

AN AI-GENERATED DANCE PERFORMANCE

mememormee

THURSDAY, APRIL 27th • 7 PM • AMHERST, MA



Amherst
College

acknowledgements

This showing is co-presented by the Amherst College AI in the Liberal Arts Initiative and the Theater & Dance Department. We are hugely grateful to Prof. Lee Spector for proposing and organizing this event, and to Morgan Sammut for outstanding logistical support. Many thanks to Jungeun Kim and the Language of Movement class, Jonathan Doyle, Sean Buenaventura, and Ryan O'Donnell for enabling tonight's performance at The Powerhouse.

creative team

CREATOR Dr. Mariel Pettee

COMPOSER Jaren Feeley

SOUND DESIGNER Alex Hawthorn

DRAMATURG Dr. Ilya Vidrin

CAST
Ben Goosman
Kassandra Kolbeck
Dr. Iris Platt
Kellyn Thornburg
Jessi Steagall
Dr. Ilya Vidrin

program note

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artist bios



Dr. Mariel Pettee (she/her) (Physics Ph.D., Yale University) is an interdisciplinary scientist and performing artist based in Brooklyn. She is a Chamberlain Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and a visiting researcher at the Flatiron Institute Center for Computational Astrophysics in New York City. In her scientific life, she develops new AI methods to help make discoveries in high-energy particle physics and astrophysics. Since 2017, she has led independent teams of researchers using machine learning to generate choreography based on 3D motion capture of her own movements. As a dancer, she has performed in works by Kinetech Arts, Emily Coates, Renee Robinson, Brian Siebert, Elm City Dance Collective, the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company, Paul Taylor, Urban Bush Women, LeeSaar, and Jill Johnson.



Jaren Feeley (he/him) is a pianist, composer and arts organizer currently based in Brooklyn. Recent dance highlights include scores presented by Whim W'him, Detour Dance, and Dance On Camera Festival @ Lincoln Center. As a pianist, he records and tours internationally with the art-rock band SPELLING. As an organizer, his work focuses on facilitating outlandish performances. He has curated seven iterations of MOONSTRUCK, an arts festival based in Berkeley that commissions new works from artists to explore their concept of home, and asks audiences to undertake a four-mile roundtrip hike in the night to a secret location to experience the festivities. He is currently finishing up his first solo album of original songs, for release in 2023.