

NEW YORK Amsterdam News

December 2019 Dance Calendar

CHARMAINE PATRICIA WARREN | 11/27/2019, 10:28 a.m.



The December calendar is full, from the beginning to the absolute end. This month's highlight is Kyle Marshall Choreography (Dec. 4–7) at BAM Fisher. For this BAM debut, Marshall and his company brings “Colored” (2017) and the world premiere of “A.D.,” as part of Next Wave 2019—the first season by artistic director David Binder. Marshall has been investigating race and religion and in “Colored” he “... navigates the twisted spectrum of Blackness that dancers Oluwadamilare Ayorinde, Myssi Robinson, and Marshall regularly embody. [Further] as three Black dancers from varied backgrounds, their work together in the studio led to conversations on tokenism, appropriation, stereotype, and representation.” And in the newer work, “A.D.,” where dancers Bria Bacon and Miriam Gabriel are added to the cast, Marshall and Company delved into “...conversations surrounding Christianity and its influence on the body,” according to the release. Marshall adds, “These works deal with complicated personal and political issues...[and] I aim to create space to reflect, uplift and respect our unique journeys and experiences.” In 2018 Marshall was recognized for his work with a Juried Bessie Award for “exploring important ideas around race and sexuality in dances that embody rather than illustrate complicated issues.” For this 2019 BAM debut he affirms, “I am deeply appreciative and excited for the premiere of Kyle Marshall Choreography in the 2019 BAM Next Wave Festival!” For more information visit www.bam.org

ALSO THIS MONTH:

Dec. 1—Dr. Glory Van Scott, an icon in the dance field, shares a special afternoon titled “The Jazz Guzzler” featuring Dr. Glory’s Youth Theatre and guests, The Urban Strings Columbus Youth Orchestra at The Riverside Theater at The Riverside Church. This is a FREE family event. For more information, email drgloryvanscottproductions@yahoo.com.

Dec. 2–21—Gibney’s “DoublePlus” series brings in veteran artists to curate split-bill evenings over three weekends. Dana Davenport + Samita Sinha, curated by Alexis Convento (Dec. 5–7); Alexander Diaz + Jennifer Harrison Newman, curated by Charmaine Warren (Dec. 12–

14); and Laurel Atwell + Hyung Seok Jeon, curated by Tei Blow (Dec. 19–21). For more information visit www.gibneydance.org.

Dec. 3-8—Tap dancers Dormeshia, Derick K. Grant, Jason Samuels Smith and a special guest, performer, choreographer and contemporary dancer Camille A. Brown join forces for a celebration of tap dance, “And Still You Must Swing.” This team of tappers and contemporary guest artists promise to honor the heart and legacy of the art form. For more information visit www.Joyce.org.

Dec. 4-Jan. 5—The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, under artistic director Robert Battle, returns for their annual New York City Center five-week season. Included on this season’s program are world premieres: “Greenwood” by Donald Byrd and “Ode” by Ailey dancer and newly announced Resident Choreographer Jamar Roberts; company premieres of “BUSK” by Aszure Barton and “City of Rain” by Camille A. Brown; new productions of “Divining” (1984) by Judith Jamison and “Fandango” (1995) by Lar Lubovitch; plus repertory favorites including Ailey’s “Memoria” and “Revelations.” For more information visit www.nycitycenter.org.

Dec. 5-6—After successful runs since 2017, George Emilio Sanchez’s “Bang, Bang, Gun Amok,” a 24-hour performance marathon that addresses how gun culture is embedded in the history of the United States, is back at Abrons Arts Center and will again feature a large cast of artists, survivors of gun violence, activists, and scholars who have come together through music, dance, theater and more. For more information visit www.abronsartscenter.org.

Dec. 5-7—The Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, under artistic director Nai-Ni Chen, brings the retrospective production “CrossCurrent” to New York Live Arts and will showcase Chen’s “Calligraphy II,” “Whirlwind,” “Breaking News” and “Bamboo Rap.” For more information visit www.newyorklivearts.org.

Dec. 8—Cathy Weis’ weekly “Sundays on Broadway” series, this one curated by Weis, will feature Jon Kinzel, Jimena Paz, Vicky Shick on a shared evening. For more information visit www.cathyweis.org.

Dec. 13-14—The annual and legendary Fresh Tracks Performance and Residency Program at New York Live Arts returns and will showcase five selected emerging choreographers: Anh Vo, Annie Heath, Jordan Lloyd, Kayla Hamilton and Stuart B Meyers. For more information visit www.newyorklivearts.org.

Dec. 20-21—New Jersey Performing Arts Center brings back their “Hip Hop Nutcracker,” a contemporary version of the timeless holiday classic with performances by MC Kurtis Blow. For more information visit www.njpac.org.

Dec. 28—Forces of Nature Dance Company, under artistic director and choreographer Abdel R. Salaam, brings their annual Kwanzaa Celebration to the Apollo with host Imhotep Gary Byrd. For more information visit www.njpac.org.

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