A.I.M by Kyle Abraham

Fri, April 15, 8 PM
Access live captioning for Friday's performance

Sat, April 16, 8 PM
Access live captioning for Saturday's performance

Sun, April 17, 2 PM
Access live captioning for Sunday's performance

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Digital Program
Founded in 2006 by choreographer Kyle Abraham, A.I.M by Kyle Abraham is a Black-led contemporary dance company that provides multifaceted performances, educational programming, and community-based workshops. The mission of A.I.M by Kyle Abraham is to create a body of dance-based work that is galvanized by Black culture and history. The work, informed by and made in conjunction with artists across a range of disciplines, entwines a sensual and provocative vocabulary with a strong emphasis on music, text, video, and visual art. While grounded in choreographer Kyle Abraham's artistic vision, A.I.M draws inspiration from a multitude of sources and movement styles.

Since A.I.M's founding, Artistic Director Kyle Abraham has made more than 15 original works for and with the company. In 2018, A.I.M began commissioning new works and performing existing works by outside choreographers to expand its repertoire and offer a breadth of dance work to both the dancers and audiences. The repertory now includes works by Trisha Brown, Andrea Miller, Bebe Miller, Doug Varone, and an A.I.M dancer and early-career choreographer Keerati Jinakunwiphat.

A.I.M's audience base is as diverse as A.I.M's movement vocabulary, which ranges from hip-hop to formal ballet technique. As Abraham says, "I'm interested in a really wide range of folks from the brother who owns the corner store to the woman who has never even heard of a corner store. I want those people to interact, and I want them to be sitting next to each other sensing the other person's experience. And then, I want them to stick around for the post-performance discussion and hear the other person's perspective and learn more about each other. That's what is most exciting for me."

For more information, to get involved, or purchase your A.I.M merchandise, please visit http://aimbykyleabraham.org. Follow A.I.M on Instagram @aimbykyleabraham and Kyle Abraham @kyle_abraham_original_recipe.

A.I.M is supported through the Comprehensive Organizational Health Initiative (COHI) | Managing Organizational Vitality and Endurance, a program of The International Association of Blacks in Dance (IABD) in partnership with the Nonprofit Finance Fund with support from the Mellon Foundation. A.I.M is supported through the New York Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. A.I.M is supported through the National Dance Project at the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the New York State Council on the Arts, the New York State Office of Cultural Development, the New York City Council, and the New York State Senate. A.I.M is also supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the New York State Council on the Arts, the New York State Senate.

A.I.M is a proud supporter of Dancers Responding to AIDS, which helps ensure that those most in need receive the care and comfort they would otherwise do without. Founded in 1991 by former Paul Taylor Dance Company members Denise Roberts Hurlin and Hernando Cortez, DRA relies on the extraordinary compassion and efforts of the performing arts community to fund a safety net of social services for those in need. Together, we can make a difference for those less fortunate than us. Donate at www.dradance.org/donate.

Support the creation of new work and community engagement! Contributions may be made payable to “Abraham.In.Motion, Inc.” P.O. Box 986, New York, NY 10113. Abraham.In.Motion, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization (EIN: 82-4790161). All donations are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

For booking information, contact Lotus Arts Management, Sophie Myrtil-McCourty, President, at 72-11 Austin Street, Suite 371, Forest Hills, NY 11375. Tel: 347.721.8724; email: sophie@lotusartsmgmt.com www.lotusartsmgmt.com
Kyle Abraham was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to Earlene Abraham and George Abraham, both of whom are dancers and choreographers. He spent his formative years in the South Hills neighborhood of Pittsburgh, where he was introduced to jazz and the performing arts within his community. Abraham began his dance training at the Civic Light Opera and the Civic Light Opera School. He continued his dance studies in New York, receiving a BFA from SUNY Purchase, an MFA from NYU Tisch School of the Arts, and an Honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts from Washington University in St. Louis.

In 2009, Kyle Abraham joined the New York City Ballet as an Apprentice, and was promoted to Soloist in 2011 and to Principal Dancer in 2013. He danced with the company for a decade, performing lead roles in many of the ballet’s most iconic works, as well as leading roles in new works by leading choreographers.

Abraham brought a fresh perspective to the New York City Ballet, infusing the company with a new sense of vitality and energy. His innovative choreography and unique style earned him critical acclaim and recognition as one of the most promising young choreographers in the field.

In 2016, Abraham was named the New York City Ballet’s first Associate Artist, and in 2019, he was named the company’s first African American Artistic Associate.

In addition to his work with the New York City Ballet, Kyle Abraham has been commissioned by a variety of dance companies. Most recently, Abraham received a Bessie Award for Outstanding Choreography in 2010. The previous year, he received a Jerome Travel and Study Grant in 2008.

Abraham has been recognized with numerous awards and honors, including the 2011 Ailey Emerging Artist Award, the 2012 USA Ford Commissioned Artist, the 2013 MacDonald Commissioned Artist for 2012–2014, and the 2014-15 New York City Commissions for Dance.

Kyle Abraham is a member of the inaugural Black Arts High School in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He began his dance training at the Civic Light Opera and the Civic Light Opera School. He continued his dance studies in New York, receiving a BFA from SUNY Purchase, an MFA from NYU Tisch School of the Arts, and an Honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts from Washington University in St. Louis.

In 2021, he was named the Claude and Alfred Mann Endowed Professorship in Dance at UCLA’s World Arts and Cultures/Dance Department. Abraham currently sits on the advisory board for Dance Magazine and the art advisory board for Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. In 2020, he was selected to be the Dance Magazine’s Most Viewed Editor.

Abraham has been a commissioned choreographer for the American Ballet Theatre, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and the New York City Ballet. His choreography has been presented throughout the United States and abroad; at Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Fall for Dance Festival at New York City Center, Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival, Théâtre National de la Danse de l’Académie de Création Contemporaine de l’île de France, and the annual World Dance Festival at the Okinawa Japan National Theatre.

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Kyle Abraham is a 2013 MacArthur Fellow who was labeled Abraham as one of the “best and brightest creative talent to emerge in New York City in the age of Obama.”

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Throughout her training, she has performed works by Robert Battle, Chuck Wilt, and Bradley Beal. There, they performed in professional works by RUBBERBANDANCE and Parts & Labour. They also assisted Kyle Abraham in new commissioned works and the "Poison Girl" Christian Dior commercial for women's fragrance and an Urban Outfitters commercial. She was featured as one of the Best Dancers of the Year by Dance Magazine.

Keerati joined A.I.M by Kyle Abraham in 2013. She has officially been a scholarship student and has performed works by William Forsythe, Pam Tanowitz, and Mark Morris. In 2016, she was awarded the Adopt-A-Dancer Scholarship. She has worked with and assisted Kyle Abraham in new commissioned works.

Donovan joined A.I.M by Kyle Abraham in 2018. Donovan participated as an artist program, where his training was extended by Die Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Film, Vienna. His time in college, Donovan participated as an arts administrator, dance marketing strategist, and visual arts before graduating from New World School of the Arts and a three-time Young Arts Merit Scholar / Honorable Mention.

Marshall Martell joined A.I.M by Kyle Abraham in 2020. Martell trained at The Ailey School as a scholar, completing his two years with Ailey II as a scholarship student and has performed works by choreographers Sidra Bell, Cherie and Jennifer Archibald. He recently performed roles in music videos. He has also performed with Complexions, and received first place in the "Poison Girl" Christian Dior commercial for women's fragrance and an Urban Outfitters commercial.

Matthew Rupert joined A.I.M by Kyle Abraham in 2019. Rupert has been coming up at RUBBERBANDANCE and Parts & Labour, with a goal to showcase himself as an original, with a purpose to showcase himself in the film industry. Rupert has completed his two years with A.I.M and received first place in the "Poison Girl" Christian Dior commercial for women's fragrance and an Urban Outfitters commercial. Rupert is thrilled to be working as A.I.M's Marketing Associate and be a part of the team.

Theodore (Dancer, pronouns: she/her) began her dance training at Ballet East Studio in February 1992. She moved back to her home city of West Palm Beach, Florida, and continued her training at Ballet East Studio in December 1994. Theodore began her training at Western Michigan University. In 2013 Guy graduated with honors from SUNY Purchase College as a double major in dance and Business Management, receiving a degree in Arts Merit Scholar / Honorable Mention. She graduated with a BFA in dance from the School of the Arts and a three-time Young Arts Merit Scholar / Honorable Mention.

T amisha A. Guy (Dancer, pronouns: she/her) has been performing works by Robert Battle, Chuck Wilt, and Bradley Beal. She has officially been a scholarship student and has performed works by William Forsythe, Pam Tanowitz, and Mark Morris. In 2016, she was awarded the Adopt-A-Dancer Scholarship. She has worked with and assisted Kyle Abraham in new commissioned works.

Jan-Miel (Dancer, pronouns: he/him) began his formal dance training at the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts, and continued his formal dance training at the Evanston Dance Ensemble, the Martha Graham Dance Company. He has worked with and assisted Kyle Abraham in new commissioned works.

Mrak. CJ joined A.I.M by Kyle Abraham in 2017. He has been coming up at RUBBERBANDANCE and Parts & Labour, with a goal to showcase himself as an original, with a purpose to showcase himself in the film industry. Rupert has completed his two years with A.I.M and received first place in the "Poison Girl" Christian Dior commercial for women's fragrance and an Urban Outfitters commercial. Rupert is thrilled to be working as A.I.M's Marketing Associate and be a part of the team.
Matthew Baker (Rehearsal Director) hails from Ann Arbor, Michigan. He received his BFA in dance from Western Michigan University in 2001. He has since been named a New York State Council on the Arts fellow and recipient of an Alvin Ailey Foundation Choreographic Award. He is the namesake of the Irene Sharaff Award.

DAN SCULLY (Lighting Design) is a New York–based lighting and projection designer and has been the resident lighting designer for A.I.M since December 2011 as well as the recipient of a Distinguished Alumni Award from his Alma Mater in 2014. She was born in New York City and graduated from the Juilliard School with degrees in Stage Management and Fine Arts. A former principal dancer with the Metropolitan Opera, she designed sets for theater internationally. She is the winner of the Irene Sharaff award. She has designed costumes and evening works for theater including Pavement, Live! The Realest M.C., Surfing the Void, Sleep No More, WarHorse, The Orchestra Rocks!, The Quiet, Indigo: If We Were a Love Song, and Two River Theater Company. She earned her MFA at NYU/Tisch.

KRISTI WOOD (Costume Design, Textile Artist) is a Costume Designer and Textile Artist for A.I.M. She has been the resident lighting designer for A.I.M since 2011. She was born in New York City and graduated from the Juilliard School, earning a Bachelors of Fine Arts. A former principal dancer with the New York City Ballet, Alvin Ailey / American Dance Theater, Joffrey Ballet, and Les Ballet Rockadero de José Limón Dance Company, Kristi now owns and operates Logan Square Pilates + Core in Chicago and is a BASI Pilates Instructor.

KAREN YOUNG (Costume Design, Studies) is a performer, teacher, re-constructor of the works of José Limón, and mentor to young and emerging choreographers. She has travelled the world performing and teaching extensively. She was born in New York City and graduated from Barnard College. She is a former principal dancer with the Martha Graham Dance Company. Recent design for dance includes projects with Martha Graham Dance Company, Paul Taylor Dance Company, Alvin Ailey / American Dance Theater, and A.I.M. She designed the costumes for Wendy Whelan’s projects Restless Creature and The Radio Show. She has been an active member of Then She Fell since 2013, and is currently directing the company. She is a Costume Designer and Textile Artist for A.I.M.

KARENYOUngcostume.com

Creative Team:

MATT MCKEDEE (Lighting Design), JON WESLER (Sound Design), FRITZ MASTEN (Costume Design, Studies), KAREN YOUNG (Costume Design, Studies), DAN SCULLY (Lighting Design), RISA STEINBERG (Artistic Advisor, Studies), ALEXA JENSEN (Stage Management), BRIAN BROOKS (Technical Director), LUCINDA CHILO (Production Manager), PETER HARTSHORN (Wardrobe Manager), ROBERT CHERSKOU, ACCOTA DANZER, MALPASO DANCE COMPANY, HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO. She designed the costumes for Wendy Whelan’s projects Restless Creature and The Radio Show. She has been an active member of Then She Fell since 2013, and is currently directing the company. She is a Costume Designer and Textile Artist for A.I.M.

For more information, visit:

karenyoungcostume.com
Global Arts Live presents Jean Appolon Expressions
Fri, May 13, 8 PM  
Sat, May 14, 8 PM

Cambridge-based contemporary dance company Jean Appolon Expressions (JAE) explores themes that are vital to Haitian and immigrant experiences. Weaving modern technique with Haitian folkloric dance, JAE sparks healing for dancers and audiences alike. The company will perform the World premiere of Traka (“Troubles” in Haitian Creole). Traka incorporates powerful reflections on injustice and trauma to explore how dance, culture, and community are pathways to healing. Renowned Haitian composer, turntablist, and Afrofuturist Val Jeanty will perform live during the event.

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