



KALILA KINGSFORD SMITH DANCE

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Press comps available for all performances September 10-11, 13-15.

**KALILA KINGSFORD SMITH TO PRESENT *DIS/JOINTED*, A DIGITAL DANCE
PERFORMANCE, IN 2020 FRINGE FESTIVAL**

Philadelphia, PA - Tiny boxes, shadows of self, disconnected, yet communicating. Embracing the limitations of digital communication, *Dis/Joined* seeks to disrupt the two-dimensionality of the screen by presenting a series of short improvised dances from multiple angles. Created and performed by **Kalila Kingsford Smith** with collaborator **JoVonna Parks**, *Dis/Joined* utilizes the nuances of **Zoom** to seek new ways of connecting with ourselves and with each other. This 30-minute show will run for 5 performances from September 10-11, and 13-15. Tickets are “pay what you can” with prices at \$5, \$10, and \$15.

Grounded in contemporary dance movement, this 30-minute performance presents solos and duets centered on themes of fragmentation and integration. *Dis/Joined* continues Kingsford Smith’s drive to develop interactive dance performances where audiences have unique experiences. Multiple images of the dancing body will appear in different areas on each computer when in the “gallery” view. Audience members have the agency to “choose their own adventure” by “pinning” certain images to the foreground. Audiences will be asked to utilize the chat function and, if comfortable, to turn on their videos to participate in a guided movement experience in response to the performance.

After purchasing a ticket, audiences will receive an emailed Zoom invitation to a call that will be open 5 minutes before the beginning of each show. This invitation will also be sent the day of each performance. Audiences enter the call from a “waiting room.” It is recommended that audiences update their Zoom application to the most recent version. It is also recommended that audiences use a computer or a laptop to access this performance, though instructions for engaging while viewing from a mobile device will be available. While the performance lasts 30-minutes, audiences are invited to stay on the Zoom call afterwards to simulate a post-show experience, to chat with the artists and with each other.

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About the Artists:

Kalila Kingsford Smith is a Philadelphia native, independent choreographer, performer, and dance educator. She builds dances that are responsive to the characteristics of the performance space, whether a theater, a museum, a nature trail, or a Zoom call. Informed by her training in modern and contemporary dance, her movement flows between tension and release, momentum and suspension, improvisation and composition, and storytelling and abstraction. Her choreography has been commissioned for Drexel Dance Ensemble, Dancefusion, and Gwendolyn Bye Dance Center, and she has independently produced and performed works throughout Philadelphia. As a dance educator, she teaches courses in modern dance technique, improvisation, choreography, dance history and theory. Kalila is a writer and editor with thINKingDANCE. She received an MA in Dance from Temple University and a BFA in Dance and a BA in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Michigan.

JoVonna Parks is a Philadelphia native where she began her intense formal training in Ballet, Horton and Graham techniques. She attended Ailey/Fordham under the direction of Ana Marie Forsythe and graduated with her BFA in dance in 2012. Upon graduation she was invited to perform with John Mark Owen in John Mark Owen Presents... In Requiem. She has had the pleasure of working with and performing works by Camille A. Brown, Ronald K. Brown, Donald McKayle, Hofesh Shector, Robert Battle, Jill Echo and many others. JoVonna has also had the opportunity and pleasure to work with Ty Jones and The Classical Theatre of Harlem in their productions of MacBeth(soldier/ensemble), The Three Musketeers(Kitty/ensemble), Antigone(ensemble) and she served as dance captain their latest production of A Christmas Carol in Harlem. Alongside performing Elisa Monte Dance she also teaches ballet, modern, and contemporary techniques in the New Jersey and greater New York area. She just finished her fifth season with Elisa Monte Dance. She is currently a freelance dance artist in NYC.

Kalila and JoVonna met when they were 11, dancing at Gwendolyn Bye Dance Center, and have been best friends ever since.

About FringeArts:

FringeArts is Philadelphia's home for contemporary performing arts, showcasing arts innovators from around the globe and cultivating world-class Philadelphia-based artists. FringeArts plays a vital role in Philadelphia's vibrant artistic community by presenting a year-round programming series of cutting-edge dance, theater, and music performances presented at its striking venue on the Delaware waterfront; the annual Fringe Festival which takes over Philadelphia with hundreds of artistically daring and socially engaging performances; and by providing opportunities for Philadelphia artists to develop and showcase new work. FringeArts believes in art making that tests boundaries—inspiring new ideas, passionate discussion and conceptual thinking, all essential for a healthy and vibrant society.

FACT SHEET

TITLE OF WORK

Dis/Joined

VENUE

Zoom

It is recommended that Audiences update their Zoom app prior to accessing the performance

TICKET INFORMATION

Pay What You Can

\$5, \$10, \$15

Tickets are available for purchase at fringearts.com. Tickets are limited

CREDITS

Performers and Collaborators

Kalila Kingsford Smith

JoVonna Parks

Photos and Website Design

Sam Post Creative

GENRE

Digital, Dance, Improvisation,
Audience Interactivity

FESTIVAL AFFILIATION

Kalila Kingsford Smith's
Dis/Joined will be presented
as part of the 2020 FringeArts
Festival

RUNNING TIME

30 minutes

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Thu 9/10 6pm

Fri 9/11 6pm

Sun 9/13 6pm

Mon 9/14 6pm

Tues 9/15 6pm