

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - April 1, 2021

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*High res photos available upon request*

# Ririe-Woodbury dances to a fresh beat of contemporary choreographic voices

Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company presents CADENCE, a fully on-demand virtual performance including dances by three world-renowned guest choreographers. Charles O. Anderson, Andrea Miller, and Yin Yue.

This eclectic 1-hour show will feature three pieces, two of which were set to premiere in the spring of 2020 and have been waiting in the wings ever since. The more recently created work, titled *Rites* (world premiere) is by commissioned artist and kinetic storyteller Charles O. Anderson. His creative residency was a joint venture in collaboration with the Utah Museum of Fine Art and their riveting *Black Refractions: Highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem* exhibit. Abridged versions of Yin Yue's *In the Moment Somehow Secluded* (world premiere) and Andrea Miller's, *I can see myself* (formerly *Pupil Suite*) are set to make their Company premieres.

Featured on this deeply evocative program is a world premiere by artist-activist Charles O. Anderson. He is the artistic director of dance theatre X, an Afro-contemporary dance theatre company and associate professor and department chair at the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of Texas, Austin. The world premiere of *Rites* will be a dance theatre work loosely inspired by the writings of James Baldwin. The piece is an investigation of legacy, belonging and the history of black art and protest through the lens of speculative imaginings of funeral rites lamenting the loss of rights.

Originally scheduled to be presented as part of our 2019-20 season, the performance of Yin Yue's and Andrea Miller's works were abruptly put on hold due to the conditions of the world-changing so dramatically. We are thrilled to return to these vibrant dances and re-envision them for this on-demand, filmed performance.

The Company will premiere an abridged-for-screen version of *In The Moment Somehow Secluded* by internationally recognized choreographer Yin Yue. A Chinese choreographer currently based in New York City, Yin Yue directs her own dance company (YYDC) and regularly creates work for companies all over the world. This mesmerizing new dance roots itself in Yin's

signature technique practice noted as Folk Contemporary (FoCo.) Yin Yue states that “*In The Moment Somehow Secluded*’ is an external demonstration of an internal process; identifying and questioning the influence of subconscious personas on conscious reality.”

*“The dancers of Ririe-Woodbury appeared freer to inject daring in their approach to Yue’s choreography, or perhaps their sense of abandon was a product of their bodies’ interpretation of a new language“*

- Amy Falls, LoveDANCEmore

*I can see myself* (formerly known as *Pupil Suite*) by groundbreaking and Utah raised choreographer Andrea Miller is an exhilarating selection of wildly quirky excerpts from her crowd-pleasing work *I Can See Myself In Your Pupil*. This dance is a joyous romp that plays with the depth of the imagination and the ecstasy of movement. *I can see myself* brings out the personalities and unique movements of the Company dancers like you’ve never seen before.

*Pupil Suite* is “a journey into a colorful, unknown world of twisted gender roles and lovable eccentricity.”

- Kathleen Wessel, Arts ATL

#### **Show Details:**

On-demand **April 22, 12 PM through May 22, 11:59 PM**

Tickets - **\$18**

Link to tickets - <https://overture.plus/patron/Ririe-Woodbury-Dance-Company>

#### **Opening Night Reception:**

An open to the public virtual reception will be held on the opening night of the show via zoom to celebrate the season and give departing dancers, Bashaun Williams (10 years with the Company), Dominica Green, and Nicholas Jurica (both spent 2 years with the Company) their final bows as Company dancers.

#### **April 22, 6 PM MT**

Link to register for free (no ticket purchase required) -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMudumtrT4qEtJhgwv8CBXzi8AaGHOqZIJs>

#### **Learn more about the guest artists:**

Charles O. Anderson - <http://www.charlesoanderson.me/>

Andrea Miller - <https://www.gallim.org/andreamiller>

Yin Yue - <https://www.yydancecompany.com/about>

#### **Sponsors:**

Mr. Anderson’s commission is in collaboration with and celebration of UMFA’s Black Refractions Exhibit, January – April 2021, as Anderson’s work often addresses issues of social justice.

Support for the commission of *Rites* includes Marriner S. Eccles Foundation, Bicknell Robbins, John and Marcia Price Family Foundation, Bicknell Robbins, and CJ and Art Woolston

Support for the commission of *In the Moment Somehow Secluded* includes: Bicknell Robbins, John and Marcia Price Family Foundation, Marriner S. Eccles Foundation

Support for the commission of *I can see myself* includes: Sam and Diane Stewart Family Foundation

Support for “CADENCE” and Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company’s 2020-2021 season is funded in part by the CARES Act and the Utah State Legislature through Utah Arts & Museums.