best variety of entertainment and your memories!
STAFF
Rich Regan, Chief Executive Officer
Rachel Freund, Chief Financial Officer
Judie Moore Green, Chief Development Officer
Ben Werner, Board Liaison and Assistant to the CEO

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Ivonne Roma, Finance Manager

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Rebecca Snedeker-Meier, Development Operations and Events Manager
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Mary Crylen, Marketing and Communications Manager
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Lionell Moore, Booking and Events Manager

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Scott Zissman, Assistant Box Office Treasurer
Ryan Neil, Ticket Services Associate
Helen Zorn, Ticket Services Associate

Creative Engagement
Jeff Gandy, Creative Engagement and Education Manager
Justin Cross, Creative Engagement Intern

Production & Operations
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Victoria Gilbert, Front of House Manager
Steve Lange, Carpenter and Steward
Pat Donahue, Jr., Electrician
Brad Friebolin, Audio Engineer
Jay Finnegan, Properties
Matthew Sulzmann, Flyman
Marie A. Cali, Theatre Manager Emeritus

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Alicia Nicole Johnson
Eva Lopez
Asha Murff
Jessica Oakes
Melvin Osiaya
Anna Rice
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Auditorium Theatre Sponsors
The Auditorium Theatre is proud to acknowledge the following institutional partners for their generous support. Corporate, foundation, and government relationships are integral to the success of the Auditorium’s work on stage and in the community. This list is reflective of support from January 1, 2022 through February 20, 2023.
RHYTHMS OF RESISTANCE
DORRANCE DANCE, TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY, AND M.A.D.D. RHYTHMS
April 22, 2023
**M.A.D.D. Rhythms**

* A M.A.D.D. Mix Tape will transport the party from the club to the stage and bring the audience along for the choreographic ride.

  *Created by* Donnetta Jackson  
  *Produced by* M.A.D.D. Rhythms  
  *Directed by* Donnetta Jackson  
  *Assistant Director:* Davon Suttles  
  *Choreography:* Donnetta Jackson  
  *Lighting Design by* Phoenix Ballentine  
  *Additional Choreography:* Brii Barrett, Star Dixon, Andrew Carr, Caleb Jackson  
  *Guest Performers:* Creation Chicago Footwork Crew  
  *Music by* DeeJayd9_3

Donnetta Jackson will create, choreograph, produce and perform in a full-length, staged work titled “A M.A.D.D Mixtape.” This show will be the perfect example of African Diasporic lineage and the rhythmic connections of Tap and Footwork. Combining the 2 dance forms into one presentation is the perfect way to show the inspiration of one on the other and vice versa.

The show will transport the party from the club to the stage and bring the audience along for the choreographic ride. Some of Hip-hop & R&B’s most treasured gems will provide the musical backdrop as a live DJ spins on stage. Every party has wallflowers and this party will be no exception. The entire audience will bear witness to the on-stage party!

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**Dorrance Dance**

**SOUNDspace** (2013) excerpts  
*Choreography* by Michelle Dorrance with solo improvisation by the dancers  
*Original Music* by Gregory Richardson  
*Lighting Design* by Kathy Kaufmann  
*Dancers:* Elizabeth Burke, Michelle Dorrance, Sterling Harris, Luke Hickey, Claudia Rahardjanoto, Leonardo Sandoval, Melinda Sullivan  
*Musician* Gregory Richardson (bass)

The creation of SOUNDspace was made possible, in part, by the Danspace Project 2012–2013 Commissioning Initiative, with support from the New York State Council on the Arts. As part of Danspace Project’s Choreographic Center Without Walls, Dorrance received a production residency supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

**INTERMISSION**

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**Trinity Irish Dance Company**

**Push** (2014)  
*Choreography:* Mark Howard  
*Additional Movement:* Andrew Vickers  
*Costumes:* Cathy Fitzmaurice  
*Music:* the TIDC band  
*Lighting:* Al Crawford

**American Traffic** (2020)  
*Choreography:* Michelle Dorrance and Melinda Sullivan  
*Music:* Drums and hand percussion by Steven Rutledge  
*Costumes:* Kristine Fatchet  
*Lighting:* Al Crawford

**Thank You for Hearing Me** (song)  
*Composed by:* Sinead O’Connor  
*Arrangements:* Brendan O’Shea and the TIDC Band  
*Lighting:* Garvin Jellison

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**Combined Finale**

**The 12/8 Revisited** an excerpt from **SOUNDspace** (2013)  
*Choreography* by Michelle Dorrance with additional choreography by M.A.D.D. Rhythms and Trinity Irish Dance Company  
*Original Music* by Gregory Richardson  
*Performed by* Dorrance Dance, M.A.D.D. Rhythms, and Trinity Irish Dance Company

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**Program**
Dorrance Dance Bios

MICHELLE DORRANCE
Artistic Director/
Choreographer/Dancer
Michelle Dorrance is a New York City-based artist. Mentored by Gene Medler (North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble), she was fortunate to study under many of the last master hoofers. Career highlights include: STOMP, Derick Grant’s Imagine Tap, Jason Samuels Smith’s Charlie’s Angels/Chasing the Bird, Ayodele Casel’s Diary of a Tap Dancer, Mable Lee’s Dancing Ladies, and playing the bass for Darwin Deez. Company work includes: Savion Glover’s Ti Dii, Manhattan Tap, Barbara Duffy and Co., JazzTap Ensemble, and Rumba Tap. Solo work ranges from The Late Show with Stephen Colbert to commissions for the Martha Graham Dance Company, Vail Dance Festival, American Ballet Theatre, and New York City Center. Michelle made her Broadway choreographic debut with Derick Grant’s Imagine Tap, and has performed with Music From The Sole, YellowShed, and 33S. Michelle is also an alumna of the Tap Program at The School at Jacob’s Pillow and the recipient of the 2021 Lorna Strassler Award.

STERLING HARRIS
Dancer
Sterling Harris (he/him), a Chicago native, holds a B.A. in Neuroscience from Northwestern University but has a strong passion for tap dance. He is the Artistic Associate of Chicago Tap Theatre, a company member of M.A.D.D. Rhythms, and has performed with Music From The Sole, YellowShed, and 33S. Sterling is also an alumnus of the Tap Program at The School at Jacob’s Pillow and the recipient of the 2021 Lorna Strassler Award.

LUKE HICKEY
Dancer
Luke Hickey is a NYC based tap dance artist and choreographer, named by Dance Magazine among ‘25 To Watch’ in 2020. Hickey credits his knowledge and achievements to the incomparable brilliance of his mentor, JUBA Award recipient Gene Medler (North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble). His choreography has been presented by Jacob's Pillow, Birdland Jazz Club and the Chelsea Factory, to name a few. Luke is honored to be a company member of Michelle Dorrance’s Dorrance Dance.

ELIZABETH BURKE
Co-Dance Captain/Dancer
Elizabeth Burke has worked full time with the company since its inaugural 2010–2011 season. Before Dorrance Dance being her artistic focus, she spent 11 years under the mentorship of Gene Medler in the North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble. She’s also an alumna of the School at Jacob’s Pillow. Elizabeth teaches, choreographs, and performs at tap dance festivals across the country, and works with fellow Carolinian Luke Hickey. She thanks Amelia Peden for their inimitable support.

Dorrance Dance and Trinity Irish Dance Company Bios

CLAUDIA RAHARDJANOTO
Dancer
Claudia Rahardjanoto born and raised in Berlin, Germany, started her professional dance career at the Deutsche Oper Berlin at the age of nine. At fifteen, she fell in love with tap dance under the tutelage of Sven Göttlicher and Marie-Christin Zeisset and moved to NYC in 2003 to pursue a career in tap dance. A Dorrance Dance member since the company’s inception, Claudia hopes to continue to share her love and passion for music and the art of tap dance through her teaching and performing worldwide.

GREGORY RICHARDSON
Musical Director/Musician
Gregory Richardson is a multi-instrumentalist focusing on upright and electric bass. He’s the co-creator of Music From The Sole, an Afro-Brazilian tap dance and live band show that is currently in residence at Lincoln Center Education. He’s played drums, keys, and guitar with the band Darwin Deez at the world’s largest music festivals in the UK, Australia, Japan, Germany, and Austria.

LEONARDO SANDOVAL
Dancer
Leonardo Sandoval, Brazilian tap dancer and choreographer, is renowned for blending America’s great tap tradition with Brazil’s rich rhythmical and musical heritage. A member of Dorrance Dance since 2014, he also directs Music From The Sole, a tap and live music company, with composer Gregory Richardson. Leonardo is a 2021 Dance Magazine “25 To Watch,” received a 2022 Vilcek Foundation Prize for Creative Promise, and is a 2022 NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellow in Choreography.

MARK HOWARD
Founding Artistic Director/
Choreographer
For more than three decades, this pioneering choreographer has been striving for and achieving that which is profoundly significant and equally difficult to attain—the transcendence of craft to art and the synthesis of forms to create something that is forward-looking and new. His work maintains integrity while simultaneously going beyond the framework of ethnicity to carve new traditions.

Born in Yorkshire, England, and raised in Chicago, Howard began his dancing career at eight years old at the Dennehy School of Irish Dance. He began teaching when he was only 17 years old, and by 19 he had launched the Trinity Academy of Irish Dance, subsequently leading them to unprecedented World Championship team titles for the United States—the first when he was only 25.

Melinda Sullivan is a Southern CA native who trained under Jazz Tap Ensemble and the Debbie Allen Dance Academy. Film: Being the Ricardos, La La Land. TV: Disney+ Encore!, Crazy-Ex Girlfriend, the Late Late Show with James Corden, Emmys, Oscars, Golden Globes, So You Think You Can Dance (Top 10 and All-Star). Broadway: Flying Over Sunset (associate choreographer). Concert choreography: Artistic Associate with Dorrance Dance, Trinity Irish Dance Company, Capezio A.C.E. Award Recipient. IG: @itsmelindasullivan

Melinda Sullivan
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Trinity Irish Dance Company

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Choreographer
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Howard’s groundbreaking work in the late 80s led to his unique transition from the competitive stage to the performing arts stage and began his gradual evolution from coach to artistic director. By 1990, these formative years led to the creation of a nonprofit forum, Trinity Irish Dance Company (TIDC), to celebrate and further his work. From its inception, TIDC has been met with great critical acclaim across the world.

Howard was a regular guest on The Tonight Show starring Johnny Carson from 1989 until 1991, and his choreography has accumulated a multitude of national and international television credits including The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, CBS This Morning, The Today Show, Live with Regis, Good Morning America, MARTHA, and CONAN, to name a few. From PBS and ABC specials, to extensive film work for Disney, Touchstone, Universal, and Dream Works, Howard has worked with the likes of Oprah Winfrey, Ron Howard, and Sam Mendez. He was the personal dance coach for actors Tom Hanks and Daniel Craig while working on Americans. He will be inducted into the Irish Arts and he has been named three times as one of the Top 100 Irish-Americans. His work has led to numerous Choreographer’s Fellowships awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts and he has been named three times as one of Irish America Magazine’s “Top 100 Irish-Americans.”

Chelsea grew up dancing competitively for the Wick School of Irish Dance in Denver, Colorado. She joined TIDC in 2014 after she began her competitive career, winning the National Championships when he was only 9 years old. Introduced at that time to Japanese audiences by Howard, she has grown to an artist, a compassionate leader, and is on the forefront of helping TIDC push the boundaries of our art form while she pursues a B.S. in zoology at Miami University in Ohio.

How does a powerful artist and a leader help her rise to quick competitive success, winning the National Championships, regional titles, and leading her team to a gold medal at the World Championship as their team co-captain, all by the age of 12. Introduced at that time to Japanese audiences by Howard, she has grown to an artist, a compassionate leader, and is on the forefront of helping TIDC push the boundaries of our art form while she pursues a B.S. in zoology at Miami University in Ohio.
his first trip to Japan with the company in 2016, and is incredibly honored to share his talents with TIDC on international stages.

JAKE JAMES  
Fiddle and bódhrán  
Jake James is a two-time All-Ireland fiddle champion, bódhrán player, and dancer from NYC. He won the Mid-Atlantic Fleadh Cheoil 7 years in a row on bodhrán and the All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil twice on fiddle. Jake has performed and taught at various venues including the Irish Arts Center, BB King’s, Gracie Mansion, and Carnegie Hall. Jake recently moved to Chicago. His debut solo album, Firewood, was released in 2018. Currently a member of the band Runa, Jake received his M.A. in composition from the Aaron Copland School of Music.

BRENDAN O’SHEA  
Guitar, vocals and composer  
Brendan O’Shea is a singer-songwriter originally from Killarney, Ireland who moved to the United States in the late ’90s. Since then, he has become a veteran of New York City’s songwriter scene and has released five albums that have garnered praise from critics and press around the world. TIDC’s lead singer for over 25 years, with or without a guitar in hand, O’Shea excels at drawing people in. His latest album “Midatlantic Ghost,” a beautiful acoustic record with songs of leaving and of love, is available on iTunes. Visit www.brendanosheamusic.com for more info.

STEVEN RUTLEDGE  
Percussionist  
Steven Rutledge is a Portland-born, Chicago-based freelance musician and music instructor with a strong passion for playing and teaching music. A proficient drummer and percussionist, he is also well-versed in guitar, bass guitar, and keyboards. Growing up in Portland, Steven studied at the University of Oregon and received a B.A. in Drums Set and Percussion performance from Columbia College Chicago. While there, he spent three years studying privately with Chicago-based musician Tom Hipkind, who is currently one of the most sought-after drummers in Chicago. Rutledge has worked with several premiere Chicago acts including Woo Park, Nasty Snacks, North By North, Hanna Ashbrook, and is currently the Percussionist for Chicago acts such as STREGA, Uma Bloo, and Ari Lindo. He joined the TIDC band in 2018 for his first tour of Japan and is in the midst of his fourth touring season.

Trinity Irish Dance Company Bios

MELINDA SULLIVAN  
Choreographer  

Trinity Irish Dance Company Bios
Trinity Irish Dance Company and M.A.D.D. Rhythms Bios

Associate with Dorrance Dance. Capezio A.C.E. Award Recipient. Sullivan is on faculty at the Colburn School in Los Angeles. www.melindasullivan.com

Production Crew

GARVIN JELLISON Production Manager
Garvin Jellison is a designer who has worked with Seanachai Theater, Chicago Flamenco, Pride Films and Plays, Ballet Legere, The Artistic Home, The Joffrey Ballet, Redtwist Theatre and others. Jellison has also worked with Links Hall, Lookingglass Theater Company, and Chicago Shakespeare. Jellison was the Production Stage Manager for Hubbard Street 2 in 2013, and was General Manager for Haven Theatre Company until 2015. Garvin holds a BFA from The Theatre School at DePaul University.

AL CRAWFORD Lighting Designer
Al Crawford was the Lighting Director of the world renowned Alvin Alley American Dance Theater from 1998–2021. Now in his 20th season with the famed dance company, he has produced the lighting for Alley in virtually every major theater, performing arts center and opera house on the planet having toured to 48 states and over 60 countries including historically significant performances in Russia, China and South Africa. Al has designed 18 new works for Alvin Alley American Dance Theater and 12 for Alley II. Additionally, he has been responsible for maintaining the lighting for the significant Alley repertory designed by many of the top lighting designers in the industry. A huge believer in cross genre design, Al founded Arc3design, a lighting design group dedicated to merging his theatrical aesthetic into all areas of art, architecture, dance, live music, theater, broadcast, and live event production. Arc3design employees a team of talented designers and technical artists that support the creation and implementation of new projects worldwide.

MICHAEL ALTERGOTT Audio Engineer
Michael Alteggott is a Chicago-based freelance musician, producer, and educator. Michael is proficient on saxophone, piano, guitar, and bass guitar. Michael received a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He currently performs in Chicago-based bands Uma Bio, Space Gators, and Doc, while also working as a freelance sound engineer and record producer. Michael combines his backgrounds in audio production, live performance, and the physics of sound wave propagation to ensure that the awe-inspiring experience of live performance is transmitted to audiences via the soundboard. For more information visit us at www.trinityirishdancecompany.com, like us on Facebook or follow us on Instagram.

M.A.D.D. Rhythms

BRIL BARRETT Artistic Director
Bril Barrett is a dedicated tap dancer, whose mission is to preserve and promote tap dance as a percussive art form, foster respect and admiration for the history and culture of tap, and continuously create opportunities for the art form and its practitioners.

Bril Barrett is the founder of M.A.D.D. (Making A Difference Dancing) Rhythms, director of The Chicago Tap Summit and founder of The M.A.D.D. Rhythms Tap Academy. His Performance opportunities include Riverdance, Tap Dance Kid, Derrick Grant, Aaron Tolson’s Imagine Tap, The Kennedy Center, Jumaane Taylor’s Supreme Love, the Democratic National Convention and many others. Television appearances include The Oprah Winfrey Show, Steve Harvey Show, Jenny Jones Show, NBC’s Someone You Should know and ABC’s Windy City Live. Bril has taught and/or performed in Prague, Canada, Germany, Finland, Turkey, Austria, Denmark, Sweden, Albania, Amsterdam, Brazil, the Bahamas, the U.K. and across the United States. He was named A Chicagoan of the Year and has his very own Ted Talk. Bril Barrett has started many outreach programs in Chicago’s public schools, Park districts and even a performing arts high school in Gary, Indiana. He ran an After School Matters Youth Tap Program for more than 10 years and has provided after school and summer jobs for more than 300 youth from underserved communities.

As a Taptivist, Bril has spent many years creating an alternative to the school to prison pipeline that exists for many black and brown youth. A child can go from novice to professional without ever leaving our headquarters inside the historic Harold Washington Cultural Center in Chicago’s Bronzeville neighborhood. We have “Tap for Tots” (2-4), followed by “The M.A.D.D. Rhythms Tap Academy” (5-105), M.A.D.D. Rhythms Bronzeville: The HWCC Crew (which is our teen (14-18) employment program), and finally our Apprenticeship Program (18+) that funnels dancers into the Professional company placement at 21. “I am most proud of our Novice to Professional Pipeline” says Bril. Bril is determined to make a difference in his community by using tap and it’s history to expose our youth to the art form that saved his life!

STARRINAH “STAR” DIXON Assistant Director
Starrinah “Star” Dixon is an assistant director, choreographer, and original principal dancer of world renowned tap company, M.A.D.D. Rhythms. She has taught and performed at the most distinguished tap festivals in the country including The L.A. Tap Fest, DC Tap Fest, RIFF Dallas, Chicago Human Rhythm Project’s Rhythm World, and MADD Rhythms own Chicago Tap Summit.

She’s performed internationally in Poland, Japan, and Brazil to name a few. Performance venues include Jacob’s Pillow, Kennedy Center, and the Lincoln Center. Outside of M.A.D.D. Rhythms, she’s performed as a guest with such companies as Michelle Dorrance’s Dorrance Dance and Savion Glover’s All Funk’d Up. Star is currently on staff at numerous dance studios in and around Chicago.

DONNETTA JACKSON Rehearsal Director
Donnetta “LilBit” Jackson is a versatile dance performer, instructor, choreographer, and actress. Born and raised on the Southeast Side of Chicago, IL, she began dancing at The Sammy Dyer School of the Theatre at the age of 7. At 11 years old, she became one of the original members of the prestigious M.A.D.D. Rhythms tap company, and later joined the Chicago Footwork crew, Creation Battle Clique /Creation Global. She choreographs for and performs with Grammy award-winning artist, Chance the Rapper. One highlight of her career is performing alongside Missy Elliot at the 2019 VMAs for her Michael Jackson Video Vanguard Award performance. Jackson has also
footworked internationally, for corporations like Nike and Jordan and has competed on Season 6 of MTV’s America’s Best Dance Crew with the Chicago Footwork/KINGz. Recently, Jackson appeared on the Fox/Hulu dance series, The Big Leap, as Tamra Smalls and was also one of the lead dancers in the red hot chilli peppers new video “The Drummer”!

TRISTAN BRUNS
Technical Director
Tristan Bruns is a Chicago tap dancer who has received training under Donna Johnson, Ted Louis Levy, Sam Weber and Martin “Tre” Dumas III. Tristan has been a recurring faculty member of notable tap festivals – Circle City Tap Festival, Rhythm World and The Chicago Tap Summit. Tristan is currently a member of M.A.D.D. Rhythms and the Chicago Human Rhythm Project’s resident ensemble, Stone Soup Rhythms. Tristan has performed as a guest artist with other Chicago dance companies such as the Cartier Collective, Chicago Dance Crash and Matter Dance.

Tristan is the Director of Tapman Productions and has produced four seasons of new works: The Adventures of Tapman in 2013 at the Athenaeum Theatre; La Raison d’Etre in 2013 at the Athenaeum Theatre, Rhythm World and The Chicago Tap Summit. Tristan has been a recurring faculty member of notable tap festivals – Circle City Tap Festival, Rhythm World and The Chicago Tap Summit. Tristan is currently a member of M.A.D.D. Rhythms and the Chicago Human Rhythm Project’s resident ensemble, Stone Soup Rhythms. Tristan has performed as a guest artist with other Chicago dance companies such as the Cartier Collective, Chicago Dance Crash and Matter Dance.

Dancers
Ivy Anderson
Andrew Carr
Ashton Carter
Kelsey Fields
Alexandrya Fryson
Sterling Harris
Caleb Jackson
Devin Mosely
Case Prime
Davon Suttles
William Wims

About the Companies
Dorrance Dance
Dorrance Dance is an award-winning tap dance company based in New York City. Led by Michelle Dorrance, the company supports dancers and musicians who embody and push the dynamic range that tap dance has to offer. The company’s mission is to engage with audiences on a musical and emotional level, and to share the complex history and powerful legacy of this Black American art form through performance and education.

Founded in 2011 by artistic director and 2015 MacArthur Fellow Michelle Dorrance, the company has received countless accolades, rave reviews, and has performed at venues including Danspace Project, Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival, The Joyce Theater, New York City Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Vail Dance Festival, the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Works and Process at the Guggenheim, Carolina Performing Arts at UNC Chapel Hill, Cal Performances at UC Berkeley, among many others, including international venues in Canada, France, Germany, Spain, England, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Russia.

www.DorranceDance.com
Instagram: @dorrancedance
Facebook: facebook.com/dorrancedance/

As seen in tonight’s performance, Dorrance Dance is deeply committed to creating new works and employment opportunities for tap dancers. Please join our mailing list for updates!

Dorrance Dance is generously supported by the Mellon Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, MacMillan Family Foundation, Shubert Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, The Evelyn Sharp Foundation, The Hyde and Watson Foundation, and Harkness Foundation for Dance. Rehearsal and development for this performance was supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. These performances are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature. This program is also supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the city council. Dorrance Dance is a recipient of a U.S. Small Business Administration Shuttered Venue Operators Grant, made possible by the leadership of Senate Majority Leader Charles D. Schumer.

Dorrance Dance Staff
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Michelle Dorrance
Executive Director
Andrea Nellis
General Manager
Tina Huang Abrams
Production Manager/Sound Designer
Christopher Marc
Development Manager
Amanda Hameline
Assistant to Artistic Director
Gabby Benavides
Co-Dance Captains
Elizabeth Burke & Byron Tittle
Musical Director
Gregory Richardson
Lighting Designer
Kathy Kaufmann
Stage Manager
Olivia Brown
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Belina Mizrahi, Arts FMS
Artist Representative
Barbara Frum, outer/most
Trinity Irish Dance Company

Trinity Irish Dance Company (TIDC) has significantly changed the direction and scope of Irish dance, re-introducing the art form as the phenomenon it is today. TIDC is constantly in search of an original means of expression while maintaining a high regard for tradition. This cutting-edge nonprofit company was created to celebrate the pioneering work of Founding Artistic Director Mark Howard. Howard’s uniquely Irish-American company was the birthplace of progressive Irish dance, an innovative movement genre which opened new avenues of artistic freedom that led directly to commercial productions such as “Riverdance.”

By using Irish dance as an instrument and a metaphor, TIDC redefines the medium with passion, flair, and precision. Through a unique blend of uncompromising power and grace, TIDC sends a consistent message of female empowerment with a repertory that has elevated the art form for over three decades.

Considered an American treasure by critics and enthusiasts worldwide, TIDC has performed sold-out tours in Europe, Asia, and North America, appearing in distinguished venues, such as New York’s The Joyce Theater, Washington D.C.’s Kennedy Center, UCLA’s Royce Hall, Ottawa’s National Arts Center of Canada, Tokyo’s Orchard Hall, and Chicago’s Auditorium Theatre, among many others. TIDC has traveled to entertain dignitaries as varied as Monaco’s royal family, Irish and American presidents, Japanese royalty, and Indian meditation masters.

TIDC holds an important place in the dance world, offering both a highly skilled presentation of traditional Irish step dance and a brilliantly engaging interpretation of contemporary world vision.

**Founding Artistic Director**
Mark Howard

**Associate Artistic Director**
Chelsee Hoy

**Artistic Associates**
Ali Doughty, Michael Fleck, Lydia Fredrick, Sydney Niewiedzial

**The Company**
Maddie Cabral, Ali Doughty, Michael Fleck, Lydia Fredrick, Anna Gorman

**Musicians**
Christopher Devlin, Jake James, Brendan O’Shea, and Steven Rutledge

**Production Staff**
Production and Stage Manager—Garvin Jellison
Lighting Designer—Elijah Thomas
Lighting Designer—Al Crawford
Audio Engineer—Mike Altergott

For booking information, please contact:
Barbara Frum — outer/most
416.727.0725 | bfrum@outermostagency.com
www.outermostagency.com

M.A.D.D. Rhythms

M.A.D.D. (Making A Difference Dancing) Rhythms, now in its 22nd year, is a phenomenal tap dance collective whose “SOLE” purpose is to spread the love and joy of tap worldwide. What started as Bril Barrett and Martin Dumas III’s formula for giving back, is now, in its 21st year, a full-fledged 501(c)3 performing arts company, quickly gaining a reputation for representing the true essence of tap: RHYTHM! The company is composed of young, versatile tap dancers from all over Chicago. Their ages range from 17 to 45 years old, and their backgrounds are equally diverse. The one thing they all have in common is a love for “the dance.”

M.A.D.D. Rhythms’ mission is to preserve, promote and contribute to this art form called tap. They teach its history, respect its culture, and advocate for its future. M.A.D.D. Rhythms use this beautiful dance/music form to make a difference in the underserved communities of this world by connecting and caring for the youth of this world. Believing that having access and options gives a child a greater chance at a positive life, M.A.D.D. Rhythms spread the joy, love, discipline, and expression of tap to as many children as they humanly can!

M.A.D.D. Rhythms’ performance opportunities, in short, have included: Dance Africa Chicago, Dance Chicago, The Stars of “Dance Chicago” in Istanbul, Turkey, M.A.D.D. Rhythms Canada’s “Release Yourself” and “Great Feets of Rhythm,” Downbeats Canada’s “Embrace the Rhythm,” Miami’s Art-Deco Festival, An Expo for Today’s Black Woman, Kwanzaa Festival, The African Festival of the Arts, St. Louis Tap Festival, Boys and Girls Clubs National Conference, the Chicago Historical Society’s Summer Performance Series, and DuSable Museum’s educational theater series. They have also produced ten full-length productions, created the annual Chicago Tap Summit, and educated more than 200 students via The M.A.D.D. Rhythms Tap Academy.

In an effort to continuously give back to their communities, they have also worked with many public and private schools and volunteered performances for various community-affiliated organizations including A.C.E.S. (Athletes Committed to Educating Students), Children Affected by AIDS Foundation, Nikola Tesla Alternative High School for Girls, TCA Health and Nutrition Fair, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., and Rainbow House.

M.A.D.D. Rhythms Staff

**Artistic Director**
Bril Barrett

**Assistant Director**
Starinah Dixon

**Rehearsal Director**
Donnetta Jackson

**Technical Director**
Tristan Bruns

**Performers:**
Bril Barrett, Starinah ‘Star’ Dixon, Donnetta ‘Li’Li’ Jackson, Tristan Bruns, Alexander Fryson, Andrew Carr, Ashton Carter, Caleb Jackson, Case Prime, Davon Sutlles, Devin Mosely, Ivy Anderson, Kelsey Fields, Sterling Harris, William Wims

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**Performers:**
Bril Barrett, Starinah ‘Star’ Dixon, Donnetta ‘Li’Li’ Jackson, Tristan Bruns, Alexander Fryson, Andrew Carr, Ashton Carter, Caleb Jackson, Case Prime, Davon Sutlles, Devin Mosely, Ivy Anderson, Kelsey Fields, Sterling Harris, William Wims
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