

Henry

Will Rawls: Everlasting Stranger

Performer Bios

Alyza DelPan-Monley

Alyza DelPan-Monley (they/she) believes in the expressive power that can be accessed in the body through movement. Their work has been presented at Cafe Nordo (*Jitterbug Perfume*, *Violet's Attic*), On the Boards (solo:FEST), ArtsWest (*Office Hour*, *The Last World Octopus Wrestling Champion*) and Washington Ensemble Theater (*Dance Nation*, *Teh Internet*, *Revolt.*). They perform regularly with MALACARNE and Salvage Rituals. Alyza loves dancing in every context and is always excited to find the unexpected places dance can show up, burst bubbles and repurpose awkward into awesome.

Akoiya Harris

Akoiya Harris was born and raised in the Central District of Seattle Washington. She graduated from The Ailey Schools Certificate Program where she had the opportunity to gain a deep understanding of her body's relationship to movement through technique and choreography. She has performed as a company member with Donald Byrd's Spectrum Dance Theater. Akoiya is currently a member of Wa Na Wari's Seattle Black Spatial Histories Cohort. Through her art, Akoiya hopes to give voice to the stories, both known and unknown, of her community and honor those who came before her.

Nia-Amina Minor

Nia-Amina Minor is a movement artist + educator. Her creative work focuses on the body and what it carries. Through performance and teaching, Nia-Amina converses with black realities and investigates the intersections of movement, memory, and rhythm.

As an artist, educator, and arts advocate, Nia-Amina centers community building as a mobilizing space for connection, support, and collaboration. Whether on stage, in the studio, or in the streets, Nia-Amina approaches movement based practice as a site for collective gathering. She holds a MFA from the University of California, Irvine and a BA from Stanford University. She is a co-founder and former curator for Los Angeles based collective No)one Art House. Nia-Amina currently resides in Seattle, where she performed for five seasons as a Company Dancer and Community Engagement Artist Liaison at Spectrum Dance Theater under the direction of Donald Byrd.

Nia-Amina has taught and guest lectured at UC Irvine, Saddleback College, Cypress College, and University of Washington. She has presented original work at the Seattle Art Museum, Tacoma Art Museum, WaNaWari, and Central District Forum for Art & Ideas Showing Out: Seattle Black Choreographers Festival, Seattle's Reflection Dance Festival, and the Seattle Black Film Festival. Nia-Amina has performed in acclaimed works such as *A Rap on Race*, *Shot*, and *Strange Fruit* receiving a Seattle Dance Crush Award for her performance in *Shot* and was recently recognized as Dance Magazine's 25 Artists to Watch in 2021.

Fox Whitney

Fox Whitney (he/him) is a dancer, performer, filmmaker and the lead artist behind Gender Tender, an interdisciplinary performance project that centers his queer black mixed transgender point of view. He creates experiences that investigate the nature of queer relationships, trans histories and the surreal nature of transformation. Fox's unique methods are inspired by cults, sitcoms and riots.

Fox is a 2020-2021 artist in residence at On the Boards in Seattle, Washington. He was selected as the 2018 artist in residence at Velocity Dance Center. His performance work has been commissioned and produced by On the Board's NW New Works Festival and Solo Festival; Velocity's Next Fest NW and Seattle Festival of Dance Improvisation; the Seattle International Dance Festival; Yellow Fish Epic Durational Performance Festival and was selected for the inaugural season of Seattle's Gay City Arts. His short dance films have screened at CounterPulse in San Francisco, at Seattle's Twist Film Festival, Translations: Seattle's Transgender Film Festival and at Next Dance Cinema presented by Velocity and Northwest Film Forum. He has an MFA in Fiber and Material Studies from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and has exhibited his visual art nationally. He has performed in work by Morgan Thorson, Gabrielle Civil, Vladimir Kremenović, Keyon Gaskin and Malic Amalya. His most recent project *MELTED RIOT*, a queer meditation inspired by the Stonewall Riots of 1969 was presented by Velocity on the 50th anniversary of the riots in 2019. An online Melted Riot digital residency featuring a series of performances made specifically for Instagram and Zoom happened June 2020 as a result of the pandemic with the support of On the Boards. Fox and Gender Tender also shared a trio of live online performances in the Melted Riot series: *RGB*, *CMYK* and *Saturation* presented by the Henry Art Gallery in conversation with their online print and photography collection throughout September 2020.