

Move:Meant A.R.T Expo – Juneteenth



*Juneteenth rehearsal at Trillium Arts with Amanda Hoyte and Melvin AC Howell.
Photo by Tanja Kuic*

A Multi-Disciplinary Performance Celebrating Black Culture, Dance, and Music

Trillium Arts presents the premiere of Asheville-based choreographer and director Melvin AC Howell's multidisciplinary performance, Move:Meant A.R.T Expo - Juneteenth on **Friday & Saturday, June 16 & 17, 2023** at 7:30 p.m. at Marshall High Studios, 115

Blannahassett Island Road in Marshall, NC.

Melvin AC Howell's Move:Meant A.R.T Expos are immersive dance theatre explorations of issues related to Black history and contemporary Black culture. In addition to a live performance integrating dance, music and theatrical elements, Expos include a visual arts installation that creates a setting for the performance and organically submerges the audience in the environment.

Juneteenth, the newest in Howell's Move:Meant A.R.T Expo series, is inspired by the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. Dating back to 1865, it was on June 19th that enslaved people of Texas, then the most remote region of the Confederacy, finally learned slavery had been abolished and that they were free.

The performance is a structured series of dance theater vignettes while the audience is lead through the venue's expansive, nontheatrical space. Musical selections include popular recordings by Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Marvin Gaye, Robert Glasper, Lionel Louke and TroyBoi. A collection of visual art works by Asheville artist Jenny Pickens, creates the environment for *Juneteenth's* immersive experience.

In Howell's words, "*Juneteenth* is a celebration of the enormous impact of Black dance and music on American culture. It is created to spread positive messages regarding race, class and Black history across Western North Carolina, thereby knitting our communities closer together."



Welcome New Members!

- Mountain & Anchor Real Estate
- UScellular - Premier Wireless
- The Farm Connection
- Laura Holloway
- MadCo Tubing
- David McClurkin



Juneteenth was created during a series of three residencies at Trillium Arts in May 2021, with Howell and co-director/choreographer Amanda Hoyte.

