



Choreographer: Winston Birdwell a.k.a. “Fun ‘N Games”

Work Title: “For You, I Am”

Winston Birdwell, known in the dance community as “**Fun ‘N Games**,” is a mover, thinker, and creator whose work blends heartfelt expression with technical versatility. Born and raised in **Mesa, Arizona**, Winston is a proud product of the **Jukebox Family**, where he trained and competed under the guidance of **Leah and RaeRae Bancod-Roman** from 2012 to 2020.

While widely recognized for his work in **krump**, over the past eight years Winston’s foundation spans an impressive range of styles—from **contemporary to locking, animation to tap**. His movement practice is deeply rooted in **authenticity, vulnerability, and personal truth**, often using improvisation as a tool for emotional storytelling.

In 2023, Winston co-founded **The House of 3rLz**, a nonprofit dance studio dedicated to **community growth, creative exploration, and liberation from insecurity**. The space serves as a haven for artists seeking to move freely—both in body and in spirit.

His piece *For You, I Am* is a tribute to his late father, **Vince (1962–2018)**—a deeply personal work that honors legacy, memory, and the love that continues to move us long after loss.

Instagram: @fng.the_metahuman.3rlz



Choreographer: Sophie Boisvert

Work Title: “Drew Barrymore”

Sophie Boisvert is a dynamic and accomplished dancer, choreographer, and director whose lifelong passion for movement has led her across stages, screens, and international collaborations. She began her dance journey in competitive studios and graduated with honors in Dance from the **Main Street School of Performing Arts**. She continued her studies at the **University of Minnesota**, earning a **BA in Dance & Media Studies** and graduating **Summa Cum Laude** in 2019.

Soon after, Sophie released her acclaimed documentary *You Just Do: Dancing with Chronic Illness*, advocating for dancers with invisible disabilities—a deeply personal and impactful project. Her performance career includes collaborations with globally recognized choreographers such as **Eko Supriyanto (Indonesia)** and **Michel Kouakou (Ivory Coast)**, as well as appearances in music videos for artists like **Remo Drive** and **The New Pornographers**. As a choreographer and director, she has shaped visual narratives for talents including **VIAL** and **Christine Hoberg** (Platinum artist featured on *Grey’s Anatomy*).

With over a decade of teaching experience, Sophie has earned numerous choreography and high point awards. She currently dances with **Classical Fusion Dance Company** (4th season) and is in her 2nd season as a **Charlie’s Show Dancer**. In addition to her contemporary work, Sophie is a celebrated burlesque performer, having graced stages across Arizona and internationally, most recently earning recognition in a UK-based competition.

She is also the founder of **Doe Eyed Entertainment**, which earned her a 2024 nomination for **AZ Burlesque Producer & Production of the Year**—a testament to her artistic vision, versatility, and fearless creativity.

Instagram: @stelladoesnt



Choreographer: Lala Covarrubio

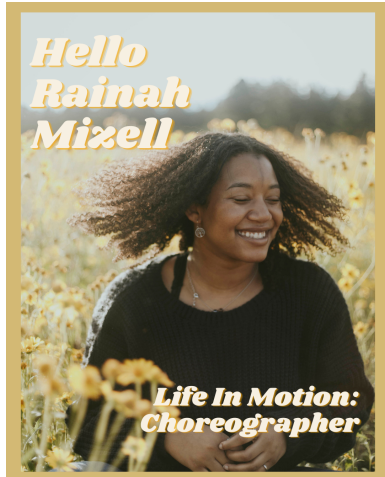
Work Title: "Belonging"

Lala Covarrubio is a proud representative of **The Jukebox Grounds Dance Studio**, exploring movement through both freestyle and choreography as she continues to evolve her unique voice in dance. Deeply rooted in the culture and community of Hip Hop, Lala finds her strongest connections in styles like **Campbell locking, whacking, house, and popping.**

Currently stepping into more teaching roles, Lala remains a lifelong student—constantly learning from the vibrant, inspiring community around her. Her

mission is clear: to give back all the knowledge, love, and inspiration that dance has given her. Through every movement, she honors the legacy of those who came before while paving the way for those still to come.

Instagram: @amcova



Choreographer: Rainah Mizell

Work Title: "Alright"

Rainah Mizell is a Philadelphia-born movement artist and proud graduate of **Arizona State University**, whose work lives at the intersection of education, expression, and community transformation. With a background rooted many forms, Rainah uses choreography as a tool for reflection, empowerment, and cultural dialogue.

Her artistic mission is clear: to enrich the communities she serves through intentional movement and shared experience. As both choreographer and performer,

Rainah brings authenticity and clarity to every piece—honoring the stories that move through her and the cast she moves alongside.

In *Alright*, Rainah performs with her ensemble, embodying resilience, joy, and the unspoken truths that live in motion.

Instagram: @rai.miz



Choreographer: Sergio Rubio

Work Title: *Abismo Onírico*

Sergio Rubio is a multifaceted dancer, choreographer, and educator based in Arizona, known for his versatility and dynamic stage presence across styles including **contemporary, jazz, hip hop, modern, ballroom**, and more. He is currently pursuing a **BFA in Dance Education at Arizona State University**, following an associate degree in dance from **Glendale Community College**.

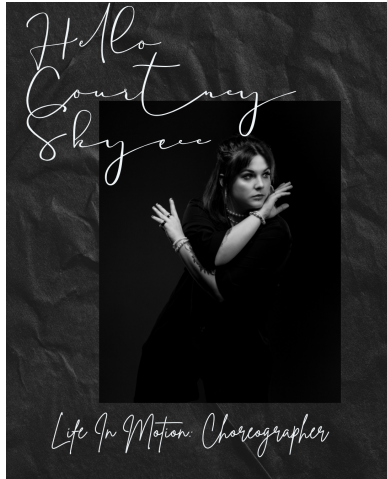
Sergio has performed at some of the state's most high-profile events, including the **2024 Super Bowl**

Halftime Show with Usher, PRIDE 2024 at Charlie's Phoenix, and a **Phoenix Mercury game** at State Farm Stadium—where his choreography was showcased as the official game opener. His work also spans concert stages and theatrical venues, with standout performances in **Joie (2022)** and **Impulse (2021)** at GCC, and appearances at the **MOVE Variety Dance Festival** at Herberger Theater and **Southwestern Ballet's Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs**.

Sergio has been a featured performer with **Third Space Dance Project**, **Herberger's Pop-Up Performance Series**, and at large-scale holiday productions at **State Farm Stadium**. He is also a resident **show dancer at Charlie's Phoenix**, where he continues to expand his artistic voice in nightlife and art performance spaces. Most recently, Sergio brought his signature energy to the **2024 Sedona Dance Festival** as a guest artist.

Blending technical strength with emotional depth, Sergio creates choreography that explores dreamscapes, identity, and human connection. He is an emerging force in Arizona's dance community—equal parts performer, storyteller, and educator.

Instagram: @_checovrl



Choreographer: Courtney Skye

Work Title: “*The Root of It All*”

Courtney Skye is a Mesa, Arizona native whose passion for dance has evolved over more than 20 years of immersive experience—spanning performance, choreography, education, and creative direction. With nearly a decade of professional teaching behind her, Courtney draws from a diverse training background but finds her deepest inspiration in **contemporary dance** and **musical theatre**, infusing her work with a unique blend of theatricality, emotional resonance, and quirky charm.

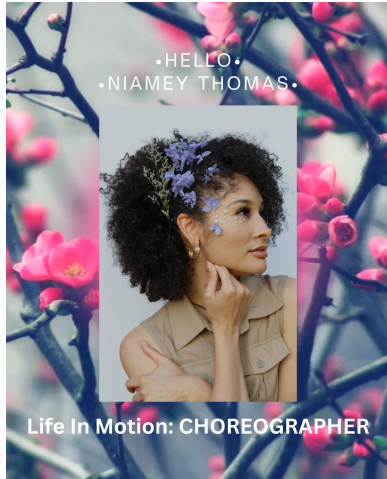
As co-founder and director of **Abstraction Dance Company**, Courtney brings bold ideas to life through live performance, film, and dance photography. She has choreographed for competitive studios, professional companies, and dance teams, consistently helping dancers deepen both their technical precision and their expressive voice.

Named “**Arizona’s Up and Coming Artist**” by *Voyage Magazine* in 2020, Courtney’s choreography has garnered numerous accolades and led to collaborations with music artists and fellow dance creatives across the country. Her work extends beyond the studio—she’s served as a **competition judge**, **convention teacher**, and **mentor**, committed to sharing insight and inspiration with the next generation of artists.

Most recently, Courtney joined the **faculty at Pave School of the Arts** in California, while continuing to travel for choreography and teaching. A true multidisciplinary artist, she is also an accomplished **dance photographer and writer**, fully immersed in storytelling across multiple mediums.

Courtney’s mission is to make meaningful movements accessible and unforgettable—rooted in truth, curiosity, and creative connection.

Instagram: @courtney_skye



Choreographer: Niamey Thomas

Work Title: "Godspeed"

Niamey Thomas is a dynamic creative, educator, and storyteller whose work is rooted in purpose, artistry, and service to community. A graduate of **Arizona State University** with a **BA in Communication, Minor in Dance**, and **Certificate in Brazilian Studies**, Niamey's academic and artistic pursuits have always intersected to support her greater mission: to use the arts as a catalyst for connection, transformation, and impact.

She furthered her training through the **Elevate International Antioch Discipleship and Arts Program**, where she deepened her commitment to using faith and creativity to uplift others, and through the **AmeriCorps Public Allies Program**, strengthening her skills in community engagement and social impact work.

With over 12 years of professional dance experience, Niamey has performed across the U.S. and Puerto Rico and has been a member of esteemed performance teams including the **WNBA Phoenix Mercury Hip-Hop Squad**, **Anomalous Dance Crew**, and **Arizona Raw Talent**. Her creative energy is expansive—choreographing, curating, and directing performances and platforms such as *The Show*, *Artists for Change Vol. 1–3*, *#LYRillestsessions*, and *LYR 2021 Playlist Vibes*.

As the **Founder of Artists for Change**, she leads a visionary artist development program focused on community arts advocacy and creative networking. Niamey currently serves as **Adjunct Faculty at Grand Canyon University (GCU)** and is the **Director of The Realist Crew (TRC)**—continuing to inspire emerging artists with her powerful blend of authenticity, leadership, and purpose-driven artistry.

Instagram: @nniamey



Choreographer: Sahvanna "ShakT" Thompson

Work Title: "Resurrection"

Sahvanna "ShakT" Thompson is a choreographer, creator, healer, storyteller, and lifelong student of the art of movement. Originally from Anchorage, Alaska, ShakT began her dance journey at the age of 11 and has spent the past 15 years refining her craft across a wide range of styles and communities. In 2017, she relocated to Phoenix to pursue her passion professionally, earning a **Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance Education** from **Arizona State University** in 2021.

ShakT's journey is marked by dedication to both personal evolution and collective empowerment. She has been a part of numerous Arizona-based companies, crews, and projects, including **The Be Kind People Project**, where she engaged youth through dance and service. She has trained and competed with **The Jukebox Family**, performed with **Stilo Dance Company**, and traveled nationally and internationally—representing the Arizona scene at events such as **Rennie Harris's Illadelph Festival** in Philadelphia and **Juste Debout** in Paris.

Her presence in the Phoenix battle scene has been both powerful and persistent—earning wins and recognition in popping, breaking, krump, and open style formats. In 2023, she claimed her first 7-to-Smoke victory at **Motion Cloud Vol. 2** in her hometown, and by 2024, secured her first Arizona win at **Nasii's First Friday Qualifier**.

ShakT's choreography speaks from the soul. Her senior thesis work, *self0ve*, was selected for the **ACDA Gala** in 2021, and she continues to create impactful works for high schools and colleges across the state. Her recent piece *sacr3d.k!n* was performed by **Verve Dance Company** at ACDA 2024 in Austin, and her upcoming work *Away.k!n* will be showcased in Wyoming in 2025.

Now in her second year as an adjunct faculty teaching Hip Hop at **Glendale Community College**, ShakT continues to nurture the next generation of movers with vision and care. Her ultimate goal is to launch her own company and open a dance studio space rooted in authenticity, healing, and community connection.

Through all she creates, ShakT remains devoted to growth—not only as a choreographer and educator, but as a vessel for knowledge-sharing, storytelling, and transformation.

Instagram: @sacr3dshakt



Choreographers: Kayley Thompson & Sky Bleeker

Work Title: “Americano”

Kayley Thompson is a seasoned dancer, choreographer, and storyteller who has been immersed in the world of movement since the age of five. She spent 13 formative years training at **Royal Dance Works**, developing a strong technical foundation in ballet, tap, jazz, modern, contemporary, hip hop, and musical theatre. Her artistry has been shaped by studying under some of the most respected choreographers in the country, including **Mia Michaels, Justin Giles, Doug Caldwell, Jackie Sleight, and Sasha Mallory**, among many

others.

Kayley holds dual Associate degrees in Arts and Fine Arts–Dance from **Glendale Community College (GCC)** and earned a **BFA in Dance Education** from **Grand Canyon University** in 2015. Her choreographic works have garnered multiple accolades, including 1st through 3rd place finishes and honorable mentions at MCC’s **Artist of Promise** competition. Her work has been showcased across Arizona at events such as **American Voices, Nascar Championship Weekend, Phoenix Mercury’s Pre-game Show (2024), Third Space Dance Project, and Chandler Center for the Arts.**

In 2016, Kayley founded **ClassicalFusionDance**—a company inspired by a deep love for cinematic and vintage influences, fused with a modern sensibility. She continues to teach, choreograph, act, and create across multiple disciplines, always seeking to bring stories to life through movement.

Sky Bleeker began his dance journey at the age of seven as a competitive dancer in **Albuquerque, New Mexico**, training in a wide array of styles including jazz, ballet, modern, hip hop, tap, acrobatics, contemporary, and ballroom. A natural performer with a strong stage presence, Sky has recently begun carving his own path as a choreographer. He is currently teaching and choreographing under the **Arizona Baddies Factory**, performing with **Visionaries X**, and stepping into the world of drag performance at local venues. Sky is also a proud company member of **ClassicalFusionDance**, where his versatility, charisma, and curiosity continue to flourish.

Together, Kayley and Sky bring a dynamic blend of experience, experimentation, and expressive storytelling to the stage—celebrating individuality while creating work that honors both tradition and innovation.

Instagrams: @jerrylevitch @classicalfusiondancecompany @the_skyexperience



Choreographer: Tristen Young

Work Title: “Good Morning Gorgeous”

Tristen Young is a Phoenix-based performing artist and choreographer with over 15 years of experience gracing stages, battling in freestyle circles, and competing at elite dance events around the world. Her love for dance began at the age of eight in a local gymnastics center's Hip Hop class, where she first discovered the joy of rhythm, movement, and community. That spark has since grown into a powerful, lifelong journey of cultural connection and artistic expression.

Rooted in the traditions of **Black American street and Hip Hop dance culture**, Tristen has trained extensively in styles such as **House, W*acking/Punking, Hip-Hop Freestyle, and Popping**. She is a long-standing member of the **Jukebox Grounds Dance Studio** and a devoted student and performer with **Jukebox Family**, having danced with the company for over 11 years.

Tristen's impressive performance and competition history includes appearances at **Vancouver Street Dance Festival (2024), Hip Hop International, World of Dance, Thesis Dance Event, and Dancer's Paradise**, among others. A fierce competitor in the freestyle battle scene, she has claimed multiple titles across Arizona and was recently featured as a battle guest at **Footwork Frenzy 2024**, sponsored by the renowned **Creation Global**.

As she expands her voice into choreographic storytelling, Tristen's creative process is deeply intentional—focusing on **healing, self-confidence, identity exploration, and unfiltered self-expression**. Her work reflects the inner landscapes of womanhood and how those narratives intersect with interpersonal relationships and cultural belonging. In 2024, she showcased new choreography at a **Northern Arizona University** performance and directed a music video for Arizona-based music artist **Josh Caballes**.

A recent recipient of the **2024 Artist Opportunity Grant** from the **Arizona Commission on the Arts**, Tristen continues to break ground as both a performer and creator—dedicated to uplifting herself and her community through dance.

Instagram: @tristen_leeyoung
