



UtahPresents

**THE LOST ART OF
DREAMING**
SEAN DORSEY DANCE
NOVEMBER 21, 2024





UtahPresents

*THE LOST ART
OF DREAMING*

SEAN DORSEY DANCE

November 21, 2024 • 7:30PM
Kingsbury Hall

Please silence your phones and other noisemakers

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THE LOST ART OF DREAMING

SEAN DORSEY DANCE

Choreographed, written, and soundscore design by: Sean Dorsey

Movement created & performed by: Sean Dorsey,
Brandon Graham, Héctor Jaime, David Le, Nol Simonse

Original music composed by: Jesse Olsen Bay, Anomie Belle,
L.D. Brown, Sean Dorsey, Frida Ibarra, Alex Kelly, Ben Kessler,
Kelsey Lu, and special guest vocalist B Noel Thomas

Costume Design: Tiffany Amundson, Krystal Harfert,
Melissa Castaneda

Lighting Design: Clyde Sheets

Technical Director and Stage Manager: Emily Paulson

Wardrobe Supervisor: Krystal Harfert

Soundscore recording/engineering/mixing: Grace Coleman

www.seandorseydance.com

@SeanDorseyDance on IG + Facebook + Twitter

THE LOST ART OF DREAMING was commissioned by American Dance Festival (Durham NC), Dance Place (Washington DC), 7 Stages (Atlanta GA), Velocity Dance Center (Seattle WA) and the Queer Cultural Center (San Francisco CA) – and developed with additional support from Yerba Buena Gardens Festival and a residency with the National Choreography Center in Akron (Akron OH).

THE LOST ART OF DREAMING has been awarded support from the commissioners above, and from the California Arts Council, Kenneth Rainin Foundation, New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project – with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, National Performance Network and San Francisco Arts Commission.

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INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of Utah has both historical and contemporary relationships with Indigenous Peoples. Given that the Salt Lake Valley has always been a gathering place for Indigenous Peoples, we acknowledge that this land, which is named for the Ute Tribe, is the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Shoshone, Paiute, Goshute, and Ute Tribes and is a crossroad for Indigenous Peoples.

The University of Utah recognizes the enduring relationships between many Indigenous Peoples and their traditional homelands. We are grateful for the territory upon which we gather today; we respect Utah's Indigenous Peoples, the original stewards of this land; and we value the sovereign relationships that exist between tribal governments, state governments, and the federal government.

Today, approximately 60,000 American Indian and Alaska Native peoples live in Utah. As a state institution, the University of Utah is committed to serving Native communities throughout Utah in partnership with Native Nations and our Urban Indian communities through research, education, and community outreach activities.

I am thrilled to welcome you to THE LOST ART OF DREAMING. We are so glad you're here. And WE are so glad to be here: we send so much LOVE and gratitude to the UtahPresents team for bringing us, for your beautiful collaboration, and for helping us celebrate our 20th ANNIVERSARY SEASON!

YOU have been in our hearts and minds as we created and now tour this work: YOU are precious and irreplaceable, and YOU have an important place on this planet and in the Future.

THE LOST ART OF DREAMING is:

a spell

a danced invocation

a loving invitation to

reclaim, remember, conjure, co-create and manifest

OUR BIRTHRIGHT:

joy, pleasure, well-being, freedom, love, connection, liberation.

As transgender and gender-nonconforming communities are under attack across the country right now, we ask our allies to speak out, speak up and take concrete action to defend trans youth and all trans people. Trans communities are living in a state of emergency: please consider donating to local Trans-led groups who are supporting trans youth and all trans people.

A MESSAGE FROM
SEAN DORSEY



After tonight's performance, we invite you to visit our website, where a cornucopia of resources and activities await you: THE LOST ART OF DREAMING webpage includes: Dance films, The Dictionary Of Joy and Pleasure, The Futurist Pledge, Post-cards From The Future, and more! Use your phone's camera on the QR code below, or visit: www.seandorseydance.com/works/the-lost-art-of-dreaming/



Use your phone's camera
on this QR code to visit
THE LOST ART OF
DREAMING's webpage

Tonight we declare together: DREAMING IS OUR BIRTHRIGHT!
---- Sean Dorsey

OPENING SECTION

Music composed by: Kelsey Lu, then Alex Kelly

IS YOUR WORLD GETTING SMALL

Music composed by: Jesse Olsen Bay, then Alex Kelly

LIGHTNING RODS

Music composed by: Jesse Olsen Bay

STARSIDE

Music composed by: Anomie Belle

INVOCATION

Music composed by: Christoph Willibald Gluck

Music arranged for string quartet by: Alex Kelly

Performed by: Alex Kelly, Matthew Szemela and Rebecca Wilcox

UNFOLD/INTO

Music composed by: LD Brown

PLEASURE REVOLUTION

Music composed by: Frida Ibarra

- INTERMISSION -**ORIGIN STORY**

ORION

Music by: LD Brown

Special guest vocalist & vocal arrangements by: B Noel Thomas

Song by: Sean Dorsey

OPEN

Music composed by: Ben Kessler

MY LIGHT

Music composed by: Anomie Belle

SEEK/AFTER JOY

Music composed by: Frida Ibarra

WE ARE ALIVE / WHAT WILL I LONG FOR

Music composed by: Alex Kelly

I AM THE OCEAN

Music composed and performed by: Sean Dorsey

(DREAMING IS) OUR BIRTHRIGHT

Music composed by: Anomie Belle

PLACE/PORTAL

Music composed by: Anomie Belle

UPSTREAM

Music composed by: Anomie Belle

SEAN DORSEY (Artistic Director + Dancer – he/him) is an Emmy Award-winning choreographer, a Doris Duke Artist, a United States Artists Fellow and a Dance/USA Artist Fellow. He has toured his work to more than 35 cities across the US and internationally.

A longtime social practice artist, Dorsey creates his works over 2-3 years in deep relationship with/in community. As a teaching artist, Dorsey leads workshops, classes and DREAM LABS with a trans-positive pedagogy – and centers and celebrates gender non-conforming and trans bodies, voices and aesthetics. Dorsey’s national program, TRANSform Dance, provides trans-supportive education, engagement and advocacy.

Dorsey’s work has been commissioned by: American Dance Festival (Durham), Bates Dance Festival (Lewiston), 7 Stages (Atlanta), Dance Place (Washington DC), Queer Cultural Center (San Francisco), The Theater Offensive (Boston), Maui Arts & Cultural Center (Maui), Velocity Dance Center (Seattle), Links Hall (Chicago), Highways Performance Space (Los Angeles), Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (San Francisco). Dorsey is also the founder and Artistic Director of Fresh Meat Productions (FMP). Founded in 2002, FMP invests in the creative expression and cultural leadership of trans and gender-nonconforming communities – FMP’s programs include Sean Dorsey Dance and the annual FRESH MEAT FESTIVAL of transgender and queer performance (June). www.SeanDorseyDance.com www.FreshMeatProductions.org

BRANDON GRAHAM (he/they) was born in Rochester NY and trained at School Of The Arts and Odasz Dance Theatre under Jessica Odasz. He has since graduated from Alonzo King Lines BFA program. He has had the opportunity to work with Flock Works, Robert Moses, Kara Davis, Christian Burns and Gregory Dawson. After graduating the BFA program in 2020 he has been doing freelance work with Kristin Damrow, David Herrera Performance Company, Peninsula Ballet Theatre, Alyssa Mitchel and more. This is Brandon’s third season with Sean Dorsey Dance.

HÉCTOR JAIME (Héctor - or They/She/He) was born and raised in Mexicali, Baja California, México. They began their training with Manuel Torres in El Centro Estatal de las Artes (CEART). Héctor graduated from the Alonzo King’s

Lines Ballet BFA Program in San Francisco affiliated with Dominican University of California. Post graduation, they had the opportunity to be a member of Sean Dorsey Dance, Dawson Dance SF, and Detour. Héctor started their own company "Xochipilli Dance Company based in the Bay Area. XDC has now premiered work in different residencies since its foundation including Deborah Slater Dance Theater summer residency in studio 210, Festival of Latin American Contemporary Choreographers (FLACC), BBQueer Dance Festival, PUSH Artist in residency, D.I.R.T 2023, Stapleton School of the Performing Arts Choreographic Residency and Queering Dance Festival. This is Héctor's third season with Sean Dorsey Dance.

DAVID LE (he/they) was born and raised in San Jose, CA. As a first-generation student with influences of cultural and street styles of dance, David earned his BFA from San Jose State University (SJSU). At SJSU, Le danced with the University Dance Theater and had the pleasure to work with Doug Varone, Kyle Abraham, Mike Esperanza and more. He embraces the collaboration of different communities, and participates in events with Decipher and Archive Dance Companies. In addition to dance, David is a neuromuscular therapist and has a deaf dog named Wilbur. David is excited for his third season with Sean Dorsey Dance!

NOL SIMONSE (he/him) grew up in Washington, D.C., and trained at the Boston Conservatory of Music. He moved to San Francisco in 1997 and is a founding member of Kunst-Stoff. Nol has worked with Janice Garrett since the inception of her company, and continued with her and her partner, Charles Moulton, when they formed Garrett+Moulton Productions. He has danced with Sean Dorsey Dance since 2007. He is also a longtime collaborator/performer of Sue Roginski, Eric Kupers, Christy Funsch, Stephen Pelton, and Kara Davis. Nol was awarded an Isadora Duncan Bay Area Dance Award in 2011, and in 2009 Nol received a GOLDIE for dance (Guardian Outstanding Local Discovery). Nol was the first person to win Luna Dance Institute's Choreofund prize, and *Dance Teacher Magazine* published an interview with him in the September, 2016 issue. Nol currently teaches modern at the Alonzo King's Lines Dance Center, and Shawl-Anderson Dance Center. He has taught choreography, repertory, and performance

workshops for adults and teens, and has made dances for Diablo Ballet, the Lines summer program, students at USF, Shawl-Anderson Youth Ensemble, ODC's Dance Jam, and Dance Mission Theater's Grrrl Brigade. This is Nol's 16th season with Sean Dorsey Dance.

KRYSTAL HARFERT (Costume Designer – they/she) is a multi-disciplinary artist. Residing in Oakland, CA, where they have spent over a decade in nonprofit arts and movement education. An ever-evolving individual who is often found working in costume design/fabrication, large scale art, movement education, dance, photography, arts production, and massage therapy. They are known for creating vibrant, detailed works that both enhance the artistic vision of the collaborator and can stand alone. Their works employ mixed use materials, techniques and technology. Collaborators include Blind Tiger Society, Sonya Smith, Cielo Vertical Arts, Sarah Bush, Contra Costa School of Performing Arts, Chelsea Van Billiard, Sarah Keeney, J.habitus, Bandaloop, Fog Beast, Nocturne X; Numina Studio, The Port Bar, Take 3 Presents, Sean Dorsey Dance, Tara Pilbrow, Samsung and Pinecones and Portals.

EMILY PAULSON (Technical Director and Stage Manager – she/her) has been blessed to work with Sean Dorsey Dance and the Fresh Meat Family since 2012. As Stage Manager and Technical Director her goal is to create a supported, safe, consistent and loving atmosphere for the dancers, so that they can deeply experience and transmit the dance to the audience. Bringing Sean's vision to life across the country has been a mind-blowing experience. It is an honor to share this important work with the people and to have a part in shaping American history.

COMPOSER/VOCALIST BIOGRAPHIES

JESSE OLSEN BAY (he/they) is a musician, composer, teacher, and activist. His work dwells in the intersection of sound, song, embodiment, and community organizing. He directs and performs with MINERS, an ensemble

dedicated to using traditional American folk music as a springboard for embodied sonic experimentation. Jesse has received awards and support from American Composers Forum, San Francisco Friends of Chamber Music, Ucross Foundation, and the Isadora Duncan Awards, among others. He lives in the woods of Western Massachusetts with his partner and two young children. More at jesseolsenbay.com. www.jesseolsenbay.com

ANOMIE BELLE (they/she) is a composer, producer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist who grew up in Portland and resides in Seattle. Anomie's work brings a queer, feminist, sociological lens to deconstructing power, systems and culture. Anomie is a producer, classical violinist and vocalist, and they perform, loop and manipulate strings, keyboards, vocals, samplers, drum machines, guitar and bass to create cinematic, layered compositions and songs. Anomie and Sean have been working together for many years, and their relationship has grown as they collaborated to create custom compositions for *The Lost Art of Dreaming*. www.anomiebelle.com

GREY REVEREND (he/him/his) is the solo project of songwriter/composer L.D. Brown. His music has been showcased on MTV, ABC, NBC, HBO, BBC and other networks worldwide, and has been featured on NPR's *All Things Considered*, as well as The Huffington Post. www.greyreverend.com

FRIDA IBARRA (she/her) is a multimedia musician, composer, and DJ based in Southern California. She has performed at many events in recent years including the Fresh Meat Festival, SF Pride Main Stage, and countless nights at the STUD. As a composer, Frida composes original music for filmmakers, content creators, and performance artists in her community. <https://lnk.bio/fridafeels/>

DR. ALEX KELLY (he/him) is a cellist, composer, and professor. He composes and performs with major symphony orchestras, chamber orchestras, new music ensembles, string quartets, cello quartets, big bands, jazz combos, rock bands, hip-hop crews, klezmer bands, world music ensembles, theater companies, radio productions, ballet companies, modern dance companies, and circus troupes. Dance companies he has worked with include LINES ballet, Margaret Jenkins, Lizz Roman, Beth Fein, Axis Dance Company, Les

7 Doigts de le Main, and since 2008, Sean Dorsey. Alex was part of the composing team that won a 2016 Isadora Duncan Dance Award for outstanding achievement in Music/Sound/Text for the original soundscore for THE MISSING GENERATION. www.alexkelly.com

BEN KESSLER (he/him) is a music educator, composer, arranger, mixing engineer, sound designer, and multi-instrumentalist from Saline, Michigan. He has performed with numerous groups, and collaborated with Sean Dorsey since 2005. In addition to composing and working in his studio, Ben currently teaches private music lessons, runs a klezmer group for 3rd to 5th graders, and is the musical director and lead trombonist of both a jazz septet and a 19-piece big band.

KELSEY LU (they/them) is London-based singer, songwriter, cellist, and producer who constructs their dreamy, off-balance alternative music with a mix of classical chamber, folk, and electronic components, topping off intricate arrangements with soulful vocals. They released their first EP, the spare 'Church' in 2016 before expanding their palette with layered electronics and instruments including strings, guitars, and multi-tracked vocals. Their studio debut, *Blood*, landed in 2019. As a studio musician, they have collaborated with artists including Solange, Florence + the Machine and Blood Orange, and contributed cello and vocals to recordings by Lady Gaga, Solange and Blood Orange, among others. <https://kelsey.lu/>

B NOEL THOMAS (she/her) is a multi-talented, award-winning performing artist and teacher, currently based in the Bay Area. With her versatile baritone-to-soprano voice it has allowed her to be able to play roles that run the gamut of gender and vocal range. A selection of their credits includes ABC's *American Idol* Season 3, Theatre Forward 2021 Virtual Gala (Featuring Jason Robert Brown, Kate Baldwin, George Salazar, Anika Noni Rose & More), *The Toxic Avenger* (Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award winner, Theatre Bay Area Award nominee), *Sister Act* (Deloris; Theatre Bay Area Award nominee) @BNoelThomas



The University of Utah
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GROUNDING

New choreographic
creations by U Dance
faculty & alumni:

Natalie Desch

Molly Heller

Sayoko Knode Peterson

Christine Moore



Nov. 21

5:30pm

Nov. 22

7:30pm

Nov. 23

2pm & 7:30pm

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHIES

TIFFY (TIFFANY) AMUNDSON (Costume Designer – she/her) - Originally based in theater, Tiffy has also worked making costumes in film, television and theater for 30 years and has been a proud member of IATSE for 25+ years. She spent a notable and inspiring 9 years helping create the costumes and millinery work of Teatro Zinzanni come alive and has since been a maker for drag, fashion, dance, and as a maker for the SF ballet and various independent design projects. She started working with Sean in 2011, and is so pleased to be working again with the talented members of Sean Dorsey Dance! She sends best wishes, love and support to this amazing community along with hope for peace and health for everyone here and abroad.

MELISSA CASTANEDA (Assistant Costume Designer – she/her) has been living and performing/creating in SF since 2006. She and her twin sister Elizabeth have studied dance at LINES ballet and ODC. She has performed in, and/or created costumes for many companies in the bay area as well as her own! The Fossettes are a Bob Fosse inspired performance group that frequently back up drag queens. Sister Magic Productions is a fabulous group of performers that put on amazing shows at Burning Man and in the bay area! Please check out the website www.sistermagicproductionns.com. Follow Melissa on Instagram at @Maidenmaycostumes

GRACE COLEMAN (Sound Engineering, Recording and Mixing – she/her, they/them) is an audio engineer based out of San Francisco's legendary Different Fur Studios. She has been lucky to work with many bands and artists such as Toro Y Moi, Fake Fruit, Spiritual Cramp, Shawna Virago, The She's, and many more. She is honored to be working alongside Sean Dorsey again!

CLYDE SHEETS (Lighting Designer - he/him/they) is the Director of Interdisciplinary Arts at Interlochen Center for the Arts. Clyde has worked in performance and events as a musician, director, producer, designer and production manager. His lighting has been nominated and awarded several company and individual awards in the San Francisco Bay Area, including The Missing Generation and Boys in Trouble for Sean Dorsey Dance, both Isadora Duncan Dance Award winning productions. Clyde is thrilled to be working with Sean and this amazing company of artists.



UtahPresents

2024-2025

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THE LOWER LIGHTS CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

December 11, 13, 14 | 7:00PM

Kingsbury Hall

This UtahPresents holiday tradition is back again! Join us as local band The Lower Lights brings their energetic spirit to classic tunes, as well as some new holiday favorites in a night of fun for the whole family.



THE KING'S SINGERS

Virtuoso Concert Series in partnership with the U of U School of Music

December 12 | 7:30PM

Libby Gardner Concert Hall

This Grammy and Emmy Award-winning a cappella group has been uniting people through song for over fifty years.



ALEX LACAMOIRE

David P. Gardner Lecture in the Humanities and Fine Arts

January 15 | 7:30PM

Kingsbury Hall

Tony Award-winning arranger for *Hamilton* and many other Broadway hits, Lacamoire will discuss his arranging process and extensive career, before engaging questions from the audience through a moderated discussion.

Tickets and info at utahpresents.org



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