URBAN BUSH WOMEN

FRI, OCT 30 & SAT, OCT 31
VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE
URBAN BUSH WOMEN
THE ARTIST JOURNAL ENTRY 3:
RIVERPOOLS & PORTALS

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VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE

JAWOLE WILLA JO ZOLLAR
FOUNDER & CHIEF VISIONING PARTNER

CREATED BY:
CHANON JUDSON & SAMANTHA SPEIS
CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

IN COLLABORATION WITH
THE COMPANY:
MELISSA COBBLAH GUTIERREZ, COURTNEY J. COOK,
JASMINE HEARN, CHANON JUDSON, LOVE MUWWAKKIL,
SAMANTHA SPEIS, ELAISA VAN DER KUST, MIKAILA WARE
AND
NICHOLAS HUSSONG, VIDEO DESIGNER

SABINE BLAIZIN, DJ
JOHN ALEXANDER, PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
CHERI STOKES, ASSOCIATE PRODUCER
Urban Bush Women (UBW) burst onto the dance scene in 1984, with bold, innovative, demanding and exciting works that brought under-told stories to life through the art and vision of its award-winning founding Artistic Director and Visioning Partner, Jawole Willa Jo Zollar. The company continues to weave contemporary dance, music, and text with the history, culture, and spiritual traditions of the African Diaspora under the organizational artistic direction of Zollar and Co-Artistic Directors of the UBW Company, Chanon Judson and Samantha Speis.

UBW performs regularly in New York and tours nationally and internationally. The Company has been commissioned by presenters nationwide, and includes among its honors a New York Dance and Performance Award (“Bessie”); the Capezio Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dance; a Black Theater Alliance Award; and two Doris Duke Awards for New Work from the American Dance Festival. In recent years, Zollar has been awarded the 2014 Southern Methodist University Meadows Prize, the 2015 Dance Magazine Award and the 2016 Dance/USA Honors Award. In 2017, Zollar received a Bessie Award for Lifetime Achievement in Dance. Speis is the recipient of the 2017 Bessie Award for Outstanding Performer with the ensemble skeleton architecture. Judson received the APAP Leadership Fellowship and the Director’s Lab Chicago Fellowship in 2018.

Off the concert stage, UBW has developed an extensive community engagement program, BOLD (Builders, Organizers, and Leaders through Dance). UBW’s largest community engagement project is its Summer Leadership Institute (SLI), established in 1997. This intensive program serves as the foundation for all of the company’s community engagement activities. Ultimately the SLI connects dance professionals and community-based artists/activists in a learning experience to leverage the arts as a vehicle for civic engagement.

In 2016, UBW launched the Choreographic Center Initiative (CCI), which supports the development of women choreographers of color and other underheard voices.
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URBAN BUSH WOMEN STAFF:

Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, Founder/Chief Visioning Partner
Chanon Judson & Samantha Speis, Co-Artistic Directors/BOLD Directors
Tahnia Belle, Managing Director
Michelle Coe, Director of Booking & Touring
Cheri Stokes, Associate Producer
Makeda Smith, Marketing Manager
Brooke Rucker, Development/Visioning Partner Assistant
Zoe Walders, Operations Associate
Henry Liles, Finance Manager
Bennalldra Williams, Movement Specialist
Advance NYC, Development Consultants

Connect with Urban Bush Women: www.urbanbushwomen.org
For booking: Michelle Coe: mcoe@urbanbushwomen.org
facebook.com/urbanbushwomen
twitter.com/ubwdance
instagram: ubwdance
DON’T WORRY,
WE’LL HOLD HANDS AGAIN.

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In addition to performing this weekend, **Urban Bush Women** has also participated in a handful of engagement events this week, including class visits with undergraduates in the Duke Dance Program, a public workshop with local choreographers and dance educators, and a public conversation led by Duke Dance Chair Andrea Woods Valdés.

Last season, **Duke Performances** held over 100 engagement events with visiting artists, reaching over 2,000 Duke students and 2,000 members of the Durham community through class visits, public conversations, master classes, workshops, and pop-up concerts, as well as K-12 engagement with Durham Public Schools.

Your contribution to Duke Performances ensures that we can continue to make these meaningful and memorable opportunities available at no cost to the community.

**Thank you for your support.**

Urban Bush Women’s residency is funded in part by a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the North Carolina Arts Council.

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