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INSPIRIT DANCE

What We Ask of Flesh

THURSDAY-SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9-11, 2023
MAHANEY ARTS CENTER, DANCE THEATRE

Artistic Director / Choreographer: Christal Brown

Dramaturg: Arielle Brown

Composer & Musician: Farai Malianga

Musician: Deborah Felmeth

Media: Scotty Hardwig

Costume Design: Trebien Pollard

Lighting Design: Jennifer Fok

Poetry: Remica Bingham-Risher

Movement Artist: Alex Diaz, Orlando Hunter, Malcolm McMichael,

Claudia-Lynn Rightmire, Ricarrdo Valentine, Robin Wilson

Tour Manager: Megan Burgess

Executive Director: Heather Geoffrey

Lobby videos: Jacob's Pillow; David Dowling, Kennedy Center;

Jordan Saint, Middlebury College

The program will be performed without intermission.

Please stay after the show for a talk back with the artists.

*Patrons are requested to turn off all electronic devices prior
to the performance, and refrain from texting.*

Photography and the use of audio or video equipment are prohibited.

Program note by Christal Brown

The artistic process, like life, is unpredictable, nonlinear, and teaches through experience. ***What We Ask of Flesh*** has been a seven-year journey of inquiry and a lifetime of relationships and realizations. The cast of this work are mirrors of my personal transformation inside and outside of the studio. They not only embody the human condition as we evolve, but they represent pathways and legacies that are a part of who I am. This work is about becoming fully human, and like the creative process, I have not done that alone.

I am deeply grateful for the Yes's that came along with this work...the permission I afforded myself to go at my own pace, and the willingness of my collaborators to take the long road with me.

Dance has always been my greatest teacher, but in recent years it has also become my deepest confidant and friend. I am constantly changing, and dance comes with me everywhere I go. My life is fueled by motion, friendship, and love.

It is my desire that *What We Ask of Flesh* offers viewers what I value most: true freedom.



View artist and collaborator biographies, plus more information about *What We Ask of Flesh*, on the INSPIRIT website.

<https://www.inspiritdance.com/what-we-ask-of-flesh.html>

INSPIRIT's Middlebury residency and performances of *What We Ask of Flesh* are made possible thanks to the Middlebury Performing Arts Series, the Middlebury Dance Department, the Committee on the Arts, the Kathryn Wasserman Davis Collaborative in Conflict Transformation, and the Rothrock Family Residency Fund.

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