TRANSCEND TIME. DEFY PERCEPTION. CHALLENGE COMPLACENCY.

MISSION
KAIROS Dance Theater strives to create emotionally powerful, viscerally charged performance art that engages and challenges our audiences. We aim to demonstrate the threshold-crossing power of dance and to tell stories that speak to the deep, human truths we all experience. KAIROS actively pursues this mission by:

- Creating work collaboratively with our dancers in a workshop environment, so that each dancer’s individual mind and body contributes to a greater whole; using choreographed phrases, games, research, writing exercises, improvisation and other movement generation techniques to develop our dance materials to speak louder
- Engaging the communities we work in by offering classes, workshops, and performance opportunities; KAIROS is passionate about working with movers of all ages and from all backgrounds to experience and better understand the power of performance art
- Partnering with artists from other disciplines to push the sensory aspects of our work – including set and lighting designers, visual artists, fashion designers, actors, musicians, photographers, video artists

ABOUT THE COMPANY
Boston’s KAIROS Dance Theater is an eclectic contemporary dance company committed to creating emotionally powerful, viscerally charged performance art. Founded by Artistic Directors DeAnna Pellechia and Ingrid Schatz, KAIROS engages audiences with innovative performances and workshops throughout the Boston area and beyond. Combining strong dance technique with affecting performances, rich visual imagery, music and digital technology, KAIROS creates an emotionally commanding physical landscape that pushes the boundaries of contemporary dance.
KAIROS WORKSHOPS

MOVEMENT HAS MEANING: An introduction to composing with intention and emotional power using Laban Movement Analysis, choreographed phrases, and improvisational methods in order to invite a deep connection to the work for each individual student.

THE EXPANSIVE PERFORMER: A class focused on increasing the potential of each dancer’s performative power and stage presence.

MODERN DANCE TECHNIQUE: This contemporary technique class introduces students of all levels to the nuanced, physical work of KAIROS, while still rooting movement in proper technique and alignment. We invite students to find a fuller use of space, gesture, and strength.

CONDITIONING FOR DANCERS: This class combines exercises from Yoga, Pilates, dance technique, martial arts, and cardio-training to improve stamina, strength, and flexibility.

PAST WORKSHOPS & RESIDENCIES

Urbano Project (Jamaica Plain, MA), Roger Williams University Dance Department (Bristol, RI), Newton Country Day School (Newton, MA), Cloud Foundation (Boston, MA), Cambridge School of Weston (Weston, MA), Athol Area YMCA Youth Reach Summer Program (Athol, MA), The Northfield Mount Hermon School (Gill, MA)
ABOUT THE PROJECT
Based in the personal experiences of the Artistic Directors, HER began as a series of duets exploring the intense dynamics between women that lead to bullying and it’s traumatic after effects. After every performance of the duets, crying women would wait to speak with them and talk about their own experiences. Galvanized by these powerful conversations, DeAnna and Ingrid were inspired to turn these duets into an evening length work. HER is a contemporary dance production that explores the experiences of women and girls of all ages. This narrative journey weaves together powerful, multi-sensory images depicting aggression, bullying, friendship, love, conformity, identity, and isolation, demonstrating the varied and powerful pathways that women walk as they relate to each other and their world. It has grown to include 8 professional dancers, 2 children and a chorus of 30 women from the community. Featuring digital-media, sets, theater lighting and couture costumes, HER is a compelling testament to the beauty, power, fragility and strength of women.

PERFORMANCE HISTORY
HER premiered at Boston University Dance Theater on October 17 & 18, 2014. Work-in-Progress excerpts of HER have been performed over 30 times: Boston Center for the Arts (Boston, MA), Provincetown Dance Festival (Provincetown, MA), Hatched Series (New York, NY), Dancing in the Streets Festival (Somerville, MA), Dances at Noon/ Tufts University (Medford, MA), Chaotic Forms/The Nave Gallery (Somerville, MA), Boston University Showcase (Boston, MA), Dance for World Community Festival (Cambridge, MA), Six Degrees of Separation (New York, NY), Roger Williams University Basement Series (Bristol, RI) and many more.

SUPPORTERS
The creation of HER has been supported by the Boston Center for the Arts, The Boston Dance Alliance, The Dance Complex, Boston University, The Cambridge School of Weston, The Northfield Mount Hermon School and Medicine Wheel Productions.

“Provocative...epic performance...” - Karen Campbell, The Boston Globe

HER | An Evening-length Production

ARTISTS
DeAnna Pellecchia
(Choreographer/Dancer)

Ingrid Schatz
(Choreographer/Dancer)

Lynda Rieman
(Lighting & Set Designer)

Alison Kotin
(Media Artist)

Carlos Villamil
(Costume Designer)

AJ Schortman
(Sound Designer / Videographer)

DANCERS
Vivian He

Amyko Ishizaki

Mikayla Martin

Erin McNulty

Katie Von Wald

Kristin Wagner

RUNNING TIME
Approximately 90 minutes

“I shake off restrictions and illegitimate rules, I shake off your suffocating warnings, I dance to the heartbeat of life, I dance because girls are the ultimate survivors.” - Eve Ensler
HER | Residency & Workshops

The HER Residency features the company's evening-length performance of HER in conjunction with workshops offered to the community. Artistic Directors DeAnna and Ingrid have specially developed a workshop series to provide a space for women to tell their stories about female aggression, bullying, and identity and to feel empowered in both their physical and emotional selves.

The workshops are structured to welcome both dancers and non-dancers ranging in age and ability - the focus is on transforming language and experience into movement and understanding the power of telling stories with the body, important tools for artists at all backgrounds. Curriculum is based on KAIROS' existing master class “Movement Has Meaning,” an introduction to choreographing with intention and emotional power using Laban Movement Analysis, choreographed phrases, and improvisational methods in order to invite a deep connection to the work. Participants will collaboratively produce original movement and text through brainstorming sessions, theater and movement games, writing exercises and group discussions. Students are challenged to increase their range of motion and their aesthetic understanding of performance; to develop a choreographic voice; to find and trust their creative instincts; and to engage in a vibrant and inclusive process. By focusing on each individual’s personal voice, the goal of these sessions is to empower women and girls, and to support them as they discover and celebrate both their physical and creative selves.

Participants are also invited to perform in the evening-length production of HER. Performing is not required but is strongly encouraged. Students interested in this opportunity will be required to attend 10 hours of rehearsal with the company; attend all technical and dress rehearsals; and be available for all performances.

QUOTES FROM THAT GIRL WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

"Thank you DeAnna and Ingrid for opening up this opportunity and your hearts to the community. You delivered a powerful message through dance and I’m very honored to have had a part in it." - Marian Ingegneri

"It was such a powerful weekend. Abby had a wonderful time growing and exploring her independence and relationships with both those she knows and strangers she came to know through the experience. As a mother, it was pretty magical to see some very obvious personal growth through the entire experience."

"As I watched the performances this weekend, I felt like I was looking at my youth from the outside- so surreal. You captured something so personal and true for so many young women. I left both performances feeling empowered, not sad; triumphant, not a victim".

"Thank you for the wonderful experience of me being a part of this important project. May your lives always be filled with the tranquility, resolve and beauty this experience brought to me." - Melissa Chow
DeAnna Pellecchia | Artistic Director

“...exciting...intriguing...gorgeous...” - Backstage Magazine

DeAnna has danced with horses, in trees, on stilts, under water and through air and has been featured in rodeos, operas, plays, fashion shows, books, movies and music videos; and publications including STUFF Magazine, Dance Magazine, Contact Quarterly, Backstage Magazine, The Boston Globe, and The Boston Herald, among others. She has created performances with Grammy-nominated musician Dave Eggar, NYC music-icon, composer Johnny Reinhard, legendary choreographer Elaine Summers of the Judson Dance Theater and award-winning choreographer Ann Carlson. DeAnna is a principal dancer with internationally acclaimed Paula Josa-Jones / Performance Works (since 2000); and has also performed with Anikai Dance Company, Kinodance Company, Bennett Dance Company, Nicola Hawkins Dance Company and Anna Myer & Dancers, among others. DeAnna has toured nationally and internationally performing at venues including The Kennedy Performing Arts Center in Washington D.C., The Los Angeles Convention Center, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Dance Theater Workshop in NYC, and the Burning Man Festival in the Nevada desert; and throughout India at The National School of Drama in Delhi and Chennai, University of Calicut in Kerala, Alliance Francaise in Bangalore, and Abhinaya Theater in Hyderabad.

DeAnna’s work has been presented by the American Festival of Microtonal Music, Charles Playhouse / Broadway Across America, The Institute of Contemporary Art Boston, Boston CyberArts / Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, Provincetown Dance Festival, Strand Theatre Boston, Somerville Arts Council, The Huntington Theater, and The Boston Center for the Arts, among others.

Ms. Pellecchia received a B.A. in Dance / Performance from Roger Williams University. She currently resides on dance faculty at Boston University (since 2002) and teaches at Boston Ballet. DeAnna has worked as an arts educator for institutions and organizations nationally, internationally and locally at Boston Conservatory, Dean College, Concord Academy, Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, Cambridge School of Weston, and Massachusetts College of Art, among others. Her work with teens while in residence at URBANO Project received recognition from President Obama’s Committee on Arts & Humanities as one of the top 50 exceptional youth programs in the U.S. for their work in presenting rich learning opportunities to young people in the field of arts.

“(DeAnna) moves through vertical space with the strength of a gymnast, the ease of an acrobat and the grace of a dancer...”
- Denise Taylor | The Boston Globe

“a committed and daring performer...”
-Karen Campbell | Boston Globe

DeAnna Pellecchia has been recognized as one of Boston’s "finest artists". Over the past 15 years, she has established herself as one of the Commonwealth’s most prominent dance-makers, creating and performing over a hundred critically acclaimed dance works which have toured locally, nationally and internationally. As a trained dancer, choreographer, and aerialist she makes work equally rooted in research and personal experience that provokes intellect, emotion, reflection and discovery for both performers and audience. DeAnna collaborates with visual artists, musicians, composers, and costume and set designers to craft intermedia performances for the stage, site-specific landscapes and non-traditional public spaces that take audiences on a visceral journey.
Ingrid Schatz | Artistic Director

"...strong....dramatically intense..." - Chicago Sun-Times

Ingrid’s work has been presented and supported by the Bank of America Celebrity Series, Crash Arts/The Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston Center for the Arts, Down Street Art/Mass Moca, Summer Stages Dance Festival, Boston University, Roger Williams University, Critical Moves Performances Series, A. P. E. Gallery, Outside Art Collective, The Dance Complex, Green Street Studios, Newton Country Day School, Northfield Mount Hermon School and more; her work has been supported by the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA), The National Dance Project, the LEF Foundation, the Trust for Mutual Understanding, the Connecticut College Dayton Fellowship, Boston Cyber Arts Festival, Open Look Dance Festival, NEFA’s Regional Dance Development Initiative and the Massachusetts Cultural Council; and she has been awarded Artistic Residencies and Fellowships at Summer Stages Dance Festival, the Urbano Project, Roger Williams University, the Boston Center for the Arts and The Boston Dance Alliance.

Ingrid has appeared in the dance films, In The Woods and Tilt by Paula Josa-Jones and Ellen Sebring; and co-choreographed Kinodance’s dance films, New London Calling and DENIZEN. She has been featured in many magazines including Dance Magazine and Dance Spirit. She was honored for work with Kinodance Company by DANCE MAGAZINE, which named them one of “25 to watch” in 2008.

Ingrid has been a Principal Dancer with internationally recognized Paula Josa-Jones/Performance Works since 1997. She has been a company member of Bennett Dance Company, Nicola Hawkins Dance Company, Anikai Dance Company, Caitlin Corbett Dance Company and the Movement Generators; and has appeared in the work of Ann Carlson, Elaine Summers and more.

Ingrid has resided on faculty in the dance department at Boston University, the Dalcroze Department at Longy School of Music/Bard College and the University of Massachusetts; has taught at many public and private schools, universities and institutions throughout the United States; and was a staff artist at Medicine Wheel Productions for from 2001 – 2013. She owns and directs The Dance Studio in Orange, MA where she teaches, supervises faculty, designs curriculum and produces performances for 150 students and two performance companies. Ingrid, choreographer DeAnna Pellecchia, digital media artist Alison Kotin and composer Shaw Pong Liu recently co-authored the article Speak Out. Act Up. Move Forward: Disobedience-Based Arts Education, published in a 2013 special edition of the Harvard Educational Review.

Ingrid Schatz is a professional dancer, choreographer and arts educator committed to presenting powerful works of art that engage and transform performers and audience alike.

Her collaboratively created work crosses mediums (dance, theater, film, visual art, digital media), venues (theaters with audience capacities ranging from 50 – 3,000, galleries, site specific installations, horse arenas, sculpture gardens) and ages (professional adult dancers, teenagers, children and the elderly). She has performed and presented her own work nationally (New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Boston, Atlanta, LA, and more) and internationally (France, Russia, Armenia).

"a superbly skilled dancer...”

- The Boston Globe

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“stunning...one of the area’s finest artists”

- Ted Bale | The Boston Herald
THE BOSTON GLOBE
CRITICS’ PICK EIGHT TIMES
“...provocative...epic performance...” – Karen Campbell

THE BOSTON PHOENIX
CRITICS’ PICK | SEPT 2011

THE BOSTON HERALD
“Ingrid Schatz and DeAnna Pellecchia might be the sexiest and most ironic duo on the local scene...they represent a new wave in contemporary dance...” – Theodore Bale

“You never know exactly who will show up in Boston University’s annual Dance Showcase...highlights this year include the stunning Ingrid Schatz and DeAnna Pellecchia...” -Theodore Bale

NINE DOTS BOSTON | BOSTON ARTS OUTSIDE THE BOX (ONLINE BLOG)
“DeAnna Pellecchia and Ingrid Schatz form a compelling team, and the images were often striking: the silhouette of one dancer towering high over the other, or the two flattened against the wall and madly squirming away from it, at once like babies being birthed or zombies rising from the grave. Their no-holds-barred physicality was violently compelling. Definitely looking forward to seeing the completed versions.”

BOSTON UNIVERSITY’S ONLINE MAGAZINE
“Pellecchia and Schatz are a frighteningly powerful force onstage. Of all the pieces in the show, the two duets they performed, from a work-in-progress called ‘That Girl and the Other One,’ were the ones that lingered after the curtain closed. The duo is athletic and daring, mercilessly throwing themselves against the back wall of the stage, headfirst into the floor, and onto each other. Using handheld lights to illuminate each other and cast massive shadows of their bodies against the back wall, the excerpts were fierce and compelling. BU is fortunate to have such exciting artists on the payroll.”
TESTIMONIALS

FROM PRODUCERS

MICKI TAYLOR-PINNEY | DIRECTOR OF DANCE, BOSTON UNIVERSITY
“...a beautifully eerie duet...”

GARY SHORE | DIRECTOR OF DANCE, ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY
“Many thanks...the show was striking, stimulating and beautiful.”

FROM COLLABORATORS

PAULA JOSA-JONES | DIRECTOR / CHOREOGRAPHER, PAULA JOSA-JONES / PERFORMANCE WORKS
“DeAnna Pellecchia and Ingrid Schatz are my muses. They are not just brilliant dancers and performers with extraordinary physical skills. They are possessed of wild, inquisitive and far-reaching minds, which gives their choreography and their performances a wild, unpredictable and always exciting edge that I find rare in the dance world.”

MATT SAMOLIS | MUSICIAN / PHOTOGRAPHER
“...unnerving, intimate, well-paced...”

FROM STUDENTS

CORINNE CHASE (AGE 14) | BOSTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS DANCE RESIDENCY PARTICIPANT
"Being a part of KAIROS Dance Theater was both thrilling and enriching... I believe it is important as an artist, to be artistic with a purpose. I was constantly amazed at all the hard work, love and compassion for the piece. I am absolutely honored for the confidence this piece has given me."

MICHELLE CARRASQUILLO (AGE 16) | BOSTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS DANCE RESIDENCY PARTICIPANT
"Working with the members of KAIROS Dance Theater was far more amazing and giving than I could have ever imagined. This was hands down one of the best and most important experiences of my life so far. Being a dancer my whole life, and hoping to eventually pursue dance as a career, it was incredibly inspirational to be with so many women who had my same dream when they were my age. I feel so blessed... I will be eternally grateful for all of the love, support, and encouragement I received from everyone."

SHANE HAMPTON (AGE 20) | MEDICINE WHEEL PRODUCTIONS YOUTH
“I had to step out of my comfort zone to recognize what I could really do. KAIROS is my new dance family."