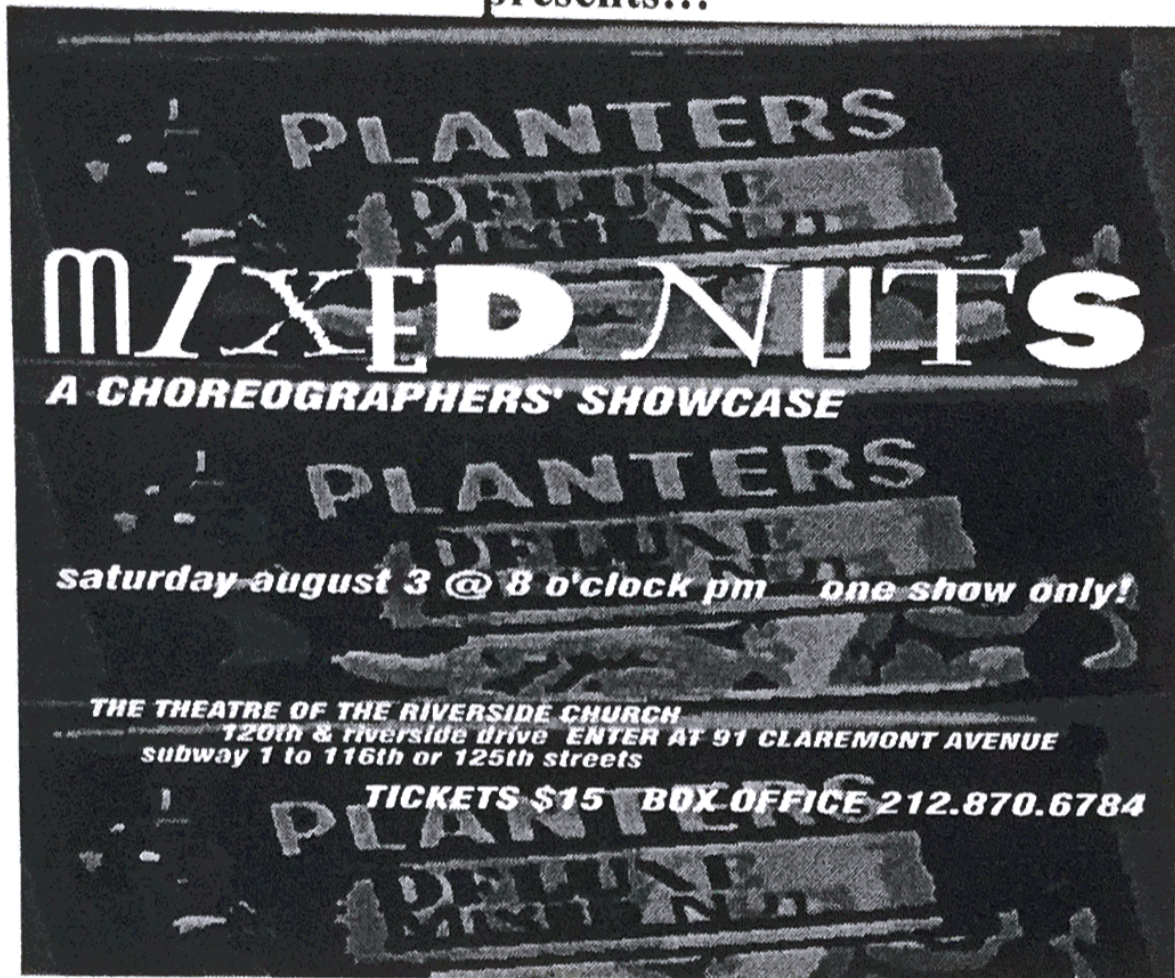


Urban Junction Performing Arts Project  
presents...



Artistic Director & Program Coordinator: *Razena Baines*  
Assistant Artistic Director: *Khary Green*  
Rehearsal and Technical Assistant: *Daniel Carlton*  
Production Stage Manager & Design: *Bayo*  
Technical Director: *Dusty Ray*  
Assistant Stage Managers: *Nefertiti Tyehmba & Yaa Yaa Whaley*

**MIXED NUTS:**

*A Showcase from a Diverse Group of Emerging Choreographers*  
**Our Developing Work-2002**

1. "Hineni" (*Lynne Schlesinger*)

Dancers: *Tamayo Arai, Sharon Colangelo, Denise Murphy, Lynne Schlesinger*  
Musicians: *Live Accompaniment for the song-Miriam's Song by*

2. "Woza-The Ballet" (*Khary Green*)

Dancers: *Shani Alston, Razena Baines, Felicia DiSalvo, Khary Green, Sarah Roberts, Lynne Schlesinger, Krista Schollaert*  
Music: *from River Dance*

3. Sundance (*Doug Shankman*)

Dancers: *Mark Donato, Sarah Hawkins, Lorca Hjortsberg,, Doug Shankman*

4. Objection (Tango) (*Takiya Coley*)

Dancers: *Takiya Coley*  
Music: *Shakira*

5. "A Tribe Called..." (Razena Baines/SYNERGY)

*an excerpt from Earth Rhythms*

Dancers: Shani Alston, Razena Baines, Felicia DiSalvo

Music: Dead Can Dance

6. "What It is To Be Black and Proud" 50 Years in Review

*an excerpt from The Rhythm*

*(Razena Baines/Blackberry Productions Youth Performance Ensemble)*

*(Additional Coaches: Daniel Carlton, Chad Franklin, Kisha Skinner, & Khary Green)*

Section A: Hats Off To Harlem (30's-40's)

Section B: The Showstopper (50's)

Section C: Move to the Back of The Bus (60's)

Section D: Say It Loud... (70's)

Dancers: Shani Alston, Devin Byrd, Shanae Esquilin, Jovanna Gaston, Malika Lee,

Tashiika McClain, Shanese Patterson, Evelyn Smalls, Lorraine Valderrama

7. "Get The Party Started" (Khary Green)

Dancers: Shani Alston, Razena Baines, Takiya Cooley, Felicia DiSalvo,

Khary Green, Jamie Markovich, Kamilah Martin, Denise Murphy,

Lynne Schlesinger Krista Schollaert, Krista Schollaert

Music: Pink

## Intermission: 10 Minutes

8. "Prosperous Rider" (Marisha Brown)

*Psalm 45, And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness and righteousness...*

>Vocals and Dance Marisha Brown

>Bass Antwon Barrett

>Musical Composition Antwon Barrett & Marisha Brown

9. "La Vida de la Diva" 'So, you want a piece of this?'

*an excerpt from Through My Sister's Eyes*

*(Razena Baines/SYNERGY)*

Dancers: Razena Baines, Takiya Coley, Felicia DiSalvo, Alejandra

Linares, Sarah Roberts, Lynne Schlesinger, Krista Schollaert

& Emily Snyder

Music: Missy Elliot

10. "Braken and Sunflowers" (Sita Mani)

Dancers: Rachel Feneirman, Smruti Patel, Monica Silva

11. "Free to Be" (Razena Baines/SYNERGY)

*an excerpt from "Spirituals and Rituals for the Mind, Body, and Soul"*

*(Theme and Variation #1)*

Dancers: Razena Baines, Felicia DiSalvo, Sarah Roberts, Lynne

Schlesinger,

Music: Body and Soul Vol. 4

12. "Walk to Jerusalem"

*an excerpt from The Rhythm*

*(Razena Baines/Blackberry Productions Youth Performance Ensemble)*

Dancer: Shani Alston

Music: Mahalia Jackson

13. Finale: "Mixed Nuts" Mixed Works by Razena Baines, Takiya Cooley,

Khary Green, & Lynne Schlesinger

WITH ENTIRE CAST FOR BOWS

## About the Choreographers

**Razena Yvonne Faulkner Baines, Artistic Director & Project Coordinator  
Urban Junction Performing Arts Project & Blackberry Productions, Inc**

*Razena has been studying dance since the age of six. Always taking different forms and styles. Jazz, ballet, hip-hop, modern, tap, Flamenco, and African, (Ballet Hispanico, NY) (Joel Hall Dance Center (IL) Gus Giordano Dance Center (NY) Steps On Broadway (NY) New Dance Group (NY), and more recently at Manhattan Motion (NY) Upon studying these forms, she has taught all of them. Most recently, I have found (at Manhattan Motion) I have a place to move, a place to grow-mentally, with adult dancers dancing for the love of it-the feeling of it, bringing their life stories to the dances." I thank Gabriel Taylor, the studio director for her support through the process. Recently, Razena completed her MA in education at NYU and also holds a BPH in Communication and the Performing Arts from Northwestern University.*

*Between 1993-1998, she formed a dance ensemble called, Urban Junction Dance Performance Ensemble. The group performed both concert and educational pieces throughout the Chicagoland area. Her work has been televised and remains in the archives of the Harold Washington Library where she gave a series of lecture demonstrations on dance and composition. Urban Junction Performing Arts Project grew out of the need to keep a continual network going amongst dancers and other performing artists as they are developing their work. Since moving to NYC her work is now presented under SYNERGY.*

*Razena currently teaches dance in various locations and is the arts-in-education program director for Blackberry Productions, Inc., an theater company in Harlem with a rich source of educational pieces in repertory. The children appearing in tonight's performance were workshops students from PS 125, where Baines provides arts programming. With the persistence of Ms. Kisha Skinner, (Rhyme, Rap, and Rhythm Specialist) Mr. Daniel Carlton, (Acting Instructor) and recent inclusion of Chad Franklin (Poetry Teacher) we are forming a children performance ensemble! Note: Shani Alston is guest performer; she's 14 years old, and a student of Khary Green-we are very proud of her! And to all of the Blackberry Youth-and their wonderful parents-SAY IT LOUD!*

*Razena thanks her dancers... all the dancers in this project for their hard work and energy in making this performance happen. Special love goes out to my mother-always there for me, my 18 month old son who inspires me to keep going-he claps and cheers me on when I dance around the living room, the etch crew who have put up with me and have stuck by me in the eleventh hour, and of course the gods above for giving me strength and belief in myself!*

**MARISHA BROWN:** *Singer/songwriter/choreographer Marisha Brown was created and purposed to share with the world the rich artistic expression that lives inside her. She has been called a "soulful songbird, with the voice of an angel" while her dance style is loaded with extra funk and extra flava. As a rising Senior at Columbia University pursuing a degree in Spanish Literature and studying Jazz vocals at Manhattan School of Music, Marisha has a lot on her plate. However, she always manages to find the time to create some new unique and interesting project. Though raised up in Jazz, Hip Hop, and Soul, Marisha's passion to learn about different cultures and how they express themselves through art, has lead to her own very unique and versatile style. Her most recent travels to Southern Spain have undoubtedly influenced her newest work entitled "Prosperous Rider" though her purely American Hip Hop roots are still clearly evident. Marisha's has had the privilege to work with Culture Shock Nike sponsored Hip Hop Dance Company, Notorio Dance Company, and Beastie Boy's DJ Mix Master Mike to name a few. Her works have been presented for 49er Football Half-time shows, NCAA Final Four Basketball Tournament, Basement Theatre Productions in Moscow Russia, and several Las Vegas showcases. Marisha attributes all glory and honour to Jesus Christ whom she is proud to say is the Lord of her life. She is thankful to have discovered how the performing arts can be used as a powerful instrument for praise and worship. Special thanks to Antwan Barrett, the bass player in the piece; he is a skillful, brilliant, soothing, rich and down right dirty-funky individual. Bless you.*

**TAKIYA COLEY:** *This is her second performance with SYNERGY and her third performance as a soloist. She has been dancing for over ten years and loves every minute of it. Dancing allows her to express her emotions through movement. It is one of her greatest passions. Her other greatest passion is acting and is an aspiring actress who hopes to one day become a movie star! She is also performing with Fusion Dance Company alongside one of the other choreographers in this showcase. She would like to thank Razena for giving her this opportunity.*

**KHARY GREEN:** *Khary also known as KJ, is a native of Boston, MA, where he started his training and passion for performing. He has performed in Paris, London, Egypt and at Euro-Disney. He is a 2000 Graduate of Point Park College with a BA in Dance. After graduation, he was invited to be a guest with the Dance Expression Dance Company and later joined the Move Dance Company where he was given the opportunity to perform the American premier of "La Dova," a contemporary ballet originally created for Les Ballet de Monte Carlo. When arriving in NYC, he pursued his independent study at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre. This is his 4th project with Razena Baines. He has just finish performing with Kinetic Dance theater in "Sleeping Giants" and he also performs with Ase Dance Collective. He wants to thank everyone who supported him through the good days and bad days and want to dedicate "Get the Party Started" to all those people who understand "There is plenty of time to work hard; enjoy yourself!" and you know who you are.*

**SITA MANI** *has been involved in dance/performance for seventeen years. She has also been exploring body and healing work for a number of years. This is her first venture in bringing all fields of her experience together creatively and she would like to thank the producer and you, the audience, for your support.*

**LYNNE SCHLESINGER** *Lynne, a recent graduate of New York University's Dance Education program, is happy to be pursuing her career as dancer and choreographer post college-life. Just three months out of college, she is studying on scholarship with Jennifer Muller/The Works as well as performing with Fusion Dance Company. She is thankful to have found a venue to show here work again, as well as perform on stage herself...something she loves to do!*

**DOUG SHANKMAN** *is a native New Yorker. Currently, Mr. Shankman is working with several production companies as choreographer and director. As artistic director of Keter Dance Mr. Shankman has choreographed two new contemporary ballets. Primal Vision, inspired by the life, art and spirit of pop artist Keith Haring and Atlan- an exploration of the myths of the lost island continent of Atlantis. Current works include Sing Happy now playing at Danny's skylight Cabaret. As a dance instructor, Mr. Shankman is teaching Tap dancing at Manhattan Motion Dance studios under the direction of Gabrielle Taylor. Choreographer's Note: The Sundance has been practiced by many Native American tribes since the beginning of time. Each tribe has their individual rituals. Essentially, the sundance is a celebration of the summer solstice. It reminds us to honor and celebrate the earth we live on. It reminds us to be thankful for the sun, the stars, and the Heavens for it's great mysteries. The Sundance honors the buffalo, the eagle and all the sacred animals. It is a personal sacrifice and requires the chosen warrior to go through a ritual of piercing a bone through their chest and attaching themselves to a sacred pole and hang from their skin. When the skin rips off, the ritual has been completed. The sundance was outlawed by the United States Government in 1904. However, in search for the true meaning of freedom of religion and freedom of expression; many tribes are recreating the ritual to it's original integrity.*

**We would like to thank all of our friends and family for being a supportive audience & the staff at the Riverside Church for their assistance in tonight's program. And from choreographers to all dancers...if it weren't for you...thank you!!!**

**To all, have a wonderful evening!**