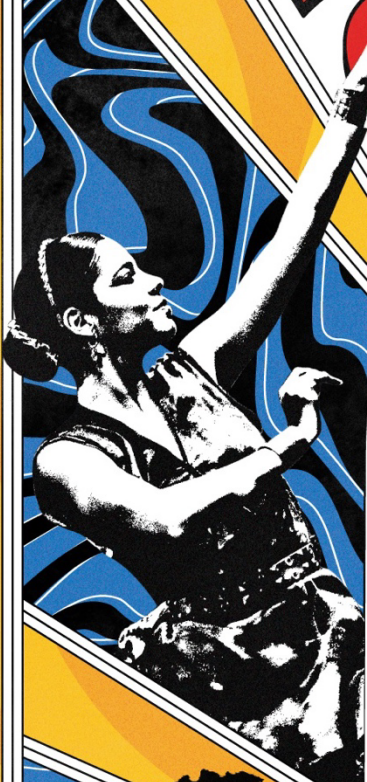


The Queens College Department Of Drama, Theatre, Dance
And Fashion, and The School of Arts Present

EDISA

★ The 2025 Fall Dance Concert ★
DIRECTOR EDISA WEEKS ★



DEC 4-7 | 2025
★ The Goldstein Theater ★

The Department of Drama, Theatre, Dance and Fashion & The Queens College School of Arts
present

Arise

The 2025 Fall Dance Concert
Directed by Edisa Weeks

The Goldstein Theater
Dec. 4-7, 2025

Choreographers	Xianix Barrera*, Marshall L. Davis Jr, Kiara Paige, Gunaglei Hui
Costume Designer	Rebecca Ming**
Lighting Designer	Jeff Greenberg
Sound Designer	Ben Vigus
Production Stage Manager	Abigail Lienhard
Production Manager	Ralph Carhart

Welcome to Arise.

The 2025 Fall Dance Concert is a celebration of the resiliency and joy of dancing.

The concert highlights the diversity of the Queens College community and the unique offerings of the Dance Program. ARISE features Queens College students dancing the dynamic percussive precision of tap, the beautiful fluidity of Asian-Contemporary dance, and the joyous uplift and fusion of African diasporic dance. The concert includes a solo by Bessie Award nominated Flamenco artist, Xianix Barrera, who is a CUNY Dance Initiative Artist-in-Residence at Queens College.

We are excited for you to be moved, be energized, and be lifted by the universal resilient language of dance.

Edisa Weeks
Concert & Dance Program Director

Eating and drinking are prohibited in the theater. Smoking is forbidden everywhere in the building and on the campus.

No photography or recording is permitted during the performance. Please turn off all noisemaking devices, especially cell phones. Texting is not allowed during the performance and may result in the patron being asked to leave the theater.

*CUNY Dance Initiative Artist-in-Residence at Queens College
**except *Cantiña* & *Journey to F(healing)*

PROGRAM ORDER

Cantiña

Choreography/Performance: Xianix Barrera

Composer: Ricardo Sánchez

Guitar/Vocals: Ricardo Sánchez

Xianix Barrera is a CUNY Dance Initiative (CDI) Artist-in-Residence at Queens College.

CDI is an expansive program providing New York City choreographers and dance companies with creative residencies on CUNY campuses.

< PAUSE >

Thank You, Mr. Quincy Jones

Choreography: Marshall L. Davis Jr.

Music: *Blues from Free and Easy*, Harold Arlen & Johnny Mercer, arrangement by Quincy Jones;

Sermonette, Jon Hendricks & Cannonball Adderley, arrangement by Quincy Jones;

Birdland, Joe Zawinul

Dancers: Anjali Christina Brathwaite, Wriann Grandstaff, Leslie Lopez,

Valentina Olaya-Florez, Isabella Perez, Madison Rojas, Brian Urena

In Unsettled Silence

Choreography: Guanglei Hui

Music: *Endalaus II (无尽 2)*, Ólafur Arnalds; *in death*, Drawing The Endless Shore;

恭迎聖駕, Wanbless

Dialogue: From *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, dir. David Scarpa, 20th Century Fox, 2008.

Door Design/Construction: William Griffith

Dancers: Sherly “Morena” Castro, Jules Martino, Isabella Perez, Madison Rojas

Strange forms emerge,

Leaving faint, shadowed traces.

Hovering between awakening and fading,

They appear briefly

In a liminal space.

Journey to F(heal)ing

Choreography: Kiara Paige, in collaboration with the dancers

Music: *Ozeba*, Rema; *Healer*, Sampa The Great featuring Zaachariaha;

Healing, Sampa The Great; *Healing*, Jimmy October; *Anxiety*, Patrice Roberts

Text: by the Cast

Dancers: Anjali Christina Brathwaite, Sherly “Morena” Castro, Ajanae “Brie” Chase,

Ezekiel Edwards, Khadija Alami Hassani, Valentina Olaya-Florez, Jaylene “Jay” Pena,

Rebekah Pryce, Elyssa Nicole Rooplal, Winifel Sanche Noesi, Nicole Valverde,

Alex Vizcarra

CHOREOGRAPHER & PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

Xianix Barrera (Choreographer) is a New York–based flamenco dancer, choreographer, educator, and the founder of Xianix Barrera Flamenco Company. Renowned for her powerful stage presence, emotive storytelling, and dynamic artistry, she is dedicated to bringing authentic and contemporary flamenco experiences to audiences across the U.S. and abroad. A Bessie Award–nominated artist, Xianix is the recipient of the 2025 LMCC Creative Engagement Grant and a CUNY Dance Initiative artist-in-residence at Queens College. Through her company, she has created and produced original works such as *Mujeres, Latido*, and her latest project *QUEBRADA*—a multidisciplinary flamenco-theatrical production inspired by the Japanese art of Kintsugi that explores resilience, transformation, and the beauty found within our cracks. With her company, Xianix also leads an acclaimed flamenco school and community dedicated to cultural exchange, education, and artistic excellence. Her work bridges tradition and innovation, honoring the deep roots of flamenco while carving new pathways for expression and connection.

Ralph Carhart (Production Manager) has been the PM for DTD since 2007, and has shepherded over 100 productions on QC stages in that time. He was the founder and artistic director of the Queens College Summer Performing Arts Festival (2010-2013), for which he directed site specific productions of Shakespeare’s *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Measure for Measure*, *Macbeth* and *Romeo and Juliet* (the last at Flushing Town Hall). As a writer, Ralph’s play, *The Invaders: A Freedom Summer Play*, which tells the story of the 1964 Mississippi Summer Project and the murders of three activists by the Ku Klux Klan (including Queens College student Andrew Goodman), had its world-premiere reading in June 2024 at the Goldstein Theatre. Currently pursuing a B.A. in Italian, Ralph is writing the book and lyrics to a new musical entitled *La cena (The Dinner)* that celebrates Italy’s food culture. He is also currently translating and adapting Carlo Goldoni’s *The Comic Theatre*. Beyond theatre, Ralph is a baseball historian whose research has appeared in the *The New York Times*, on *CBS Evening News*, and on *History this Week*, the flagship podcast of The History Channel.

Marshall L. Davis, Jr. (Choreographer) was born in Miami Beach, Florida and began tap dancing at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center. By the age of 11, he was the 1989 Florida winner for the Tri-Star Pictures Tap Day contest, a promotion for the movie *Tap* starring Gregory Hines and Sammy Davis, Jr. At age 13, he accepted a check from Ed McMahon for winning the coveted title of *1991 Star Search Teen Dance Champion*. Since winning, he has had the pleasure of performing with Harold “Stumpy” Cromer at the Guthrie Theater as Pocket in the musical *Babes in Arms*, directed by Garland Wright and choreographed by Liza Gennaro. Later, he joined the Tony award-winning Broadway production of *Bring in ’da Noise, Bring in ’da Funk*, choreographed by Savion Glover and directed by George C. Wolfe. Marshall has also performed and taught throughout Europe, Japan, Australia, and the United States. He is the protégé of the late Steve Condos of the Condos Brothers. Marshall has also received guidance from James “Buster” Brown, Edwin Holland, Paul Kennedy, Ted Levy, Lavaughn Robinson, and Sam Weber. Named “Most Unusual Dance Soloist” by the Miami Herald for his rendition of the Morton Gould Tap Concerto, Marshall is also the recipient of Isaac Hayes’s Breaking the Barrier Award for his achievements at such an early age. He is an adjunct professor of Tap at Queens College, Manhattan School of Music and also teaches at the Ailey Extension. Marshall can be seen through motion capture performance in the animated film *Happy Feet Two*, directed by

George Miller. He is the featured hooper in *Simply Sammy*, a ballet choreographed by Darrell Grand Moultrie, set to the music of Sammy Davis Jr. Most recently, Marshall worked as the associate choreographer to Savion Glover for the Broadway show *Shuffle Along, or, the Making of the Musical Sensation of 1921 and All That Followed* and for New York City Center's Encores! production of *Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope!*

Jeff Greenberg (Lighting Designer) has been a full time Lecturer of Lighting Design at Queens College since 2007. Since then, he has designed dozens of shows for the Department of Drama, Theatre & Dance, including this season's production of *The Bakkhai*. Aside from the many shows at QC, he also recently designed *The Shark is Broken* at North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly, MA as well as The Martha's Vineyard Performing Arts Center. Other recent credits include *Alice in Wonderland* and *Seussical* at the John W. Engman Theatre in Northport, Long Island; *Peony Dreams: The Other Side of Sleep* at the Historic Ringling Theatre in Sarasota, FL; *The Ultimate Christmas Show, Outside Mullingar*, and *The Gin Game* at Cape May Stage; *Grease* at the Eldorado Hotel/Casino in Reno, NV; many shows at the SurfFlight Theatre on Long Beach Island; a four-show repertory season at Texas Shakespeare Festival; and a touring production produced, directed by, and starring world renowned tap dancer Savion Glover - *Savion Glover's Holiday Spectacular*. Jeff designed and toured for several years with the long-running show *In the Mood*, a 1940's big band musical revue, and also designed national tours of the musicals *Titanic*, and *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*. When he's not designing lights, Jeff can usually be found either playing, teaching, or talking about the sport of Curling, for which he is a certified Level 2 (out of 2) instructor.

Will Griffith (Technical Director) is a designer, prop maker, lecturer and the technical director of the Department of Drama, Theatre, Dance and Fashion. His work has been seen in such shows as *Stereophonic*, *Oh Mary!*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Macbeth* and many more. He has been with the department since 2019.

Guanglei Hui (Choreographer) originally from China, is an independent artist, choreographer, dancer, and teacher with extensive international experience. He studied Choreography and Classical Ballet Performance with Education at Kyrgyz State University of Culture and Arts (1998–2004). Guanglei has performed with Guangdong Modern Dance Company, China's first modern dance company, and participated in international festivals including the anniversary celebration of Pina Bausch Dance Company (2008), Yokohama Dance Collection (2011), and the International Choreographers Residency Program at the American Dance Festival (2012). He has worked with renowned artists such as Sang Jijia, Yin Mei, Margaret Jenkins, Shen Wei, Hou Ying, Jodi Melnick, Cheng-Chieh Yu, Young Soon Kim, and Lane Gifford, touring to arts festivals in more than twenty countries. He is the Artistic Director of Cross Move Lab (NY, USA), and Co-founder of Touch Contact Improvisation Festival (China). He has also taught at Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Nanjing University of the Arts, Yunnan Arts University, Yunnan Minzu University, Xinghai Conservatory of Music, East China University of Technology and Peridance Center. Awards include the Queens Council on the Arts Artist Commission Program (2018–2019) and the NYS Choreographers Initiative Award (2021–2022). Guanglei continues to develop his artistic practice through choreography, performance, and teaching, fostering creative growth and collaboration across cultures.

Abigail Lienhard (Stage Manager) (She/her) is thrilled to be working on her second production with Queens College. Abigail graduated from Wellesley College in 2024 with a B.A. in Theatre Studies. Her past productions include Queens College's *The Bakkhai* (PSM), the Boston Early Music Festival's *Octavia* (ASM), and Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea* with the New England Conservatory (ASM). She also spends her summers working as a stage manager at Buck's Rock Performing and Creative Arts Camp, helping children ages 10-17 put on full-scale professional productions.

Rebecca Ming (Costume Designer for Thank You, Mr. Jones and In Unsettled Silence) is a New York City based costume designer with a focus in theater and dance. She is passionate about theater education and has been an adjunct at CUNY, Pace, and Marymount Manhattan College. She is delighted to return to Queens College for *Arise*. Past QC credits include *Albert Herring* (National Opera Association Division III Award Winner - First Place), *Hansel and Gretel*, *Terrain*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Merry Widow*. Recent works include *Hair* (Pace University), *Pippin* (AMDA), *La Nozze di Figaro* (Opera North), *The Little Prince* (Opera North) and *The 2025 Jimmy Awards*.

Kiara Paige (Choreographer) is the Founder and Artistic Director of CarNYval Dancers. She started the company in 2014 to reflect the love, passion, and connection of the Afro-Caribbean diaspora through dance and music. CarNYval has produced and shared works throughout the tri-state area and in Trinidad and Tobago, in addition to leading dance workshops such as Soca, Afrobeat(s) and Traditional West African dance. They have performed on some of the world's largest stages, including Radio City Music Hall, Lincoln Center, The NYC Labor Day Parade and Times Square. CarNYval has also been able to work with artists such as Davido, Rihanna, D'banj, Kevin Lyttle, Machel Montano, and many more. CarNYval aims to share, educate, and uplift their culture while telling stories through dance. With every opportunity, the company's mission and purpose remains to bring the carnyval and endless vibrations to their viewers and participants on any platform. In 2021 Kiara started Kulture Kave, an annual showcase that celebrates Black creatives, artistry, kulture, and the transformative power of dance. Kiara is a graduate of Queens College, CUNY.

Ricardo Sánchez (Composer) is a Flamenco guitarist, composer and educator born in Jalisco, Mexico and based in New York City. He has been a performer and a Musical Director with world-renowned artists such: Juan Gabriel, Emanuel, José Mora, Alvera De León, Susana Harp, among others. Ricardo has also composed, directed and performed with several musical projects in major flamenco and music festivals across the Americas, including the 2º Encuentro de Arte Flamenco de América, Festival Internacional Cervantino "Flor Andaluza Raíz Guerrerense" (Mexico), Canada's Virtual Victoria Flamenco Festival, Vancouver International Flamenco Festival, Expolatino, Contemporary Dance Festival "Fluid Fest", as well as Chile's 1º Festival Internacional de flamenco "Sur Jondo", and the Flamencos por América Tours throughout Latin America. Deeply committed to educating the next generation of flamenco guitarists, Ricardo leads workshops and classes focused on both artistic development and technical mastery.

Ben Vigus (Sound Designer) is a New York-based sound designer and actor. Piehole core member (HARP recipient 2024, Jerome finalist 2021). Recent sound: *Arsenic & Old Lace* (Brooklyn College), *Disclaimer* (LA, Nimoy Theater), *Lunch Bunch* (PlayCo), *Christmas*

Mountain (Piehole in collaboration with New Georges, WNYC Greene Space), *Underground Fairy* (Japan Society) *Bad at Birthdays* (feature film by Jesse Thurston), *Clambake* (short film by Sammy Zeisel), *Unbearable* (animated short by Stephen Sues). Brooklyn College Sonic Arts MFA candidate.

Edisa Weeks (Director) is a choreographer, educator, curator and founder of DELIRIOUS Dances. She creates interdisciplinary interactive work that explore our deepest desires, darkest fears and sweetest dreams. Her work has been performed in a variety of venues including the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Works & Process at the Guggenheim Museum, and Harlem Stage; as well as unconventional spaces like storefront windows, swimming pools and living rooms. She grew up in Uganda, Papua New Guinea and Brooklyn, NY. She has a BA from Brown University, and an MFA in choreography from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. She has performed with Annie-B Parsons Big Dance Theater, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Co., Dance Brazil, Homer Avila, and Jane Comfort, among others. She is on the Board of Directors for Movement Research, a Professor of Dance at Queens College CUNY, and a 2025/2026 Scholar-in-Residence at The New School. Edisa is nominated for a Bessie's Outstanding Performer Award for *3 Rites Liberty*. The Bessie's Award announcement will be on January 20, 2026.

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Assistant Costume Designer	Ana Yee
Technical Director	Will Griffith
Head Electrician	Henry Menestrier
Light Board Operator	Jupiter Corredor
Sound Operator	Zyare Robinson
Wardrobe	Joanny Baez
	Leena Ramdial
Fly/Deck Crew	Alan Wong
Graphic Design/Artwork	Alexandra Alvarez
Photography	Julen Photo, Luis Pons, Julie Lemberger

Additional assistance provided by the students of DRA 115, DRA 218.

DEPARTMENT OF DRAMA, THEATRE, DANCE and FASHION

Chair-Meghan E. Healey
Head of the Acting Program-Claudia Feldstein
Associate Chair and Director of Dance-Edisa Weeks
Director of Graduate Dance and International Programs-Yin Mei Critchell
Director of Fashion and Design Program-Emily Ripley
Administrative Assistant-Christina Stahl
College Assistant-Orit Zilka
Fashion Program College Assistant-Brianna Sesson
Production Manager-Ralph Carhart

FACULTY

Tara Ahmadinejad, Carlos Andrickson, Joel Bernard, Julie Boyd, Marie Carstens, Gardiner Comfort, Yin Mei Critchell, Marshall Davis, Claudia Feldstein, Carlos Fittante, Jeff Greenberg, Will Griffith, Tracy Hazas, Meghan E. Healey, Guanglei Hui, Richard Killeaney, Nicholas Leahy, David Lee, Dayhe Lee, Molly Lieber, Jessica McMullin, Kellyn Mylechreest, Rebecca Nelson, Kiara Paige, Elyse Price, Emily Ripley, Stephen Rowe, Aniko Szucs, Edisa Weeks

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

Marvin's Room

Written by Scott McPherson

Directed by Claudia Feldstein

Mar. 5-Mar. 15, 2026

Goldstein Theatre, Thurs-Sat at 7:00, Sun at 3:00

Tix \$15/\$10 (QCID and Seniors); \$5 for all tix on 3/6

Street Scenes

(produced in conjunction with the Aaron Copland School of Music)

Music by Kurt Weill, Lyrics by Langston Hughes and Book by Elmer Rice

Directed by Alex Paul Sheerin

Apr. 16-19, 2026

Goldstein Theatre, Thurs-Sat at 7:00 & Sun at 3:00

Tix \$20/\$15 (seniors)/\$5 (QCID)

The 2026 Student Choreography Showcase

Directed by Edisa Weeks

May 7-10, 2026

Goldstein Theatre, Thurs-Sat at 7:00 & Sun at 3:00

Tix \$7

The Department of Drama, Theatre, Dance and Fashion provides a comprehensive study of the liberal arts, balanced with rigorous training in both the theoretical and experiential aspects of each discipline. The department presents a wide variety of productions including comedies, classic and modern plays, new productions, musicals, operas, dance concerts, and fashion exhibitions. The goal is to foster the development of knowledgeable world citizens, while preparing students for careers as artists and educators, in addition to providing a foundation for graduate study. The program's vibrant course offerings, taught by leaders in the field, empower students to realize their unique potential and become arts professionals capable of making significant contributions to the cultural landscape and creative economies.

DONATE

If you enjoyed the performances, please consider supporting future productions by the Queens College Dept. of Drama, Theater, Dance and Fashion by making a tax-deductible contribution on line at: www.qc.cuny.edu > MAKE A GIFT

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Flushing NY 11367

The Department of Drama, Theatre, Dance and Fashion wishes to acknowledge that our facilities are placed on the traditional homelands of the Lekawe, Matinecock, and Munsee Lenape people. We acknowledge the past, present, and future generations of Native people who care for this land as a sacred trust, and we support their efforts to bring attention to Native and Indigenous communities. To learn more about the Lenape tribes from this region please visit www.nanticoke-lenape.info. To learn how to support the Native American communities residing in New York City please visit aich.org.

