MFA Thesis Concert 2013
(DÉNOUEMENT)

February 14-16, 2013
8:00 pm
Theatre 14
Mendenhall Center

Kelly Silliman
Cat Wagner
Eliza Larson
Melissa Edwards

The MFA Thesis Dance Concert is made possible in part by the Sharonjean Moser Leeds Endowment, a generous fund created by Sharonjean (SC'67) and Richard Leeds for the Smith College Department of Dance.
ACT ONE

Amicable Collisions

Choreographed by
Kelly Silliman

Performed by
Tomas Aponte, Charnice Charmant, Mat Elder, Liv Fauver, Dunan Herman-Parks, Mei Maeda, and Julia Rahman

Music by
Cory Ellen Gatrall and Kelly Silliman

“We polish one another, and rub off our Corners and rough Sides by a sort of amicable Collision.” —Anthony Ashley-Cooper, 3rd Earl of Shaftesbury (1711)

Oh, a Cup.

Choreographed by
Cat Wagner in collaboration with the dancers

Performed by
Shaina Cantino, Augusta Rodgers, Josh Sugiyama

There will be a 10 minute intermission between Acts One and Two.
ACT TWO

The Space Between

Choreographed by
Eliza Larson in collaboration with the dancers

Performed by
Emma Dreyfus, Emily Izer, Michelle Marroquin, Addie Reine,
Sabina Smith-Moreland

Music by
Oval, Mira Calix, Splashgirl, Eple Trio

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Violets Are Blue

Choreographed by
Melissa Edwards

Performed by
Charnice Charmant, Emma Dreyfus, Jes Kalled, Natalie Phillips,
Augusta Rodgers, Sabina Smith-Moreland, with Alan Schneider

Music by
Joe South, Tammy Wynette, Billy Sherrill, Amanda McBroom,
Larry Morey, and Frank Churchill
Text by the ABC Network

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Special Thanks
The Smith College Department of Dance MFA class of 2013 would like to
extend heartfelt thanks to faculty Chris Aiken, Rodger Blum, Angie Hauser,
Lester Tomé, and Mike Vargas for their support throughout our time at
Smith. We are grateful for their leadership and investment in our education
and artistic growth. We are thankful to Jean Baxter, Nancy Lautenbach,
Gwen Niven, Dan Rist, Alan Schneider, and David Wiggall for their support
throughout the creation of this concert. We also thank our colleagues in
the MFA classes of 2012 and 2014 for the friendships and comradery that
make this program so special. Thank you to our lovely cast and crew, to the
readers on our thesis committees, and as always, to our friends and families
who have supported us throughout our lives as dance artists.
Choreographer Biographies

Kelly Silliman received her BA in Theatre Arts from Stetson University in DeLand, FL, during which time she implemented and taught the modern dance program at the Academy of Dance. During the summers, she was a founding member of Drink to This!, a collective of emerging artists in Hartford, CT, and eventually served as co-artistic director. After college Kelly co-founded Royal Jelly, a performing company of dancers, visual artists, and musicians in Boston, MA, and in 2000 moved to Tucson, AZ where she danced with NewArticulations Dance Theatre. In 2003, Kelly moved to central VA, where she danced with various companies, including Prospect Dance Group, inFluxdance, and UpRooted Dance Theatre. She also opened The Dance Barn, a studio which offered dance classes to the rural communities outside of Charlottesville, VA, and served as a board member and resident choreographer for Charlottesville Ballet. Kelly moved to Leeds, MA in 2011 as a teaching fellow and candidate in the MFA program in Dance at Smith College. She is also on faculty at Pioneer Valley Ballet, teaching in the Lower Division. Kelly would like to thank the Smith College Department of Dance faculty, the dancers in Amicable Collisions, and her colleagues in the MFA program for being part of such an amazing experience. Thank you to Cory Ellen for twenty-five years of collaborations. Thank you to Garfish and the Lemmies for invaluable help with the kids. Special thanks to Tom for all his love and support, and to Rosalie, Arissa, Phoebe, and Wylie for sitting through so many rehearsals and performances over the years. Kelly is looking forward to many more years of dancing in Western Massachusetts.

Cat Wagner received her BA in Theater Arts from Brandeis University, and is currently pursuing her M.F.A. in Dance at Smith College, in her second and final year of the program. Cat is also a visiting artist in Dance at Mount Holyoke College for the 2012-2013 academic year. At Smith, Cat has taught modern, ballet, and tap courses and has danced in works by Rodger Blum, Angie Hauser, Chris Aiken, Cathy Nicoli, Kelly Silliman, Rebecca Hite, and Autumn Welt. Prior to her graduate career, Cat danced, choreographed, and taught in the Boston area, performing works by Danny McCusker, Joan Green, and Wanda Strukus. She was the emerging choreographer for the original “Across the Ages Dance” project, now held annually in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Cat has also studied and performed with Double Edge Theatre, a physical theatre ensemble now found in western Massachusetts. Cat originally hails from Maine, where she danced with the Maine State Ballet Company in many full length ballets, including “The Nutcracker,” and George Balanchine’s “Serenade.” She gives many thanks to her collaborators, family, and friends.
Choreographer’s Biographies

Eliza Larson graduated cum laude from St. Olaf College (Northfield, MN) with majors in Dance and English before moving to the Pacific Northwest. Her choreography has been presented around the country including Conduit Dance and PNCA in Portland, OR, the H Street Theater in Washington, DC, and the OK Hotel Gallery and Velocity Dance Center in Seattle, WA, where she received commissions from Full Tilt and Next Fest NW. Eliza has performed in works by Ohad Naharin, Colleen Thomas, Paul Matteson, Chris Aiken, Cathy Nicoli, Ming Yang, Mark Haim, Deb Wolf, KT Niehoff, Jan Erkert, Adele Myers, and Kristin Hapke among others. In 2012, she participated in the PORCH training module at Ponderosa in Stolzenhagen, Germany, under the direction of Stefanie Maher and Kathleen Hermsdorf. Eliza is currently a Gretchen Moran Teaching Fellow at Smith College and will graduate with an MFA in Dance from Smith College in Spring, 2013. She would like to thank Peter, Sue and Mimi for their love and support, and give special thanks to her amazing cast for their gumption, trust, and enthusiasm. You can follow Eliza’s future endeavors at www.greenergrassdance.com.

Melissa Edwards received her BFA in performance and choreography from Ohio University’s Honors Tutorial College in 1996. After graduation, Melissa moved back to her hometown of Pittsburgh, where she co-founded Labco, a dance company for which she taught, choreographed, and performed, and she also taught for Dance Alloy and danced for Mark Taylor. Melissa moved to NYC in 1998 to dance professionally and did so around the city for numerous companies, including Daniel Gwirtzman and Eva Dean, and she was invited to attend company class with Elizabeth Streb. Melissa also performed in Germany for Attack Theatre. Beginning in 2002, she attended NYU’s Gallatin School for Individualized Studies, working for her MA in Dance Education and Deafness Studies. Melissa then taught at Lexington School for the Deaf in Queens before heading to Seattle. There she designed and headed the dance department at Forest Ridge School of the Sacred Heart, an all-girls’ high school, where she taught class, directed and choreographed their musicals, and founded and directed the Forest Ridge Dance Company. She also choreographed for Bellevue College from 2006-2011. Auditioning for the Teaching Fellowship at Smith College is one of the best decisions Melissa ever made, and she would like to thank the faculty, students, and classmates for the wonderful experience. Special thanks to the ultra-talented Alan Schneider. Melissa is especially grateful to the amazing six women who comprise her cast for their bravery, compassion, vulnerability, and humor; this piece could not exist without them.
# Production Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Names</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artistic Directors</td>
<td>Melissa Edwards, Eliza Larson, Kelly Silliman, Cat Wagner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artistic Advisor</td>
<td>Chris Aiken</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lighting Designer</td>
<td>Daniel D. Rist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Costume Designer</td>
<td>Emily Dunn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lighting and Sound Supervisor</td>
<td>David Wiggall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Production Manager - Dance</td>
<td>Jean Baxter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage Manager</td>
<td>Safi Harriott</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publicity Manager</td>
<td>Nancy Lautenbach</td>
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# Production Staff

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Production Manager - Dance</td>
<td>Gwen Niven</td>
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<tr>
<td>Production Coordinator - Theatre</td>
<td>Sam Rush</td>
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<td>Concert Administrator</td>
<td>Patricia Rist</td>
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<td>Production Intern</td>
<td>Emma Sager '15</td>
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<td>Technical Director</td>
<td>Alan Schneider</td>
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<td>Costume Supervisors</td>
<td>Emily Dunn, Nancy Horn</td>
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<td>Costume Intern</td>
<td>Nancy McCarthy '15</td>
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<td>Costume Assistants</td>
<td>Kelsey Christensen '15, Rebecca Firkser '15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Costume Crew</td>
<td>Sarah Yarborough '13, Suzu Sakai '16, Yvonne Ho '16, Kathleen Mosley 'AC</td>
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<td>Technical Intern/Master Electrician</td>
<td>Taylor Beall '13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electricians</td>
<td>Kat Blakeselee '13, Josie Verchomin '16, Kellye Rowland '13, Ellen Gallos '15, Alisa Hartle '13, Emma Jimerson '13J, Neycha Diaz '13, Yollian DaSilva '13, Fabienne Beard-Wright '13, Jennifer Graessle '15, Jaz Tupelo Dand 'AC, Kate Sharp '13, Jes Tom '13, Sage Brown '13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Light Board Operator</td>
<td>Hannah Klaes '15</td>
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<td>Sound Operator</td>
<td>Panagiota Scordilis '14</td>
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<td>Assistant Stage Managers</td>
<td>Sue Sheppard 'AC, Zach Arthurs '16</td>
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<td>Stage Crew</td>
<td>Alexa Barriga '16, Danielle Tekut '15, Cathy Hwang '15, Elizabeth Anderson-Kengel '15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shop Assistants</td>
<td>Nancy McCarthy '15, Emily Singer '14</td>
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<td>Shara Concepcion 'AC, Gerri Hubbe '13, Meaghan Lydon '13</td>
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<td>Shop Intern</td>
<td>Chase Trumbull '14</td>
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<td>Publicity Intern</td>
<td>Emma Weinstein '13</td>
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<td>Publicity Assistants</td>
<td>Carissa Degenais '13, Carolyn Brown '16, Ellie Davis '16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box Office Coordinator</td>
<td>Alicia Guidotti</td>
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<td>Box Office House Managers</td>
<td>Aviva Jacobstein '13, Sarah Yarborough '13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box Office Assistants</td>
<td>Carissa Degenais '13, Taleen Dilanay '16, Aviva Jacobstein '13, Nancy McCarthy '15, Kate Sharp '13, Julia Sisson '14, Emily Upin '13, Sarah Yarborough '13</td>
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<td>Theatre Office Assistants</td>
<td>Werhawet Gebremeskel '15, Morgyn Hall '13, Liz Lindley '15</td>
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<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Joan Hornbuckle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photography</td>
<td>Jon Crispin</td>
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Smith College Dance Faculty

Professor
Rodger Blum, M.F.A., Department Chair

Assistant Professors
Lester Tomé, Ph.D.
Chris Aiken, M.F.A., Director of M.F.A. in Dance
Angie Hauser, M.F.A.

Professors Emerita
Yvonne Payne Daniel, Ph.D.
Susan Kay Waltner, M.S.

Five-College Lecturer in Dance
Marilyn Middleton-Sylla

Musician/Lecturer in Dance Technique and Performance
Mike Vargas, B.A.

Lecturers
Dahlia Nayar, M.F.A.
Candice Salyers, M.F.A.
Joe Seitz
Colleen Thomas, M.F.A.
Daniel Trenner, M.Ed.
Jennifer Weber

Teaching Fellows
Shaina Cantino, MFA '14
Sara Coffin, MFA '14
Melissa Edwards, MFA '13
Mat Elder, MFA '14
Safi Harriott, MFA '14
Eliza Larson, MFA '13
Kelly Silliman, MFA '13
Cat Wagner, MFA '13

Five College Dance

Smith College is part of the Five College Dance Department. The Five College Dance Department was formed for the mutual benefit of all member institutions (Amherst, Hampshire, Smith, Mount Holyoke and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst). The faculty operates as one department unifying its educational mission to include a well-balanced curriculum emphasizing a broad integration of technical, creative, historical and analytical aspects of dance and a wide variety of philosophical approaches to teaching. The FCDD is a nationally recognized model for excellence in dance in higher education.
Upcoming Dance Events

April 4-6, 8:00 p.m.
Senior Dance Concert
Select works of outstanding choreography by graduating seniors Haley Grove, Mei Maeda, Erica Marcoux, Augusta Rodgers, Evelyn Schultz, Emily Willette, Imogene Williams, and Hope Wilson in the Smith College Department of Dance
Hallie Flanagan Studio Theatre
($9 general, $5 students and seniors, reserved tickets, general admission. Wednesday, April 11 is dollar night for students with I.D.)

May 2, 8:00 p.m.
Spring Grad Event
This annual spring performance will showcase the end-of-year presentations of original dance works by first-year MFA students: Shaina Cantino, Sara Coffin, Mathew Elder, Safi Harriott. This extremely popular, energetic and often startling event has limited seating so plan to arrive early.
Scott Dance Studio
($1.00 at the door, general admission)

Purchase tickets online by going to www.smith.edu/smitharts. For ticketed dance and theatre events you may also purchase tickets by calling or emailing the Box Office: 413.585.ARTS (2787), boxoffice@smith.edu.

For a complete list of performing arts events (theatre, dance, music) please visit our website: www.smith.edu/smitharts
Sign-up on our mailing list to receive event updates.

Find us on: