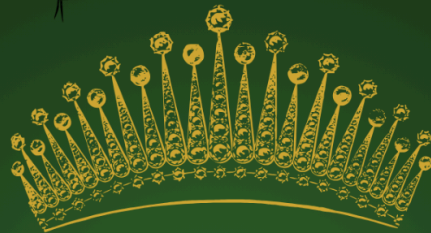


CASA DANCE PRESENTS:



UNMASKED

A PORTRAIT OF DECEPTION

FEBRUARY 1ST

@ 6:30

THE WHITAKER CENTER

HARRISBURG, PA

ADMISSION | DONATIONS ACCEPTED

CASA DANCE PRESENTS:

Unmasked: Portrait of Deception

Synopsis of Medusa:

Medusa was not always the “ugly” monster audiences today know her as. Though quite beautiful, she was deceived and punished for something that wasn't her fault. She dedicated her life to being the priestess of Athena, the goddess of wisdom. Poseidon saw Medusa and was absolutely mesmerized by her, but she rejected him because Medusa knew that Athena and Poseidon had a deep hatred for one another. Furious from being rejected, Poseidon took his revenge on Medusa on the steps of Athena's palace with the goal of also humiliating the goddess. Medusa begged for forgiveness and tried to explain to Athena the truth. Athena didn't believe her and felt nothing but betrayal. To punish Medusa, Athena cursed her so that no man would ever lust for her again. Athena transformed her into a Gorgon, turning her hair into snakes and her skin into scales, giving her eyes that would cause others to turn to stone, and banishing her to an island to live all alone. Numerous people were sent to get the head of Medusa, but they would only turn to stone, until Perseus, the son of Zeus, came on his quest. Perseus successfully decapitated her with the help of Athena.

In modern culture, Medusa has developed into a symbol for those who have overcome obstacles. Many people will get a Medusa tattoo to show their heroism as a survivor. Medusa not only represents those who have overcome abuse, but also strength, embodiment, and self-empowerment. We continue to stand on the shoulders of those whose voices still need to be heard. We are here to tell the truth of their stories.

Behind the scenes:

These 9th and 10th graders worked together, (many as their very first time together here in the dance department at CASA) on community building, partnering and improvisational prompts. Many of these methods would lead to creative phrases and movements that they might not have thought would be possible. By exploring tasks, images, events and words and or stories in literature it was here that the impetus for this work tonight came about. Greek mythology was one that resonated with the students. They investigated and through units saw how naturally it was integrated into their artform. Field trips to the library, searching through the internet as well as finding similarities of one story in particular, that being of Medusa. The essential question that we continued to ask throughout the creative process was “What are the similar depictions of Medusa and society from many years ago as compared to the culture of society today?” The undertaking was big and I am thrilled that they persevered to bring this to the stage.

Program order:

Remembering the past....Frolicking..

Athena and Medusa..

Water..

Poseidon and Medusa; Jealousy..

Athena and Townspeople..

Our last meeting..

Tensions arise..

We all turn to Stone..

Off with your head...

Present day.....

Finale/Bows

About the Artists who choreographed and collaborated on this production:

Maggie Archer (Poseidon/Ensemble) is a freshman at Capital Area School for the Arts. She has been dancing for over a decade, primarily focusing on ballet and modern at Pennsylvania Regional Ballet. Maggie has participated in a variety of performances and is excited to dance with the CASA dance department for the first time.

Sophia Bedorf (Athena) is a sophomore in the dance program at CASA. Sophia has been dancing and competing with her local studio for the past 8 years. This past fall she performed with the whole dance department in Lancaster for the PA Coalition for Charter Schools. This spring she will be dancing in CASA's musical production of "Bring it On". Sophia would like to thank her family and friends for their unwavering support.

Sela Brixius (Snake, Townsperson, Ensemble) is a first year dance student at CASA. She has been dancing for twelve years at the Summerdale Dance Studio, where she has performed in many productions such as *The Nutcracker* and *The Wizard of Oz*. Her favorite styles are ballet and contemporary but loves that she is being challenged in other genres. When not dancing, Sela enjoys playing volleyball and traveling. She would like to thank her mom and dad for their continuous support.

Miya Broughton (Poseidon Servant/Snake/Ensemble) is a freshman who currently dances at Jonestown Dance Studio. She has performed in many showcases as well as various competitions regionally. Miya's favorite styles are ballet and contemporary. When she is not dancing she takes vocal lessons and trains in fitness.

Dylan Diffenderfer (Snake, Townsperson, Ensemble) is a freshman at Capital Area School for the Arts. She has been dancing for 9 years, and currently is at Frances Mohler Dance in Hummelstown. Outside of dance she has participated in several musicals and dance productions at her studio. Some of her hobbies include visual art making and choreography.

Alaina Gregg (Snake, Townsperson, Ensemble) is a 9th grader and currently dances at Susquehanna Dance Academy (SDA). She trains in various different styles and genres and has performed locally in many showcases. Alaina likes crocheting, bike riding, and roller skating. Alaina would not be here without the constant encouragement from her family and friends.

Olive Healy (Snake, Townsperson, Ensemble) is a freshman in the dance program at CASA. Olive has been dancing for 12 years and is currently dancing at Hershey School of Dance and Arts. She participates in many recitals locally and regionally. Olive would like to thank her family and friends for all their continued support.

Baillee Houser (Townsperson, Snake, Ensemble) is a freshman at Capital Area School for the Arts. She has been training for the past twelve years (in various genres) at The Studio in Enola, where she performs and competes regionally. Baillee is excited to be part of her first CASA dance performance and cannot wait for many more.

Chelsea Mendolia (Hunter, Snake, Ensemble) is a sophomore at Capital Area School for the Arts this is her first production in the dance program. She has been dancing at Richies Dance Studio for the past 2 years, and has participated in various shows and recitals. Her favorite styles of dance are hip-hop and contemporary. In her spare time she enjoys running, boxing and hanging out with friends.

Anya Raniowski (Medusa) is a freshman at Capital Area School for the Arts. She has been training at The Studio (in Enola), for eleven years. Her favorite styles are ballet and modern. When she is not dancing, Anya enjoys spending time with her family and friends.

ARTISTIC STAFF

Molly B. Misgalla: Artistic Director

Miya Broughton: Music Editing

Sophia Bedorf: Program Design

Costume Design and Construction: Qrow Ostrander (Creative Writing), Avery Martin

(Visual Art), Jenna Raniowski, Miya Broughton,

Brian Massey (English Teacher)



CASA Dance Presents...

EXHIBIT 11

**"This is actually kind of good"- Mrs. M
"This is the best piece of media that has ever
grazed my eyes"- NYT**

**February 1, 2024 • 6:30 PM
Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts
Admission : Donation of Your Choice**

CASA DANCE UPPER CLASS PRESENTS....

EXHIBIT II

“Behold, the eighth wonder of the natural world. Come one and come all, see the two-headed girl STUPENDOUS! Revolting! You’ll be shocked, you’ll be awed. A true freaks of nature, but possessing such talents! Hear them sing, see them dance. As seen in the highest class parlours of France. Just ten bucks a photograph, get your seats while they last. We take Visa and Mastercard, debit or cash! Isn’t it nice that they’re being so nice to us? Come in, come in!”

LET The Show begin.....

Oh Evelyn...

What have you gotten yourself into?

Deception has entered your mind.

Contortion of your world entertains,

But your fortune may come true in the end.

The twins deceitful banter seems fun at the start,

Yet a bad intuition keeps you in the dark.

It’s a wonderful world, but tricks will come.

And time ticks on while you become hypnotized.

You walk across a tightrope of lies.

One wrong move and everything is revealed.

How could you have been so wrong?

Oh Evelyn... here we go again.

FINALE/BOWS!

BEHIND THE SCENES:

**** THIS PAST SEMESTER THE UPPER CLASS SPENT TIME THROUGH THEIR UNIT STUDIES ON CREATIVE FORM, CONTENT, AND WAYS TO ABSTRACT THE CREATIVE PROCESS. MANY PROMPT STUDIES AND RESEARCH WAS COMPLETED TO AID THE STUDENT NOT ONLY, IN THEME AND VARIATION BUT IN THE BEGINNINGS OF CREATING A SPACE THAT TRANSCENDS YOU INTO THE OBSCURE. THE STUDENTS BEGAN WITH THE REFLECTIVE QUESTION OF ,“WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN YOU TAKE ALICE IN WONDERLAND AND MIX IT WITH THE LAND OF THE MISFITS?”***

Featuring Acts Choreographed and Performed by all the Exhibits:

Afia Amoake (Twins/Tightrope/Ensemble): is a junior at CASA majoring in dance. She is also involved in Student Council and Principal Council. In addition to her rigorous classes at CASA, he also attends the Hershey School of Dance. She'd like to dedicate the performance to her friends and family who have helped her along the way.

Delaney Clifford (Tightrope/Contortion/Ensemble): is a senior in the dance program and has been attending CASA since 11th grade. Delaney has been dancing for 8 years at the Studio.; through this resource, Delaney has been in many end of year productions as well as ballet productions including Beauty and the Beast, Alice in Wonderland, The Nutcracker, and most recently, The Wizard of Oz. Delaney would like to thank her family for supporting her throughout her artistic journey.

Abigail Crozier (Tightrope, Contortion, Ensemble) is a senior in the dance program and has been attending CASA since her junior year. She has pursued dance since the age of two and has danced competitively and been in many ballet productions at the Studio. She would like to thank her family, friends, and teachers for never giving up on her and for pushing her to be her best self and dancer.

Athena Irani (Magicians Assistant/Ensemble) is a senior at CASA and has been dancing for 11 years. She is currently studying at One Broadway where she is a part of the Sr. Stars. Athena loves to take classes at Broadway Dance Center in New York City and at dance conventions regionally. Athena would like to thank her family and her dance family for always believing in her and being there for her throughout her dance journey.

Amerii Melendez (Bhaddiee the Clown/ Ensemble) is a senior at CASA, having attended since 9th grade. For the past 6 years, she has been dancing at the Studio where she is an

assistant teacher. Amorfi is active in her community mentoring and working as a camp counselor during the summer. In addition to dance, she is proud of being a section leader for the bass line for The Harrisburg Cougars Marching Band. A big thank you to her mom and best friend, Rebecca, and her best role model, God dad Eric Durden.

Adriana McKellar (Evelyn) is an 11th grade CASA dancer, who has been attending since 9th grade. She has been dancing for the past 14 years at Pennsylvania Regional Ballet. Adriana has performed in many spring and summer productions such as, The Nutcracker, Peter and the Wolf and end of year shows. She would like to thank her family and friends for always supporting her and pushing her to be the person she is today.

Na'Ziyah Payton (Twin/Contortion/Ensemble) has been attending CASA since freshman year. Currently a junior, she enjoys her time at CASA doing the thing she loves, and all the opportunities that are presented to her. This spring Na'Ziyah will be playing Nautica, in CASA's musical production of , *Bring It On!* She would like to dedicate this performance to her family and friends for their unending support.

Jenna Rhoads (Baton Twirler/Tapper/Ensemble) is a senior who has attended CASA since ninth grade. She currently takes classes at the Studio, where she enjoys being an assistant teacher and taking on service projects in her community. Jenna would like to thank her family and friends for their endless support. She dedicates this performance to anyone who feels like they don't belong.

Alyssa Slatky (Tightrope/Contortion/Ensemble) is a senior in CASA's dance program having only been here since 11th grade. She has been dancing for the past eight years and competitively since freshman year. Outside of CASA, she trains at a studio in Lancaster, where she also teaches and choreographs with the younger dancers. She would like to thank her family and friends for their continual support, and all of her teachers throughout the years for pushing her to become both the best dancer and person possible.

Ky'Mirh Smith (Ringleader) has been dancing since the age of six. Currently a junior dancer at CASA where he has been in many productions such as The Nutcracker and Rent, the musical. This spring he will undertake the lead role of La Cienga in the musical *Bring It On!*

Amani Weary (Fortune Teller/Magician/Ensemble) is currently in 12th grade at CASA for dance. Some of her most recent performances include; Adams Family (Gomez), West Side Story (Chino), The Wiz (The Lion), The Fantasticks (Hucklebee), The Moors (Huldey), and Rent (Joanne). Amani hit the stage at the young age of four and has enjoyed the limelight ever since. She would like to thank her family for their support throughout her journey as an artist.

ARTISTIC TEAM:

Molly B. Misgalla: Artistic Director of the Dance Department

Amani Weary: Music Compilation/Editing/Poster Design

Costuming: CASA DANCE DEPARTMENT and PERFORMERS.

Matt Mitra: Lighting Designer

Cal Weary: (Weary Arts Group) Cage, Fortune Teller Prop

Josh Yentsch: Josh Yentsch Designs (scenic)

Ezra Lane: Stage Manager

COLLABORATING ARTISTS

COSTUME DESIGNERS:

Wren Salcedo (Visual Art) is a senior Visual Arts student attending CASA. They are a dedicated and accomplished mixed media artist, who finds joy in fine art, costuming, and fashion design. After graduation, Wren is interested in working in the medical field using their generosity and empathy to help others. They have made murals, sold art at festivals and fairs and even had pieces selected to be represented in galleries in and around York. Integrated Arts is a staple of CASA and they hope to continue to inspire and encourage other artists (at CASA), to go outside of their arts to find opportunities that can build confidence and community. Wren is incredibly grateful for the chance to work with CASA's talented dancers who have been so generously supportive.

Emma Still (Visual Art) is an 11th grader in the Visual Arts program at CASA. Her works have been displayed in many CASA galleries featuring visual art students. This is her second year creating costumes for the dancers and is grateful to be a part of this process again. Emma would like to thank Ms. Misgalla and the dancers for being a delightful group to work with and for allowing her the opportunity to present her art on stage.

CASA PERFORMANCE ETIQUETTE REMINDERS:

Please silence your cell phones.

Try your best and refrain from entering and exiting the Theatre while there are performers on stage.

***NO* Flash photography. Our film department is recording this performance.**

Please only polite applause for our performers.

A VERY SPECIAL NOTE OF GRATITUDE!....

**CASA Charter School Board of Trustees
CASA Charter School Foundation
CASA Administration, Faculty and Staff
Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts
Jen Paul, Event Management
Bill Hartmann, Technical Director
Karen Casser, Stage Technician
Mick Gorman, Film Production
CASA Arts Team
Lauren Callen
Cal Weary /Weary Arts Group
The Studio (Costumes)
Cole Medley (Guest Teacher), Juggling/Acro/Tricks
My Family (Joe and syd)**

