



Black Lives Rising

**Live | VIRTUAL DANCE FILM FESTIVAL
2023**

**Virtual Presentation
Program A**

PROGRAM A

Running Time: 1h 25m

All a Blur

An experimental screendance that explores escapism, fantasy, and isolation.



Running Time: 3:24

Directed by Ariel Scott



Ariel Scott is a choreographer, dancer, and screendance maker using dance to explore the complexity of human experience and honor the importance of physicality in processing and (re)constructing the world around us. Ariel graduated magna cum laude from the University of California, Irvine with a BFA in dance choreography and holds an AA in dance from Santa Monica College.

The Noise My Leaves Make

A contemporary Dance Film that explores Black womanhood and the rural environment in England.



Running Time: 6:56

Directed by Tia-Monique Uzor



Tia-Monique Uzor is an artist-scholar who is interested in themes of identity, popular culture, resistance, and feminism within African and African Diasporic dance.

I Gave It Up

An Angolan choreographer shares his personal journey as an artist making his own rules.



Running Time: 17:04

Directed by Manuel Kanza



Manuel Kanza is an Angolan Independent filmmaker and professional African dance choreographer, 4 times nominated by AFRIMMA awards best African dancer. Mr. Kanza is the Founder of Kanzastudios Film Production and Producer of TV show " Dance Transformation Series " in Angola, Africa.

Capstone

Intricacies abound of always having to climb uphill in all the imposition facets of life as a colored human being. Whether it be protecting women or going it alone between the sexes, or even as a group.



Running Time: 7:15

Directed by Daniel Williams



Daniel Williams is a cinematographer, director, improvisation coach, and founder of Purus Motus, a Chicago based dance production company.

Unconquered

Trying times inspire a series of dance vignettes that document the courageous spirit of celebrated NYC based dance company, Diversity of Dance.



Running Time: 44:15

Directed by Frederick Earl Mosely



Fredrick Earl Mosley is Founder and Artistic Director of Diversity of Dance, which is the springboard for programs such as Earl Mosley's Institute of the Arts (EMIA), Hearts of Men (HoM) a program which is designed to use dance to empower and cultivate a safe space for men of all ages to bond in a community of brotherly love, and Dancing Beyond, a benefit for Dance Against Cancer.

The Reclamation of My Black Ass Imagination: An Awakening

Spoken word unites with dance in urban sublimeness, seeking and unveiling truth hidden beneath fiction.



Running Time: 6:13

Directed by Reena Dutt



Reena Dutt is a city girl with a country soul who believes in creating with a conscience, on and off the stage and screen. She has screened films at Sundance, LAFF, Outfest, Frameline, Cucalorous, NBCUniversal, BET, PBS/Latino and HBO.



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Program B**

PROGRAM B

Running Time: 2h 9m

All The Things They Couldn't

A daring dance dream is foretold for a young aspiring black ballerina.



Running Time: 10:45

Directed by Valerie C. Robinson



Valerie (Val) is a photographer and filmmaker based in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. She specializes in customized personal branding, generational, and commercial portraiture, as well as documentary and short-filmmaking.

Elle Va

She goes as the English translation. Fragmented. She is a myth of what was...a building block of a popular narrative- a memory of what can be.



Running Time: 5:15

Directed by Alexandria Davis



Dancer, Actress, Teaching Artist, Choreographer, and Screendance maker Alexandria Davis holds an MFA in dance choreography from the University of Michigan. Alexandria earned her BFA in Dance Performance and Dance in Medicine certification from the University of Florida.

Layers

Displacement and isolation peels off an old identity to make way for the new.



Running Time: 8:06

Directed by Rose Sutton & Alexa Whyte



Rose Sutton & Alexa Whyte are NYC and LA based directors with an emphasis on telling stories through dance film. Alexa Whyte is a Caribbean-American multimedia artist with a focus on directing, producing, and fashion photography. Rose Sutton is a New-York based mixed media artist focusing on directing, editing, and photography.

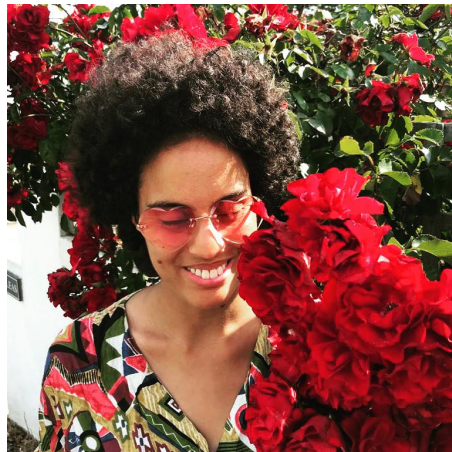
Fountain

Inescapable tides of life and death are tenderly expressed through water– within the body and Earth’s hydrosphere, evoking waves of relevant Black subjectivities.



Running Time: 25:00

Directed by Alexandrina Hemsley



Alexandria's creative practice lands in the fluid spaces of dance, choreography, writing, facilitating and advocacy. Alexandrina founded Yewande 103 in 2020. Yewande 103 formalizes the past 10+ years of her work in the contemporary dance field as a choreographer, performer, writer, mentor and educator. Yewande 103 lives as compassionate, embodied advocacy in action, through choreography, writing, production, artist support and the development of mental health discourse.

Memories

A lyrical movement montage sets the pace for letting go.



Running Time: 3:52

Directed by Luzi Schilling



Luzi (1970) came into contact with dance and music at a young age through his mother Christina. Especially African dance became the pulse of his life. Today Luzi is director of the 'Centre Rythme Danse' in Biel/Bienne, Switzerland, leads the 'KiJu Dance Company' as a choreographer and musician and produces dance short films on various topics.

The Shadow Between Us

A Black dancer and a White choreographer embark on a journey to heal the divide of civil unrest following the death of George Floyd.



Running Time: 01:23:00

Directed by Lance Murphey



Drawn to filmmaking out of the ashes of a photojournalism career, Lance Murphey's first film "Nobody," premiered at Full Frame Film Festival, and was featured on the Dr. Phil Show. Mr. Murphey has produced many short films and documentaries, which have earned three Emmys, a national Addy and been honored by TED as one of 20 Ads Worth Spreading in the World.

Ascension

A deeply challenging and transitional space highlights an unforgettable chapter of life.

“ I am grateful for the opportunity to turn this moment into art.” - Sharron Lynn



Running Time: 4:15

Directed by Selena Moshell



Selena Moshell is a director and producer who has created numerous commercials, music videos, short films, social/branded content, as well as a feature length documentary for Disney Theatricals. Her directorial style is firmly grounded in her background as a professional dancer and photographer, which is apparent with her use of musicality, light, and movement.

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A Message From Me to You



As the founder and director of BLR Dance Film Festival, it's an honor to share these unique, incredible works of art with you. May the power of dance on camera and the beauty of the black experience inspire you to new heights. -Joey Lorraine

Special thanks to Kelly Hargraves, Sarah Emery, Arthur Aviles, Terra Renee, Gregory Gates, Ali Powell, Robert Newman, and Charlotte Smith.

“Life is very short. What we have to do must be done in the now.” Audrey Lorde

Contribute to this festival with a donation, and help expand opportunities for dance on camera that honors the diversity of the Black experience.

DONATE NOW

blrdancefilmfest.com/donate