Free Food and a Whole Bunch of Nothing
Dance and Related Arts Performance

The Department of Dance at the University of Michigan, in collaboration with other disciplines in the School of Music, Theatre and Dance, presents the annual Dance and Related Arts Concert. The works showcased reflect semester-long combined efforts between students in the Dance, Music, and Interarts departments, crafting ideas around a central concept where unexpected artistic outcomes are almost required. The performances take place at 8:00pm on Friday December 1st and Saturday December 2nd in Betty Pease Studio Theater in the Dance Building at 1310 North University Court. Tickets are $7 and will be sold at the door an hour before the shows. The house opens at 7:30pm. For more information, visit smtd.umich.edu/dance-productions.

With No Special or Distinctive Features: Normal: A piece by Grace Nagelvoort, Sheli Ruffer, Kandis Terry, Donley Nash, and Allison Burns about the conflicting nature between order and chaos in daily life. The work explores the chaos in daily activities, from riding a bus to eating together. The audience is invited to watch the group deconstruct social acceptability of emotion and challenge the insanity of participating in normal routines without questioning their value.

Found it. Where?: This work by Maddy Joss, Rosalie Li, Mike Perlman, Ayal Subar, Audrey Vogelsang, and Amy Wensley experiments with the mysteriousness of unseen people and objects. The group plays with wheels, iPhone flashlights, and shadows, set against sounds you just can't put your finger on. With these everyday objects that are often used without a second thought, the performers create a peculiar world that causes viewers to question what is behind the light and what is behind the dark. What is illuminated in life and what is hidden?

F.O.I.L.: Created by Ben Roberts, Johnny Mathews, Micky Esteban, Peter Sackett-Ferguson, and Annalise Harrison, this multi-media work plays in the black and white inner workings of our collective minds. With the utilization of lights and reflective surfaces, the performers and the audience are enveloped in a reflection of our collective anxieties and insecurities. The collaborators present ideas to challenge and invite exploration into the edges between light and dark how these clear lines become distorted.

Please: Sophie Allen, Anina Dassa, Kate Derringer, J. Meyers, Kiara Williams, and Izzi Wayner present this multidisciplinary work that treads the line between serious and satirical. Through original music, visuals, poetry and movement, the collaborators explore the notion of worth, asking what it means to produce art for others, for oneself, and for an economic bottom line.

Here lies birthday: The theme of celebration is explored in the work by Celina Lindland, Ben Brown, JP Wogaman II, Annelise Senkowski, and Emily Soong. By amplifying the juxtaposition between happiness and austerity, and by taking absurdity to the extreme, the group seeks to probe at the idea of superfluous celebration at the expense of empathy. By warping the concept of celebration, the group seeks to stimulate thought and conversation about what it means to celebrate, what is celebrated, and what these celebrations say about the people who partake.

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