

**ASU School of Music, Dance and Theatre presents**

# **Transitions I: “Wont I Panic”**

February 2 - 4, 2024

Margaret Gisolo Dance Theatre



# Transitions I

**Through Us All**

**Sumunahapu**

**trials and tribulations of the early adolescent sentiment.**

**I Am Human**

**Spiritual Cording**

**– INTERMISSION –**

**Concatenation of Events**

**We are Monsters, We are Proud!**

**In Case You Die Before You Get There**

**The Yellow Nexus**

Content Warning: This program contains explicit language and profanity that may be offensive to some individuals. This program also contains scenes with flashing lights and strobe lights, which may trigger seizures or discomfort in individuals with photosensitive epilepsy or related conditions. Viewer discretion is advised.

# Program

## Through Us All

Choreographer: Kyla Kabat  
Music: *Retire (Final)* by Alvedon, *What Happened To Your Heart* by Peter Broderick; *Hold On Tight* by Thomas Azier  
Lighting Designer: Kyla Kabat  
Costume Designer: Kyla Kabat and Cari Smith  
Performers: Kayleigh Berman, Maia Castelli, Olivia Graves, William Hemminger, Karly Idstein, Ashley Koclanis, Maddie Lasco, Jimena Perez, Anessa Rodriguez-Davis, Camarin Tenorio

"Through Us All" is a contemporary piece that showcases the ideas around generational trauma and its effect on future descendants. Burdens within family members affect descendants' physical and mental state/behaviors, which is then carried from one person to another until the cycle is broken. This work explores healing the self in order to preserve the well-being of those who come after us, once we are gone. Our legacy lives on through others.

## Sumunahapu

Choreographer: Maili Monenerkit in collaboration with dancers  
Music: *Vaihtovirta* by Mika Vainio, Ilpo Väisänen  
Lighting Designer: Maili Monenerkit in collaboration with Carolyn Koch  
Costume Designer: Maili Monenerkit in collaboration with Cari Smith  
Performers: Maddy Freeman, El Padilla

Thank you to my dancers and collaborators El and Maddy for stepping into the piece with positive energy. Your participation made it truly special. Thank you to Nicole Bradley-Browning for your mentorship and guidance. You continue to inspire me and push me beyond my limits.

## **trials and tribulations of the early adolescent sentiment.**

Choreographer: Kennedy Bekedam  
Music: *Run* by Air; *Stargazing* by Marcelo De Carvalho  
Composer: Xander Pasley  
Lighting Designer: Kennedy Bekedam and Carolyn Koch  
Costume Designer: Kennedy Bekedam  
Performers: Kennedy Bekedam, Maia Castelli, Joana Diaz, Ariel Helm, Hayley Nguyen, Olivia Orlandini, Angelina Pizarro

*trials and tribulations of the early adolescent sentiment* is the new work of Kennedy Bekedam, exploring children and their emotional capabilities, as well as how that reflects into adulthood. This group piece uses theatrics, choreography and elements of surprise to give a childlike feeling of nostalgia and understanding. Inspired by real life interactions and experiences with children as well as by the research surrounding children and how they deal with such large feelings in such little bodies.

## **I Am Human**

Choreographer: Diana Ion  
Music: *Carbonated* by Mountie Kimbie; *Human* By Sevdaliza  
Lighting Designer: Diana Ion and Carolyn Koch  
Costume Designer: Diana Ion and Cari Smith  
Media Design: Diana Ion  
Performers: Jaydah Cox, Lucas Edward Drake, Diana Ion, Denise Lopez, Adelaide Randall  
Understudy: Alexis Begaye

*Warning: This piece includes scenes with flashing lights, which may trigger seizures or discomfort in individuals with photosensitive epilepsy or related conditions.*

"I Am Human" explores the dance of consciousness and creativity, inspired by societal pressures on gender and religion. It reflects on the impact humans have on themselves and the world, urging us to see each other as fellow humans seeking connection and meaning, transcending differences in beliefs, identities, and experiences. At the core, we are all humans seeking understanding and connection.

## **Spiritual Cording**

Choreographer: Eliana Bracamonte  
Music: *Tears In the Rain (Instrumental)* by The Weeknd,  
*SWEET / I THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO DANCE* by  
Tyler the Creator, *Limerence* by Yves Tumor  
Lighting Designer: Eliana Bracamonte and Carolyn Koch  
Costume Designer: Eliana Bracamonte  
Media Design: Eliana Bracamonte  
Performers: Tom Bullard and Shayla Eshelman

*Content Warning: This work contains profanity.*

Inspired by personal experience and communication studies, “Spiritual Cording” is a duet choreographed by Eliana Bracamonte exploring the spiritual connection between two people and the effects it has on the individual. The duet intends to portray the idea that even as an individual, through the enduring bonds, emotional attachment and personal need fulfillment, the spiritual tie prevails.

## **INTERMISSION**

### **Concatenation of Events**

Choreographer: Alexis Solano  
Music: *Disconnect* by Plastikman, *Lodgikal Nonsense* by Richie  
Hawtin, *Forevertime Journeys* by naran ratan  
Lighting Designer: Alexis Solano  
Costume Designer: Alexis Solano  
Set Design: Alexis Solano  
Performers: Kennedy Bekedam, Eliana Bracamonte, Maia Castelli, Chloe  
DeMarce, Shayla Eshelman, Sammy Frankel, Cherish  
Hayes, Ariel Helm, Maniah Greene, Monique Kelley, Ashley  
Koclanis, Maddie Lasco, Abby Mustard

*Warning: This piece includes scenes with flashing lights, which may trigger seizures or discomfort in individuals with photosensitive epilepsy or related conditions.*

When the party's over, what never ends?

## **We are Monsters, We are Proud!**

Choreographer: Aidan T. Strelnik  
Music: *Perfect Day-Cris Lord Alge Mix* by Hoku; *Cruel Summer* by Taylor Swift; *Moonlight* by Kali Uchis *MILK OF THE SIREN* by Melanie Martinez; *I'm So Hot* by Chrissy Chlapecka; *ExBox* by salem ilese; Monster High Theme Song (From the hit television series) by Monster High

Music Arrangement and Composer: Hailey Guida  
Lighting Designer: Aidan Strelnik and Carolyn Koch  
Costume Designer: Aidan Strelnik  
Videographer and Video Editor: Jayden Hunley  
Performers: Aly Wilde, Angelina Pizarro, Daniel Rodriguez, Ileana Duncan, Lexie Critchlow, Raia Dunn

*Content Warning: This work contains profanity.*

“We are Monsters, We are Proud!” is an energetic piece for all Monster High™ fans, with an exciting twist. We take the ghouls that you know and love, and re-“vamp” them with new attitudes, styles and choreography. Doesn’t that sound “fang”-tastic? We invite you to come have a ghoulish time with us monsters and maybe you might find yourself sitting next to your favorite ghoulish friend.

## **In Case You Die Before You Get There**

Choreographer: Kendall Sharpe  
Music by: Michael Kryger  
Lighting Designer: Kendall Sharpe  
Costume Designer: Kendall Sharpe  
Creative Direction and Filming: Lindsey Sandler  
Performer: Kendall Sharpe

*Warning: This piece includes scenes with flashing lights, which may trigger seizures or discomfort in individuals with photosensitive epilepsy or related conditions.*

I am very thankful to Lindsey and Michael for your outstanding contributions. Lindsey for the talent, creativity and unwavering commitment to excellence in filmmaking; and Michael, this would be nothing without your musical abilities and your versatility in exploring diverse genres and styles. Thank you both so much.

## **The Yellow Nexus**

Choreographer: Alyssa Ramirez  
Music: *Opps* by Vince Staples; *Groceries* by CARRTOONS; *Wrath* by Freddie Dredd; *Good Ass Intro* by Chance the Rapper; *IGOR'S THEME* by Tyler, the Creator; *IT WAS MEANT 2 BE* by Kaytranada  
Lighting Designer: Alyssa Ramirez & Carolyn Koch  
Costume Designer: Alyssa Ramirez & Cari Smith  
Media Design: Alyssa Ramirez  
Performers: Kaili Anderson, Kaiya Brondial, Lala Covarrubio, Shayla Eshelman, Natalie Espinoza, Sammy Frankel, Giana Garcia, Caleb Hampson, Kate Hart, Cherish Hayes, Tristan Hooks, Youngjoo Jang, Cristina Lugo, Eleni Montes, Jaky Raygoza, Karelly Valenzuela

*Content Warning: This work contains profanity.*

“The Yellow Nexus” delves into life's intricacies, emphasizing the integral nature of encountering opposites for a true understanding of each aspect. With a focus on opposition and polarity, the work highlights the interdependence of the positive and negative energies in life, where one relies on the other for distinction. Aligned with the philosophy of yin and yang, this work illuminates the dynamic balance inherent in the interplay between life's nuances, polarities, and abruptness. As a meaningful exploration of acknowledging balance, the piece invites viewers to reflect on their own encounters with balance amidst the oppositional forces in life, offering a transformative journey through the intricacies guided by the philosophical underpinnings of Yin Yang.

## Biographies

**Kennedy Bekedam**, a dedicated choreographer and dancer based in southern Arizona, is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance Performance at Arizona State University's Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, with an anticipated graduation in May 2024. Kennedy has been actively involved in numerous university dance performances, including Transitions (senior capstone projects) and productions like *Defendit Numerous* by Takela King and *Church* by Mia Calichio. Her commitment to the art form is evident in her membership with KeyFrame collective, a group of six talented individuals focused on creating compelling dance films. Together, they secured the Best Student Film award at the Arizona Drive-In Dance Film Festival. Kennedy's artistic exploration focuses on feminine movements, inspired by runway shows and fashion events, challenging audience perspectives. With aspirations to become a choreographer, she aims to infuse her fusion-style movement into collaborations with designer companies globally, spreading her creative vision beyond dance into the world of fashion.

**Eliana Bracamonte** is a performer and choreographer based out of Arizona. She received an academic scholarship to study at Arizona State University in the Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts. Eliana is pursuing her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance Performance and will be graduating in May of 2024. She performed in the 2023 Super Bowl LVII halftime show as a field dancer and has participated in ASU dance program's Undergraduate Project Presentations and Transitions. She has found a strong interest in integrating dance and video production into her work. Eliana frequently utilizes video editing software to create multimedia work that combines movement, music, and cinematography. She plans on furthering this craft to create a collaborative approach to her artistic endeavors.



**Diana Ion** is a Romanian American performing artist based in Phoenix, Arizona. She is completing a BA degree in Performance and Movement at Arizona State University. She started her dance training at Marilyn's Academy of Dance at the age of 12 and has gone on to teach dance/ yoga classes for the past 4 years at ASU SDFC West and Tempe campuses. She has garnered recognition on both campuses for her advocacy in promoting inclusivity and fostering spaces where people feel welcome. Not limited to dance as her sole means of artistic expression, she possesses a passion for singing. She has competed in multiple singing competitions, performed at a Christmas charity event for foster children, and gained diverse experiences providing creative direction on music video sets for local artists. She is a storyteller and aims to create artworks and businesses that uplift and entertain the collective consciousness and reach global audiences.

**Kyla Kabat** is a choreographer, performer and company director based in Phoenix, Arizona. She is pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance from Barrett, the Honors College at Arizona State University along with a minor in business. While at Arizona State, Kyla has performed in multiple dance productions such as SpringDanceFest, Transitions, and numerous Undergraduate Project Presentations, in which her self-choreographed works were also presented. In 2021 Kyla premiered her work, "Toxic Love", which had been chosen by Arizona State University to represent the school's dance program in a regional dance conference, *ACDA*. The following year her work, "On The Edge", was showcased in Arizona's contemporary dance festival, *Breaking Ground* in January of 2023. Kyla is in the process of putting together her honors thesis, capstone project and other choreographic works to be featured this spring. Outside of school, she is the director of *Elite Dance Pro*, a dance company in Gilbert, Arizona, where she mentors aspiring artists who want to take their training to the next level.

**Maili Monenerkit** of the Navajo Nation of Arizona and Comanche Nation of Oklahoma is from Phoenix, Arizona. Maili began her dance journey at Metropolitan Arts Institute in 2015 mentored by Nicole L. Olson. Upon graduation from high school, she continued her education at Scottsdale Community College and received her Associate Degree in Fine Arts with an Emphasis in Dance, Associate Degree in Applied Sciences, and a certificate in Dance Technology and Performance. In Fall 2022, Maili transferred to Arizona State University's Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts to pursue her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance. Maili recently completed an internship at the Smithsonian's

National Museum of the American Indian in Washington D.C. under museum advancement in the Special Events department. She hopes to develop more experience within the museum field while also arranging and executing extensive projects within the dance community.

**Alyssa Ramirez**, a devoted artist from Phoenix, Arizona, focusing on Hip Hop and street styles, is pursuing a BFA in Dance Education at Arizona State University. Engaging in diverse ASU productions, including Graduate Applied Projects, she is actively participating in Michele Byrd McPhee's House Residency. Alyssa is dedicated to cultivating her artistry in Hip Hop freestyle and battling, concurrently working towards her Krump rank as Girl Skillz in the Skillz Fam.

**Kendall Sharpe**, a passionate dancer with a lifelong commitment to movement, has received training in various styles, including ballet, contemporary, and jazz. She infuses each performance with a blend of emotion and technical precision. Having attended Scottsdale Community College, Kendall later transferred to Arizona State University's Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts to pursue her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance starting in the Fall of 2022. Embracing diverse influences, from classical to avant-garde, Kendall has shaped a unique dance language. Her dedication to continuous growth involves exploring new forms and pushing artistic boundaries. Onstage, Kendall captivates audiences through expressive movements that transcend words, sparking joy and connection.

**Alexis Solano** is a fourth-year dance student at Arizona State University pursuing a BFA in Dance Performance. With a burning passion for pushing boundaries and redefining dance as an art form, Alex is an honored and nominated recipient of the ASU Gammage scholarship award for the 2023-2024 school year. Alex is recognized for consecutive selections for ASU's Undergraduate Project Presentations throughout her four years, and entrusted as one of the artistic directors for the most recent Fall 2023 production. Passionate about merging multimedia and performance art, Alex is consistently challenging dance's boundaries to convey impactful, universally resonant messages.

**Aidan Strelnik**, a choreographer, director and color guard tech based in Arizona, has been actively involved in the Desert Vista Marching Band and was a member of Fenix Independent, a world-class, independent color guard. During his tenure with Fenix, he contributed to the show "A Breath of Fresh Air," which achieved a notable 12th place at world finals. Currently, Aidan is channeling his creative energies into crafting a fashion-forward dance piece for his senior year project at Arizona State University. The aim is to bring a fresh perspective to both doll enthusiasts and those who are still embracing their inner child. Set to graduate in May 2024, Aidan looks forward to making a unique mark on the dance community.

*Thank you to the Herberger Institute Box Office staff for providing an excellent experience for our patrons.*

## Land Acknowledgement

The School of Music, Dance and Theatre acknowledges the twenty-three Native Nations that have inhabited this land for centuries. Arizona State University's four campuses are located in the Salt River Valley on ancestral territories of Indigenous peoples, including the Akimel O'odham (Pima) and Pee Posh (Maricopa) Indian Communities, whose care and keeping of these lands allows us to be here today.

# Production Crew

Artistic Director	Carley Conder and Nicole Bradley-Browning
Production Stage Manager	Kyla Kabat
Assistant Stage Manager	Josie Jones
Light Board Operator	Abby Villa
Sound Board Operator	Keira Nichols
Wardrobe	Jazmine Perez, Mya Walters
Stage Crew:	Jason Dao, Marai Perez
Electrics Student Workers:	Noah Coutre, Sydney Fletcher, Nikolas Good, Veronica Mangu, John Mitchell, Mary Morgan, Timothy Pellettieri, Christian Roman, Shane Waltz, Charlie Webb, Ben Weskalnies
Electrician:	Katarina Swartz, Xochitl Vance, Cayleb Stroehlein
Costume Student Workers:	Tori Adam, Clover Compton, Dyanna Crosson, Anna Kieffer, Zoe Omtvedt, Marlowe Texidore, Emma Van Horn

## Concert and Production Staff

Production Manager:	Carolyn Koch
Faculty Technical Director:	Heather “Digger” Feeney
Staff Technical Director:	Britney Simington
Props & Paint Supervisor:	Adam Sanders
Costume Shop Supervisor:	Cari Smith
Costume Coordinator, Sr:	Gwendolyn Basala
Sr. Costume Technician:	Lois Myer
Sound Engineer:	Ji Sun Myung
Lighting Supervisor:	Dani Deutschmann
Sound & Media Supervisor:	Jade Barger
Communications Coordinator:	Lacy Chaffee
Multimedia Communications Aide:	Benjamin Adelberg

## School of Music, Dance and Theatre Leadership

School Director	Heather Landes
Asst. Director of Dance	Keith Thompson
Assoc. Dir., Curriculum & Instruction	Karen Schupp
Assoc. Dir., Faculty	Martin Schuring
Asst. Dir., Undergrad. Music Studies	Jamal Duncan
Asst. Dir., Graduate Music Studies	Deanna Swoboda
Asst. Director of Theatre	Kristin Hunt
Artistic Dir., Dance	Mary Fitzgerald
Artistic Dir., Theatre	Guillermo Reyes
Artistic Dir., Music Theatre + Opera	Brian DeMaris

## 2023-24 ASU Dance Season

Each year, the School of Music, Dance and Theatre in ASU's Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts presents a range of performances and events. Your support is key to their success. We hope you will join us for the remainder of our season:

### **Sol Power**

Nelson Fine Arts Center Plaza

Oct. 27-29

### **Dance Undergraduate Project Presentations**

7:30 p.m. Nov 8 and 9

### **Emerging Artists II**

7:30 p.m. Nov. 17 and 18

### **Transitions I**

7:30 p.m. Feb. 2-3

2 p.m. Feb. 4

### **Transitions II**

7:30 p.m. Feb. 9-10

2 p.m. Feb. 11

### **Latin Sol**

Bulldog Hall, Student Pavilion

March 15-17

### **Dance Graduate Project Presentations**

7:30 p.m. March 21 and 22

### **Sol Rhythms**

April 13

### **Spring Dance Fest**

Galvin Playhouse Theatre

7:30 p.m. April 19-20

2 p.m. April 21

Tickets can be purchased through the [Herberger Institute Box Office:](https://herbergerinstitute.asu.edu/box-office)  
[herbergerinstitute.asu.edu/box-office](https://herbergerinstitute.asu.edu/box-office)

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