

DALLAS ARTS DISTRICT  
PRESENTS

# CHANGING PERSPECTIVES BLOCK PARTY

A CELEBRATION OF DALLAS ARTISTS

April 17, 2021  
Program II: 8:45 pm

## BRUCE WOOD DANCE

Polyester Dreams (excerpt)

Choreographer:

Bruce Wood

Music:

"I Feel Good," James Brown, "What's Going On," Marvin Gaye,  
"I Want You Back," The Jackson 5

Costumes:

John Ahrens

Dancers:

Jaime Borkan, Jillyn Bryant, Lauren Hibbard, Weaver Rhodes, Matthew Roberts, Elliott Trahan,  
Gabriel Speiller, Megan Storey, Cole Vernon, Seth York, (apprentice) Alex Brown, (apprentice)  
Julie Moore

## MEMBERS OF THE DALLAS OPERA ORCHESTRA

Katie Wolber, horn | John Holt, trumpet | Rick Bogard, trumpet  
Tony Baker, trombone | Jeff Baker, tuba

Dukas' Fanfare from La Péri, Canzona Bergamasca, Sonata from Die Bankelsangerlieder

## DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE

*A Tender Pardon* (Excerpt)

World Premiere 2019

Forgiveness is the understanding of unconditional love. Seeking healing includes accepting your experiences and forgiving along the way. To say I love you is to also say, I forgive you.

To those that have hurt me, I love you.

To those that I have hurt, forgive me.

Choreographer:

Claude Alexander III

Music by:

Richard Reed Parry, Michael Torke

Spoken Word & A Capella Vocals by:

Claude Alexander III, Lailah LaRose, Xavier Mack, McKinley Willis

## **Dallas Black Dance Theatre (continued)**

Costume Design: Claude Alexander III

Costume Construction: Eugenia Stallings and Beth Thomason—Designes Unique

Original Lighting Design: John D. Alexander

Dancers:

Jasmine White-Killins with Hana Delong, Lailah LaRose, Sierra Noelle Jones, Xavier Mack, Bianca Melidor (DBDT: Encore! Guest Artist), Charles Michael Patterson, Zion Pradier, Terrell Rogers (DBDT: Encore! Guest Artist), Sean J. Smith, De'Anthony Vaughan, Renee Walters, and McKinley Willis

## **BANDAN KORO AFRICAN DRUM AND DANCE ENSEMBLE**

### **LAMBA**

Lamba is presented in honor of the Djeli. The Djeli is an oral historian (also known as the Griot), who is responsible for memorizing and communicating accounts of history. It is said that when a Djeli dies, it is the equivalent of a library being burned down. Lamba has rhythmic origins on the balaphone but is now often accompanied by the djembe orchestra.

### **KUKU**

Originally Kuku was a circle-dance for the woman, celebrating the return from fishing. The Beyla region is where the rhythm comes from. The rhythm was originally played with one low-tuned djembe and one very large solo-djembe. Nowadays Kuku is very popular all over West Africa and played on many occasions.

Performers: Tony Browne, Tim Patterson, Ande Jones, Ixchel Frierson, Adrian Templeton, Isis Simon, Tonya Compton, Miko Whitley, Rodesia Scott, Leslie Gutierrez

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***Photography and videography are strictly prohibited.***

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## **About the Artists**

**Bruce Wood Dance:** Bruce Wood Dance has garnered many accolades, including performing on the 2020 American Dance Platform at The Joyce Theater in New York; honored as Best Dance Company by D Magazine in 2019, 2017, 2014, and 2013; Best of Dallas Voice 2014–2018; and TheaterJones.com's Top Ten list since 2011. TheaterJones.com dance critic Cheryl Callon said, "Bruce Wood Dance has long been one of the region's finest dance companies; now the country can rightfully embrace it as an American treasure." Fortified by Bruce Wood®'s aesthetic, Bruce Wood Dance produces and maintains his repertoire, commissions new work by resident choreographers and guest dance-makers and contributes to the quality of life in Dallas–Fort Worth, Texas, and across the nation.

**The Dallas Opera:** The Dallas Opera is a world-class performing arts organization producing outstanding mainstage and chamber opera repertoire; attracting national and international attention; committed to extensive community outreach and education; and managed to the highest possible standards of artistic excellence, accountability, efficiency and financial sustainability.

**Dallas Black Dance Theatre:** Founded in 1976 by Ann Williams, Dallas Black Dance Theatre bridges cultures and reaches diverse communities through contemporary modern dance and education programs. The company performs locally and internationally, serving over 3 million arts patrons with an inimitable multi-ethnic troupe of dancers that never fails to impress. DBDT is a resident company of AT&T Performing Arts Center.

**Bandan Koro African Drum and Dance Ensemble** was founded by Tony Browne in 2009 as an outlet to study and share experiences associated with African culture and history to the community at large through the medium of dance, music and specialized presentations. Bandan Koro is a Malinke term meaning “under the tree” and traditionally, the large trees of Africa serve as gathering places for the community. In this tradition, Bandan Koro African Drum and Dance Ensemble travels brings audiences “under the tree” to celebrate life through African Arts. Bandan Koro has performed and led workshops at national and international venues and has served as feature artist of the AT&T Performing Arts Center’s Elevator Project, workshop facilitator for the Rhythm in Fusion Festival and Michelle Obama Women's Leadership Conference, and guest artists at multiple nationwide Dance Africa festivals across the United States. The ensemble of musicians, singers and dancers teaches open community classes, and presents specialized educational programs and entertains various audiences throughout the year. Bandan Koro continues to foster values of love, pride, cultural engagement and excellence within the community. Bandan Koro African Drum and Dance Ensemble is part of the Community Artist Program with the City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture.

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### About the Dallas Arts District

Located in the northeast corner of downtown Dallas, the Dallas Arts District is the largest contiguous urban arts district in the nation, spanning 118 acres. This iconic neighborhood has more buildings designed by Pritzker award-winning architects than any location in the world. Dallas Arts District unifies culture and commerce with integrated and exemplary artistic, residential, cultural, and commercial life and was awarded a maximum 3-star rating by the prestigious Le Guide Vert – Michelin Green Guide. Its programmatic highlight is the Signature Block Party Series; with safety as our priority, these free public events are redesigned for 2021. For more information, visit [dallasartsdistrict.org](http://dallasartsdistrict.org).

### Production Staff:

Lighting and Sound: Amanda West and Crew from the AT&T Performing Arts Center  
Stage Manager: Augustine Jalomo  
Assistant Stage Manager: Alexandra Hernandez  
Producers: Lily Cabatu Weiss, Kristina Kirkenaer-Hart

*Special thanks to the staff and volunteers at AT&T Performing Arts Center.*

### Sponsors:

