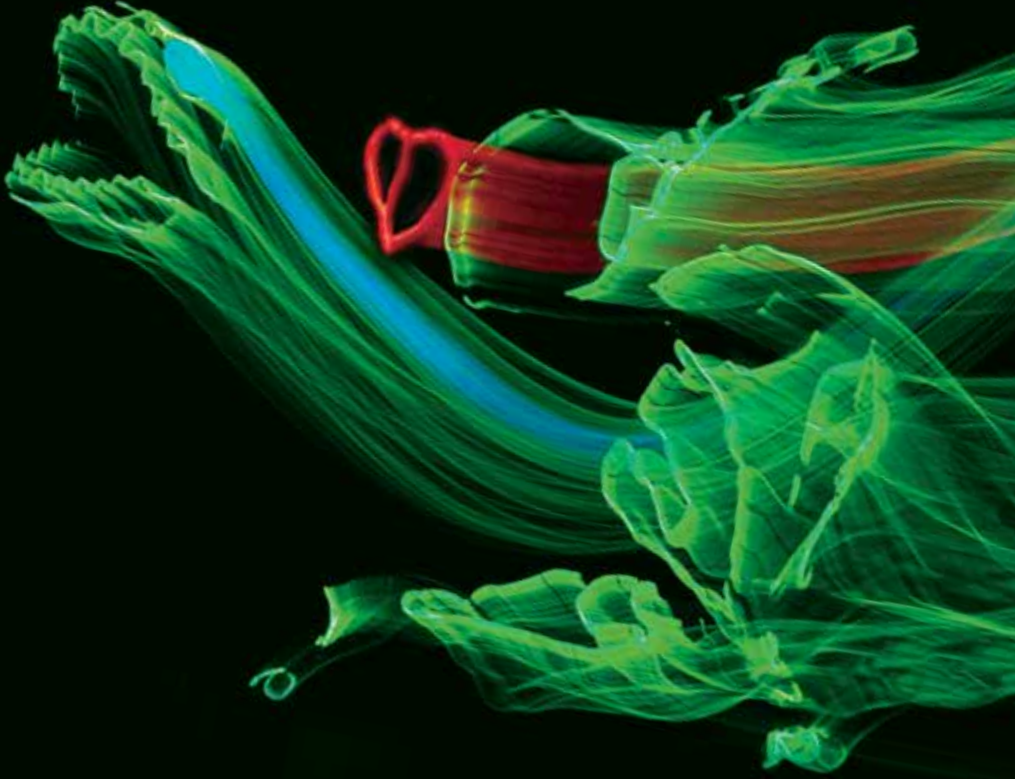


24/
25



lightwire theater
dino-light

Sunday, September 29, 2024, 2 PM

Street and Davis Performance Hall, Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre



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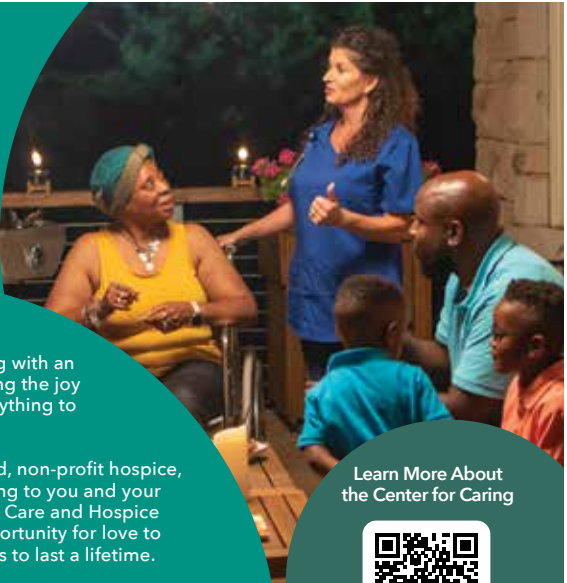
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lightwire theater

dino-light

Ian Carney, *artistic director*
Eleanor Carney, *managing director*
Corbin Popp, *co-creator and technical supervisor*
Kevin Chick, *road manager*
Jay Weigel, *music director*

Cast

Eleanor Carney
Kevin Chick
Jesse Forcha
Symone Johnson
Tristan Rodney

Barry Mendelson, *executive producer*

For booking information, contact Bailiwick Artists Management
at bailiwick.biz@gmail.com.

Mendelson Entertainment Group LLC proudly
manages and represents Lightwire Theater.
megartsmedia.com

A very special thanks to the Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts,
which commissioned and premiered *Darwin the Dinosaur*
on October 13, 2007, in Detroit Michigan.

This performance is supported in part by a gift from
Dr. Charles Y. Davis and Mrs. Carole C. Davis.



biographies

ian carney, artistic director and ensemble

Ian Carney is best known for his long run in Billy Joel and Twyla Tharp's Broadway musical, *Movin' Out*. Born in New Hampshire and raised in New Orleans, Carney started dancing as a child, studying ballet in New Orleans and New York City. He danced lead roles in *The Nutcracker*, *Sleeping Beauty*, and others, and has been a guest dancer, teacher, and choreographer in companies across the United States. While performing, Carney earned a degree in English literature from Tulane University. He is the co-creator of the family shows that continue to delight audiences around the world — *Dino-Light*, *The Ugly Duckling*, *Lightwire the Show*, *A Very Electric Christmas*, and *The Tortoise and Hare the Next Generation*. Carney has appeared on television with Lightwire Theater on *America's Got Talent*, *Game of Talents*, Italy's *Tu si Que Vales*, TF1's *The Best Show in France*, and as the 2014 winner of Tru TV's *Fake Off*.

eleanor b. carney, managing director and ensemble

Originally from New Orleans, Eleanor Carney began her dance training with Harvey Hysell and Joseph Giacobbe. Carney graduated from

Southern Methodist University with a bachelor of fine arts in dance and a bachelor's degree in anthropology. She has danced professionally with Indianapolis Ballet Theater, the Lexington, Northwest Florida, Delta Festival, and Montgomery Ballet. Career highlights include dancing Aurora in *Sleeping Beauty*; Desdemona in *The Moor's Pavane*; the title roles in *Romeo and Juliet*, *Cinderella*, *Giselle*, and *Coppelia*; and, of course, the Sugarplum Fairy in *The Nutcracker*. She is delighted to have appeared with Lightwire Theater on *America's Got Talent*, Italy's hit show *Tu si Que Vales*, *Game of Talents*, *The Best* on TF1, and as the 2014 winner of Tru Tv's *Fake Off*. Carney is eternally grateful to work besides her husband, Ian, and share their art with the world.

***corbin popp*, co-creator and technical supervisor**

Corbin Popp is from Lincoln, Nebraska, and earned a degree in biochemistry at University of Nebraska–Lincoln while also studying math, physics, and dance. Opting for dance, Popp performed in *The Phantom of the Opera* and Billy Joel and Twyla Tharp's *Movin' Out* on Broadway. He has toured all over Europe with Tharp's dance company and throughout the United States with many shows. Popp speaks German, studied in Germany on a Fulbright scholarship, and recently graduated from dental school, yet still continues to perform and collaborate with Lightwire Theater.

***kevin chick*, road manager and ensemble**

Kevin Chick is a puppeteer and clown standup comedian. Chick's most notable credits include the Jim Henson company; the Kimmel Center of Philadelphia; the Guthrie of Minneapolis; Southern Colorado Repertory Theater; educational theatre throughout South America, Mexico, and Argentina; Coca-Cola Zero commercials; and political activist puppet videos with *Daily Show* writer Liz Winstead. He hails from Iowa and received a bachelor's degree in theatre from the University of Iowa. Most recently he accomplished one of his dreams by blasting across the United States on his motorcycle. Chick would like to say a big thank you to his family for their continued love and support.



biographies, cont.

jesse forcha, ensemble

Jesse Forcha is in his eighth season with Lightwire Theater. Forcha has performed in *Hoofing for Heroes* at the New Orleans World War II Museum and at the Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas as a magician's assistant for world-renowned magician Rob Lake. Other favorite credits include *42nd Street* (Andy), *A Chorus Line* (Mike), *Curtains* (Billy), *Grease* (Danny), *The Sound of Music* (Rolf), *The Wizard of Oz* (Tin Man), and many others. He has been a member of the Gulf Coast Theatre on Tap where he does what he loves best: tap dancing. He is also a skilled clarinet, flute, and saxophone player. Forcha would like to thank his parents and sisters for always encouraging his dream and a special thanks to his Aunt Kat.

tristan rodney, ensemble

Tristan Rodney is a graduate of the University of Technology, Jamaica earning a bachelor's degree in communications arts and technology. Rodney's dance training includes Jamaica's Quilt Performing Arts Company, Ashe, University Dance Society, the Company Dance Theater, and Texas Ballet Theatre. His commercial experience includes Mary

Kay's *Friends of Time*, Arlington Music Hall, Amway International, Texas State Fair, DIFFA Dallas, Eclipse Entertainment, and most recently Universal's *Jurassic World*. He was a founding member of TMJ Dance Project, Ballet North Texas; soloist with Dallas Neo Classical Ballet; and company member with Anita Martinez Ballet Folklorico, Urban Performing Company, Herrera Dance Project, and Beckles Dancing Company. Rodney is in his fifth season with Lightwire Theater.

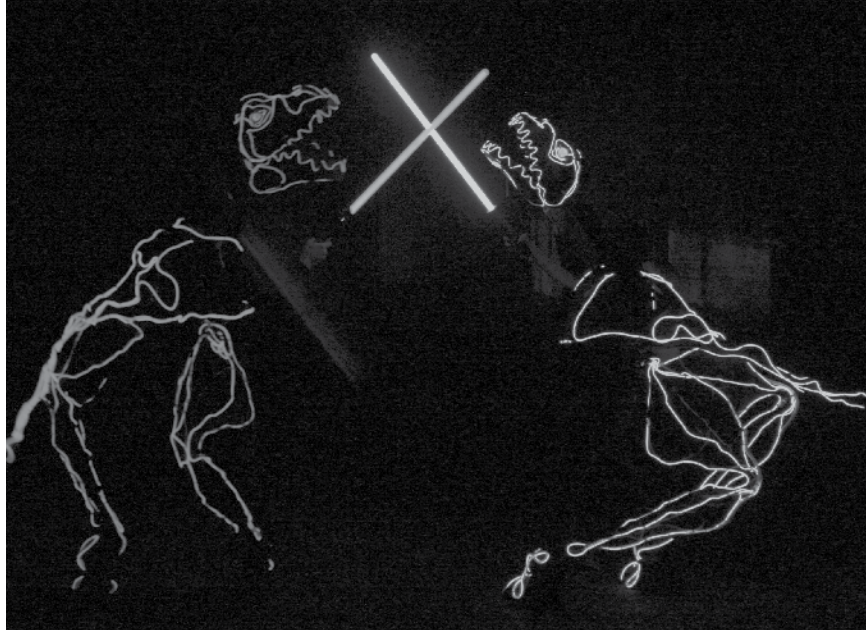
symone johnson, ensemble

Symone Johnson is in her fifth season with the Lightwire Theater! As a professional circus artist specializing in aerial silks and rope, Johnson has appeared in many shows, ranging from Aloft's production of *Tough Drafts* to Cabinet of Curiosity's immersive experience, *Illumination*. While training full time in Chicago, she worked under many accomplished circus artists such as Joe Pinzon, Tanya Burke, Duo Rose, and Shayna Swanson. When not performing, she travels the United States in her van with a little black cat named Minew. Now based out of New Orleans, Johnson has fallen in love with combining the local music scene with interactive character work and aerial craziness!

lightwire theater

Lightwire Theater has been featured as the winner of Tru TV's Fake Off (Season One), semi-finalists on America's Got Talent (Season 7) and as finalist on My TF1's, The Best Le Meilleur Artiste in Paris, ABC's Game of Talents and Italy's Tu Si Que Vales. Internationally recognized for their signature brand of electroluminescent artistry and poignant storytelling, Lightwire Theater is based in New Orleans and continues to create and deliver innovative theatrical experiences to audiences worldwide including: Hong Kong, Taipei, Estonia, Brazil, Russia, Europe, Belarus, China and Abu Dhabi.

This is Lightwire Theater's first performance at the Moss Arts Center.



engagement events

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

SCHOOL-DAY PERFORMANCE

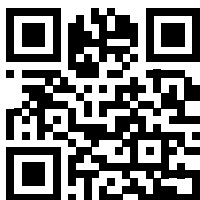
Lightwire Theater will perform a free matinee of *Dino-Light* for more than 900 registered area school and home school students in grades 1-5.

CLASS DISCUSSION

Virginia Tech students in a School of Performing Arts Intermediate Lighting Technology class attended the school-day performance and discussed laser and lighting design with the artists afterwards.



tell us what you think!



We'd love your feedback on this performance. If you complete the short survey, you can enter for a chance to win two tickets to Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan on Wednesday, October 30, 2024.

bit.ly/dino-light-feedback

Please note, survey responses are anonymous. If you would like a response to your feedback, please email mossartscenter@vt.edu.

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artscenter.vt.edu



Your gift to the Moss Arts Center helps to support access to the arts, student engagement, and cultural diversity.

Through gifts like yours, we have been able to expand opportunities for PK-12 students in our region, deepen relationships with academic partners, continue to offer \$10 tickets to performances for Virginia Tech students, and provide experiential learning opportunities for students.

Help us continue this work!



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PK-12 PROGRAMS AT THE MOSS ARTS CENTER

Each year, wildly enthusiastic students — from PK through 12th grade — fill our theatre for free matinee performances by artists from all over the world. They explore our visual arts galleries during school tours and create and learn during hands-on workshops with artists. For many students, visiting the Moss Arts Center is the first time they've ever been to a performing arts facility or gallery. Why do kids need access to the arts? Engaging in artistic activities offers a wide range of skills that they will use throughout their lives.

Learn more at bit.ly/moss-k12.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Virginia Tech acknowledges that we live and work on the Tutelo/Monacan People's homeland, and we recognize their continued relationships with their lands and waterways. We further acknowledge that the Morrill Land-Grant College Act (1862) enabled the commonwealth of Virginia to finance and found Virginia Tech through the forced removal of Native Nations from their lands in California and other areas in the West.

LABOR RECOGNITION

Virginia Tech acknowledges that its Blacksburg campus sits partly on land that was previously the site of the Smithfield and Solitude Plantations, owned by members of the Preston family. Between the 1770s and the 1860s, the Prestons and other local White families that owned parcels of what became Virginia Tech also owned hundreds of enslaved people. Enslaved Black people generated resources that financed Virginia Tech's predecessor institution, the Preston and Olin Institute, and they also worked on the construction of its building.



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MOSS ARTS CENTER

FALL 2024
EXHIBITION



Never Spoken Again: Rogue Stories of Science and Collections

Curated by David Ayala-Alfonso of the Independent Curators International

Through Sat., Dec. 14, 2024

All galleries

Explore a traveling exhibition that reflects on the birth of modern collections, the art institutions that sustain them, and their contingent origin stories to reveal a universe of erasures, violence, and fortuity. Considering how institutional collections organize our lives, *Never Spoken Again* brings together artists whose works open up a critique of material culture, iconography, and political ecologies.

Free Related Event

Beyond the Frame

Gallery Tours

Thurs., Oct. 10, Nov. 14, and Dec. 12, 12 PM

Moss Arts Center Grand Lobby

Michael Rakowitz; *The invisible enemy should not exist – Seated Nude Male Figure, Wearing Belt Around Waist (IM77823) (Recovered, Missing, Stolen Series)*, 2018; Middle Eastern packaging and newspapers, glue, and cardboard; 37.75 x 28.75 x 28.75 inches; courtesy of the artist and Barbara Wien Gallery

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mon., oct. 21, 8 pm
**broadway in blacksburg
dear evan hansen**

wed., oct. 30, 7:30 pm
**cloud gate dance
theatre of taiwan
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fri., nov. 1, 7:30 pm
**an evening with
ta-nehisi coates**

thurs., nov 7, 7:30 pm
**united states air force
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wed., nov. 13, 7:30 pm
**cirque kalabanté
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sat., dec. 7, 4 pm
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holiday pops spectacular

fri., jan. 31, and
sat., feb. 1, 7:30 pm
jaha koo
cuckoo

thurs., feb. 6, and
fri., feb. 7, 7:30 pm
**beowulf:
the epic in performance**
benjamin bagby,
voice and medieval harp

fri., feb. 14, 7:30 pm
lakecia benjamin

tues., feb. 18, 7:30 pm
**czech national
symphony orchestra**
maxim lando, piano

thurs., feb. 27, 7:30 pm
kodo
*one earth tour 2025:
warabe*

thurs., march 6, 7:30 pm
the dante quartet
brian thorsett, tenor

tues., march 18, 7:30 pm
**broadway in blacksburg
the book of mormon**

sat., march 22, 7:30 pm
a.i.m by kyle abraham

tues., march 25, 7:30 pm
**an evening with
charles yu**

fri., march 28, 7:30 pm
**circa
opus**

wed., april 2, 7:30 pm
les arts florissants
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at 300*
théotime langlois de
swarte, violin

thurs., april 24, and
fri., april 25, 7:30 pm
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*in the court of the
conqueror*

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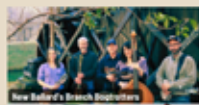
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Did You Know



- The first African-American students found sanctuary and support at the YMCA
- Y leaders assisted with education and integration of regional schools



- 1873 The YMCA forms at VT, focusing on religious and extracurricular activities for students
- 1892 71 out of 177 students of Virginia Tech are members of the YMCA
- 1893 YMCA publishes the first Student Handbook for Virginia Tech
- 1899 The cornerstone for the YMCA building, the first "Hokie Stone" building, is laid
- 1902 The YMCA building opens its doors and serves as the first Student Center at Virginia Tech

- The first female students developed a sense of community and belonging at the Y.
- Lucy Lee Lancaster was in the 1st 5 female graduates and was a champion of the Y.
- She later donated her house to the Y, where our offices are located at 403 Washington St.



First female graduates Mary Ella Carr Bradford (20), Ruth Louise Tennill (20), Sara Lee Lancaster (20), Lucile Louise (20), Carrie Taylor Skiff (20)



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