

aperture



February 25-27
WED-FRI, 7:30PM
February 28
SAT, 2:00PM & 7:30PM



Scan to view full program.

01

Vanish (2020)

Choreographer: Jesse Obremski

*"Have You Ever Tried
to Enter the Long
Black Branches?"
by Mary Oliver*

Cast: CDT Company: Alexa Payne, Analia Cope, Anna Gillins, Avie Mansfield, Chloe Baddley, Ella Memmott, Jordan Halterman, Kailene Talbot, Kara Williams, Katie Williams, Kylee Jackman, Lexi Nielson, Liesel Wynn, Makinley Butterfield, McKenzie Peterson, Olivia Van Alfen, Sadie Adair
Music Credit: "The Mighty Rio Grande" by This Will Destroy You

*Have you ever tried to enter the long black branches of other lives --
tried to imagine what the crisp fringes, full of honey, hanging
from the branches of the young locust trees, in early morning, feel like?
Do you think this world was only an entertainment for you?*

02

Seat 32A (2025)

Choreographer: Mo Crump

Cast: CDT Company

Music Credit: Bennie and the Jets by Elton John, Put Your Head On My Shoulder by Paul Anka, Oh la la by Hugues Le Bars, Safety Speech by Marin Roper, Pilot Monologue by Jonathan Avila

*Never to enter the sea and notice how the water divides
with perfect courtesy, to let you in!
Never to lie down on the grass, as though you were the grass!
Never to leap to the air as you open your wings over the dark acorn of your heart!
No wonder we hear, in your mournful voice, the complaint
that something is missing from your life!*

03

a body asking

Choreographer: Adam Dyer

Cast: Ella Memmott, Kara Williams, Katie Williams, Lexi Nielson, Liesel Wynn, Makinley Butterfield, Sadie Adair
Music Credit: Sons of Legion "Hallelujah", with additional piano composed and played by Sam Handley, Hans Zimmer "Now We Are Free", in collaboration with Troy Sales.

*Who can open the door who does not reach for the latch?
Who can travel the miles who does not put one foot
in front of the other, all attentive to what presents itself continually?
Who will behold the inner chamber who has not observed
with admiration, even with rapture, the outer stone?
Well, there is time left --
fields everywhere invite you into them.
And who will care, who will hide you if you wander away
from wherever you are, to look for your soul?*

04

Rook

Choreographer: Steve Bangerter
and Hardy

Cast: Alexa Payne, Analia Cope, Avie Mansfield, Kailene Talbot, Katie Williams, Kylee Jackman, Lexi Nielson, Liesel Wynn, McKenzie Peterson, Olivia Van Alfen
Music Credit: "Cuckoo Song", "Evening Chorus", "Marsh Warbler" by Cosmo Sheldrake; "If the Sun Has the Strength to Rise Every Morning Why Can't I Get Out of Bed" by dandelion hands; "Falling Together (feat. Oona Doherty)" by Jamie xx; "In Åland Air" by Jeremiah Chiu & Marta Sofia Homer; "Catch a Falling Star (Remastered- 1992)" by Perry Como

*Quickly, then, get up, put on your coat, leave your desk!
To put one's foot into the door of the grass, which is
the mystery, which is death as well as life, and not be afraid!
To set one's foot in the door of death, and be overcome with amazement!*

05

The Shape of Now

Choreographer: Nicole Von Arx

Cast: Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday Night: Chloe Baddley, Jordan Halterman, Kailene Talbot, Kara Williams, and Kylee Jackman
Thursday and Saturday Matinee: Alexa Payne, Anna Gillins, Ella Memmott, Liesel Wynn, and Makinley Butterfield.
Music Credit: "F Major" by Hania Rani

*To sit down in front of the weeds, and imagine
god the ten-fingered, sailing out of his house of straw,
nodding this way and that way, to the flowers of the present hour,
to the song falling out of the mockingbird's pink mouth,
to the tippets of the honeysuckle, that have opened in the night*

06

A Prayer for Preschoolers in the Pipeline to Prison

Choreographer: Nicole Von Arx

Cast: CDT Company: Alexa Payne, Analia Cope, Anna Gillins, Avie Mansfield, Chloe Baddley, Ella Memmott, Jordan Halterman, Kailene Talbot, Kara Williams, Katie Williams, Kylee Jackman, Lexi Nielson, Liesel Wynn, Makinley Butterfield, McKenzie Peterson, Olivia Van Alfen, Sadie Adair
Music Credit: "The Mighty Rio Grande" by This Will Destroy You

*To sit down, like a weed among weeds, and rustle in the wind!
Listen, are you breathing just a little, and calling it a life?
While the soul, after all, is only a window,
and the opening of the window no more difficult
than the wakening from a little sleep.*

07

Long Gone

Choreographer: Laja Field

Cast: Analia Cope, Avie Mansfield, Chloe Baddley, Ella Memmott, Jordan Halterman, Kara Williams, Katie Williams, Lexi Nielson, Makinley Butterfield, Olivia Van Alfen, Sadie Adair
Music Credit: Original composition by Martin Durov with samples from: (Don't You Want) Somebody to Love by Jefferson Airplane and Slovak folklore sung by Petra Vraňáková written by Štefan Molota.

*To sit down in front of the weeds, and imagine
god the ten-fingered, sailing out of his house of straw,
nodding this way and that way, to the flowers of the present hour,
to the song falling out of the mockingbird's pink mouth,
to the tippets of the honeysuckle, that have opened in the night*

08

Should a Ballgown Touch the Floor? (2021)

Choreographer: Kate Monson

Cast: Alexa Payne, Chloe Baddley, Jordan Halterman, Katie Williams, Kylee Jackman, Lexi Nielson, Liesel Wynn, McKenzie Peterson, Olivia Van Alfen
Music Credit: Morceaux de Fantaisie, Op. 3:1 Elegie, composed by Sergei Rachmaninoff, performed by Sheku Kanneh-Mason and Isata Kanneh-Mason

*A woman standing in the weeds.
A small boat flounders in the deep waves, and what's coming next
is coming with its own heave and grace.
Meanwhile, once in a while, I have chanced, among the quick things,
upon the immutable.
What more could one ask?*

09

The Search

Choreographer: Bonnie Story

Cast: CDT Company
Music Credit: Sound of Silence, composed by Paul Simon, performed by Disturbed

*And I would touch the faces of the daises,
and I would bow down
to think about it.
That was then, which hasn't ended yet.
Now the sun begins to swing down. Under the peach-light,
I cross the fields and the dunes, I follow the ocean's edge.
I climb, I backtrack.
I float.
I ramble my way home.*

10

Salt Requiem

Choreographer: Keely Song
Assistant Choreographer: Kyla Balser

Cast: CDT Company
Music Credit: Plan and Elevation: V. The Beech Tree by Caroline Shaw/Attacca Quartet; Intentions of the Mind by Caroline Shaw, Attacca Quartet, John Patitucci Sō Percussion, Roomful of Teeth



Please take the time to scan and acknowledge everyone who made this program possible!

JOIN THE CONTEMPORARY AREA FOR MORE AMAZING DANCE BY ATTENDING dancEnsemble April 9-11, 2026