

## Ten Tiny Dances®



**Cambridge, MA- August 20, 2019:** The Dance Complex season will kick off September 13 to September 15, 2019, with Ten Tiny Dances® featuring choreography by fourteen local artists, each challenged to investigate the constrictions of space and time by creating dances on a 4' by 4' platform, and performing inches away from the audience. Within the casually intimate environment of Studio 7, audiences will be immersed in the exciting and dynamic results of these challenges. The repertory of dances will rotate each night to bring a never seen before combination of dance and performance to each audience's immersive experience.

The format for Ten Tiny Dances® was created in Portland, Oregon in 2002 by founder Mike Barber, and has delighted audiences across the country bringing local and regional artists to the forefront. The limitations of space and the awkward closeness to the audience has brought innovation to the artistry of dozens of artists over the last four years at The Dance Complex. For more information about Ten Tiny Dances®, visit [tentinydances.org](http://tentinydances.org).

This year's roster of artists includes some Ten Tiny Dances® Alum, and some artists who will be featured later in The Dance Complex Performance Series. This season's Ten Tiny Dances® features: Anna Parker, Eliza Malecki & Molly Hess, Hadas Yanay & Lindsey Wagner, Janelle Gilchrist, Jessica Roseman, Kara Fili & Stephen Serwacki, Ken & Pati Cloutier featuring Yvonne & Yvette, Natalie Morton & Steven James Rodriguez-Velez performing choreography by Michelle Pearson with Black Box Dance Theatre, Rachel Linsky, and Rebecca McGowan.

Also included are Em Papineau & Sofia Engelman and Jennifer Lin, CATALYSTS resident artists at The Dance Complex this season. Michelle Pearson will be returning to The Dance Complex this fall, accompanied by Purple Heart Army Veteran, Alfredo Hurtado, of Raleigh North Carolina's Black Box Theatre to develop collaborative work with Veterans and Military personnel. For more information, visit [dancecomplex.org](http://dancecomplex.org).

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*This event will take place in our vibrant street level Studio 7, with an intimate cabaret-like setting. Beer, wine, and beverages are available for purchase. For accessibility/ADA information, please visit our website. Tickets and more information available at [dancecomplex.org](http://dancecomplex.org).*

*Photo by Michela West*

TEN TINY DANCES® 2019 Artists:

**Anna Parker** is a Boston-transplant currently living, dancing, and creating in Montreal, QC, but returning to Boston in the late summer of 2019. After 10 years of dancing, she went to Montreal to pursue her dual degree at Concordia University. She graduated with distinction in June 2017 with her BFA in Linguistics and Contemporary Dance in hand. Anna has worked for many dance organizations in Boston and Montreal including Boston Dance Alliance (BOS), Studio 303 (MTL), Danse à la Carte (MTL), TransFormation Danse (MTL), and Studio @ 550 (BOS), which have given her a sense of the communities in both cities and expanded her network of creators/movers/teachers/mentors. Anna has also created, both collaboratively and independently, more than 15 works in the last five years. She looks forward to creating and dancing independently and collaboratively in the years to come.

**Black Box Dance Theatre** was formed in 2013 from a group of artists with mutual respect and attraction to each others dancing, artistry, professionalism, and desire to make meaningful work of the highest quality.

Black Box Dancers are committed to our craft, to pushing ourselves physically, technically, artistically, and advancing the expectations and outcomes of modern dance today.

**Eliza Malecki & Molly Hess** are The Picnic Sisters who met in 2016, as Resident Artists at Bearnstow in Mt. Vernon, ME. They immediately found a kinship in their choreographic practice and the following summer created their first duet, 4k Dash. Together they create witty, upbeat, dances with a touch of tenderness. Their works have been shown as part of TRACKS//Boston (MA), Bearnstow Artist showcases (ME), 3 Spice Presents (MA), A Walking Birthday (MA), and Modern Movements Festival (RI).

**Em Papineau & Sofia Engelman** are dance artists based in New England. Em is a musician, athlete, and non practicing barista who grew up dancing to music videos by blonde pop stars and memorizing and inventing television ad jingles. Sofia is a writer, teacher, and embarrassed social media enthusiast whose first dance, at age 14, involved eating an entire heirloom tomato like an apple. Em and Sofia's first collaborative work, Where the air is light and clear, was presented at the National College Dance Festival at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Together, Em and Sofia have held artistic residencies at The Living Room (ME), Ponderosa (Germany), and School for Contemporary Dance and Thought (MA). The pair have performed iterations of their recent project, INSTANT SAVIORS (just add water), at Judson Church, FRESH Festival, EstroGenius Festival, HUT at the School for Contemporary Dance and Thought, The Dance Complex, and AS220's Providence Movement Festival.

**Hadas Yanay & Lindsey Wagner** are two participating artists in Bodywave- a collective of artists and performers who make iterative, participatory works using sound, puppetry, and movement. Hadas Yanay is a New York based movement artist. She is interested in improvisational, interactive performance as a means to process and dialogue notions of societal injustice and human well beings. Most recently, she collaborated in a dance residency at Chez Bushwick-Jonah Bokaer Arts Foundation where she explored the limits of digital self-quantification or body hacking and its effects on interoceptive awareness. Lindsey Wagner is a multidisciplinary artists, puppeteer and designer in Cambridge, MA. Her work alternates between playful and inquisitive responses to the environment and social

structures. Her latest project is a multi-operator puppet – Human Beast – whose improvised interactions and movements invite audiences to reflect on and dispel their fears in the darkness of human nature.

**Janelle Gilchrist Dance Troupe** creates dynamic contemporary ballet pieces that highlight line, form, core initiation, arm fluidity, and movement patterns. The work is grounded in strong ballet technique, but the choreography fuses ballet, modern, and jazz which gives the movement a more contemporary, modern day feel. Janelle Gilchrist, founder and choreographer, aims to create works that have meaning to them. The pieces are often based on a storyline, emotion, or idea which drives the choreography. Music is also an important component to Gilchrist's work. Therefore, she often collaborates and performs with live musicians. JGDT sometimes invites young students to perform with the Troupe. JGDT believes that the youth are our future and giving them opportunities to perform makes them more well-rounded, confident, and a potential supporter of the arts when they grow up. JGDT loves performing in festivals and community events, and enjoys presenting work that engages audience members in dance and performance. A highlight of JGDT is to educate children and adults about dance and choreography through workshops that JGDT holds at post performance talks. The company has performed at the following venues: The Strand Theatre, Green Street Studios, Mills Art Gallery, Somerville Arts Festival, Dance for World Community, The Dance Complex, and Spring Step.

**Jennifer Lin** is a classically trained performer, contemporary dancemaker and teaching artist of Euro-American and Korean descent. Raised in the mid-West, she earned a Bachelor's degree from the Boston Conservatory, trained at the Graham School and Clark Center in Manhattan, and completed a three-year Master of Fine Arts program at the University of Hawai'i Manoa. Nationally Lin has presented original work in the Hawaiian Islands at the Asia Pacific Dance Festival and Volcanoes Art Center. In New Hampshire, as Artist-in-Residence at Granite State Ballet and guest artist at the Portsmouth Arts Festival with the Mill Pond Dance Collective, Lin presented dances inspired by the poetry of Theodore Roethke, Marge Piercy, Sylvia Plath, and Adrienne Rich. In the Boston area, she has made dances for Lady BOS Productions, Pao Arts Center, Mount Auburn (A Glimpse Beyond), Dance Complex, Boston Conservatory, and Dance for World Community. In addition to ballet and modern dance idioms, Lin has studied and researched traditional Korean dance and performed and taught abroad in South Korea and China. Lin is author of *Interstitial Space*, a description of process driven choreography and creator of a visual ethnography, *Performing Korean-ness: a brief ethnography of Mary Jo Freshley also-known-as Pai Myung-sa*, which is a part of Halla Huhm Dance Collection at the University of Hawai'i Manoa. A long-time cohort of the Boston dance community and freelance dancer, Lin has performed with the Massachusetts Dance Ensemble, Boston Dance Collective, Dances by Isadora, Kineticcompany, Chortet, Chameleon, DanceArt Inc., Granite State Ballet, Daniel McCusker Dance Projects, Kairos Dance Theatre, Prometheus Elders Ensemble, and in work by Doris Humphrey, Ina Hahn, Holly Fairbanks, Heidi Latsky, and Pilobolus.

**Jessica Roseman** is a dancer/choreographer who has been collaborating improvisationally with saxophonist and composer Jorrit Dijkstra in Boston for three years. Roseman and Dijkstra dialogue with sound, rhythm, touch, weight, expression, and space to compose abstract, theatrical stories together. Their ongoing improvisational exchange *Buzz* draws as heavily upon both free improvisation practices in music and in dance, as it does on relationship dynamics and awareness. The duo practices being fully present with each other, and while at play discover new manifestations of that presence. In their trusting partnership, each artist's creative inquiry pushes the other to together expand their limits of performance. "Buzz" inherently explores the politics of our identities in space together. What does it mean for a Dutch American man and a biracial Jamaican American Jewish woman to share the stage? How do we communicate as equals?

**Kara Fili & Stephen Serwacki** are life partners who made their professional duo debut in 2018 with their creation, "A Cranial Affair" in The Dance Complex's *Tiny & Short: a drop in the bucket* program last fall. With a plethora of experiences under their belts that includes off Broadway shows, teaching dance to toddlers through seniors, filming on

ice hockey rinks and crashing Halloween parties as Thriller zombies, everyday has the potential for art making and performing. Kara has just earned her MFA in Interdisciplinary Art from Goddard College and Stephen is an eloquent celebrator of birthdays, drum builder, comedian, hockey goalie gear nerd and drummer in a rock band you've never heard of. Their love for performing and each other is known to cause tow-taps, knee-smacks and smiles.

**Ken & Pati Cloutier**, also known as Ivychum, are an electric duo sure to bring a variety of music and surprises to their audience. Performing and writing together for almost three decades, Ivy and Chum have a natural ease onstage. Their show features guitar, ukulele, vocal harmonies and percussion. Add to that, tap dancing and "Yvonne & Yvette" the finger dance champions of the world, and there is sure to be something for all to enjoy!

**Natalie Morton & Steven James Rodriguez-Velez** of Black Box Dance Theatre (Raleigh, NC) is a company with expertise in making dance relevant, inspirational, and natural for all bodies and persons. Artistic Director, Michelle Pearson, is a master facilitator. Her 20+ years of experience make her a true ambassador of creativity. She is joined by a diverse and talented group of professional dancers including combat wounded, Purple Heart Army Veteran, Alfredo Hurtado, in bringing excellent performance and movement programs into the real world. Known for their expertise in arts integration, BBDT currently is in a multi-year collaboration with research mathematician, Dr. Lidman. Funded by the National Science Foundation, this project includes the creation of math/dance laboratories and groundbreaking performance art. BBDT has been deemed S.M.E.s (subject matter experts) by the military and leads healing arts programs for the USO of NC addressing issues such as suicide prevention, leadership development, and peer support. Recently, BBDT led Cultural Democracy trips to China and Kazakhstan for the US Dept. of State. Other partners include Arts NC, Dance Complex of Boston, Center for Creative Aging, William Friday Fellowship, NCSU, and the NC Museum of Art.

**Rachel Linsky** is a Boston based choreographer, dancer, and educator who holds a B.F.A. in Dance from Elon University. Some of her past choreographic credits include: Christine Evan's "Trojan Barbie" directed by Kim Shively, "The Barnum Effect" created in collaboration with Concept XII, Boston Contemporary Dance Festival 2019 and North Carolina Dance Education Organization Conference 2018. Rachel's contemporary movement aesthetic can be described as fluid, grounded, communicative and intentional. Deriving from our instinctive and emotionally tied movements in human nature, Rachel's work seeks to share and honor stories, while building community and deepening our sense of understanding for others.

**Rebecca McGowan** performs and teaches traditional Irish dance. With a strong foundation in traditional step dancing, her dancing also draws on the musicality of older-style and sean-nós dance, the grace of soft shoe, and the joy of social dance traditions. Rebecca performs with duet partner Jackie O'Riley and Kieran Jordan Dance, and has performed at the Kennedy Center, in WGBH's "A Christmas Celtic Sojourn," and at numerous festivals in the Boston and Washington areas. Rebecca began step dancing as a child with Clare Sullivan, and later with Kieran Jordan and the Culkin School. Rebecca has been on the faculty of the Catskills Irish Arts Week, Pinewoods Camp, and CCE MAD Week, and teaches non-competitive step dancing for children and adults. [www.rebeccamcgowandance.com](http://www.rebeccamcgowandance.com)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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