**SpectorDance’s Choreographers showcase 2022**

**Artist Biographies**

**Angela Chambers** attended UCSC, where she had the privilege to develop and expand her knowledge of and passion for dance as not only a art form, but as a tool for personal growth and a catalyst for social change. Since graduating, she continues to work as a dance artist and director in Santa Cruz and the Bay Area and furthers her training through residencies and intensives – most recently with Mather Dance Company, Kyle Abraham’s A.I.M, and Garth Fagan Dance. Alongside performing, Angela pursues her passion for elevating and supporting youth as Development Director at Tannery World Dance & Cultural Center and as a certified Health and Wellness teacher. Angela is the Programs Manager for the Black Health Matters Initiative. Angela finding new ways to engage her dedication to community organizing, youth empowerment, and the performing arts.

**Shany Dagan** is an Israeli dancer/choreographer/singer/health coach. After three years in the Israeli Defense Forces she moved to New York City to purse her dance career. She holds a degree from the Musical and Dramatic Academy. She has performed with many independent artists throughout the United States and Israel and was selected create a new work for dancers at the Broadway Dance Center in 2020.

**Camrin E Dannelly** walks a balance beam between two worlds. By day, she is a marketmanager. By night, she is an artist intent on putting Monterey’s dance scene on the map. A locally known dancer and choreographer, she has been blessed with opportunities to produceoriginal works for dance and theatre companies such as Monterey Bay Dance Company, theWestern Stage, Forest Theatre Guild, Hurdy Gurdy Project, One Billion Rising, Carmel DelightsDance Company, and the Erotic Eclectic. After returning from New York where she studied atGibney Arts Center, Camrin was resident choreographer for Paraphrase Productions. Performing is her first true love. What a thrill to be back.

**Ramya Harishankar** is artistic director of the Arpana Dance Company (ADC), a premier school of Bharata Natyam in California and has taught several hundred students since 1982. Her solo performing career of five decades has taken her to India, Asia, Europe, Australia, and N. America. She received the *Kala Seva Bharathi* (India) award for her contribution to Indian arts abroad Since 2020, Harishankar has been sharing the intricacies of *abhinaya,* nationally and internationally online. She also premiered a digital series, Dance Conversations, documenting her four-decade journey in the Diaspora through the ‘lens & voice’ of her mentors, colleagues, and collaborators. Short ‘dance films’ [Bhumika](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_9D6hUCQzi0) & [Aasha](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWvjir2HSBI&t=9s) have been critically acclaimed. ADC’s has performed in the US, Europe, India, and Japan in aid of charities. ADC/Harishankar are recipients of prestigious grants from California Arts Council, Alliance for California Traditional Arts and she is a 2-time NEA’s Choreographic Fellow.

**Nathan Hirschaut** is a performing artist who graduated from The Juilliard School for Dance in 2020. Over the past 15 years, Nathan has studied from the world's best in dance, yoga, and artistic ideology creating the base of his spiritual, unconventionally creative, and wild performance art. His mission is to make and perform in projects that connect people to their Nature and Power, a space beyond the limitations of their minds. Since graduating school, Nathan has been commissioned and independently produced several cross-disciplinary projects, retreats, intensives, workshops, and classes. Nathan's work has been featured in The Washington Times, NPR, and the LA Post as a pioneering artist and thought leader in performance art.

**Tracy R. Kofford** holds a BFA in Dance from University of California of Santa Barbara and a MFA from New York University, TISCH School of the Arts. Tracy has performed and choreographed nationally and internationally with his own work and Jennifer Muller/The Works, who he danced with for over 10 years in NYC. He has studied and worked with some of the world's most influential choreographers, performers and dance companies. He also performed with Disney Cruise line, featured as Tarzan. Mr. Kofford was featured in photographer Lois Greenfield: Still Moving. He has received numerous honors include the McCallum Choreography Award in 2016, the ACDA Gala recognition. the Audience Choice award at the Red Rock Dance Festival. His choreography has been presented at Lincoln Center in NYC, Switzerland and has toured nationally and international. He is currently Director of Dance at Santa Barbara City College and Artistic Director of SBCC Dance Company.

**Jonathan Lipow**holds a PhD in Agricultural and Natural Resource Economics from the University of California–Berkeley, and is currently a professor at the Defense Resources Management Institute located at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. Jonathan served in the Israel Defense Forces as a combat engineer/sapper, and has conducted numerous overseas assignments for the Department of Defense.  In 2014, he was awarded the Secretary of Defense Medal for the Global War on Terror in recognition of his contributions to US national security. In the early 1980s. Jonathan studied dance at UCLA. He resumed dancing in 2015 at Monterey Peninsula College.

**Fran Spector Atkins** is the Director and Founder of SpectorDance. She has directed venues in NYC, Cleveland, and Monterey and has been a guest artist throughout the United States and abroad. Some of her outstanding experiences include presenting her work at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C and at Stanford University and in Denmark, Italy, Egypt, England, Israel, the Island of Guam and Taiwan. Fran has created numerous socially-relevant works and has received numerous honors. She was featured in Carmel Magazine for making “altruistic contributions to the community” and in the film *Luminaries of Monterey County.* She has twice presented at TEDx Monterey. SpectorDance was selected by The Arts Council for Monterey County as the *Outstanding Arts Organization in Monterey County* and as a national finalist for the Ovations TV award for *Excellence in the Performing Arts. In 2020, she received the* Florence Haspel Zeve Award for Outstanding Female Artist in Monterey serving Women, Families and the Arts. Fran founded the Choreographers Showcase in 1997.

**Margaret Wingrove** is the Founder and Artistic Director of Margaret Wingrove Dance Company (MWDC), as well as a frequent guest choreographer for companies such as Palo Alto Ballet, Berkeley Ballet, sjDANCEco, San Jose Taiko, Opera San Jose, and the Symphony Silicon Valley. She holds a BFA in Dance from San Jose State University, a MFA from University of San Francisco, and performed and studied extensively on both the east and west coasts. Her original work, *Shatterings*, created in tribute to her son, John, who died of AIDS, appeared at theTimpany Center’s" televised "A Celebration of Courage" and the Names Project at the Santa Clara Convention Center. Her works have also been presented at Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival in Massachusetts, David Howard Showcase in NYC, San Francisco Dance Festival at Herbst Theatre, and seven of her original works have been performed across England. In 1993, Wingrove received the Women of Achievement Award for the Arts and in 1998 was honored by SJSU’s School of Music and Dance for her contributions to the Field of Dance. She was the recipient of Silicon Valley Creates Fellowship Award for Choreography. In 2016, Wingrove celebrated 35 years as Artistic Director of MWDC and, to date, has created over 140 original works.

**Allen Chunhui Xing** holds a BFA in Dance from Shanxi Academy of Arts, a M.Ed. from Salisbury University, and a MFA in Dance from University of Maryland. He currently is the Artistic Director of Xing Dance Theater and City Dance Festival in Baltimore. He is a former member of Huajin Dance Drama Ensemble (China) and performed in the production *Forbidden Fruit Under the Great Wall* which internationally toured from 2007-2011. His work has been presented nationally and internationally including at the Dance Gallery Festival NYC, Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival, NextNow Festival, Maryland Campaign, Washington DC Global Perspectives Festival, Maryland Dance Festival, Beijing Dance Festival, the Kennedy Center, Baltimore Dance Invitational, Richmond Dance Festival, Detroit Dance City Festival, Japan SAI International Dance Festival, Finland Joy Of Dance OY International Gala, Seoul Choreography International Festival, Asian Contemporary Ballet Festival, Mexico International Contemporary Dance Festival, Dance Place, DC Choreography Dance Festival.  Xing is the Baltimore and Maryland State Independent Artist Award awardee, Baker Artist Award recipient, and Russian Season School Government Choreography Grant recipient.