

## The Dance Complex Presents Its 2019 I-ARE Artists



**Cambridge, MA- January 15th 2018:** On April 12th and 13th, 2019, The Dance Complex's 2018-2019 I-ARE Artists will culminate their six month residencies with informal showings in the Julie Ince Thompson Theater. Through the winter and into the spring, The Dance Complex's I-ARE Artists, DeAnna Pellecchia and Karen Krolak, have deeply explored their own unique artistic processes, changing patterns and taking risks, and are now prepared to share their work with the community.

DeAnna Pellecchia, KAIROS Dance Theater's Artistic Director/ Choreographer, uses rich, visual imagery to craft emotionally powerful performance pieces that take audiences on a visceral journey. In pursuit of creating engaging, sensory work, she brings together artists from all disciplines — musicians, composers, visual artists, digital media designers, photographers, film artists, lighting designers, and fashion designers — to collaborate on expressing ideas in innovative ways. On April 12th, Pellecchia will present *MINISTRY of ♀*. The work shines a light on the damaging effects of stereotypes and feminine objectification, and the complexities of the feminine identity. It also provides a platform for further conversation about the stereotypes we all experience.

Karen Krolak is a self-proclaimed curator of experiences and a free range collaborator based in Boston, MA. Since 2000, she has been the co-founder/Artistic Director of Monkeyhouse, an award winning nonprofit that connects communities with choreography. During her I-ARE residency at the Dance Complex, Karen Krolak has delved into the daunting terrain of illustrating entries in her *Dictionary of Negative Space*. Inspired by the car accident that killed her mother, father, and older brother in 2012, the *Dictionary of Negative Space* examines the lacy spaces within the English language, the vast chasms of unnamed ideas related to mourning, trauma, and repair. On April 13th, Krolak will curate an interdisciplinary concert of discussing, digressing, and dancing about loss by collaborating with choreographers, poets, storytellers, and visual artists.

In addition to their performances, Pellecchia and Krolak will lead a series of workshops at The Dance Complex:

*KAIROS Contemporary Technique Master Class* | February 3rd at 12PM

*Navigating Negative Space: Moving With Metaphors* | February 9th at 2PM

*Navigating Negative Space: Weaving in Words* | March 9th at 2PM

*Free To Be Me, You, He, She, & They* | March 10th at 11AM

\*Sponsored by Monkeyhouse

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\*Sponsored by Boston Moving Arts Productions

More information about these workshops and performances, tickets, and registration are available at [dancecomplex.org](http://dancecomplex.org).

*The mature content of both of these works is handled with care, but we recognize the subject matter may be sensitive for some. Please contact us with any questions or concerns.*

*Photo courtesy of DeAnna Pellecchia by Golden Lion Photography.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Dance Complex I-ARE Artists 2019****Karen Krolak**

Monkeyhouse, an award winning nonprofit that connects communities through choreography, has collaborated with towns throughout New England to encourage residents of all ages to move with meaning. Founded in 2000, it blossomed out of a promise to a dying mentor to build a laboratory where choreographers could create, experiment and present new work. We have mentored, nurtured and supported local, national, and international choreographers ranging from students first experimenting to established favorites. We've hosted hundreds of conversations about different creative processes and helped foster long term relationships with presenters, audience members and other choreographers. We hunger for events that bring communities together in ways that foster greater understanding between participants and form lasting relationships.

Karen Krolak is a curator of experiences and a free range collaborator based in Boston, MA. Since 2000, she has been the co-founder/Artistic Director of Monkeyhouse, an award winning nonprofit that connects communities with choreography. Her embodied explorations weave in elements of text, textiles, choreography or story telling to spark dialogues that reverberate between communities. Her idiosyncratic pieces have been presented abroad in Rome, Winnipeg, and Gimpo, nationally in New York, San Francisco, Chicago, Philadelphia, Minneapolis as well as regularly throughout New England. She earned her B.A. in Linguistics at Northwestern University and her MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts at Sierra Nevada College. Much of her recent work has centered around the theme of finding physical poetry in imperfect bodies and around mourning as she grapples with the car accident that killed her mother, father, and brother. Her ongoing project the Dictionary of Negative Space ([www.dictionaryofnegativespace.com](http://www.dictionaryofnegativespace.com)) has recently been featured in exhibitions in Nevada and Louisiana, as well as in dance collaborations with Monkeyhouse and Scott McPheeters.

**DeAnna Pellecchia**

KAIROS Dance Theater's Artistic Director / Choreographer DeAnna Pellecchia uses rich, visual imagery to craft emotionally powerful performance pieces that take audiences on a visceral journey. In pursuit of creating engaging, sensory work, she brings together artists from all disciplines — musicians, composers, visual artists, digital media designers, photographers, film artists, lighting designers, and fashion designers — to collaborate on expressing ideas in innovative ways. She has collaborated with Grammy-nominated musicians Kenny Werner and Dave Eggar; NYC music-icon, composer Johnny Reinhard; Mexican fashion designer Carla Fernández; and internationally acclaimed visual artist Shinique Smith. KAIROS' immersive, multi-disciplinary performances have been featured as a 'Critic's Pick' fifteen times by the Boston Globe; presented throughout New England, New York, France, Korea and Russia at galleries, museums, theaters, and site-specific venues including Busan Biennale (Korea), Compass Theater (Moscow), ZOU Arts Festival (France), Jazz at Lincoln Center (NYC) and Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum; and supported by Boston Dance Alliance, New England Foundation for the Arts, Boston University, Somerville Arts Council, and Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy. KAIROS has been in residence at URBANO Project, Medicine Wheel Productions, Roger Williams University, Newton County Day School, Boston Center for the Arts, and currently at The Dance Complex. DeAnna received a B.A. in Dance Performance from Roger Williams University. She currently resides on dance faculty at Boston University and Boston Ballet. She has also taught at Boston Conservatory, Mount Holyoke College, Dean College, Salem State University, Massachusetts College of Art, Concord Academy, Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, Russia's Evolution Dance Project and India's National School of Drama and the University of Calicut, among others. Her curriculum for creating collaborative performance projects with teenagers was chosen for publication in the Spring 2013 issue of the Harvard Educational Review: Expanding Our Vision for the Arts in Education.

[deannapellecchia.com](http://deannapellecchia.com) | [kairosdancetheater.org](http://kairosdancetheater.org)