



A Tribute to

THEA NERISSA BARNES

12th August 2019 | 2:30 PM | The Lyceum Theatre, London



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Thea Nerissa Barnes

Thea Nerissa Barnes was a dancer, choreographer, teacher, and researcher who left an indelible mark on the international dance community. Born in Columbus, Georgia and raised on Chicago's South Side, Ms. Barnes was driven by her unshakeable desire to dance from an early age. She studied a range of techniques in Chicago with noted practitioners including Richard Arve, Larry Long, Bentley Stone, Walter Camryn, and Arnell Pugh. Her professional dance career started in Chicago with The Julian Swain Inner City Dance Theatre (JSICDT). With JSICDT, Barnes first performed Fanga – the Liberian welcome dance that she devoted the final years of her life to researching.

Ms. Barnes trained with the best. She left Chicago to study with Arthur Mitchell's Dance Theatre of Harlem. In New York, she also trained with Igor Schwezoff and DanceAfrica founder Chuck Davis. A disciplined, physically and emotionally expressive dancer with a love for technique and attention to its detail, she joined the historic Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre. She later joined the legendary Martha Graham Dance Company where she became a principal dancer and soloist for whom Graham choreographed the critically-acclaimed work *Song*.

Ms. Barnes was a soloist and guest performer with esteemed American companies including Joseph Holmes Dance Theatre, Fred Benjamin Dance Company, and Alfred Gallman's Newark Dance Theatre (GNDT). She also performed in Broadway, film, and television productions, and staged productions for her own company, Dancer's Eye, Inc.

In England Ms. Barnes taught Graham Technique at Northern School of Contemporary Dance, Urdang Academy, and Laban Centre. She became the Artistic Director of Phoenix Dance Theatre (Phoenix), and in 2001, she accepted the role of Resident Dance Supervisor for Disney's West End production of *The Lion King* musical – a role she held until 2018.

From the start of her remarkable dance career to her roles as teacher, mentor, and researcher, Ms. Barnes demonstrated an uncompromising commitment to excellence. She was a bold, gifted, and spiritually-connected black artist who selflessly nourished the careers of others. A brilliant woman of grace and integrity, she impacted many lives with her talent, passion, and humanity. Ms. Barnes leaves a legacy that will continue to inspire dancers, artists, researchers, and more for generations to come.





Program

Pre-show

Thea Barnes Photo Tribute
"Temptations of the Moon" Film of Martha Graham Dance Company

Start of show

"Portrait" Performance by Thea Nerissa Barnes
Welcome. Akosua Boakye BEM and David Blake
"Freedom" Urdang Academy
"Fanga" Extract. Dr. 'H' Patten & Yassmin V. Foster
"Home" Matt Henry MBE & Rachel John
"Forecast" Laban presents Poppy Sexton and Collaborators
"Trails of Ado: Kokuma's Cultural Self Defence" Geoffrey Berrisford &
Tia-Monique Uzor
Contribution from Phoenix Dance Theatre..... Dr. Sharon Watson
"We Were Always Welcome" Tavaziva
Contribution from the Barnes Family..... Cheryl Barnes
Introduction of Germaine Acogny.... Tanusree Shankar
"Interior Dance / Prayer" Germaine Acogny
"Still I Rise" Cast members of Disney's *The Lion King*, UK
Contribution from..... Zara Bartels
Contribution from..... Aubrey Lynch II
Contribution from..... Garth Fagan
Thea Barnes Legacy Fund. Akosua Boakye BEM & Duane Cyrus
Expressions of West Africa AkomaAsa Performing Arts Academy

Pre-show

Thea Barnes Photo Tribute

Music: "Wild and Peaceful" by Incognito; "Take Me Higher" by Soul II Soul

Video: Kamilah Cummings | **Photos:** Courtesy of the Barnes family

"Temptations of the Moon" (1986)

Company name: Martha Graham Dance Company

Description: "She had a way of seeing and knowing what my capabilities were even when I had lost all connection with what I could be." - Thea Barnes on Martha Graham

Choreography by: Martha Graham

Music: Béla Bartók [Suite for Dance used by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes Inc., publisher and copyright owner]

Start of show

Portrait (1983)

Company name: Dancer's Eye

Description: This piece was dedicated to our grandmother "Nana," who nurtured Thea's diligent pursuit of dance as an art form." - Cheryl Barnes

Choreography by: Thea Nerissa Barnes

Poetry: Jayne Cortez and Chirlane McCray

Music: Piano solo by Douglas Corbin



Welcome Address

Hosts: Akosua Boakye BEM and David Blake



AKOSUA BOAKYE BEM

Akosua Boakye BEM, Founder of AkomaAsa Performing Arts Academy, Children's Casting Coordinator for Disney's West End musical *The Lion King*, Dance Lecturer and PhD researcher at Canterbury Christ Church University. Akosua has developed an extensive portfolio career as a dance practitioner working in primary and secondary schools, Further and Higher education institutions and community sector. AkomaAsa Performing Arts Academy (APAA) amalgamates Western and African diasporic performing arts training for children and young people. Akosua plays a key role in developing young talent for careers in dance and the performing arts industry in Britain. She is also the organizer of A Tribute to Thea Barnes and the Thea Barnes Legacy Fund where she serves on the executive committee.

DAVID BLAKE

David Blake is an international performer, instructor and choreographer with more than 20 years experience in the entertainment industry appearing in commercials, TV shows, film and print. He received his performing arts training through the Cathy Levy Performing Arts Academy, California State University and the Alvin Ailey American Dance School. He is a certified Lester Horton Technique Instructor, a fellow of the International Dance Teachers' Association (IDTA) and holds a MA in Arts Administration and Cultural Policy from the University of London, Goldsmiths. Currently he is performing in Disney's award winning musical *The Lion King* currently playing the role of 'Banzai'.





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"Freedom"

Company name: Urdang Academy

Description: "Freedom is something people take, and people are as free as they want to be." - Martin Luther King Jr.

Choreography by: Nathan "Neo" Gordon

Music: "Freedom" by Beyoncé featuring Kendrick Lamar

Performers: Honey Joseph, Kira McPhearson, Emma Farman, Kenedy Small, Dammi Aregbeshola, Richard Appiah-Sarpong, Mervin Noronha, Lewis Newton, Andile Mabhena, Tendai Chitate, Rhys Wilkinson, Jordan Hughes-Harvey, David Heal and Dylan Jones

URDANG ACADEMY

Urdang educates and trains young performers from 16 and up in Musical Theatre and Dance to become strong, disciplined and confident performers. Urdang boasts a modern outlook, dynamic atmosphere and inspiring backdrop, making the Academy an energising and contemporary place to study.



NEO GORDON

Nathan "NEO" Gordon is a highly respected choreographer & dancer in the UK & abroad. With his precise, innovative and dynamic choreography, NEO has travelled worldwide to teach, choreograph & perform for over 2 decades. He currently resides at the Urdang Academy and is the new Dance Industry and Outreach Manager. Credits include: Flawless, StreetDance 1 & 2, X Factor, BGT and Kylie Minogue.

"Fanga"

Description: Extracts from Thea Barnes' research work "Fanga: Dance of Welcome." Ms. Barnes first performed Fanga in the early 1970s as a member of The Julian Swain Inner City Dance Theatre in Chicago. She dedicated the final years of her life to researching its history.

Readers: Dr. H Patten & Yassmin V. Foster

DR. 'H' PATTEN

Dr. 'H' Patten is Artistic Director of Koromanti Arts and 'H' Patten Dance Theatre Co. A choreographer, filmmaker, storyteller, author and performer, his international reputation spans 35 years in African and Caribbean arts and has won him several awards including the Jamaican High Commission 50th Anniversary Award for services in the field of Arts, Culture and Entertainment (2012).



Photo by Everton Wright



YASSMIN V. FOSTER

Yassmin V. Foster is a Lecturer in Dance Practices at Middlesex University. She is also a Stuart Hall Foundation PhD Fellow at Goldsmiths University. Her research, which she has presented across the UK, and in the US, investigates movement and its implicit relationship to sound within the context of play, ritual and dance.



"Home"

Description: Song from the musical "The Wiz." Thea Barnes performed in the film and Broadway productions of "The Wiz."

Music: "Home" written by Charlie Smalls

Performers: Matt Henry MBE and Rachel John

MATT HENRY MBE

Award-winning West End actor, Matt Henry MBE is a man impossible to ignore. Awarded an MBE for his work in Musical Theatre, Grammy nominated for his solo performance on The London Kinky Boots cast recording and Winner of The Laurence Olivier Award for Best Actor in a Musical for Lola in Kinky Boots.



RACHEL JOHN

Rachel John has been a West End performer for over 13 years and made her debut in *The Lion King* at The Lyceum Theatre in 2005. She has had the privilege of being in shows such as *Sister Act*, *We Will Rock You*, *Memphis* and most recently *Hamilton*, in which she was nominated for an Olivier Award. She continues to perform and is a keen singer-songwriter.

"Forecast"

Company name: Trinity Laban presents Poppy Sexton and Collaborators

Description: Sustained concentration, boredom and stress – the three emotional states which provoke fidgeting. Filming the dancers in situations designed to replicate these sensations inspired all of the movement you are about to see.

Choreography by: Poppy Sexton

Performers: Matthew Shelton, Patrick Webster

TRINITY LABAN CONSERVATOIRE OF MUSIC & DANCE

Trinity Laban is a unique partnership in music, dance and musical theatre that is redefining the conservatoire of the 21st century. Our mission: to advance the art forms of music and dance by bringing together artists to train, collaborate, research and perform in an environment of creative and technical excellence.

From <https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/>



"Trails of Ado: Kokuma's Cultural Self-Defence"

Description: Extracts from "Trails of Ado: Kokuma's Cultural Self Defence," Thea Barnes' contribution to the book *Narratives in Black British Dance: Embodied Practices* edited by Dr. Adesola Akinleye.

Author: Thea Nerissa Barnes

Readers: Tia-Monique Uzor & Geoffrey Berrisford



TIA-MONIQUE UZOR

Tia-Monique Uzor is an AHRC and Midlands3cities Doctoral Training Partnership candidate based at De Montfort University, where she also lectures part-time. She writes and publishes around issues of identity, cultural traffic, popular dance and sexuality within African and African Diasporic Dance.

GEOFFREY BERRISFORD

Geoff Berrisford, age 14, is an actor, singer, dancer and musician, and has performed professionally since the age of 7 in: Theatre: ("A Dream Across The Ocean": 2012, 2013, "Lion King": 2014 -2016) Music Videos: (e.g.: MorMor-"Outside")TV: guest starring in several episodes of BBC's "The Dumping Ground."



Contribution from Phoenix Dance Theatre

Speaker: Dr. Sharon Watson- Artistic Director

DR. SHARON WATSON

Phoenix Dance Theatre is the UK's longest standing contemporary dance company outside London. Since the Company's small beginnings in 1981, founded by three black British men, it has grown to be a key Northern forerunner in contemporary dance and for 37 years has performed across the globe educating and inspiring diverse audiences through dance.

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"We Were Always Welcome"

Company name: Tavaziva

Description: Thea Barnes was Bawren Tavaziva's Artistic Director at Phoenix Dance when he was a dancer with the company between 2000 and 2002. We Were Always Welcome is a moving sculpture in celebration of Thea's life and has been created for this tribute.

Choreography by: Bawren Tavaziva

Music: "We Were Always Welcome" By Bawren Tavaziva

Performers: Anastasia Kontopidi and Ihsaan de Banya



BAWREN TAVAZIVA

At the age of 12 in a rural village in Zimbabwe Bawren attended an outreach project with the National Ballet of Zimbabwe which led to a life-long passion for dance.

After touring Africa with Tumbuka Bawren came to England to join Phoenix where his relationship with Thea began and led him to find his own voice and company; Tavaziva Dance.

Today as Artistic Director of Tavaziva Dance, Bawren dedicates this piece to his mentor and friend.

Contribution from the Barnes Family

Speaker: Cheryl Barnes

Description: Thea shared an unbreakable bond with her sister Cheryl and her family in Chicago. No matter where her career took her, she remained connected to home. She was deeply loved and cherished, and the Barnes family is grateful for the support and acknowledgements from the many artists and people whose lives she touched.

CHERYL BARNES

Cheryl Barnes is a professional dancer, choreographer and teacher. She has performed extensively across the United States in a full spectrum of dance forms from traditional African to modern to Russian classical ballet. As a soloist for Boitsov Classical Ballet Company for 11 years, she danced many featured roles including Pas de Deux from the "Wedding Scene" in the ballet Don Quixote, "Bluebird" Pas de Deux from the ballet Sleeping Beauty, "Nocturne," "Waltz", and "Mazurka" from the ballet Les Sylphides, "Kitri's" Variations from the ballet Don Quixote, and the leading role of the "Witch" in Mme. Boitsov's original ballet Hansel and Gretel.



She has trained and graduated students from the Boitsov Classical Ballet School utilizing Vaganova-Tarasov Technique. She holds a continuing faculty position with the Westside Theater Guild where she teaches Russian Ballet, Broadway, Contemporary and Classical Jazz, African and Contemporary Modern.

Ms. Barnes is a company member, choreographer, and ballet mistress for Najwa Dance Corps, which is a living legacy of traditional African and the African American dance experience.

Introduction of Germaine Acogny

Speaker: Tanusree Shankar

TANUSREE SHANKAR

Tanusree Shankar is one of the leading dancers and choreographers of contemporary dance in India. She earned her fame as the leading dancer of the Ananda Shankar Centre for Performing Arts in the 1970s and 1980s. Shankar now leads the Tanusree Shankar Dance Company, one of the leading exponents of contemporary dance forms in India. She has evolved her own modern idiom by marrying the grace and beauty of traditional Indian dances with the soul of modern western ballet expressions.

Edited from https://www.indiaforums.com/person/tanusree-shankar_1580/biography



"Interior Dance/Prayer..."

Performer: Germaine Acogny

Description: Danced prayer

Choreography by: Germaine Acogny

Music: "Interior Dance" by The All-American Rejects



GERMAINE ACOGNY

Dancer, choreographer, teacher, and founder of the Ecole des Sables, Germaine Acogny is one of the best known personalities of the contemporary African dance scene, especially in the field of teaching and development. Between 1977 and 1982, Ms Acogny was artistic director of the emblematic MUDRA AFRIQUE School of the Performing Arts created by Maurice Bejart and the Senegalese president and poet Leopold Sedar Senghor in Dakar. Ever since, she dances, choreographs and teaches all over the world. Ms. Acogny has

created her very own technique of Modern African Dance. Her solos are performed all over the world. In 1996, she decided to put all her energy and experience at the disposal of young African dancers and African choreographers and, with her husband, Helmut Vogt, created Ecole des Sables Centre for Education and Creation in Traditional And Contemporary African Dances, which was officially inaugurated in 2004.

From <http://ecoledessables.org/en/lecole/presentation/lequipe/>

"Still I Rise"

Company name: Disney's *The Lion King, UK* cast members

Description: This piece was created specifically for Thea. It is the celebration of a legend. Her strength, resilience, grace and legacy will live on.

Choreography by: David Blake and Ingrid McKennon

Music: "Still I Rise" by Clement Ishmael

Poem: "Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou

Performers: David Blake, Francisco (Chico) De Souza Lins, Etian Almeida, Lamo Hedrington, Mitch Leow, Darcel Osei, Crystal Nicholls, Stephanie Lo, Lila Anderson, Deborah Godchaser, Nonhlanhla Makhathini, Rutendo Mushonga, Tramaine Lamy, Azola Dlamini, Poseletso Sejosingoe-Mandela, Keitumetse Molea, Nosipho Nkonqa, Joanna Francis, Enyonam Gbesmete, Danielle Akosa, Carol Stennette, Karlene Wray, Kuan Frye, Nicholas Afoa, Sandile Gontsana, Thanduxolo Boozi, Dominique Planter and Tracey Cohen

DISNEY'S *THE LION KING, UK*

Walt Disney's long-running and multi-award winning musical *The Lion King, UK* continues to delight audiences in London's West End. After opening on Broadway in 1997, the show has gone on to be the most successful piece of entertainment in history, mounting numerous world-wide productions including the original London production at the Lyceum Theatre in the heart of the West End.

From <https://www.londontheatre.co.uk/show/the-lion-king>



Photo by Johann Persson





INGRID MACKINNON

Ingrid Mackinnon is a London based movement director, choreographer, teacher and dancer. Movement direction credits include *Typical* at Nouveau Riche/ Soho Theatre, *#WeAreArrested* at Royal Shakespeare Company, *#DR@CULA!* at Royal Central School of Speech & Drama, *Kingdom Come* at Royal Shakespeare Company, *Fantastic Mr. Fox* (associate) at Nuffield Southampton and National/International tour. Choreography and rehearsal direction credits include *The Headwrap Diaries*, *Our Mighty Groove* and *Hansel and Gretel* for Uchenna Dance, *Boy Breaking Glass* for Vocab

Dance/Alesandra Seutin and Imoinda. Ingrid holds an MA in Movement: Directing & Teaching from Royal Central School of Speech and Drama. Her performance credits include Dallas Black Dance Theater, Tavaziva Dance, Disney's *The Lion King* (West End), Royal Opera House, English National Opera, Green Candle Dance Company and Uchenna Dance.

Contribution from Zara Bartels

Speaker: Zara Bartels

ZARA BARTELS

Zara Bartels studied at the Ailey School in the inaugural class of The Fordham/Ailey BFA pro-gram where she learned from Thea's peers and learned about Thea in Dance History. Ms. Bartels has graced stages as a concert stage dancer, performing work by world-renowned chore-ographers including Alvin Ailey, Judith Jamison, Igal Perry and Kazuko Hirabayashi.

Although Ms. Bartels retired from the stage to start a new career building and developing startup tech companies and now improving efficiencies at a city law firm, dance is her first love and Thea will always be part of that. According to Ms. Bartels, "my favourite 10 years of my life were spent learning and sharing with Thea, all day every day, as her Dance Captain in *The Lion King*."

Edited from <https://www.theaileyschool.edu/ailey-school/zara-bartels>



|| I was given an opportunity to build a department in a company that would draw on my knowledge as a dance teacher, choreographer, artistic director and dance research in a challenging and innovative manner. ||

- Thea Barnes, "In Charge of the Pride," *HotFoot Magazine* 2017

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Contribution from Aubrey Lynch

Speaker: Aubrey Lynch II

AUBREY LYNCH II

From Woodhaven, Michigan, he was one of the last dancers chosen by Alvin Ailey before his death for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and then was an original cast member of the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical, Disney's *The Lion King* acting as the production's associate choreographer and then associate producer. Mr. Lynch works with artists all over the world coaching, teaching, and leading workshops including Steps on Broadway and The Ailey School. He has co-designed and co-led workshops and programs for the NYC Department of Education, Theater Development Fund, and has mentored for Young Arts Week. Aubrey has personally coached students with professional ambitions, eleven of which have gone on to play lead roles on Broadway, film and television including Caleb McLaughlin of Netflix's *Stranger Things*, Aubrey Joseph of ABC's *Cloak and Dagger* and Shahadi Wright Joseph from the movie, *Us*. Now as Director of HSA Dance at the prestigious Harlem School of the Arts, a program serving 350 plus kids ages 2-17, Aubrey is diversifying the arts providing opportunities for children and adults to attain their highest level of excellence through artistic expression and commitment.



Contribution from Garth Fagan

GARTH FAGAN

Garth Fagan is a legendary dancer, choreographer, educator, and founder of Garth Fagan Dance. He is known around the world for his groundbreaking choreography of Broadway's *The Lion King*. He is widely acknowledged as one of the most dynamic and original artists working in the field today. His works have been performed by Alvin Ailey American Dance, Dance Theatre of Harlem, the Limón Dance Company and New York City Ballet among the other leading companies. Mr. Fagan was born in Jamaica, West Indies where he began performing with Ivy Baxter's Jamaican National Dance Company. In the United States, he studied with Alvin Ailey, Martha Graham, Mary Hinkson and José Limon, and performed with Pearl Primus and Lavana Williams in New York. He developed the Fagan Technique™ - a unique and evolving vocabulary, which fuses the weight of modern dance, the vitality of Afro-Caribbean movement, and the speed and precision of ballet with the risk-taking experimentation of post modernism. Critics have hailed Garth Fagan as "a trail blazer," "a wizard," and "one of the great reformers of modern dance."



Edited from <https://www.garthfagandance.org/garth-fagan>

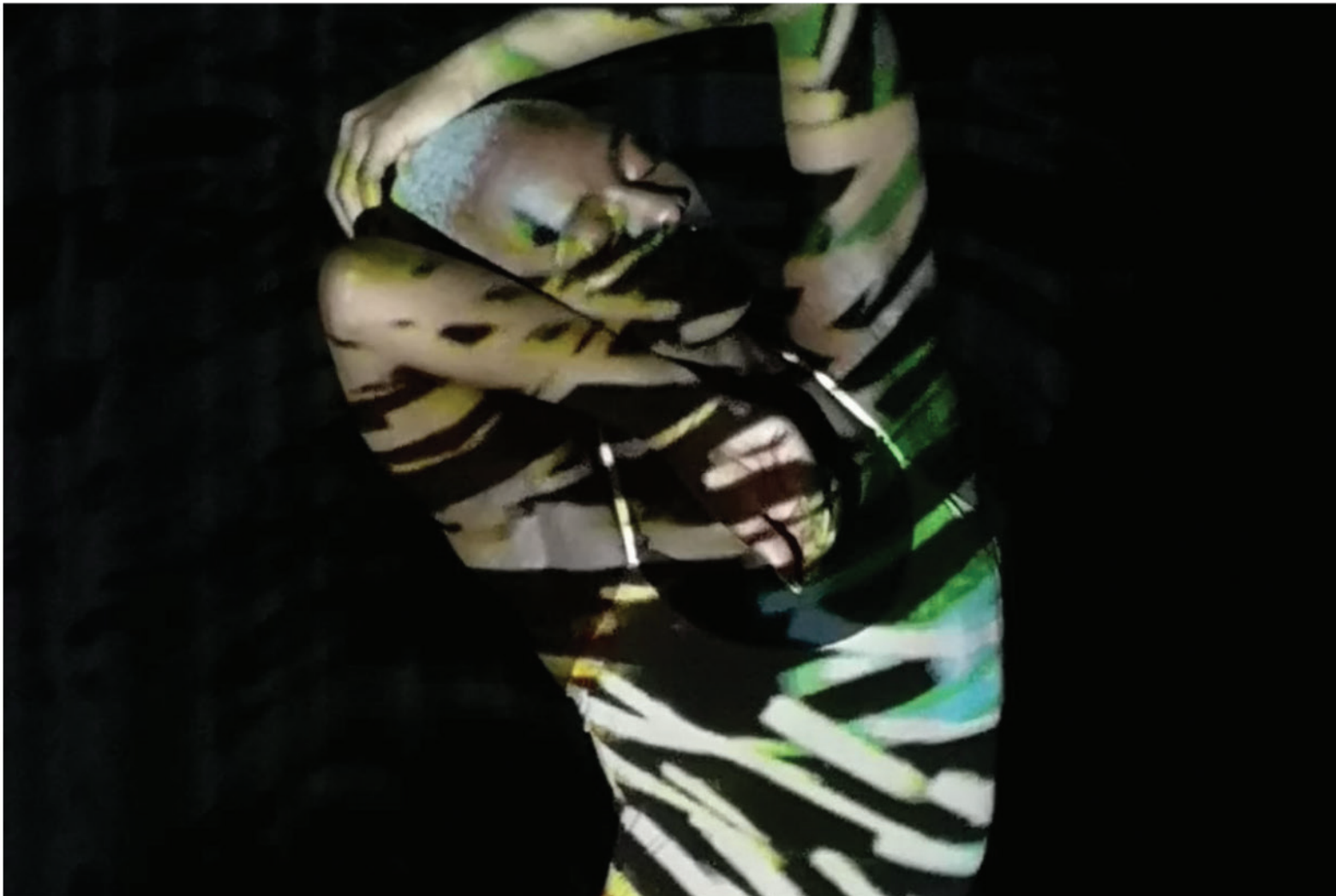
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The Thea Barnes Legacy Fund

Speakers: Akosua Boakye BEM & Duane Cyrus

Description: The Thea Barnes Legacy Fund has been created to honor Thea by continuing her legacy of supporting dancers, choreographers, and researchers.

DUANE CYRUS

Duane Cyrus (Bronx, NY) is Professor of Dance at University of North Carolina—Greensboro. Artistic Director of Theatre of Movement. Performed with Alvin Ailey, Martha Graham, The Lion King (original London cast). Co-author of *Vital Grace: The Black Male Dancer*. Graduate of the Juilliard School (BFA), University of Illinois (MFA). Recipient of Princess Grace Foundation Award, Coleman Entrepreneurship Fellow, and a two-time NC Arts Council's Choreographer Fellowship. He is a 2018 Bessie Award Nominee for his performance in Cynthia Oliver's *Virago Man-Dem*.



www.theatreofmovement.org

|| I learned from Thea that being an artist is not about what you can get—it is about giving to others. Thea built value for others by being an uncompromising agent for excellence. ||

- Duane Cyrus



Overview

The Thea Barnes Legacy Fund (TBLF) is a donor supported independent fund established in 2019 and launched on 12 August 2019 to support individuals in creative areas that reflect Thea's interest in arts and academia.

Objectives:

To support individuals through bursary funding and/or mentoring. The fund aims to support those who fall within the specified areas of dance, performing arts and academia. The TBLF will award small bursaries (approx £500 to £2,000) every two years.

Executive team:

Cheryl Barnes, Akosua Boakye BEM,
Kamilah Cummings, Dr. Adesola Akinleye



Photo by Johann Persson

Who can apply:

Those seeking formal and informal education to further artistic practice or make a career transition across the arts and creative industries. Applicants must be over 18. There is no upper age limit.

How to apply:

Applications will be accepted online only via the TBLF website:

<https://www.theabarneslegacyfund.com/>

Beneficiaries:

Artists and scholars in the arts and creative Industries (e.g. dancers, performing artists, choreographers, researchers). Bursaries and mentoring are expected to help sustain, deliver and guide.

There are three strands under which people can apply:

Dance & Performing Arts

Academic researchers in arts and creative industries

Mentoring Guidance for those in arts and creative industries

Applicants must be at least 18 years old at the time of application.

Where to find more information:

Full details about the fund can be found on the TBLF website along with application guidelines and form at **www.theabarneslegacyfund.com**

Correspondence: info@theabarneslegacyfund.com



Photo by Johann Persson

Donate @ www.theabarneslegacyfund.com

"Expressions of West Africa"

Company Name: AkomaAsa Performing Arts Academy

Description: The performers connect with expressions of West African culture; trilogy through music, song and dance. The dance technique draws its vocabulary from various countries within West Africa with strong influences from Guinea and Ghana. The performers sing and play combined Djembe and Dun-dun rhythms.

Choreography by: Akosua Boakye BEM

Music: Composition by Mohamed Gueye

Performers: Adejah Samuel, Aisha Barry, Aiyana Mason, Antoinette Owusu Boachie, Arianne Mulinda, Charles James, Daniel Cort, Kaiya Ashitay, Khallilah Ismaiel, Letta Owusu Boachie, Nataiya Gardner, Ndeye-Coura Ndiaye, Quincy Miller-Cole, Raphael Estavia, Ruquaya Mason, Sala Quaynor, Sara Doyle, Tara-Binta Collins, Ziana Olarewaju, Moses Koramoa, Andrea Abeena Bennett, Mohamed Gueye, Christina McClean

AKOMAASA

Launched by Akosua Boakye BEM in 2012, APAA works with industry professionals to provide access to mainstream creative industry opportunities for young people aged 7 to 18 years old. Using an amalgamation of Western and African Diasporic performing arts, APAA aims to create pathways within the community and transform the lives of young people. We have a particular interest in attracting those who would not normally engage in musical theatre, plays, dance and music making.

APAA trains and disciplines young people in drumming/percussion, dancing, acting, singing, musical theatre, performances, and arts & crafts activities. Our teachers believe that the performing arts disciplines are an essential part of inspiring young people do great things in life. Our work supports and guides young people to become socially, academically, culturally and artistically knowledgeable. APAA works closely with parents to provide a path that enables young people from all social and cultural backgrounds to build greater confidence in themselves and what they do.

Our process encourages young people to commit to learning and self-empowerment. By equipping them with the recognised social skills, we aim to remove barriers to participation. We develop their intellectual capacity through: focused training, instilling a commitment to practice, compliance to discipline- all whilst having fun!

APAA prides itself in developing the next generation of artists for an ever-changing creative industry.

<https://www.akomaasa.com>

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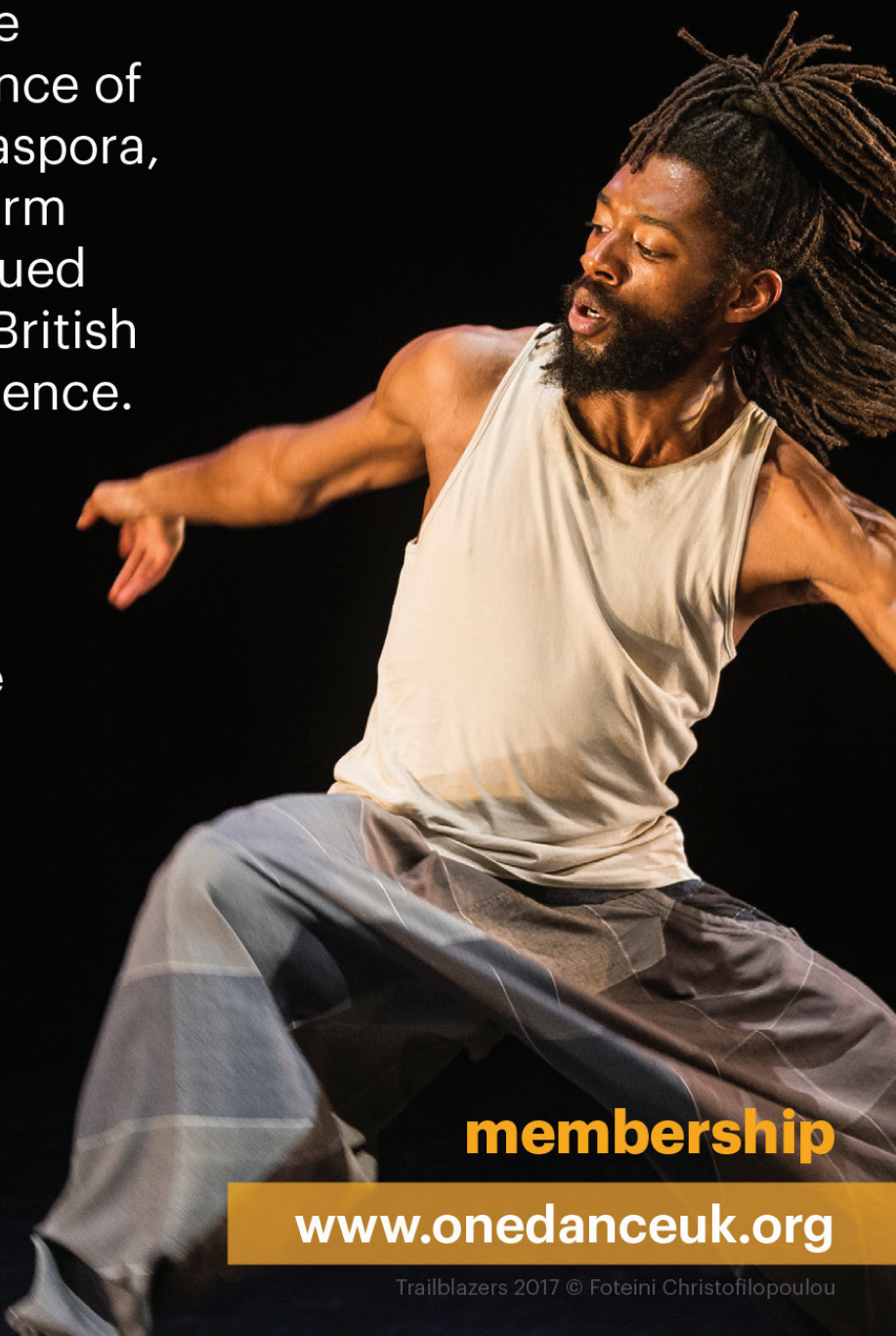
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Thank You

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Adesola Akinleye
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BEM
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Aubrey Lynch II
Bawren Tavaziva
Brian Holingsworth
Celise Hicks
Cheryl Barnes
Christopher
Rodriguez
Christy Adair

Clement Ishmael
Darcel Osei
David Blake
David Curl
Diane McLean
Duane Cyrus
Eliass Arfal
Andrew Fisher
Francisco (Chico)
De Souza Lins
Gemma Hardiker
Germaine Acogny
Heather Benson
Janet Taylor

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Martha Graham
Dance Company

The Barnes and Cummings family and friends extend our sincere thanks to all the performers, contributors, Richard Oriel and the Disney Theatrical Production Team, and One Dance UK for sharing your talent and time to make this legacy tribute a special reality. We are deeply grateful to all the individuals, institutions and companies that have directly and indirectly supported not only this tribute but Thea, our family, and the Thea Barnes Legacy Fund. Words fail to fully express the depth of our gratitude. We truly appreciate you all. Thank you!



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Photos of Thea courtesy of Cheryl Barnes, except
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