

Artistic Director: Robert Mckee Artistic Associate: Kesha Milenkovic

Summer Intensive Director: Hannah Eicherl

Youth Performance Company Director: Robert Mckee

Program Director: Mitchell Haley

Company Ensemble: Claire Calloway, Sara Ekern, Carmen Gorsuch, Kelly Kosiek and

Josephine Starr

# **About Inaside Chicago Dance:**

Inaside Chicago Dance advances innovative artistry through choreography, performances, and educational programs to heighten the state of the art in the Midwest. The vision of Inaside Chicago Dance is to enrich the art form of dance by nurturing the dancer as a performer, choreographer, and teacher and by making dance accessible to all ages through performances, workshops, and outreach.

## This Evening's Performance:

#### **Parts Unknown**

Choreographer: Robert McKee

Dancers: Claire Calloway, Sara Ekern, Carmen Gorsuch, Kelly Kosiek and Josephine Starr

Music: Electric Indigo

## **^Dismantle** (Sunday Only)

Choreographer: Mitchell Haley & Robert McKee Dancers: Isabela Guerrero and Sasha Lotz

Music: Travis Lake

### Peering through the Lens

Choreographer: Mitchell Haley

Dancers: Claire Calloway, Sara Ekern, Carmen Gorsuch, Kelly Kosiek and Josephine Starr

Music: Peter Sandberg

#### **Moments**

Choreographer: Todd Rhoades

Dancers: Claire Calloway (Sunday), Kelly Kosiek (Saturday)

Music: Baborek Ensemble

#### ...No Evil

Choreographer: Mitchell Haley

Dancers: Claire Calloway, Sara Ekern, Kelly Kosiek and Josephine Starr

Music: Jon Hopkins

### Searching

Choreographer: Robert McKee

Dancers: Claire Calloway, Sara Ekern, Carmen Gorsuch, Kelly Kosiek and Josephine Starr

Music: Peter Sandberg

### Unyielding

Choreographer: Sarah Ford Hardy

Dancers: Claire Calloway, Sara Ekern, Carmen Gorsuch, Kelly Kosiek and Josephine Starr

Music: Hans Zimmer

^Inaside's Youth Performance Company

#### The History:

Founded in the fall of 2003, Inaside Chicago Dance is a not-for-profit jazz dance company that builds off the foundations of the art form, while leading the way for contemporary jazz dance in the present and future. Artistic Director, Robert McKee, strives to make Inaside a supreme outlet of artistry, knowledge, and growth for each dancer and choreographer who comes through the company's doors.

Inaside employs a highly trained, disciplined ensemble of male and female dancers, as well as instructors from across the US with various cultural backgrounds. The company's repertoire has evolved since its inception with works from diverse choreographers ranging the spectrum of jazz.

Inaside is a dynamic resource for the discipline. Known for their highly entertaining annual performances and the Inaside Dance Project, Inaside Dance promotes excellence in the performing arts on and off the stage. The ideals of integrity, passion, and pride allow Inaside to advance innovative artistry through choreography, performances, and educational programs; and heighten the state of the art within the Midwest.

Inaside Chicago Dance would like to thank our board members for their time and expertise. Interested in joining our organization and helping us into our 20th season and beyond? Speak to one of our staff members.



Robert McKee - Artistic Director

Robert Mckee attended Point Park University and is a former company member of Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago. He has been a guest dancer and choreographer most recently with Chicago Dance Crash, Cerqua Rivera, and other Independent projects. Robert began an interest in teaching and choreography at a very young age. Influenced by percussive rhythms and dynamic shapes, he finds himself always inspired to create.

Robert has been on faculty at the Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago, a teacher for Chicago National Association of Dance Masters, and teaches throughout the Chicagoland area. He has worked with Rockford Dance Company, The Giordano Project, Giordano Juniors, McDonald Dance Academy, Barrington High School, Northshore School of Dance Performing Ensemble, the Giordano on Giordano choreography showcase, Riverside Brookfield High School, Northern Illinois University and Framework Dance Chicago.



#### Kesha Milenkovic - Associate Artistic Director

KESHA MILENKOVIC, from Gaithersburg Maryland, started dancing at the age of nine at Motion Mania Dance Center. She attended Alvin Ailey Summer Intensive, Bates Dance Festival, and Debbie Allen Dance Academy – performing with Debbie Allen at the Kennedy Center. Kesha graduated from Columbia College Chicago with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance. She then danced with the Gus Giordano second company and was cast as a dancer/vocalist for the Broadway musical Chicago on the "Allure of The Seas". Kesha teaches at North Shore School of Dance, Highland Park IL and is the Artistic Director of North Shore Repertory Dance Ensemble.

### **The Company:**



### **Claire Calloway**

Claire Calloway was born and raised in Louisiana. She began her dance training in jazz, ballet, tap & hip hop at a local studio in Baton Rouge. In 2016, Claire relocated to Pittsburgh to pursue her formal training, graduating cum laude with a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Dance from Point Park University. Studying under the direction of Garfield Lemonius, she had the pleasure of performing numerous works by Stephanie Martinez, John Higginbotham, Dan Karasik, and Kiesha Lalama, among others. While studying at Point Park, Claire trained with San Francisco Conservatory of Dance, Eisenhower Dance

Detroit, and Movement Invention Project. During this training, she had the honor of dancing with Summer Lee Rhatigan, Alex Ketley, Stefanie Batten Bland, Francesca Harper, Stephanie Pizzo, and Molly McMullen. After graduating in the Spring of 2020, Claire continued her dance career in Pittsburgh as a performer with RCL Entertainment under Susie Gustin and Elisa-Marie Alaio. Claire is ecstatic for her first season with Inaside Chicago Dance and for the opportunity to continue following her performance dreams!!

### Sara Ekern

Sara Ekern is a 2022 Point Park Graduate with her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance. Sara is thrilled to announce her recent signing with company Inaside Chicago Dance under the direction of Robert Mckee. Sara is from St Augustine, Florida, where she attended high school at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts and danced at The Dance Company. She would like to thank them both for paving her pathway to Point Park. Prior to Point Park Sara had the opportunity to work with and perform pieces by James Washington as well as Eugene Peabody. Sara has spent her summers attending intensives with Gus Giordano and Visceral Dance Chicago. While at Point Park Sara had the



opportunity to perform Pearlann Porter's "In Effect", Jason McDole's piece "Awaken" as well as Alexa Gajeton's "Arrival." Sara has recently completed her first tour with Inaside Chicago Dance to Madison, Wisconsin and is looking forward to the rest of the season's performance line up. Sara thanks her family for their continued love and support. With patience, willingness and the right mindset to trust the journey, any of us can achieve our goals and accomplish everything our heart desires.

#### Carmen Gorsuch



Carmen Gorsuch (she/her) is a professional dancer based out of Chicago, IL. She graduated magna cum laude with academic honors in writing from Ball State University with her BFA in Dance. She has performed works by Martha Graham, Sidra Bell, Audra Sokol, Christie Zimmemrman, Melanie Swihart, among others. Carmen has performed in the Martha Graham University Partners Showcase at The Joyce Theater (2019) and in numerous performances at Ball State University. Carmen has most recently presented her own choreography in Ball State's Traversing: A Collection of Movement Projects (2021)

and at Detroit Dance City Festival (2021). She is so excited to be joining Inaside Chicago Dance .

### Kelly Kosiek

work to nurture in each unique experience".

Kelly Kosiek is an artist from the city of Chicago where she grew up and began her dance journey. Filled with the passion to pursue the artform further, Kelly graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance from Point Park University. As a performer, her experiences are inclusive of the works of Jessica Lang, Rennie Harris, Daniel Herman, Robert McKee, Crystal Frazier, and Yamoussa Camara among others. Kelly also freelances in choreography and teaching dance in addition to her work as a performing artist. Most recently, she has joined Inaside Chicago Dance. Grateful to have experienced life with this artform, Kelly expresses that "The power of dance moves me profoundly and it is what I



### **Josephine Starr**



Josephine (Josie) Starr, born and raised in Marshall Missouri began her dance training at Broadway Bound Dance Studio under the direction of mentor Torey Spitzig. Josie graduated with a B. F. A. in Dance and departmental honors from Webster University. She has extensive performance experience in concert and competitive dance, as well as multiple years of teaching experience. While at Webster she had the honor of working with artists such as Xi Zhao, Gregory Dawson, Tara Webbe Filomena Cacciatore, Anotonio Douthit-Boyd, Maggi Dueker, Beckah Reed and many others. Josie has had the privilege of training with companies across the United States, some of them including Alonzo King

LINES Ballet, Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Backhaus Dance and Visceral Dance Chicago. She has most recently danced professionally in St. Louis with Consuming Kinetics Dance Company, and Ballet 314. Her teaching journey has included positions as Instructor/Choreographer for Broadway Bound Dance Studio and Dance Productions Unlimited. Josie is thrilled to further her dance career with her first season at Inaside Dance Chicago!

## **Hannah Eicherl Summer Intensive Director**



Hannah Eicherl began her dance training at a young age at the Algonquin Academy of Dance. She went on to receive a Bachelor of Arts in Dance Performance and Choreography from Dean College, located in Franklin, MA in 2019. While attending Dean, she performed works choreographed by James Morrow, Levi Marsman, Todd Shanks, and William (Bill) Evans, and also performed in the 2017 NFL Kickoff Pregame Show at Gillette Stadium. Upon graduating, Hannah returned to the Chicagoland area and trained on scholarship at Joel Hall Dancers and Center where she trained with Joel Hall, William Gill, and Van Collins. In summer of 2020, she joined Inaside Chicago Dance and is thrilled to be in her second season with the company!

Thank you for attending our show and continuing to support us. As a non-profit organization, we rely solely on the community to exist. If you enjoyed this show and the education we are providing to people across the world, we ask for your assistance. Any donation you could make to help make this company continue to thrive would be greatly appreciated. All donations can be made at www.lnaside.org.



The expert care of Dr. Schoene has had a tremendous effect on our dancers. We thank you for your continued support.



Definition Dance has been the chosen rehearsal space for ICD for several years. Thank you for your continued support.

A big thanks to DeeDee Johnson and the Bataille Academie of the Danse for letting us use costumes for "Peering through the Lens". We value your ongoing support.

Thank you Robin Kosiek Photography for your wonderful photos for our Fall Season.

**Upcoming Events:** 

