Netta Yerushalmy

Paramodernities

Friday, October 4, 2019 at 7:30pm
CFA Theater

Raised in Galilee, Israel and based in New York, choreographer Netta Yerushalmy has worked with dance companies including Doug Varone and Dancers and the Metropolitan Opera Ballet. At Wesleyan, the Connecticut premiere of her Paramodernities (2018) will feature a series of four dance-experiments, deconstructing landmark dances by Vaslav Nijinsky, Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, and Alvin Ailey; performed alongside texts by scholars and writers who place these iconic works within a historical context.

“Ms. Yerushalmy’s work melds daring ideas with lush movement that makes space for nuance and detail.”
—The New York Times

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A Performing Arts Series event presented by the Dance Department and the Center for the Arts. Photo by Maria Baranova.
FREE RELATED EVENTS

**Artist Talk with Netta Yerushalmy**
Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 4:45pm
Cross Street Dance Studio, 160 Cross Street
Choreographer Netta Yerushalmy partners with three scholars who work within Disability Studies: NYU Associate Professor of Media, Culture and Communication *Mara Mills*; UC Berkeley Senior Lecturer *Georgina Kleege* (via Skype); and Wesleyan University Professor of English and Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies *Christina Crosby*.

**CFA Lunchtime Conversation with Thomas F. DeFrantz**
*Revelations: The Afterlives of Slavery*
Thursday, October 3, 2019, 12 noon–1pm
Usdan University Center, Room 110
We invite you to join Duke University Professor of Dance and African and American Studies *Thomas F. DeFrantz* and *Paramodernities* performers as they share their process of interrogating and re-framing Alvin Ailey’s canonical work, *Revelations*, for Netta Yerushalmy’s *Paramodernities #3*.

**Masterclass with Netta Yerushalmy**
Saturday, October 5, 2019 at 11am
Bessie Schönberg Dance Studio, 247 Pine Street
Join choreographer Netta Yerushalmy for a free master class, *Deconstructing Dance History — A Studio Practice*. The movement workshop explores, interrogates and re-frames the Western dance canon. This workshop is appropriate for intermediate-level dancers.

**Areas of Study:**
American Studies, African American Studies, Anthropology, Center for the Humanities, Civic Engagement, College of Letters; Dance, English, FGSS, Film Studies, French Studies, German Studies; Government, History, Italian Studies, Music; Psychology, Philosophy, Religion, Romance Studies, Russian/East European Studies, Social, Cultural and Critical Theory, Sociology, Theater, Writing

**Proposed Themes:**
Authorship, Ballet, Capitalism, Censorship, Commodification, Choreography, Conformity, Cultural Appropriation, Death, Disabilities, Eroticism, Female-Centeredness, Feminism, Freud, Homophobia, Jung, Modern Dance; Modernity, Musical Theater, Nihilism, Post-Modernity Racism, Rehabilitation, Sex/Sexuality, Slavery, Sovereignty, Subversion, Theory/Practice, Trauma

**Conversation Starters:**
1. How does *Paramodernities* deconstruct iconic canonical choreography through the lens of contemporary critical theories?
2. How does this work attempt to connect theory with practice? How is scholarship positioned and re-embodied on stage?
3. What “oppressive histories” are being broken down through this work?
4. How does divorcing iconic choreography from its original historical context and music change that work? How does it allow audiences to experience it in new ways?
5. What is the experience of seeing this work? What demands does this show make on the audiences?
6. How does this work play around with the notions of authorship?
Reading Room:
Performancepractice.org: Netta Yerushalmy “Paramodernities:”
http://performancepractice.org/portfolio/paramodernities/

New York Times Review: In ‘Paramodernities,’ Words and Dance Do Battle. The Audience Wins:

New York Times: “Netta Yerushalmy’s Cabinet of Curiosities:”

Wexner Center for the Arts Q and A: Netta Yerushalmy on “Paramodernities:”
https://wexarts.org/read-watch-listen/qa-netta-yerushalmy-paramodernities

Arts Journal Blog: “Excavate, Reassemble, Create:”

Viewing Room:
Post-Show Talk: Paramodernities by Netta Yerushalmy, Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival 2018
https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=3PO6tQ6zV68

Clips of Original Choreographic Works

PARAMODERNITIES #1:
Footage of Nijinsky’s choreography: 1913 Paris premiere
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jkClPOUQBCU

Le Sacre du printemps/The Rite of Spring, Ballets Russes, 2017|
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YOZmlYgYzG4

PARAMODERNITIES #2:
Footage of Graham’s Choreography
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFNsKeMbW20

PARAMODERNITIES #3:
Revelations by Alvin Ailey
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNqaixKbrjs

PARAMODERNITIES #4:
Clips of Cunningham’s Choreography
Ocean (1994)
https://dancecapsules.mercecunningham.org/overview.cfm?capid=46086

Beach Birds (1991)
https://dancecapsules.mercecunningham.org/overview.cfm?capid=46030

Points in Space (1987)
https://dancecapsules.mercecunningham.org/overview.cfm?capid=46089

Sounddance (1975)
https://dancecapsules.mercecunningham.org/overview.cfm?capid=46037

Rainforest (1968)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_thwkNXM7Y

CURRICULUM GUIDE: PARAMODERNITIES