

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE OF THE ARTS OF RIDER UNIVERSITY



School of

Fine and Performing Arts

Rider Dances with Laney Engelhard

With additional choreography by:

Cherilyn Barbone, Angela Cusumano, Jennifer Gladney,
Danielle Marchant, Kim Chandler Vaccaro

With original music by:

Nakita Mamedov, Michael Dylan Ferrara, John Gratton

Artistic Director, Kim Chandler Vaccaro

Videographer, Jeanette Rudnicki, Rider '13



Saturday, March 9 ♦ 7:30 pm

Sunday, March 10 ♦ 2:00 pm

Bart Luedeke Center Theater, Rider University

2083 Lawrenceville Road

Lawrenceville, N.J.

A Note from the Artistic Director:

Laney Engelhard has mounted exceptional work on Rider Students for the past 7 years. Every year she raises the bar, asking students to do more, emit more, learn more, and to move more dynamically ... She is a testament to the many ways the dancer learns from, embraces, understands and transforms the world. We are indebted to her industrious nature and creative vision and welcome this chance to highlight her work,

Through original films, music and movement this year's Rider Dances looks at the primacy of the body in understanding information through the senses and in communication. It presents dance as a humanity and dance as language that has metaphor, imagery, vocabulary and culturally encoded symbolization. Dancers often have mass/strength ratios and the range of motion of super athletes and use a spectrum of thinking skills from memorization to metacognition— in every rehearsal. Here we investigate that dancing brain...

Kim Chandler Vaccaro

March 2013



I am a Dancer

Choreography: Kim Vaccaro and the dancers Jeanette Rudnicki, Erin Finnegan, Lauren Clabaugh, Jennifer Yates and Danielle Grosso

Music: *Ripley* by Michael Dylan Ferrara, '10, and Brendan Burns

Spoken Word: Olivia Michalak

Soloist: Jeanette Rudnicki

Costumes: Michelle Ferranti

Tragicomedia, mi core languise

Choreography: Laney Engelhard

Music: Luigi Rossi

Dancers: Ashley Alvarez, Alison Giampolo and Elizabeth Tkaczynski

Dancing the Spectrum

Choreography: Kim Vaccaro

Music: Nikita Mamedov

Dancer: Audrey Yeager

Side Swiped

Choreography: Laney Engelhard

Music: Olafur Arnalds

Dancers: Kristy Alexander, Amanda Anderson, Felicia Catney, Nicole Colossi, Kaity Eckert, Andrea Fallacaro, Diana Quaranta, Jeanette Rudnicki and Courtney Schumacher

Share the Beat

Choreography: Cherilyn Barbone

Music: *Jungle* by The Highlight Tribe

Dancers: Laura Eisler, Alyssa Joyce, Dana Linker, Samantha McHugh, Ashley Miller, Jacquelyn Oathout, Samantha Pantalone, Jamie Ropars, Nina Strazdas, Kel Vallery and Alyssa Zara

Dance as Humanities

Film Compilation and Text by: Jeanette Rudnicki and Kim Vaccaro

Narration by: Olivia Michalak

Music: *New Take* by John Gratton

Video clips: *Blood on the Dance Floor* by Angela Cusumano, *Break Forth* by Laney Engelhard, *Kaleidoscope* by Cherilyn Barbone, *Lose/Lost* by Jennifer Gladney and Danielle Marchant and *Romeo and Juliet* by Douglas Martin

Waged Within

Choreography: Jennifer Gladney assisted by Danielle Marchant

Music: *Primavera* by Ludivico Einaudi

Spoken Word: Maryann Williamson

Dancers: Kristy Alexander, Amanda Anderson, Mia Bower, Christy Box, Nicole Colossi, Kaity Eckert, Laura Eisler, Jennifer Gladney, Julia Hall, Julia Hambrecht, Rachael Liberto, Danielle Marchant, Ashley Miller, Danielle Minichino, Elizabeth Tkaczynski and Kel Vallery

Steps and Stuff

Choreography: Laney Engelhard

Music: Avro Part

Dancers: Kevin Byrne and Alison Giampolo

It Was All in Your Mind

Choreography: Angela Cusumano

Music: *Get Outta Your Mind* by Lil Jon and LMFAO

It Was All in Your Mind by Wade Robson

Dancers: Ashley Alvarez, Caroline Asuncion, Brianna Colwell, Angela Cusumano, Alexis Diaz, Andrea Fallacaro, Michelle Figueiredo, Rachael Liberto, Jacquelyn Oathout, Diana Quaranta, Jamie Ropars and Preston Wimbush

Dance is Writing on the Body

Choreography: Kim Vaccaro

Music: Theme from *Casualties of War* by Ennio Morricone, performed by Yo-Yo Ma

Dancer: Julia Hambrecht

Costumes: Michelle Ferranti

Introducing Laney Engelhard

Films Compiled by: Jeanette Rudnicki

Match

Choreography: Laney Engelhard

Music: Davka

Dancers: Michelle Figueiredo, Jennifer Gladney, Danielle Minichino, Courtney Schumacher and Elizabeth Smith

Neuron Dance

Choreography: Kim Vaccaro

Music: *This is Lake* by Area Six and Michael Dylan Ferrara

Dancer: Alexis Diaz

The Sound Between

Choreography: Laney Engelhard

Music: Break of Reality

Dancers: Christy Box, Kevin Byrne, Michelle Figueiredo, Kyle Marshall, Cyle Jackson, Elizabeth Smith, Elizabeth Tkaczynski and Ricky Thomas

CHERILYN BARBONE, Rider, '08, '11, MBA, is currently Assistant Director of Admission at Rider University. This is her fourth year choreographing for Rider Dances. She is the advisor of the Rider Dance Ensemble on campus.

KEVIN BYRNE grew up in Rockville Centre, New York, and received his early training with the Eglevsky Ballet School. He has a BFA in dance from Marymount Manhattan College. While a student there, he was a member of the Marymount Dance Company, and appeared in works by Lar Lubovitch, Christopher d'Amboise, and Louis Falco, among others. He danced for American Repertory Ballet and with Lustig Dance Theater. Kevin has been teaching ballet, jazz and modern dance for several years.

ANGELA CUSUMANO started dancing at the age of five in Brooklyn, NY and has studied numerous dance styles ranging from ballet to hip hop. With hip hop being her forte', she has studied under some of the biggest choreographers in the industry such as: Wade Robson, Tyce Diorio, Savion Glover, Laurie Ann Gibson, Brian Friedman, Mia Michaels, Cris Judd, and Frank Hatchett. She's toured Nationally and Internationally as a backup dancer for "Who Da Funk" and has also performed in numerous stage shows at Six Flags Great Adventure during their summer and Fright Fest seasons. She served as the hip hop instructor for Push Factor's National Convention, "DanzJam" and guest teaches in locations all over New York and New Jersey. She has worked with Venom Dance Crew and was featured on Paula Abdul's hit TV show, "Live to Dance." Angela also serves as a faculty member of American Repertory Ballet's "DancePower" programs, founded by Gregory Hines. Class styles range from street to sassy, with a fusion of jazz, funk, contemporary and hip hop. Aside from teaching dance, she is also a certified ZIN instructor for Zumba® Fitness.

LANEY ENGELHARD, was born and raised in Ellensburg, WA and graduated from the Washington Academy of Performing Arts in Redmond Washington. She spent summers training at Pacific Northwest Ballet School and The Rock School of Pennsylvania Ballet. Upon graduation, Laney joined Oregon Ballet Theatre and worked with choreographer Trey McIntyre on Michael Curry's production of '*Spirits*.' She has been a Guest Artist with Hubbard Street Dance Company II (Chicago's second company), Radio City's Christmas Spectacular, and Asheville, North Carolina, dancing for Terpsicorps Theatre of Dance. Laney danced for American Repertory Ballet under the direction of Graham Lustig. As a choreographer, Laney has created many works for schools in the New Jersey area. She has created pieces for Princeton's Body Hype ensemble, Rider Dances, ComeUnity, American Repertory Ballet, the Outlet Dance Project, and Collaborative Arts Motion New Dance Works.

JOHN GRATTON, '11, is a freelance composer and audio engineer, currently residing New York, NY. In addition to writing music for a number of theater and dance productions, John is currently working with notable New York hip-hop artists Gabbie Gifts, and Muggz. John's music uses a combination of sampling, virtual instruments and live performers to create a unique and diverse musical landscape. On the technical side, John is currently working as a mixing engineer in collaboration with the studio Digital Growl in Asbury Park, NJ. For more information please contact johngrattonmusic@gmail.com.

MICHAEL DYLAN FERRARA, '10, is an innovative blues guitarist known for his abstract and unique sound worlds. Currently, Michael lives in Stockholm, Sweden where he continues to compose art music and collaborate internationally. Listen to his compositions and more at www.michaeldylangerrara.bandcamp.com

JENNIFER GLADNEY, freelance dancer, choreographer, teacher, is a '06 summa cum laude graduate of Rider University with a double major in elementary education/dance and early childhood education. She has been part of Rider Dances since its inception in 2005 and was the first senior honors student to choreograph for the show *Cross Phases*. She has created six other works on Rider students as an alumna every year since graduation. Ms. Gladney has been on the faculty at Princeton Ballet School since 2005 and was a company dancer with American Repertory Ballet. She would like to thank her family, friends and Rider dancers for all the years and always continuing to support her with Rider Dances.

CYLE JACKSON is a professional dancer, actor, singer, and model from Neptune, NJ. The great nephew of world-renowned actress, singer, and Broadway star Pearl Bailey and grandson of legendary tap dancer Bill Bailey, Cyle has always been involved with the performing arts. In 2008 Cyle graduated from Long Branch High School with the Jason P. Jones Dance Scholarship and began his training at Mason Gross School of the Arts. While there he performed works by Randy James, Jennifer Muller, Danielle Agami, Ohad Naharin, Benoit-Swan Pouffer, Banu Ogan, Xiao-Xiong Zhang, Urban Bush Women and Cleo Mack. In 2009 Cyle also performed with the Brooklyn based modern dance company Mad About Dance under the direction of Michiyo Tanaka. He is currently working with 10 Hairy Legs and Athena Reich Dance Company.

NIKITA MAMEDOV, born in St. Petersburg, Russia, is a pianist and composer. Nikita currently attends Westminster Choir College of Rider University, where he is pursuing a double major degree in piano and music theory / composition.

DANIELLE MARCHANT is a 2007 summa cum laude graduate of Rider University. A Mildred C. Hawkins Fine Arts Scholarship recipient, her honors thesis, *Life and Death in D Major*, was featured in the 2007 production of Rider Dances. After graduation, Danielle was a dancer with Ithaca Ballet and taught for their year-round program. She has created pieces for Rider Dances with her co-choreographer, Jennifer Gladney, since 2009. She currently lives and works in New York City. Danielle wishes to thank her family, Charlie, Jen and the Rider arts community.

KYLE MARSHALL recently graduated Magna Cum Laude with a BFA in dance from Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University. While at Rutgers, he received the James Dickson Carr Scholarship and was awarded the Dance Express Choreographers Prize. Kyle has worked with choreographers Randy James, Doug Elkins, Raegan Wood, Beniot-Swan Pouffer and Xiao-Xiong Zhang and performed works by Mark Morris, Urban Bushwomen and Nimbus Danceworks. Kyle currently dances with Lustig Dance Theater, Randy James and Freespace Dance along with creating his own choreography.

RICKY THOMAS born in Harlem, NY began dance at the age of 9 at The Ruth Williams Dance Studio. Realizing his passion, he then moved to higher training with The Harlem School of the Arts in 2003-2008. While still training at The Harlem School of the arts, Ricky began the junior division fellowship Program at The Ailey School 2006-2008. Ricky attended The University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA as a Ballet Performance Major Class of 2012. Ricky has set works on students from The University of the Arts, Harlem School of the arts, and works with Earl Mosley Institute of the Arts on performances, fundraisers, benefits, and archives.

About the Seniors

CAROLINE ASUNCION is a senior Arts Administration major with a Dance concentration. She was most recently seen in various performances with the Rider Dance Ensemble and televised St. Patrick's Day Parades with her school, Crossroads Irish Dancers. Caroline has been an intern at American Repertory Ballet, Princeton's YWCA, and is currently an event planning intern with the MIDJersey Chamber of Commerce. She is planning to attend Full Sail University for an MS in Entertainment Business. She would like to thank her family and friends for the loving support as well as Dr. Kim and her choreographer, Angela.

KAITY ECKERT is a senior psychology major with a dance minor. She was most recently seen in the 2011 production of *Rider Dances With The Ghosts*, as well as various performances with the Rider Dance Ensemble. After spending her 2012 spring semester studying in Australia, Kaity is eager to get back on stage. Kaity balances rehearsals with interning at Anchor House, a shelter for homeless children, conducting an independent research study on the effects of music on memory in preschoolers and attending classes. She hopes to one day connect her love for dance and passion to help others through varying movement therapy techniques. She would like to thank Dr. Kim for her guidance and encouragement over the past four years, as well as her family and friends for all the love and support they have always shown.

MICHELLE FIGUEIREDO will be graduating in May with a double major in Behavioral Neuroscience and Dance, as a member of the Leadership Development Program, Phi Sigma Tau, and Omicron Delta Kappa. She is an NBA dancer for the Philadelphia 76ers, serves as the V.P. for the Rider Dance Team, and is a member of the Rider Dance Ensemble. Michelle has plans to further her education in graduate school to become a Physician Assistant. She is extremely grateful for the opportunities she has had at Rider along with the support she has received from her family, Dr. Kim, Dr. Yavelow, and Dr. Karp.

ANDREA M. FALLACARO is a senior Elementary Education and Dance double major and minor in Early Childhood Education. She was most recently seen in *Rider Dances with ARB* and dancing with Rider Dance Team. She is most thankful for being able to follow both of her dreams at Rider University in which she has the most passion for: teaching and dance. She is currently student teaching in a third grade classroom at Village Elementary School located in Skillman, New Jersey. She has been dancing since she was 3 years old and does not plan to stop. She would like to thank her parents, brother, teachers (especially Dr. Kim) and friends for all of the support and help they have given her throughout this wonderful journey.

ALISON GIAMPOLO is a junior Dance major graduating early in December. She performed in last year's production of *Rider Dances with ARB*, *Rider Dances with the Ghosts*, and has choreographed and danced in a variety of Rider Dance Ensemble performances. Outside the university, Alison is a member of Vissi Dance Theater, a New York City-based urban contemporary dance company that performs regularly throughout the five boroughs. The company also performed in Japan in a benefit for Tsunami victims in summer 2012. In addition to balancing her coursework with Vissi rehearsals, Alison is a tutor at the Student Success Center and a dance teacher at Spotlight Dance Centre in Pennsylvania. Alison is a recipient of the 2012 Mildred C. Hawkins Fine Arts Scholarship. She would like to thank her family, friends, and Dr. Kim for all their love and support.

JULIA HAMBRECHT is a senior Dance Major. She was most recently seen in last year's production of *Rider Dances with ARB*, as well as *Rider Dances with the Ghosts*. Julia hopes that her experiences at Rider will help her achieve her dream of teaching other students everything she has learned and help them grow as dancers. She would like to thank Dr. Kim, Jen Gladney and Danielle Marchant for giving her the opportunities to grow and helping her realize her true potential as a dancer. She would also like to thank her amazing parents, family, and friends for believing in her and for their support.

OLIVIA MICHALAK is a double major in theater performance and English literature, with a minor in dance. She is thrilled to be making her *Rider Dances* debut as the stage manager and narrator for this production. Olivia's previous Rider production experience includes assistant directing *The Crucible* and assistant stage managing *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* and *Spring Cabarets*. She is proud to be a choreographer and performer with the Rider Dance Ensemble, and is planning to pursue a Master's degree in London after graduation.

DIANA QUARANTA is a senior Public Relations and Fine Arts Major with a concentration in Dance. She is currently the captain of the Rider Dance Team and a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society. This semester Diana has had the opportunity to intern with American Repertory Ballet and connect her passion for Dance with her Public Relations and Marketing skills. Over the past four years, she has performed in *Rider Dances*, at basketball games and other events with the Dance Team. Diana would like to thank Dr. Kim for the knowledge and experience she has given, her mom for being her biggest fan, her family for their endless support, and her friends for the greatest memories.

JEANETTE RUDNICKI is a senior Radio & Television Major with minors in Dance and American Studies. She was seen in last year's production of *Rider Dances with American Repertory Ballet*, the 2011 production of *Rider Dances with the Ghosts*, and other various performances with the Rider Dance Ensemble and Rider Dance Team. *RD with Laney Englehard* is the second performance in which Jeanette was able to connect her passions in video production and dance. She has completed internships with Townsquare Media, *CBS This Morning* at CBS News, the SyFy and Chiller Networks at NBCUniversal, and *Sunday Morning* at CBS News. Jeanette hopes that her experiences both at Rider and in the field will help her achieve her dream of being an on-air entertainment host. She would like to thank Dr. Kim for believing in her and giving her the opportunity to work on this project, as well as her loving parents, family, and friends for their continual support.

COURTNEY SCHUMACHER is a senior Dance Performance Major, with a double minor in General Business Studies and Sales. She was last seen in *Rider Dances with American Repertory Ballet* along with numerous performances with Rider Dance Ensemble. Last summer, Courtney had the opportunity to be cast in the dance ensemble for the film, *Christmas Dreams*, and loved getting the chance to be on set. She hopes to continue her passion of performing after graduation. She would like to thank Dr. Kim for her constant love and support over the past four years. A special shout out to her mom and dad for letting her continue her dream of dancing while in college and to her friends and sisters of Alpha Xi Delta for their ongoing support and encouragement.

ELIZABETH TKACZYNSKI is a junior Biology major with a minor in dance. This is her last *Rider Dances* show because she is graduating in December 2013. She was most recently seen in the past two *Rider Dances* performances, as well as various Rider Dance Ensemble performances. Elizabeth is thankful that she got the opportunity to work with such amazing choreographers throughout her experience with the Rider dance program. She plans on pursuing a career in the field of genetics and knows that the determination and work ethic learned from being a dancer will carry through to her work in the science field. Elizabeth would like to thank Dr. Kim, Tyrus, Jen, Edgar, Scott, Luke, John, Vicky, and her parents for always being so supportive and coming to all of her performances throughout her time at Rider.

KEL VALLERY is a junior dance major and French minor in the Baccalaureate Honors Program. Her previous performances include the past two *Rider Dances* productions and multiple Rider Dance Ensemble showcases. Kel is currently a ballet and hip hop teacher at the YWCA in Princeton. Graduating in December, she would like to thank her choreographers, Cher, Jen and Danielle, as well as Dr. Kim, for making her last *Rider Dances* memorable.

PRESTON WIMBUSH is a senior psychology and dance double major. He was cast in the past two productions of *Rider Dances*, and performs with the Rider Dance Team, of which he is the Male Chairperson. He is a member of the Eta Delta Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, INC. Preston is grateful to receive another opportunity to go back on the stage and do what he loves with his fellow dance mates. Last summer, he joined John Barrella's Redef Dance Crew of Funktion Dance Complex and this year he has been working hard with his crew mates to get ready for MTV's *America's Best Dance Crew* auditions. Preston has been preparing for graduate school next fall to study Dance Movement Therapy. He would humbly like to thank Dr. Kim for seeing the potential in him and for making his dream become a few steps closer to reality. He would also like to thank his beloved parents, family, friends, and chapter brothers for their incredible support.

AUDREY YEAGER is a senior double major in Fine Arts (Dance) and Public Relations with a minor in Arts Administration. She is a Mildred C. Hawkins Dance Scholar and is the recipient of the Rider University Merit Dance Scholarship. She currently trains in the Professional Training Program at Princeton Ballet School. Audrey has performed in several *Rider Dances* productions. She served as president of the Rider Dance Ensemble in 2012 and has choreographed several works for the organization. After graduation, Audrey aspires to work in the nonprofit arts sector. She has completed internships with State Theatre in New Brunswick, NJ and IMG Artists in NYC. Audrey would like to thank Dr. Kim and the faculty at Princeton Ballet School for their encouragement and instruction throughout her college career. She would also like to thank her family and friends, including Brandon Dayz and Kate Mina, for their continual support.

Lighting Design	Michael Hollinshead
Videographer	Jeanette Rudnicki
Stage Manager	Olivia Michalak
Assistant Stage Manager	Katie Fedey
Sound/Projections	Rachael Liberto, Katie Fedey
Assistants for Lighting	Julia Hambrecht, Preston Wimbush
Front of House Manager/Box Office	Rebecca Lustig
Online Networking	Nicole Colossi
Rider News/Press	Alison Giampolo
Poster Design	Julia Hall
Program	Ashley Miller, Kel Vallery
Presi Presentation/Lobby Design	Amanda Anderson
Video Recording	Diana Gebbia, Sabrina Safran

Special thanks to Laura Luck, Ivan Fuller, Rom Hemmel, Buck Linton,
Jason Pratt and American Repertory Ballet.

Rider University has a unique relationship with the **Princeton Ballet School**, a studio with a national reputation for excellence in dance training. Advanced studio dance classes are held at PBS in Princeton, NJ; lecture classes and performances are on Rider's Lawrenceville campus. Students at Rider have the opportunity to obtain a quality liberal arts education, while taking dance classes with a conservatory-level faculty at the Ballet School. Rider students have many internship possibilities with Princeton Ballet School, American Repertory Ballet, DANCE POWER, TEDI, and the Princeton YWCA among others. Performance opportunities exist with Rider Dance Ensemble on campus, in main stage productions with the leading professional dance artists in the area; with American Repertory Ballet in *The Nutcracker* and with American Repertory Ballet Workshop, part of Princeton Ballet School's pre-professional training program.

Rider University's WESTMINSTER COLLEGE OF THE ARTS educates and trains aspiring performers, artists, teachers and students with artistic interests to pursue professional, scholarly and lifelong personal opportunities in art, dance, music and theater. The College consists of three divisions: Westminster Choir College, the School of Fine and Performing Arts and Westminster Conservatory. WESTMINSTER CHOIR COLLEGE is a college of music and graduate school located on Rider's Princeton campus. Renowned for its tradition of choral excellence, Westminster offers programs in music education; music theory and composition; sacred music; voice, organ, and piano performance and pedagogy; choral conducting; and piano accompanying and coaching. The SCHOOL OF FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS is located on Rider's Lawrenceville campus. Its programs include arts administration, music theater and fine arts with tracks in dance, music, theater and art. WESTMINSTER CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC is a community music school that serves the Central New Jersey/Eastern Pennsylvania area with on-campus and community-based music instruction as well as community choral, orchestral and theater ensembles. RIDER UNIVERSITY is a private, co-educational, student-centered university that emphasizes purposeful connections between academic study and education for the professions.

**WESTMINSTER
COLLEGE OF THE ARTS**



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