

**FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021**

## **Dance & Black Masculinities**

**C. Kemal Nance, The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

**Registration Cap: 50**

### **Workshop Overview:**

The workshop will survey contemporary choreographers and how they use the Black male dancing body to subvert hegemonic gender performance.

### **Workshop Content:**

Movement session will include and engagement with the Umfundalai contemporary African dance technique.

We will critique choreographies by Charles Chuck Davis, Kyle Abram, and Ron Brown.

The discussion will include the evolution of Black masculinities and their function in American concert dance. We will focus on Bryant Keith Alexander's "Performing Masculinities" and Mark Anthony Neal's "Illegible Masculinities."

Break out room content will be task driven. Sub groups will be tasked will compile and curate youtube links, and other digital media examples that illuminate the theories brought up in discussion.

### **Schedule:**

<b>TIME</b> —all times are in Eastern Time	<b>SESSION</b>
12:00pm-1:15pm ET	Session 1: Movement Session—Umfundalai Contemporary African Dance Technique
1:15pm-1:30pm ET	Break
1:30pm-2:30 ET	Session 2: Discussion—Critique of Choreographies
2:30pm-3:00pm ET	Break
3:00-4:00 ET	Session 3: Evolution of Black Masculinities / Breakout Rooms

### **Space/ equipment requirements for participants:**

Participants need a space in which they can freely move.

### **Presenter Bio:**

**C. Kemal Nance**, C. Kemal Nance, PhD “Kibon” a native of Chester, Pennsylvania is a performer, choreographer, and scholar of African Diasporan Dance. Dr. Nance has performed as a principal dancer with Kariam & Company: Traditions (Philadelphia, PA) and as a recurring guest artist with Chuck Davis’ African American Dance Ensemble (AADE) in Durham, North Carolina. Currently, Dr. Nance is an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Dance and African American Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He also directs the Nance Dance Collective, an all-male dance initiative that produces choreographies about Black manhood. Dr. Nance has also authored book chapters in the recently published *Dance and the Quality of Life* (Springer Press) and *Hot Feet and Social Chances* African Dance and Diaspora Communities (University of Illinois Press). Dr. Nance is a master teacher of the Umfundalai technique of African dance and has supervised the teaching certification for budding African dance practitioners across the country. Dr. Nance holds a BA in Sociology/Anthropology with the concentration in Black Studies from Swarthmore College (Swarthmore, PA) where he taught African

dance and repertory course for 20 years. He also holds M.Ed and PhD degrees in Dance from Temple University (Philadelphia, PA).

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