



**The Queens College Drama, Theatre and Dance Department
& Queens College School of Arts Presents**

IRIDESCENCE

**The Student Choreography Showcase
May 9-12, 2024**

Director: Edisa Weeks

Lighting Director/Designer: Matt Deinhart

Stage Manager: Sean Friedman

Production Manager: Ralph Carhart

Photo: Julie Lemberger

Poster Graphic Design: Patricia Chavez

PROGRAM

UNSTOPPABLE

Choreographer: Josue Morillo

Costume Designer: Kasandra Thompson

Lighting Designer: Azairea Harris

Music: *Never Giving Up (Instrumental)*, WhiteSand; *The Greatest*, Sia;

Que Calor (feat. J Balvin & El Alfa), Major Lazer; *Blessed*, Shenseea

Dancers: Aliyah Morris, Isabella Perez, Madison Rojas, Maelle Bakou, Valentina Olaya-Florez

"No matter how you feel, get up, dress up, and never give up" - Regina Brett

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Choreographer: Zihan Xu in collaboration with dancers

Costume Designer: Stephanie Giraldo Deabreu

Lighting Designer: Matt Deinhart

Music: *Habanera, Carmen, Instrumental*, George Bizet, arrangement Alexander Schiborr;

Carmen Habanera on one guitar, Marcin; *You & I*, New Look;

Operate At Your Optimum (feat. Atsuhiko Ito), Diamond Version

Text: Monologue written by Candice Phillips, Karelys Junco Yanky

Dancers: Sherly "Morena" Castro, Steven Jeltsch, Karelys Junco Yanky, Candice Phillips, Anna Yau

< brief pause >

Aftershock

Choreographer: Stephanie Greene

Costume Designer: Quinn Canales & Stephanie Greene

Lighting Designer: Matt Deinhart

Music: *So Good*, Lady Bri; *Boom Boom* - 2WEI, Bri Bryant; *Strange Fruit*, Dominique Fils-Aimé;

9LRR, Dominique Fils-Aimé; *My Mind at Ease*, Dominique Fils-Aimé; *Sinnerman Sofi Tukker*

Remix, Nina Simone, Sofi Tukker; *I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel To Be Free*, Nina Simone;

To Walk A Way, Dominique Fils-Aimé

Dancers: Luisina (Lulu) Alonzo, Jaida Cabrejos-Perez, Jaelle Campbell, Sherly "Morena" Castro,

Kiara Day, Karelys Junco Yanky, Valentina Olaya-Florez, Noelani Marie Peaks, Lauren Perkins,

Candice Phillips, Nicole Valverde

INTERMISSION

Are you in there, are you out inside the breeze

Choreographer/Performer: Orlando Hernández (CDI Artist)

Composer/Performer: Gregory Richardson

Music: Orlando Hernández & Gregory Richardson

< brief pause >

To Value

Choreographer: Aaliyah Lingard in collaboration with dancers

Costume Designer: Quinn Canales

Lighting Designer: Azaire Harris

Music: *DELRESTO (ECHOES)*, Travis Scott feat. Beyoncé; *Drop (Reyzy Remix)*, Timbaland & Magoo feat. Fatman Scoop; *Worst in Me*, KAYTRANADA feat. Tinashe; *Lord of Ashes*, Lappy; *Counter Blade*, Lappy; *Pink Blood (Piano Version)*, Hikaru Utada; *Luminary (Nightcore)*, Joel Sunny; *Eye Of The Untold Her*, Lindsey Stirling

Sound Editor: Prince Whitfield Gibbs and Aaliyah Lingard

Dancers: Aaliyah Lingard, Jaelle Campbell, Brian Ureña, Anjali Brathwaite, Ashley Masabanda, Jennireth Tamayo, Nicole Valverde

A Dream of Xōchipilli

Choreographer: Steven Jeltsch in collaboration with dancers

Costume Designer: Alexis Puebla

Lighting Designer: Matt Deinhart

Music: *Echo Sax No.4*, Caleb Arredondo; *Delirious*, 照井順政; *Changing Seasons*, ATLUS Sound; *Gymnopédie No.1*, Erik Satie, Philippe Entremonte; *Annulus*, ATLUS Sound; *Submission*, Andy Stott

Text: personal letter written by a dancer (randomly selected during the performance)

Dancers: Aliyah Morris, Grace Trunz, Kiara Day, Lauren Perkins, Madison Rojas, Zihan Xu

*Special Thanks to Edisa Weeks and the backstage crew for all their efforts
towards making this work happen!*

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Aaliyah Lingard (Choreographer) was born and raised in Manhattan, NY. As a young child Aaliyah taught herself how to move by watching K-Pop, Hip-Hop battles, and other dance videos. She started her formal dance training during her freshman year at Alfred University where she studied modern and contemporary dance with Chase Angier and Colleen Wahl. Her sophomore year she moved back to New York City and transferred to Queens College where she is double majoring in Drama and Dance. Aaliyah performed in *2 Suite* by Carolyn Webb and *Thank You For Your Service* by nia love for the 2023 Fall Dance Concert. She is excited to develop her love for performing arts, movement, and vocal training at Queens College. Aaliyah believes that dance is a universal language which brings out one's creativity. She aspires to become a teacher, so she can inspire others and share the joy of dancing and letting bodies move freely.

Azairea Harris (Lighting Designer) is a Drama Major at Queens College with a love for all things theatre. Inspired at an early age after watching recordings of *The Phantom of The Opera* with their older sister, Azairea decided to pursue a career in the arts. They studied Illustration at the School of Visual Arts before transferring to QC. They hope to one day create space in the arts for neurodivergent people like themselves. Azairea has worked on several productions at QC including *Traces* and *Mr. Burns* as an electrician and light board operator. This is their second time designing lights for the Student Choreography Showcase.

Alexis Puebla (Costume Designer) is a Fashion and Design major at Queens College who loves patternmaking and sewing. I'm also an intern with the Fashion and Textiles Collection within the Fashion and Design program which has fed my love for preserving and researching archival garments. As an intern I've assisted in curating exhibitions and have held a talk on Japanese kimonos at one of said exhibitions. My interest in fashion can be traced back to my family. My mother is a passionate embroider and my aunt would repair and mend clothing when I was young. My curiosity led me to attempt what they did, and I found sewing to be more satisfying and enjoyable. I've also come to love the historical side of fashion and clothing. I was very fortunate to find out that Queens College had a fashion and design program and that's how I've made it here. In my free time I love to play guitar and go bike riding, especially in the summer, around Queens!

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 or living rooms in Berlin, Germany, as part of Haus der Kulturen der Welts 50th anniversary celebration. 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 and an Associate Professor of Dance at Queens College. deliriousdances.com

Gregory Richardson (Composer, Performer, Multi-Instrumentalist) is focusing on upright, electric bass, and guitar. He's the co-creator and artistic director of *Music from the Sole*, as well as the musical director of the award winning tap dance company, Dorrance Dance. As a composer for dance, he's participated in creative residencies at Lincoln Center Education, Jacob's Pillow, The Yard, National Dance Institute, Guggenheim's Works and Process, Chelsea Factory, and Kaatsbaan Cultural Park, and premiered original compositions at The Guggenheim, BAM, The Joyce, and The City Center of New York. Other credits include performing with Toshi Reagon in her opera of Octavia Butler's "Parable of the Sower," touring with the indie band Darwin Deez, playing with Grammy Award winning artists, Keyon Harrold and Marcus Gilmore, and grants from New Music USA, The Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, New England Foundation for the Arts, and the Jerome Foundation.

Josue Morillo (choreographer) was born in the Dominican Republic (DR) and moved to New York in 2012. He started dancing at a young age in DR with his cousin while doing daily chores, and at family parties. He was heavily criticized for his feminine movements, which was disheartening, however he continued to dance. When he moved to the Big Apple during his middle school years, he struggled to catch up with English. His middle school had an art or dance requirement, and he decided to take dance, which led to his first performance which blended West African Dance with Bachata and Merengue. During High School he took a break from dance and only participated in social events. In 2020 he received an Associate Degree in Childhood Education from LaGuardia Community College. While at LaGuardia he took open level classes at Pearl Studio, Broadway Dance Center, and Ripley-Grier Studio; where he found amazing people with different styles which introduced him to Reggaeton, Hip-Hop, Popping and Afro-Beat. In fall 2020 he transferred to Queens College to pursue a major in Childhood Education and switched to majoring in Dance. Josue is in his last semester at Queens College, following which he plans to continue his dance and education career at graduate school. His goal as an educator, is to support the next generation in their passion for dance and other careers, so they follow and never give up on their dreams.

Kasandra Thompson (Costume Designer) is a sophomore at Queens College. She is currently majoring in English and Theater and minoring in Fashion and Design. Her love for theater started at an early age from watching shows such as *Finding Neverland* and *Anastasia*. She began studying the art of hair and makeup in her junior year of high school at the Sewanhaka Cosmetology Program. She has designed hair and makeup for *Grease*, *A Murder Is Announced*, *The Late Wedding*, and most recently for the opera *Hansel and Gretel*. She is delighted to design costumes for Josue Morillo's work *UNSTOPPABLE* for the Student Choreography Showcase and looks forward to working on future productions at Queens College.

Matthew Deinhart (Lighting Director, Designer) is a New York based multidisciplinary designer. Recent design credits include the scenic design for *The Lesser Magoo* (Brooklyn College) and *Sweat* (Brooklyn College), the lighting design for *La Folie* (Premiere - Brooklyn College), *Dark Star of Harlem* (La Mama), *The Sandwich Program* (Premiere - The Public), and *Tongue Depressor* (Premiere - The Public), and the projection design for *This is a Cave* (Premiere – Brooklyn College) and *ANIMUS ANIMA//ANIMA ANIMUS* (Premiere - The Public). Matthew is 2021 graduate of Brooklyn College with an M.F.A in design and technical theater.

Quinn Canales (Costume Designer) is a queer Mexican-American creative in New York City, originally from Nezahualcóyotl, Mexico City. She currently has the privilege of studying at Queens College and is studying to get her BA in Drama & Theater. They consider themselves storytellers and love to tell stories through multiple mediums, such as designing, acting, directing, and writing. Whenever she's not busy with storytelling, she can be found spending time with her cat. Quinn would like to thank her mother and father for taking the leap of faith and allowing her to have a better quality of life as well as supporting her love for the arts, as she finds them to be her greatest inspiration and motivators for any project she works on.

Orlando Hernández (Choreographer, CUNY Dance Initiative) is a tap dancer, choreographer, writer, and interdisciplinary performer based in NYC. He has presented his work at New York Live Arts, On the Boards, Dance Now at Joe's Pub, the Granoff Center at Brown University, Movement Research at the Judson Church, and La Casa de Cultura Ruth Hernández Torres. He has received a Fellowship in Choreography from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, the Rebecca Blunk Fund Award from the New England Foundation for the Arts, and residencies from Yaddo and La Espectacular. He was a 2022-23 Fresh Tracks Artist at New York Live Arts and a 2023 Artist-in-Residence at the Center for Performance Research. Orlando holds a B.A. in English from Yale University. He is a member of the tap dance companies Music From the Sole and Subject:Matter and dances with Michela Marino Lerman's Love Movement. You can find him at orlyhernandez.com and on Instagram @pineappleju_icefrog

Orlando Hernández's residency and performance at Queens College are part of the **CUNY Dance Initiative**, an expansive program providing New York City choreographers and dance companies with creative residencies on CUNY campuses.

Sean Friedman (Stage Manager) is a Senior at Queens College majoring in Drama and minoring in Legal Studies. Sean was born into a family with thespian roots, who supported his passion for performing and theatrics. Two years ago, Sean decided to pursue a career in theatre and acting, and his goal is to create films that are a source of comfort, make a mark, and provide a new way of thinking about performance and life. He has had rewarding "all-hands-on-deck" backstage experiences from assistant stage managing, to sound and light board operations, and more. At Queens College Sean worked on productions of *The Wolves*, *The Late Wedding*, and *Terrain*, *The Fall Dance Concert*. He is delighted to have his premiere as a Stage Manager for *IRIDESCENCE*, the Student Choreography Showcase.

Stephanie Giraldo Deabreu (Costume Designer) is a Venezuelan, Colombian, and Portuguese American in Queens, NY. My major is Fashion and Design at Queens College. I am also a Queens College legacy student. As an intern at the Queens College Fashion and Textiles Collection, I assisted Emily Ripley, the Director of the Fashion and Design Program, in curating exhibitions and preserving and researching historical archives. I developed a passion for fashion at a young age, thanks to my grandmother who was a seamstress, and who taught me the art of hand-stitching. I used to create miniature clothes for my American Girl dolls, and sketch countless princess dresses. I later studied fashion design at the High School of Fashion Industries, which further honed my skills. This led me to pursue Fashion and Design at Queens College. Currently, I serve as the president and curator of the Fashion Design Club at QC. Our club organizes workshops and events to help students stay up to date with the latest trends and developments in the fashion world.

Stephanie Greene (Choreographer) began dancing in 1996 at the Dance Workshop in Monroe, CT and has not stopped moving since. She has trained primarily in ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, Irish step, and modern. She is honored to have learned from many gifted educators including April Cook, Julia Boynton, Frank Hatchett, Samantha Witt, and the Limón Dance Company. Stephanie has a BS and MEng in Computer Science and anticipates receiving a BA in Dance from Queens College in Spring 2025. She is a member of the National Dance Education Organization, where she continues her studies in dance instruction through their Certificate in Dance Education program. Stephanie also attends the Dance Masters of America Teacher Training School, where she is entering her fourth and final year. Stephanie is the founder and first director of Footnotes, a tap dance company, where she started choreographing. She has since choreographed over fifty short pieces and been honored with awards at both regional and national competitions. She has performed with Andover Dance Group, MIT Dance Troupe, Asian Dance Troupe, and the Dance Workshop Ensemble. Stephanie currently teaches tap, jazz, ballet, contemporary, and acro at Hannah Kroner School of Dance and the Rose Academy of Ballet where she is also the Competition Coordinator. She extends her thanks to all the many teachers who have shared their wisdom and aided her on her dance journey.

Steven Jeltsch (Choreographer) is a Queens based performer, choreographer, and movement instructor. While their love for dance started at the young age of 3 with a *Darrin's Dance Grooves* DVD, they began their formal dance training at Queens College in 2014, where they graduated with a Dance B.A. in 2021. As a budding professional, they have trained in many movement styles with their favorites being street jazz, contemporary, and varieties of floorwork. They have had the privilege of collaborating with and performing for choreographers such as Taylor Randolph, Yin Mei Critchell, Brittany Stewart, Edisa Weeks, and Jordan Davis Harper, as well as international choreographers such as Hồng Sâm and Hanfu NYC. Steven is a teaching assistant for Hispanic Cultural Arts across schools in NYC, co-facilitator of "Artist Talkbacks" for Putnam County Dance Project, and has been a choreographic assistant for Edisa Weeks for *Novenas for a Lost Hospital* (2019), and the 2022 Bill Evans Teacher's Intensive. They have also been a movement instructor at That's Tu Couture dance studio, Commonpoint Queens, and VeGa Gymnastics. They are currently performing with Putnam County Dance Project, BALAM Dance Theatre and are pursuing their Masters in Media Studies and Performance Arts at Queens College. They dedicate their movement research to investigating, dissecting, and patchworking essences of performance, citing dance's enigmatic relationship found throughout daily, modern life.

Zihan Xu (Choreographer) is from Guangdong, China. In 2022 she received a BA from the Jackie Chan Movie & Media College (JCMMC), where she majored in drama and dance; and performed in works by Colette Krogol & Matthew Reeves, Fuchun Xiao and Ying Hou. In addition to choreographing her own works, Zihan choreographed the graduation showcase for her class of 2022. Following graduation, Zihan worked as a teaching assistant at JCMMC, where she helped arrange the 2023 graduation showcase. She currently is attending the Media Studies & Performing Arts Master Program at Queens College. Zihan recently performed in works by Huiwang Zang and Yin Mei Critchell for *Terrain*, the 2023 Queens College Fall Dance Concert.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Technical Director: Will Griffith
Head Electrician: Henry Menestrier
Light Board Operator: Rose Gonzalez
Sound Operator: Madeleine Newman
Wardrobe: Kasandra Thompson, Quinn Canales
Crew: Shaheed Benjamin, Olivia

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

DEPARTMENT OF DRAMA, THEATRE & DANCE

Chair: Meghan E. Healey
Associate Chair: Edisa Weeks
Dance Program Director: Yin Mei Critchell
Acting Program Director: Claudia Feldstein
Administrative Assistant: Christina Stahl
College Assistant: Orit Zilka
Production Manager: Ralph Carhart

FACULTY

Raul Abrego Jr., Tara Ahmadinejad, Carlos Andrickson, Joel Bernard, Julie Boyd, Gardiner Comfort, Catherine Cox-Evans, Yin Mei Critchell, Marshall Davis, Claudia Feldstein, Carlos Fittante, Jeff Greenberg, Will Griffith, Ira Hauptman, Tracy Hazas, Meghan E. Healey, Guanglei Hui, Genevieve Jezick, Richard Killeaney, Nia Love, Rebecca Nelson, Elyse Price, Emily Ripley, Stephen Rowe, Joel Steinberger, Aniko Szucs, Carolyn Webb, Edisa Weeks, Huiwang Zhang

The Department of Drama, Theatre & Dance provides a comprehensive study of the liberal arts, balanced with rigorous training in theatre (acting, directing, history, literature, playwriting, stage management, design, technical theatre), and dance (Asian, African, ballet, hip-hop, modern, tap, choreography, dance analysis, history). The Department presents a wide variety of productions including comedies, classic and modern plays, new productions, musicals, operas and dance concerts. The goal is to foster the development of knowledgeable world citizens, while preparing students for careers as artists, 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.

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The Department of Drama, Theatre, & Dance 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.