

A naturalistic scene featuring a tree trunk on the left, moss-covered rocks in the foreground, and water at the bottom. Several bright, glowing flames or light streaks rise from the moss and water, creating a dramatic, ethereal atmosphere. The background is a soft, hazy grey.

Dansu Dance Company &
Dansu Crew
present

Elements

Saturday, March 4th, 2023

2:30pm & 6:30pm

Bartell Theatre

113 E Mifflin St, Madison, WI 53703

Drury Stage

Studio Dansu
Presents

Elements

Choreographers

Kooy Buie

Bryanna Cure

Sonteé Duncan

Alexis Lepperd

Jayme Shimooka

Artistic Director

Jayme Shimooka

Costume Design

**The Choreographers
and Students**

Dansu Dance Company

Will Carroll

Keanna Day

Tenzin Holinbeck

Quinn Horton

Amina Micek

Marian Wagner

Dansu Crew

Orly Kodesh

Abby Robinson

Fallon Stanislowski

Lighting Design

Collin Koenig

As a courtesy to others:

- Please turn off cell phones and refrain from texting during the performance
- Photography, audio recording, and videotaping of any kind are not permitted
- Smoking including the use of e-cigarettes is prohibited
- Food or beverages can be purchased and consumed in the lobby

Artistic Director's Note

We want to welcome you to Elements, our annual Dansu Dance Company Concert for 2023. We are so excited to share the performance with our Dansu Crew this year as well, and have some really fun and interesting dances for you today!

This year's concert features choreography from our Dansu staff who have all taken the theme of "Elements" and found different ways to embrace that spirit. This theme is very near and dear to both myself (Miss Jayme) and also Mr. Kooy, the Director of the Dansu Crew. We both use different elemental movements in our day to day teaching and choreography as imagery and inspiration.

So you will see different pieces based on the 4 elements of: Earth, Air, Fire, and Water; but also some other pieces that have been inspired with our theme.

We hope you enjoy our show!

Land Acknowledgement

Studio Dansu recognizes that our arts center and the theatres that we perform in occupy the land that is the ancestral home of the Ho-Chunk Nation, who have called this land Teejop (day-JOPE) since the time immemorial.

We acknowledge the circumstances that led to the forced removal of the Ho-Chunk people, and honor their legacy of resistance and resilience. We recognize and respect the inherent sovereignty of the twelve First Nations that reside in the boundaries of the state of Wisconsin. We celebrate their rich traditions, heritage, and culture that thrived long before our arrival.

Studio Dansu respectfully recognizes this Ho-Chunk land and affirms that we are better when we stand together and can work towards a collaborative future. We recognize this as a part of our core belief in the transformative power of the arts and our commitment to educating, enriching, and celebrating our shared human experience.

About the Performances

Fire Burning

Music: Fire Burning by Sean Kingston

Choreography: Kooy Buie

Dancers: Keanna Day, Tenzin Holinbeck, Quinn Horton, Orly Kodesh, Amina Micek, Abby Robinson, Fallon Stanislawski, Marian Wagner

Introduction

Jayne Shimooka

Aha!

Music: Aha! by Imogen Heap

Choreography: Alexis Lepperd

Dancers: Will Carroll, Keanna Day, Tenzin Holinbeck, Quinn Horton, Amina Micek

The Element of Surprise! It is when secrets are revealed, what is hidden is exposed, when the unexpected occurs, and we are taken out of our comfort zone. Enjoy this exploration of what it means to be surprised!

All the Stars

Music: All the Stars by Kendrick Lamar (feat. SZA)

Choreography: Sonteé Duncan

Dancers: Orly Kodesh, Abby Robinson, Fallon Stanislawski

I chose all the stars because it's about being present and connected with earth. I always find peace in the stars when I look up so if you're reading this; I hope you look up at the stars tonight or anytime you get the chance and be grateful for the present moment and take a deep breath and realize this is your vessel. Make the most of it.

Fire on Fire

Music: Fire on Fire by Sam Smith

Choreography: Jayme Shimooka

Dancers: Keanna Day, Quinn Horton, Amina Micek

About the Performances

Halley's Comet

Music: Halley's Comet by Billie Eilish

Choreography: Jayme Shimooka

Dancers: Tenzin Holinbeck & Marian Wagner

"We are hit by tons of material everyday, but it is all dust from the comets. We are all walking around with comet dust in our hair"

~ Don Yeomans

Elements

Music: 4 Elements by Global Drums Gathering

Choreography: Jayme Shimooka

Dancers: Will Carroll, Keanna Day, Quinn Horton, Amina Micek

Transition

Ocean Eyes

Music: Ocean Eyes by Billie Eilish

Choreography: Jayme Shimooka

Dancers: Keanna Day, Amina Micek

Run like the Wind

Music: Run BTS by BTS

Choreography: Kooy Buie

Dancers: Orly Kodesh, Abby Robinson, Fallon Stanislawski

Fireball

Music: Fireball by Pitbull

Choreography: Bryanna Cure

Dancers: Keanna Day, Amina Micek

All 4

Music: Falling Down by ZETI

Choreography: Kooy Buie

Dancer: Kooy Buie

Kooy is adding his interpretation of all 4 natural elements in freestyle dance form.

About the Performances

Water Study

Music: Water Ambience by Unknown

Choreography: Jayme Shimooka

Dancers: Keanna Day, Tenzin Holinbeck, Quinn Horton, Amina Micek, Marian Wagner

This piece is based on a famous piece by Doris Humphrey, and is a second movement to a piece called "Waves" that was performed by Dansu Dance Company in 2020.

Thank You

5th Element

Music: from the Motion Picture 5th Element

Choreography: Jayme Shimooka

Dancers: Will Carroll, Keanna Day, Tenzin Holinbeck, Quinn Horton, Orly Kodesh, Amina Micek, Abby Robinson, Fallon Stanislawski, Marian Wagner

About the Choreographers

Jayme Shimooka - Artistic Director & Director of Dansu Dance Company - has been sharing her love for the performing arts with students for over 20 years. She has a Bachelor of Arts Degree from UW-Eau Claire in Theatre Arts, Dance, and Music where she focused on arts management and performance. She also has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Dance Theory from UW-Madison where she concentrated on dance history and theory while continuing her technical discipline in dance. Later she has gone on to get numerous certifications in American Ballet Theatre, Acrobatic Arts, and Giordano Technique while becoming a board member of Dance Masters of WI, Wisconsin Dance Council, and National Dance Education Organization. Jayme founded Studio Dansu in 2015 to bring a performing arts studio with singing, dancing, and acting to the Madison area where she grew up, and now has expanded to include different fine and creative arts. She created this company to provide a space for students who wanted to take a more dedicated approach to their dance education, and is so proud of how far they have come!

About the Choreographers

Kooy Buie - Dansu Teaching Artist & Director of Dansu Crew - grew up as a self taught dancer from the age of 4. He mainly delves into street styles such as hip-hop, krump, locking, popping, and house, but has jazz influence from imitating Michael Jackson's dance style at a young age. He now has been teaching for over 10 years, and has attended numerous teacher trainings to hone in on not only his dance technique, but also to expand on his curriculum development and education methods. He aims to inspire other's through his own expression as well as guiding them to find their own.

Bryanna Cure - Dansu Teaching Artist - Bryanna first started taking dance classes in Madison, Wisconsin, when she was four years old. Throughout primary and secondary school she studied ballet, jazz, tap, lyrical, and hula. In high school she also joined her school's pom squad, performing pom, funk, and kick routines. Bryanna's passion followed her into college where she continued to study dance, adding contemporary, ballroom styles, and musical theater classes to her repertoire. She also joined a collegiate dance team that she was a part of for three years (She later coached this team for an additional two years.). With her collegiate team she successfully choreographed for and participated in dance competitions throughout the Midwest, in group numbers, solos, and duets. Bryanna danced for the Wisconsin Wolfpack, a professional indoor football team, as well as, the Madison Mustangs and the Dane County Hawks semi professional football teams.

Sonteé Duncan - Dansu Teaching Artist - Sonteé is in school for healing with the arts and Digital Marketing also looking forward to major in psychology. She was in all types of programs growing up just like this one, and is so happy to be a teacher and mentor to the children she gets to share her gift with. Sonteé grew up in gymnastics, ballet, tap, even praise dancing and proceeded in high school with gymnastics, track, orchestra, poms, cheer, and water polo. She's always been a quick learner when it came to things that she loved and enjoyed. Now in her free time she trains in dance, does yoga, and learns about different practices in the world...and she also loves to cook! Enjoy the show!

About the Choreographers

Alexis Lepperd - Dansu Teaching Artist & Director of Dansu Crew - Alexis Lepperd has dedicated her life to dance and finds joy in sharing the art of dance with others. She studied ballet, jazz, tap, lyrical, and hula for her preliminary training, beginning at the age of 3, in Janesville, Wisconsin, and continued her ballet education with the Rockford Dance Company in Rockford, Illinois. Additionally, she studied ballet, tap, modern, and improvisation at UW-Whitewater, earning her BA in Dance Therapy with a minor in Theatre in 2005. Her choreography was featured in several university dance productions. She has been a member of Dance Masters of Wisconsin since 2002, having passed examinations in ballet, tap, and jazz, and previously served as a Board Assistant, Treasurer, and competition director for the organization. She is the owner and founder of the former Dance Teacher Network LLC (DTN), an online networking group for dance teachers, which had over 40,000 members. Alexis taught at several studios in southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois, beginning as an assistant in 1994. She opened her own studio in the Madison area in 2015, but decided to dedicate more time to her family, closing her studio in 2019. She joined Wingspan Dance Company following the closure of her studio, and continues to take and teach classes and workshops across the country. After working as a sub for a few seasons, Alexis joined the Studio Dansu staff in 2022, and is excited to be able to continue to share her passion for dance education and artistic expression with dancers from all walks of life!

About the Performers

Will Carroll - 13, is an 8th grader at Wingra School. He has been dancing for a little over a year. The styles he dances are Acro, Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical and Modern.

Keanna Day - 13, is an 8th grader at Oregon Middle School. She started with ballet, jazz, and tap at Studio Dansu in 2019, but then added on modern, lyrical, acting, and pointe. Keanna plays the alto sax, violin, and loves to sing and act in her free time.

About the Performers

Tenzin Hollenbeck - 12, is a 7th grader at Oregon Middle School. She currently takes Modern, Lyrical, and Acro classes at Studio Dansu. Prior to joining Dansu last year, she participated in recreational tap dance classes, and stage performances with VACT. Tenzin plays piano and practices Spanish by volunteering at a bilingual childcare center.

Quinn Horton - 13, is an 8th grader at Velma Hamilton middle school. They started with acrobatics, but grew a love for dance and started taking other classes such as modern, lyrical, and jazz. They also enjoy skateboarding, playing guitar, and synchronized swimming.

Orly Kodesh - 12, loves street styles. She is a 6th grader at Cherokee Heights Middle School. She started in baby ballet at just 5 years old and tried her hand at both tap and modern before transitioning to her favorite style, hip-hop. In addition to dancing, Orly also loves playing the guitar and soccer.

Amina Micek - 15, is a sophomore at West high school. She started dancing at a young age with ballet. As she grew older, she started dancing jazz, pointe, and most recently, tap and a little bit of hiphop. She also enjoys acting. Outside of dance, she enjoys reading, making music, and hanging out with her friends and family. She mostly does ballet and jazz along with company.

Abby Robinson - 15, is a sophomore at West High School in Madison, WI. She enjoys both Street styles and modern dance. Abby has been dancing at Studio Dansu since the age of ten.

Fallon Stanislawski - 17, joined Studio Dansu in 2021, but she has been dancing all of her life. She originally started by taking hip hop, and is now a part of the Dansu Crew, Hip - hop, and modern classes. Fallon aspires to travel around the world sharing her love of dance and inspiring others to find their passion through dance. She also enjoys drawing, listening to music, and practicing martial arts in her spare time.

Marian Wagner - 12, is a middle schooler from Oregon. In her free time she enjoys art such as pottery, painting etc. She has been dancing from a young age but joined studio Dansu about a year ago. She is excelling in modern and lyrical.