Creative Dialogue
A CONVERSATION ABOUT WOMEN AND RESISTANCE
Nora Chipaumire, choreographer and dancer
Kojo Nnamdi, moderator
Monday, April 1, 2013 . 7:30PM . FREE

Join Chipaumire along with Sheri Parks, UMD American Studies professor; Sheema Kalbasi, an Iranian writer who has lived most of her life in exile from her home country; and Sarah Browning, director of DC Poets Against the War and Split This Rock. They will discuss the complexities experienced by women who choose and/or are destined to lead a life of protest and resistance.

NORA CHIPAUMIRE
Miriam
Eric Ting, director
Omar Sosa, composer
Olivier Clausse, lighting design
Okwui Okpokwasili, performer
April 4 – 6 . 8PM . $35

With Miriam, the renowned choreographer and dancer Nora Chipaumire creates her first character-driven work — a deeply personal dance-theatre performance that looks closely at the tensions women face between public expectations and private desires; between selflessness and ambition; and between the perfection and sacrifice of the feminine ideal.

Join the artists for a Talk Back following the April 5 performance.
advancements for our very survival. Yet technology is so pervasive that it impresses itself on our most intimate interactions: couples meet via online matchmakers, people pay their respects to the deceased via Facebook posts, and arguments begin and proliferate via Tweets. While the nature of these exchanges is not inherently problematic, it does raise questions regarding boundaries and moderation.

In thinking about the wisdom of moderation, I would like to offer a few questions that may help each of us (re)consider our own relationship with technology:

- How often do you check your phone?
- Have you ever spent a full 24 hours without your phone? Could you?
- If you lost your cell phone, how many (and whose) numbers could you conjure using memory alone?
- When was the last time you chose to visit a nearby friend instead of sending a text or email?

And finally, I must ask you to do yourself and your fellow audience members a great favor. In the words of Dead Man’s Cell Phone’s Mrs. Gottlieb, “There are only one or two sacred places left in the world today. Where there is no ringing. The theatre, the church and the toilet.” While I suspect that this is not entirely true, I would like to offer a personal request: Please take this time to turn off your cell phones (and other mobile devices) and take a moment to enjoy real, live theatre.

— Anjna Swaminathan

Dramaturg

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1 Sprint® commercial. Author’s transcription and emphasis.
Christopher Baine (sound designer), recent design credits include the world premiere of DIRT by Bryony Lavery at Studio Theater. He has also designed for The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity, Gruesome Playground Injuries and A Bright New Boise for which he won the 2012 Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Sound Design with Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company. Other credit includes Heir Apparent and Julius Caesar FFA with Shakespeare Theatre and Taming of the Shrew with Folger Theatre. He has also designed for many different companies in the region including the Kennedy Center TYA, Olney Theatre Company, Everyman Theatre, Forum Theatre, Theater J, Adventure Theatre, Imagination Stage, Children’s Theater Charlotte, Synetic Theatre and Theatre Alliance. He has also been a guest artist with University of Maryland, Catholic University and American University. He was a Kenan Fellow at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in 2012. wwww.bainedesign.com. Twitter: @SoundsLikeBaine.


Andrew Cissna (lighting designer), third-year MFA in lighting design candidate. Kogod Theatre: Sandwalk (lighting designer), Dance Theatre: Like a Unicorn in Captivity. Recent designs include: 1984 (Catalyst Theater Company, Helen Hayes nomination); Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo (Round House Theatre); Our Destiny (Ford’s Theatre); Passion for Justice (Olney Theatre Center); American Scrapbook (Kennedy Center TYA); Alexander, Happy Elf, Little Engine That Could (Adventure Theatre). Broadway: Mountaintop (assistant to the lighting designer). Off-Broadway: Ballet for Adolf (assistant lighting designer).

Kelsey Hunt (costume designer), second-year MFA in costume design candidate. Kogod Theatre: Sandwalk. Outside productions: Body Awareness (Theatre J), Pride & Prejudice (Chesapeake Shakespeare), Skin Tight (Studio Theatre), Little House Christmas (Adventure Theatre). Assistant design: Taming of the Shrew (Folger Theatre), The Sun Also Rises (The Washington Ballet), The Convert (Woolly Mammoth). Hunt designed more than 40 productions in her six seasons as Resident Costume Designer at Triad Stage, North Carolina and is a two-time recipient of the Marian A. Smith Award. www.kelseyhuntdesign.com.

KJ Sanchez (director), is founder/CEO of American Records, a theater company devoted to chronicling our time. She is the co-author and director of ReEntry, produced Off-Broadway at Urban Stages as well as theaters across the country and internationally. Sanchez has directed 26 Miles at Round House and Two River Theater, The Giver at Asolo Rep, 9 Parts of Desire and The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity at Actors Theatre of Louisville, and Private Lives and Mere Mortals at Two River Theater Company. Sanchez’s newest play, Highway 47, will run in New York at HERE Arts Center April 15-19. www.amrec.us.
Ahjina Swimminathan (dramaturg), senior performance studies major, 2012 ARHU Dean’s Senior Scholar. Kay Theatre: The Seagull (assistant sound designer). Kogod Theatre: In the Red and Brown Water (dramaturg/dresser), Menai’s Dream (music director/dramaturg).

**ACTOR AND PRODUCTION STAFF BIOGRAPHIES**


Nelly Draz (assistant stage manager), senior theatre and TESOL studies major. Kay Theatre: The Seagull (dress wardrobe crew). Dance Theatre: Shared Grad Concert (assistant stage manager). Kogod Theatre: In the Red and Brown Water (Eugungun U/S). Other UMD productions: To Be Or Not To Be… Me? (Nelly).

Lydia Francis (assistant scenic designer), first-year scenic design MFA student. Graduated with a BA in theatre from Gustavus Adolphus College. This is the first production she has worked on at the University of Maryland.


Jonathan Helwig (Gordon), junior theatre and psychology major, Creative and Performing Arts Scholar. Kay Theatre: Everything in the Garden (Perry); RENT (Roger). Outside productions: You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown (Snoopy); Aida (Radames); Sweeney Todd (Judge). CAPPIE Nominations: Best Male Vocalist, Song, Comic Actor.

Mayo Johnson (assistant director), senior theatre, neurobiology and physiology major. Kay Theatre: RENT (dresser). Kogod Theatre: In the Red and Brown Water (Eugungun). Outside productions: Rocky Horror Picture Show (Rocky), Once on this Island (Gatekeeper). Film: John (Caretaker), Sugar Rush (Kuikuu Omoi), Time (John).


Cindy King (assistant stage manager), junior theatre and communications major. Outside productions: Curtains (stage manager).

Jocelyn Knazik (assistant director), sophomore theatre and biology major, Banneker/Key Scholar. Kay Theatre: Breath, Rhythm, Flight (assistant stage manager). Postcard from Morocco (assistant stage manager). Other UMD productions: Two Rooms (props), The Last Five Years (stage manager). Outside productions: Guys and Dolls (director).

Christopher Lane (Ensemble/Dwight U/S), sophomore theatre and psychology major. YoungArts Scholar, Maryland Distinguished Talent Finalist. Kogod Theatre: The Old Settler (Husband), In the Red and Brown Water (Elegba). Outside productions: The Exonerated (Delbert Tibbs), Waiting for Godot (Estragon).

Sam Maceri (ensemble, Hermia U/S), junior theatre and Arabic studies major. Kogod Theatre: Sandwalk: An Original Creation (Company Member). Other UMD productions: Mr. Marmalade (Lucy). Member of Erasable Inc.


Daniel Riker (ensemble/Gordon U/S), senior theatre major. Other UMD productions: Maryland Shakespeare Players: The Tempest (Trinculo), Othello (Roderigo), Titus Andronicus (Marcus), As You Like It (Touchstone), Measure for Measure (Escalus), Much Ado About Nothing (Borachio).

Korinn Walfall (Sunny), freshman theatre and communications double major and vocal performance minor, Creative and Performing Arts Scholar. Other UMD productions: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Marcy Park). Outside productions: Ragtime (Sarah), Aida (Aida).

Ruth Anne Watkins (The Other Woman/The Stranger), senior theatre and marketing major, Berman Masters Scholar, Presidential Scholar. Kay Theatre: A Midsummer Night’s Dream (stage manager), Enchanted April (Mrs. Graves). Outside productions: Imagination Meldown Adventure (stage manager), Sleeping Beauty: A Puppet Baller (puppeteer).

Madeline Whiting (Jean), senior theatre major, Creative and Performing Arts Scholar. Kay Theatre: The Seagull (Nina), Enchanted April (Rose U/S). Kogod Theatre: Hotel Cassipopeia (Marianne, Leila). Outside productions: The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds (Tillie), Bash (Sue), Minnie the Moocher (Minnie and puppet).

Alli Wolf (stage manager), senior theatre stage management major. Kogod Theatre: In the Red and Brown Water (stage manager), Sandwalk (assistant stage manager). Kay Theatre: RENT, Abduction from the Seraglio, Maryland Dance Ensemble: Counterpoint (assistant stage manager). Other UMD productions: Mr. Marmalade (stage manager). Outside productions: The Illusion (production assistant).
Playwrights Horizons, Inc., New York City, produced the New York Premiere of
Dead Man’s Cell Phone Off-Broadway in 2008.

Originally produced June 2006 by Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Washington,
DC, Howard Shalwitz, Artistic Director; Kevin Moore, Managing Director.

Dead Man’s Cell Phone was commissioned by Playwrights Horizons with funds provided
by the Harold and Mimi Steinberg Commissioning Program.

The scenic design of this production, under the supervision of Daniel Conway, is in partial
fulfillment of the thesis requirement for the Master of Fine Arts degree in Theatre.

Video or audio recording of the production is strictly prohibited.