### VENETIA STIFLER & CONCERT DANCE INC.



After a two-year hiatus due to COVID, we are back, ready to perform, and celebrate the company's 42year creative legacy. VENETIA STIFLER & CONCERT DANCE INC. presents UNFOLDING, a celebration of the company's legacy that spans more than four decades. This dance performance includes choreography by four generations of company artists: Emmy nominated founder Venetia Stifler; alumni artists Edson Cabrera Vieta; Amy Wilkinson; and current ensemble member Ashley Fox. The concert will be held for one night only on October 7, 2023 at 7:30 pm on the Fine Arts Center Auditorium stage at Northeastern Illinois University, 3701 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Chicago, Illinois, 60625.

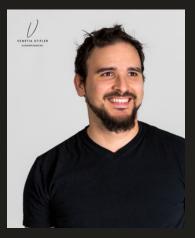
## Choreographers



**MEETINGS ALONG THE EDGE** – (by Venetia Stifler) explores our unexpected and visceral responses while encountering new rituals, ideas, people, and societies. A full company work the dancers fly through the space confronting one another. We are reminded of conflicts dangerous and real.



**CHIMERA** – (by Amy Wilkinson) anger is viewed as a threeheaded monster, overtaking our reason, uncontainable sarcastically distorted, never really leaving, always present, there, at the edges of our consciousness.

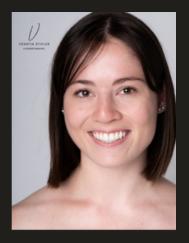


**SHORTENING THE DISTANCE** – (by Edson Cabrera Vieta) exploring what it is that helps us identify new thoughts and swiftly take a step of action toward committing to it. The moment when you see your path and the time it takes to believe it. Shortening the distance between two people and bringing them toward commitment.



**PORTRAITS** – (by Ashley Fox) Images appear as if from a dream, without reason. Wacky, distorted characters appear and dance to 50's musical favorites, then drift away into the next suspended moment. It's a lighthearted look at social pretense.

## Dancers



**Caitlin Dyer,** originally from Northeast Ohio, has spent the past four years at Loyola University Chicago, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting in May 2023. While at Loyola, she worked with Sarah Cullen Fuller, Dr. Amy Wilkinson and Sandra Kauffman. Additionally, she participated in performances across the contemporary and modern spectrum in Chicago, throughout the Midwest, and internationally in Rome, Italy.



**Ashley Fox**, from Puyallup, WA, began her professional dance training at The International Ballet Academy in Kirkland, WA. She has trained with artists from the Paris Opera Ballet, New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and Vaganova Ballet Academy. She later moved on to train at the Moscow State Academy of Choreography (Bolshoi Ballet Academy), where she finished her classical dance training.



**Matt Haskett** is a young dance artist who is one year into his professional career in the Chicagoland area. Originally from Northern Virginia, Matt has trained in a variety of styles including Contemporary, Ballet, Hip-Hop, Modern, Jazz, and Tap. He is also an alumnus of James Madison University's Dance Program where Matt became a member of the Virginia Repertory Dance Company who has worked under the direction of artists like Matt Pardo, Ryan Corriston, Omar Roman de Jesus, Christian Warner, Xiang-Xu Jones, and Ricky Ruiz.



**Nina Jackson** is from Nashville, TN, and began dancing at Nashville School of Dance and Music before training for two years at Nashville Ballet. In 2019, she attended Loyola University Chicago to further her dance education, where she performed in a variety of works and received several departmental awards and scholarships. In 2023, Nina graduated with her Bachelor of Arts in Dance and Bachelor of Science in Biology and began dancing with Concert Dance Inc. in May of 2023



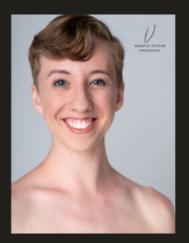
**Caroline Mcloughlin** is a recent Loyola University graduate who is excited to be performing in her first CDI showcase. In addition to dancing with CDI, Caroline is teaching at Fairytale Ballet in Lakeview and dancing throughout the Chicago area. Caroline received a scholarship to dance with the Mandala Dance Company in Rome in 2022 and the Loyola Dance Department's Chrysalis Award in 2023.



Sydney Osborne is thrilled to be joining Concert Dance Inc. for her first season. She is originally from St. Louis, Missouri and spent the last four years attending Loyola University Chicago where she graduated with Bachelor of Arts degrees in Dance and Visual Communication. Since graduation, she has been dancing with Same Planet Performance Project.



**Gretchen Plinke** is originally from Columbus, Ohio. She graduated from Loyola University Chicago with Bachelor of Arts degrees in Dance and Anthropology. She is excited to continue her artistic practice at Concert Dance Inc. in her first performance with the company. Gretchen also enjoys teaching children's dance classes throughout Chicago.



**Casey Sanders** is a multi-disciplinary performing artist with a widespread love of movement. Originally from the Nashville area, she earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance from Belhaven University before moving to Chicago in 2019. Thus far, her career has included work in television (USA Network's Real Country), musical theater (An American in Paris and Matilda, Drury Lane Theatre; Spamalot, Mercury Theater Chicago), jazz company work (Joel Hall Dancers), and contemporary company work (Vishun Movement Dance Collective; Concert Dance Inc.).

# VENETIA STIFLER & CONCERT DANCE INC. PRESENTS UNFOLDING

#### PURCHASE TICKETS AT neiu.edu/tickets

Salme Harju Steinberg Fine Arts Center Northeastern Illinois University 3701 W Bryn Mawr Ave, Chicago, IL 60659

### Northeastern

College of Arts and Sciences Department of Music and Dance Program





**OCTOBER 7, 2023** 

7:30 PM

ARTS COUNCIL AGENCY

### **General Admision**

