

TU DANCE

EXCELLENCE | BELONGING | CREATIVITY | TRANSFORMATION



"A performance of generosity, grace, and primal power."

—*Dance Magazine* on TU Dance

" . . . gracious, lush, complex, emotionally resonant and well, simply beautiful."

—*Minneapolis Star Tribune*

THREAT by TU Dance

THREAT is a concert dance theater work that aims to provoke an interrogation of the roles we play as individuals and communities in hierarchies. The work posits that hierarchies have the power to control our behavior and infiltrate our thoughts, even when no authority is present to enforce the rules. Using a physical language and soundscape that fuses multicultural traditions and styles of the West and the African Diaspora, this social exploration invites audiences into a modern narrative that speaks to the universal experience of authority, obedience, and rebellion. As a performance, *THREAT* employs multifaceted contemporary movement and theatricality that is bathed in an eclectic and evocative original score and set design. It is a work where orchestral strings, djembe drum, and spoken word bump into soundbites of Malcolm X, Jamaica Kincaid, Donald Trump, and Fidel Castro — where new and old flags hang, representing freedom and control, safety, and danger.

“I long for my work to echo the rich soul and rhythms of my native Trinidad, while at the same time drawing upon the vocabulary of classical concert dance. For me, this is an expression of my identity — a recognition that being a complete human is about finding harmony among our many selves, our many distinct voices.”

—*Yusha-Marie Sorzano*

“We are very excited to have Yusha back to create *THREAT*, her second work for TU Dance, which she has been envisioning and researching for a few years. Yusha has a keen ability to weave narrative and movement in her creations. I continue to be inspired by how the art of dance has the capacity to reflect our humanity and transform our lives.”

—*Toni Pierce-Sands, Founder and Artistic Director*

Yusha-Marie Sorzano, self-identified as Afro Caribbean American, is a performer, choreographer, and educator. Currently a member of Camille A. Brown & Dancers and founding co-artistic director of Zeitgeist Dance Theatre, Yusha has appeared with TU Dance as a featured dancer several times. Her choreography has been commissioned by Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Nashville Ballet, Colorado Symphony, TU Dance and elsewhere.



THREAT
The O'Shaughnessy
2004 Randolph Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55105
April 26 & 27, 2024 | 7:30pm

Ticket price: \$40 (discounts for students and seniors). Tickets can be purchased online at oshag.stkate.edu/events/ or contact The O'Shaughnessy Ticket Office at 651-690-6700.



ABOUT TU DANCE

The award-winning TU Dance is known for its diverse artistic performances tackling important questions around gender, race, social justice, history, human resilience and more. Founded in 2004, TU Dance has received dozens of accolades and awards while touring nationwide. Under the artistic direction of Toni Pierce-Sands, TU Dance continues to be a leading dance company in the Twin Cities. In 2011, The School at TU Dance Center was formed and since then has served nearly 4,000 students and has provided \$734,000 in scholarships through the TU Dance Access Fund and various grants. For more information go to www.tudance.org.

For marketing related inquiries including requests for media assets and/or scheduling a visit to TU Dance Center, please contact Kari Mosel at kari.mosel@tudance.org or (651) 724-9708.

Photos (top and bottom) by Canaan Mattson
Photo of Yusha-Maria Sorzano by Eric Politzer