

Danté Brown|Warehouse Dance

Press Kit



Dante Brown|Warehouse Dance

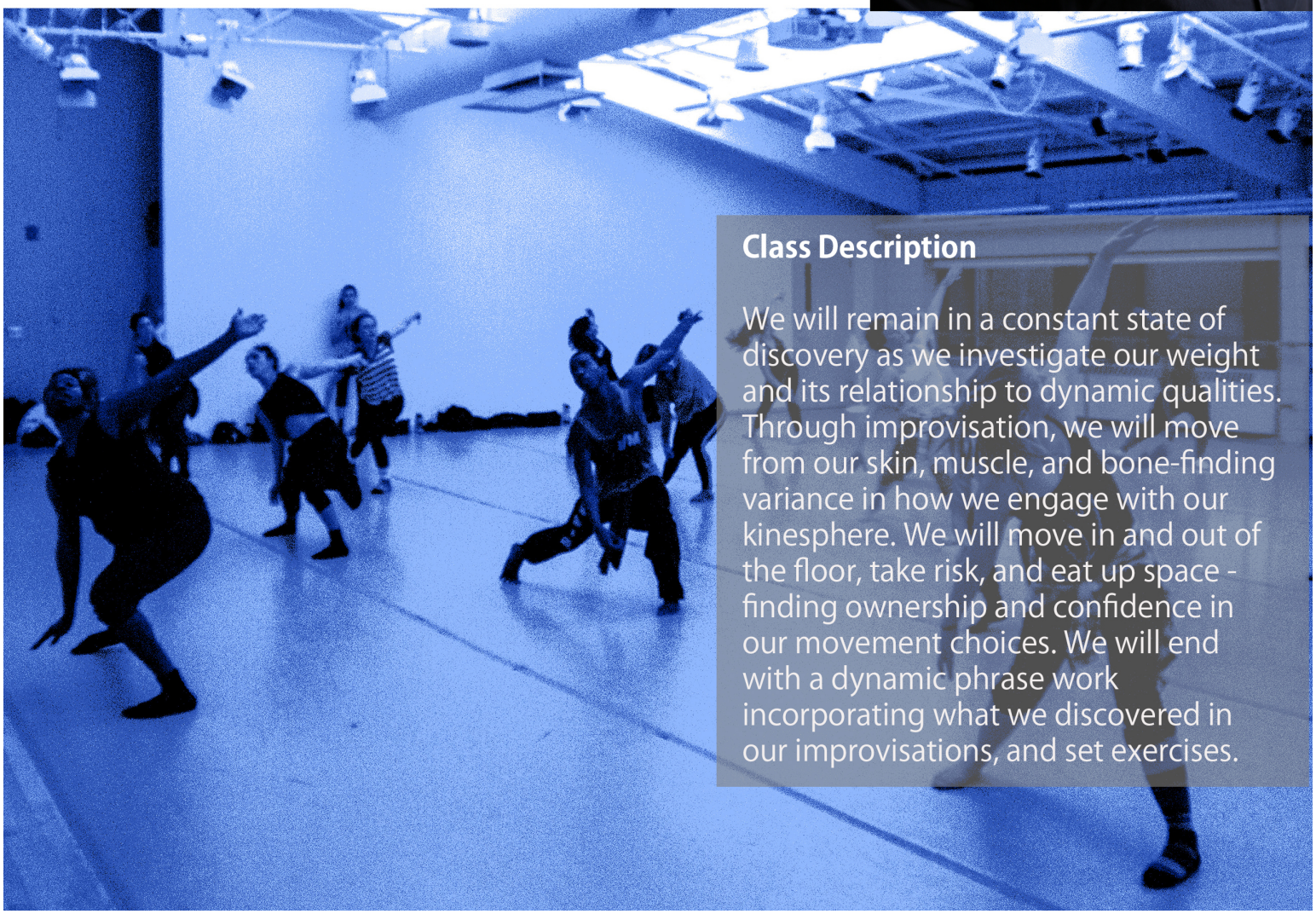
is a New York City based group of artists that are warm-hearted, versatile movers. Our collaborative is united by an interest in highly physical movement, an intellectual commitment to exploring social justice, a deep-rooted dedication to cultivate community, and the belief that dance is the closest thing we have to magic.

2010, DB|WD has had the opportunity to show work at
Bates Dance Festival (ME), Boston Contemporary Dance Festival and Dance Complex (MA), Columbus Dance Theater and Wexner Center for the Arts (OH), Dance Complex (Boston), Dance Gallery Festival (NY & TX), Dixon Place, GAP Green Building, LaMaMa Moves Festival, Movement Research at Judson Church, Triskelion Arts and The Wild Project (all NYC), Sam Houston State University (TX), and YourMove Dance Festival (NJ).

Danté Brown began his dance training at Wesleyan University, which led him to The Ohio State University to receive his MFA in Choreography. As a performer, Danté has worked with artists such as Esther Baker-Tarpaga, Christal Brown, David Dorfman, Nicole Stanton, Noa Zuk and at the Dance Exchange. After founding Warehouse Dance in 2010, DB|WD has had the opportunity to show work at Bates Dance Festival (ME), Boston Contemporary Dance Festival and Dance Complex (MA), Columbus Dance Theater and Wexner Center for the Arts (OH), Dance Complex (Boston), Dance Gallery Festival (NY & TX), Dixon Place, GAP Green Building, LaMaMa Moves Festival, Movement Research at Judson Church, Triskelion Arts and The Wild Project (all NYC), Sam Houston State University (TX), and YourMove Dance Festival (NJ).

He has had the opportunity to teach a range of classes at Broadway Dance Center, Dancewave, East Village Dance Project, and Gibney Dance Center (all in NYC), and The Ohio State University. He has held collegiate positions as an Adjunct Professor at CUNY Westchester Community College, Lecturer in Dance at Bates College, and a Visiting Assistant Professor at Wesleyan University. Most recently, he was awarded the Schwartz Center for Performing Artists Fellowship at Emory University. He is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor at Amherst College.





Class Description

We will remain in a constant state of discovery as we investigate our weight and its relationship to dynamic qualities. Through improvisation, we will move from our skin, muscle, and bone-finding variance in how we engage with our kinesphere. We will move in and out of the floor, take risk, and eat up space - finding ownership and confidence in our movement choices. We will end with a dynamic phrase work incorporating what we discovered in our improvisations, and set exercises.

Package

Package began as a male trio that explored the term “bromance” and its association with masculinity and a straight male aversion towards potential homoerotic encounters. Package gloried in all of the satisfaction, limitations and baggage of bromance. It explored the positive and negative ways male bodies are depicted in popular culture. It was a lighthearted look at a fine line between how men relate.

Run Time: 30 minutes

Package Revamped

Now, four years after its premiere, Package has developed into a work for eight dancers of any gender. The work still pushes performers to emotional and physical extremes of exertion and now demonstrates the ambiguity of the physical acts we associate with masculinity and femininity. A new version with old roots in team sports and athleticism, Package is a new piece for a new era, one where all social roles are worth examining.

Run Time: 30 minutes

Social Plaque

Social Plaque began as a technical exercise – how to honor five separate bodies and individual strengths in one dynamic dance. It became a work about one versus the group, one trying to fit in. In Social Plaque, we question how ideas of "right" relationships are fed to us through popular culture, in soap operas, reality shows and more. We explore bodies interacting and take a tongue in cheek look at the idea of belonging. Through the purposeful display of individual strengths and fleeting moments of intimacy, Social Plaque depicts how malleable relationships are: quickly shaped, collapsible, and molded into different forms.



Soapbox (LP)

Using contemporary movement that incorporates modern, jazz and hip-hop sensibilities, Soapbox (LP) investigates how appropriation contributes to power dynamics based in race and class in American culture. Set to popular music from the 1950s and beyond, this work investigates how African-American musical style was pressed into service for the white popular music industry and explores the shifting power dynamics in the social landscapes pop music creates. Through lip-synching, explosive physicality and satirical tone, Soapbox (LP) examines what it means to "have a voice" and its association with power. Ultimately, the work questions who is allowed control of these platforms of power and how we, as a culture, respond.



Collaborators

Michael Abbatiello studied at Ohio State University where he had the opportunity to work with Bebe Miller, Olivier Tarpaga and Dante Brown. After graduating with a BFA focused in Media and Performance with Choreography, Michael moved to New York where he has worked with Dante Brown|Warehouse Dance, The People Movers, Project 44, Bryn Cohn + Artists, Aaron McGloin Dance, Cortney Andrews, BARE Dance Company and Maya Orchin Dance. Michael currently choreographs under the moniker lostinflow and has the opprotunity to teach at such instituations as Mark Morris Dance Center , Peridance Capezio Center, Gibney Dance Center and Teacher's College at Columbia University. He is a photographer, videographer,and editor, and lighting designer, and an invaluable partner in producing our work, classes and workshops.

Isabella Diaz, native of Chicago, IL, began exploring movement at a very young age with gymnastics and tap training. She studied at Western Michigan University where she had the opportunity to perform works by Peter Chu, Ohad Naharin and David Curwen. She moved to New York to pursue performing in dance theatre and concert works and has worked with choreographers Isabel Lewis and Manuel Vignoulle. Isabella also choreographs and premiered her second work in NYC in fall 2016.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, **Matthew Livingston** grew up in a household surrounded by art and music. From an early age, he felt a strong pull toward dance and the creation of movement. At just seve years old, Matthew was recognized by the Walter K. Hoerning Foundation. Through the Foundation, all of Matthew's early artistic endeavors were fully funded, opening doors that would have otherwise been closed. By 11, Matthew enrolled in the dance department at the Ronald Edmonds Learning Center, under the direction of Ruth Sistaire, as well as Creative Outlet Dance Theater of Brooklyn, under the tutelage of Jamel Gaines. In 2014, Matthew graduated from Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts where he trained extensively in Ballet, Graham, and Horton techniques as well as working with choreographers including Bryan Arias, Jamal Callendar, Nigel Campbell, Jamel Gaines, Elisa King, Jennifer Muller, and Pedro Ruiz, among many others. Upon graduation, Matthew attended the Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London, UK. Matthew has performed with artists such as Lady Leshurr, FKA twigs, and in various venues both nationally and internationally.

Cameron McKinney is a dancer, choreographer, teacher, and author from Memphis, TN. He currently performs with Dante Brown|Warehouse Dance, Andre Zachary / Renegade Performance Group, Christal Brown / INSPIRIT and Chafin Seymour / Seymour::dance collective. He has also performed with The Median Movement, Sans Limites Dance and Juan Michael Porter II. Cameron is the Artistic Director of Kizuna 絆 Dance, a dance collaborative featuring the self-created Loft Technique, a unique blend of house dance, capoeira, contemporary floorwork and various street dance styles. Cameron teaches regular classes in New York City and has also taught and presented work nationally and internationally.
Learn more about Cameron and his work at cameronmckinneydance.com.

Ashley Menestrina grew up studying all styles of dance in Knoxville, TN. In 2010, she was accepted into the conservatory of performing arts at Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA. She completed the program in just three years and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Dance with a concentration in jazz. Since moving to New York City, Ashley has performed works by Mike Esperanza, Dante Brown, Julia Ehrstrand, Alex Amirov, Of Bones Dance and Brice Mousset. She is currently dancing with BARE Dance Company, Dante Brown | Warehouse Dance and Alex Amirov and performing her own choreography on stages throughout New York City.

Collaborators

Graziella Murdocca was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY where she began her dance training at the Vicky Simegiator Performing Arts Center. She entered the Hunter College Dance Program in Spring 2010, under the direction of Jana Feinman. She studied under Maura Donohue, David Capps, Vicky Shick, Alberto Del Saz, Wendell Cooper and Julian Barnett and was cast in works by Julian Barnett and Doug Varone. Graziella graduated with her Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and Dance. She went on to work with Nicholas Andre Dance and Amaris Dance and currently dances for The Next Stage Project, BARE Dance Company, shawnbibledanceco and In Mixed Company, in addition to Dante Brown|Warehouse Dance.

Native to Northern Virginia, **Ellen Sickenberger** began taking dance classes at two and later earned her BFA in Dance Performance from East Carolina University, where she trained with John Magnus, David Dorfman, Jennifer Archibald, David Parsons, Koresh Dance Company and River North Dance Chicago. Since her move to Brooklyn, Ellen has worked with many companies and artists including Freddie Moore, Janice Rosario, Bryn Cohn + Artists, Yoshito Sakuraba (Abarukas) and Nadine Bommer. She currently performs with Smashworks Dance Collective as well as Dante Brown | Warehouse Dance. Ellen loves choreographing and teaching in addition to performing and has taught workshops and classes in cities all along the East Coast. She has presented work at Alvin Ailey Citigroup Theatre, Dixon Place, Gelsey Kirkland Arts Center and in showcases throughout NYC, including TRANSLATE (The Voices of Dance) this year's DUMBO Dance Festival.

Colton Wall started his movement career in his home state of Florida, training in gymnastics and martial arts. Colton began studying dance at Santa Fe College and received his BFA in Dance from Florida State University. In May 2016, Colton joined the cast of Diavolo: Architecture in Motion to perform their work L'espace Du Temps. He is a USAG certified gymnastics instructor and is thrilled to be a part of Dante Brown|Warehouse Dance.



CONTACT US



Dante Brown|Warehouse Dance
info@warehousedance.org