

The logo for Dance Cleveland, featuring the word "DANCE" in a large, bold, sans-serif font above the word "CLEVELAND" in a smaller, all-caps, sans-serif font. The text is white and set against a teal square background with a white abstract graphic of a person in motion.

DANCECleveland Presents

THE DRAMA

by Lloyd Knight, Jack Ferver,
and Jeremy Jacob



February 15 at 7:30 pm & February 16 at 2:00 pm
Westfield Insurance Theatre, Playhouse Square



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presents

THE DRAMA

by Lloyd Knight, Jack Ferver,
and Jeremy Jacob

Written and Performed by
Lloyd Knight

Directed & Choreographed by
Jack Ferver

Video & Production Designed by
Jeremy Jacob

Created by Martha Graham Dance Company principal dancer Lloyd Knight, choreographer Jack Ferver, and filmmaker Jeremy Jacob, *THE DRAMA* highlights Knight's life in an intimate and personal solo dance work inspired by two important women in his life: his mother and the legendary modern dance choreographer Marha Graham. The work lays bare what it takes both physically and psychologically to pursue a life in dance and touches on Knight's upbringing and what drew him to dance from an early age. *THE DRAMA* immerses the audience in its shifts between high octane choreography and a candid script, set against a sweeping film and sound score.

THE DRAMA is commissioned by Works & Process and DANCECleveland and has received Works & Process LaunchPad residency support at Bridge Street Theatre (2024 and 2025), Modern Accord Depot (2022) and Watermill Center (2023). Additional residency support was provided by a Fellowship at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Jerome Robbins Dance Division.

ABOUT the company



LLOYD KNIGHT joined the Martha Graham Dance Company in 2005, became a Principal Dancer in 2015 and performs major roles of the Graham repertory including Appalachian Spring, Embattled Garden, Night Journey among others. Bessie Nominated for best Performer in 2022, *Dance Magazine* also named him one of “Top 25 Dancers to Watch” in 2010 and one of the best performers of 2015. Mr. Knight has starred with ballet greats Wendy Whelan and Misty Copeland in signature Graham duets and has had roles created for him by such renowned artists as Nacho Duato and Pam Tanowitz. Knight has performed as a principal guest artist for The Royal Ballet of Flanders directed by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui as well as with Twyla Tharp Dance. Born in England and raised in Miami, he trained at Miami Conservatory of Ballet and New World School of the Arts. He was an 2023 Dance Research Fellow for The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts and his one-person show *The Drama* premiered at The Guggenheim in January 2025.



JACK FERVER is a New York based writer, choreographer, and performer. Their genre defying performances, which have been called “so extreme that they sometimes look and feel like exorcisms” (*The New Yorker*), inhabit while indicting psychological and socio-political issues, particularly in the realms of queerness, gender, and power struggles. Their work has been presented in New York City at New York Live Arts; New Museum; The Kitchen; Crossing the Line; Abrons Arts

Center; Gibney Dance; Performance Space 122; Performa 11; Danspace Project; and Dixon Place. Domestically and internationally at Mass MoCA (MA); the Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College (NY); Portland Institute of Contemporary Art (OR); the Institute of Contemporary Art at MECA (ME); the Institute of Contemporary Art (MA); Fusebox Festival (TX); Diverse Works (TX); Temperance Hall (Australia); and Théâtre de Vanves (France). They have collaborated with their partner, the visual artist and filmmaker, Jeremy Jacob on performances and short films which draw from both artist’s research of cinema, queerness, memory, and AIDS. The duo’s most recent film *Nowhere Apparent*, was presented by AllArts in 2023. Ferver is a recipient of the Foundation for Contemporary Arts Grants to Artists. They teach at Bard College.



JEREMY JACOB is an award-winning filmmaker and visual artist. Jacob’s work has been presented by The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Palazzo Grassi, Bard College, The Zuckerman Museum of Art, Cindy Rucker Gallery, Projekt 722, Montserrat College Of Art, New York Live Arts, American Ballet Theatre, Dance On Camera Festival, The New York Public Library, among others. In 2024 Jeremy Jacob was the Anniversary Fellow at the Jerome Robbins Dance Division of The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, a member of the nominating committee for the New York Odyssey Film Festival, and a jurist for the San Francisco Dance Film Festival. Jeremy is also the founder and director of A Doll’s House Pictures. Learn more at jeremyjacob.com and adollshousepictures.com

ABOUT DANCECleveland

DANCECleveland aspires to be a national model for how a presenting organization serves its community, leveraging the world's best modern and contemporary dance to inspire and educate audiences, local dancers, and community members.

One of only a handful of presenters in the nation dedicated solely to the presentation of dance, DANCECleveland brings renowned modern and contemporary dance companies from around the world to perform on the stages of Northeast Ohio through their annual dance series. DANCECleveland is A COMMISSIONER of new dance works, bringing up-and-coming choreographers from across the nation to be inspired by our community as they create new dance pieces; AN EDUCATOR through Read to Learn...Dance to Move, an early childhood program that brings professional dancers into preschool and kindergarten classrooms to inspire creativity through literacy and movement; A RESOURCE to the dance community by offering free dance classes with visiting world class dancers and directors for local dancers of all ages and abilities; A NATIONAL LEADER recognized by organizations such as Dance/USA for their innovative audience engagement programs, pre- and post-show activities; and A VISIONARY by collaborating with the region's leading arts, cultural and educational organizations to create co-presenting relationships.

The DANCECleveland season continues in 2025 with performances by Twyla Tharp Dance and Raphael Xavier. Tickets to all performances are on sale now! Learn more at DANCECleveland.org. Be sure to like DANCECleveland on Facebook and follow them on Instagram @dancecleveland.

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Playbill Editor: Linda Feagler

For advertising information, please contact

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DANCECleveland is dancing confidently into the future, emboldened by our endowment, The Advancing Dance Legacy Fund. This Organizational Fund of the Cleveland Foundation, established in 2018, provides donors the satisfaction of knowing that their investment in the future of modern and contemporary dance in Northeast Ohio will be carefully managed to grow over time, serving tens of thousands of dancers, dance makers and dance enthusiasts for generations to come. To learn more, call Theresa Remick, Executive Director, at 216-991-9000. Thank you to our generous Legacy Fund donors:

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By phone: 216-991-9000

By mail: DANCECleveland, PO Box 18021, Cleveland, OH 44118

Online: dancecleveland.org

Thank you for your generosity!

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