

INCLINED DANCE PROJECT

Kristen Klein

Artistic Director & Choreographer

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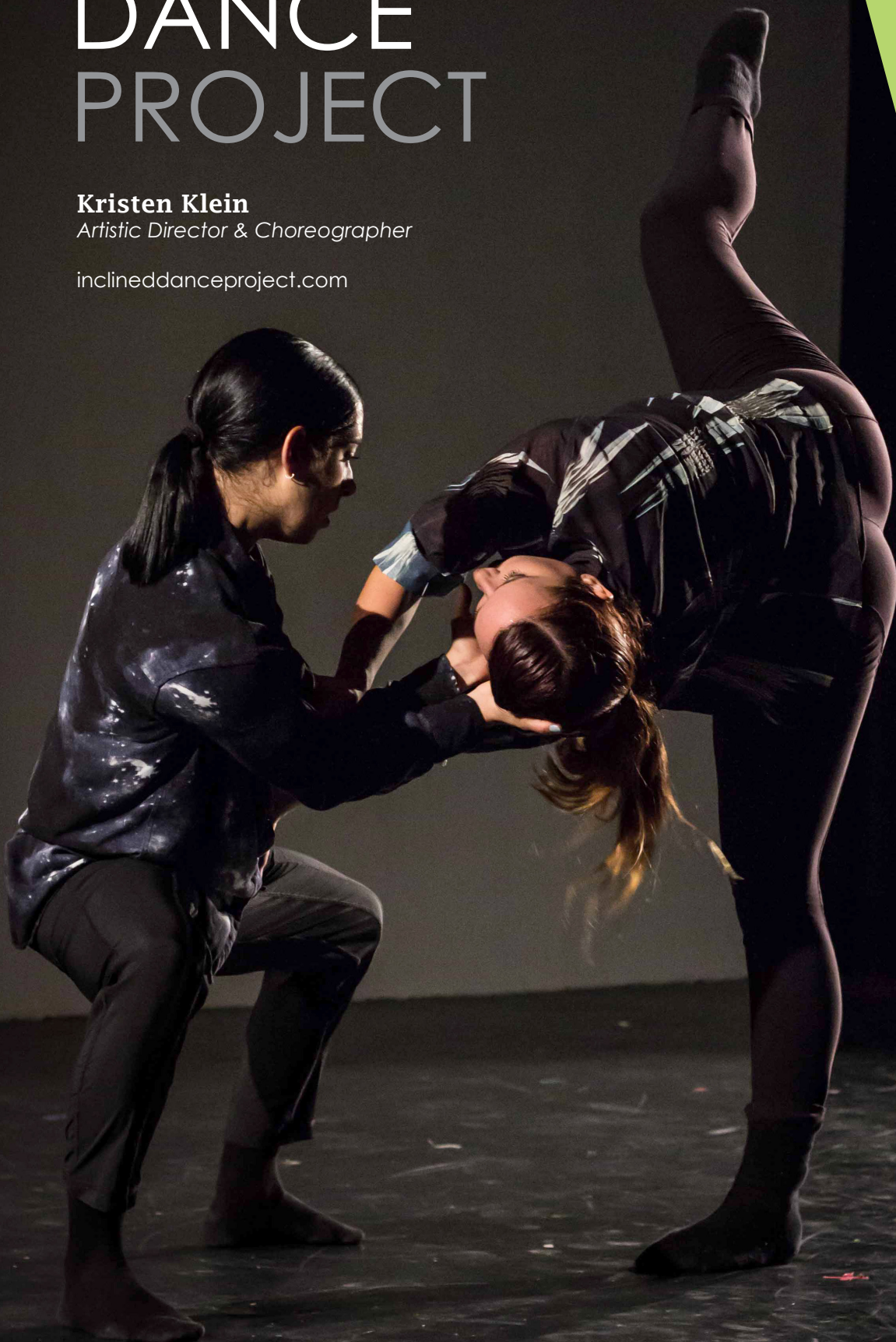


Photo credit: Andrew Mauney

The Company

Based in Brooklyn and embodying the driven, passionate, hard-working attitude of NYC, we work, dream, and create as a collaborative community of female artists with a common goal: to break traditional artistic boundaries and engage audiences with an innovative and accessible form of contemporary dance that reflects, explores, and illustrates the nuances of the human experience.

Our works present visually intricate landscapes inspired and propelled by transformative moments and transportive emotions. We dig deep, confronting and embracing the fear, anxiety, awkwardness, insecurity, excitement, joy, apathy, boredom, apprehension, confusion, and tranquility that define human life in the modern world.

We approach dance-making through a "set and destroy" method, allowing performers and collaborating artists the opportunity to deconstruct material and incite dialogue, exploration, and personal contribution to each work. Fusing classic dance vocabulary, familiar mannerisms, and contemporary ideas, our signature style is athletic, technical, and dynamic.

Photo credit: Andrew Mauney



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Kristen Klein hails from Branford, Connecticut and received her dance training from the New Haven Ballet School, North Carolina Dance Theater (now Charlotte Ballet), Ballet Austin, and Boston Ballet. She went on to study at The Boston Conservatory in Boston, MA where she graduated Cum Laude with a BFA in Dance Performance and Choreography. While at the Conservatory she performed in works by Jose Limon, Murray Louis, and Olivier Besson and was the recipient of the Julie Ince Thompson Choreography Scholarship. After graduating, she transplanted to Brooklyn, NY and founded Inclined Dance Project in early 2009.

Kristen has performed with freelance choreographers Tiffany Spearman, Chie Mukai, Catie Cuan, Cecilia Seaward, Christina Sukhgian Houle, & Josiah Cuneo, as well as with the Harvard University Historical Society, Six Degrees Dance Company, Tribe of Human, C. Eule Dance, Leyya Mona Tawil/Dance Elixir, Kelley Donovan & Dancers, and Stephan Koplowitz Projects.



She has guest choreographed for xyz Dance at The Tank and for benefit fundraisers in Connecticut for the New Haven Ballet and Ballet Haven, and her choreographic works have been performed in New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Japan.




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Performances & Partnerships

Since its creation, Inclined Dance Project has performed at various venues and festivals throughout New York, New England, and the Tri-State area including: The Julie Ince Thompson Theater at The Dance Complex, Boston University, Baruch College, NEWSTEPS at Chen Dance Center, The Center for Performance Research, The Actors Fund Arts Center, Triskelion Arts, Dixon Place, The Flea Theater, University Settlement, the Ailey Citigroup Theater, The Secret Theatre, The Tank, Gibney Dance Center, The Gowanus Arts Building, DUMBO Dance Festivals, Vox Nours' 60x60 Dance at Brookfield Place, the 2009-2014 CoolNY Dance Festivals, and the International Festival of Arts and Ideas among others.

In addition to performances and festival appearances, IDP hosts monthly repertory workshops and company class at Triskelion Arts in Brooklyn and presents the work of other up and coming female choreographers through our split-bill platform inQUAD; hosted annually at Dixon Place in the Lower East Side.



"...Artistic Director Kristen Klein's style can't be easily pigeon-holed, and the company's roster of dancers is as eclectic and accomplished as are Ms. Klein's dances—their physical and emotional texture adds to the visual impact of her choreography...This is a seasoned group that knows exactly what it's doing every step of the way."

Jerry Hochman
Critical Dance Magazine

Photo credit: Stephen Delas Heras

Press Coverage

The company has been featured by Huffington Post, the Stewardship Report, Dance Spirit Magazine, Critical Dance Magazine, Ballet-Dance Magazine, offoffoff Broadway, Fitengine, and Dancemedia.com.



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Photo credit: Andrew Mauney

Runtime: 45mins (excerpts: 5-30 mins)

6 dancers

Music & Sounds: Murcof, Moon Ate The Dark, Senking, Cab Calloway, & 1940s PSA Announcements

Full premier: Martha Graham Center Studio Theater, November 2017

the blahs (plural noun): a feeling of boredom, lethargy, or general dissatisfaction (*Miriam-Webster*)

How to Beat The Blahs... examines how we deal with our emotions and the effects our mental weight takes on our everyday lives. How can we conquer our feelings and function through daily events? Can we indulge in our emotions without sacrificing productivity? Drawing from stress, boredom, anxiety, joy, rage, excitement, indifference, annoyance, and all the emotions in between, these feelings are manifested through movement and the social interactions between the dancers on stage. The audience is taken through the highs and lows of man's well being as the performers work their way through different emotional states culminating in one solution in how to "beat" your blahs.

Current Repertory

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Runtime: 17mins (excerpts: 5-10mins)

4 dancers

Music & Sounds: Alessandro Cortin, with self-recorded sounds from nature

Full premiere: Dixon Place: August 2017

Phyla is an abstract interpretation of the billion year journey of evolution. Beginning as single-celled organisms, the work fast-forwards to the development of the complex creatures of today and takes the viewer through a progressive landscape of natural processes and augmentation. Inspired by cellular division, genetic mutation, animal classes, herd mentality, swarming, and hereditary similarities, *Phyla* aims to take science and transform it into a tangible visual study.

Current Repertory



Photo credit: Andrew Mauney

Runtime: 60mins (Excerpts: 10 – 30 mins)

5-6 dancers

Music: Loscil

Full premier: The Center for Performance Research, November 2016

TURF is an evening length work that was developed throughout 2016. *TURF* explores the perceptions of environment, the degeneration of territories, the transition of locations, and the harsh reality of dealing with change, both socially and geographically. The work invites the audience to change their point of view and experience the work in an immersive landscape. Surrounded by the dancers, the audience is brought into the work's rotating terrain and evolving movement, bringing the observers up close and personal to the performers and allowing the audience to become an integral part of the work.

TURF is easily divided into smaller and shorter excerpts and can be performed in both proscenium and non-traditional theater setups.

A photograph of two dancers in white leotards performing in a dark space. They are in dynamic, low-to-the-ground poses. Large, dark shadows of their bodies are cast onto the wall behind them. The floor is reflective. The title 'SOMNIPATH' is overlaid in large white letters.

SOMNIPATH

Photo credit: Stephen Delas Heras

Runtime: 75 mins (Excerpts: 5 – 40mins)

6 dancers

Music: Xhin, Thom Yorke, Alvo Noto, Deru, Animal Collective, Moderat, Ryoji Ikeda.

Full premiere: The Actors Fund Arts Center, December 2015

Somnipath is an evening length dance work exploring the most basic of human needs: sleep. Inspired by Inclined's company members' struggles with various sleeping disorders (including sleepwalking, restless leg syndrome, and sleep paralysis), *Somnipath* takes the audience on a visual journey through the various stages and abnormalities of sleep. Utilizing unique lighting methods, an original compiled sound-score, and a collaborative movement vocabulary, Inclined Dance Project has developed a multi-layered landscape inspired by dreams, nightmares, circadian patterns, dyssomnias, shadows, REM cycles, unconsciousness, and awakening.

Somnipath is divided into 3 sections, "The Day", "The Night", and "Awakening", and can be easily broken up into smaller excerpts.



Runtime: 7 mins

2 dancers

Music: The Chromatics

Premier: Julie Ince Thompson Theater at The Dance Complex, March 2015

Temporizer is a duet which examines the effects of dominant and reticent energies. The two dancers move through opposition & weight sharing, and utilize dynamic partnering to showcase force, strength, and endurance.

A photograph of four dancers in a human pyramid formation. One dancer is lying horizontally at the top, supported by three others below. They are in a dark space with blue and orange lighting. The title 'HELIOCENTRIS' is overlaid in large white letters.

HELIOCENTRIS

Photo credit: Andrew Mauney

Runtime: 32 mins

6 dancers

Music & Sounds: Ty Burhoe, Max Richter, Ezio Bosso, and satellite recordings

Premier: Dixon Place, November 2014

Heliocentris is an exploration derived from the mechanics and phenomenon of outer space. Drawing inspiration from the spectacles of the universe, the work abstractly explores celestial objects, the Big Bang, constellations, planetary orbits, vacuum energy, gravity, dark matter, and more. *Heliocentris* has a neo-classical movement sensibility and utilizes various ballet and modern techniques.



STUCK TOGETHER PIECES

Photo credit: Short Photo Co.

Runtime: 35mins (Excerpts: 5-16mins)

4-6 dancers

Music & Sounds: The Joy Formidable, Four Tet, Shakey Graves, Aphex Twin, Fever Ray, Hibiki Sound Factory, Praxis, Moby, Atoms for Peace, MTA NYC Transit, The Knife, Alva Noto, nature recordings, Goldmund, Monty Python's Flying Circus, ReBoot, Radiohead, and Animal Collective

Full premier: Center for Performance Research, November 2013

Stuck Together Pieces is an exploration in connecting, disconnecting, and re-connecting. How are we in sync on a physical level? How are we connected mentally? How do distance, environment, and lifestyle affect how we interact with each other? The work explores the complex bonds of human beings through developed phrasework, structured improvisations, and set patterns within both a physical and mental space. Contact between the dancers becomes an ever-changing dynamic that shows how humans can simultaneously become one with each other and also revel in their own little worlds.

A photograph of two dancers in a dark space. One dancer is in a high, arched pose, while the other is in a more grounded, dynamic pose. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting their forms against a dark background. The word 'RINGER' is overlaid in large, white, serif capital letters, with a reflection effect below it.

RINGER

Photo credit: Andrew Mauney

Runtime: 10 mins

4 dancers

Music: Goldmund, Aphex Twin, The Modern Deep Left Quartet, and Xhin

Premier: Chen Dance Center/NEWSTEPS Residency, April 2013

Ringer explores the nature of duality and alternate personas. Comprised of two sets of duets, the dancers explore each other's movements and positions in space both as shadows and as duplicates of each other.

Current Repertory



Photo credit: Peter Yesley

Runtime: 10 mins

5-6 dancers

Music: Original composition by Frank Gilbertson

Full premier: The John Ryan Theater, September 2009

Visually inspired by a piece of graffiti art located in Cambridge, MA, *Marrow* depicts a group of figures struggling, exploring, and bonding with both inner and universal energies. The artwork portrays a group of faceless individuals emitting smoke, or a cloud-like substance, and this visual is the direct inspiration for the movement and arc of the work. *Marrow* is Inclined Dance Project's first company work and was created in collaboration with composer Frank Gilbertson.

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Photo credit: Andrew Mauney



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