THE COST OF VISIBILITY
Rai Barnard
Creator and Director

Alex Lorrain-Hill
Technical Director

Chris Trevino
Assistant Technical Director

Hayden Lopez
Lighting Designer

Rai Barnard
Crystal Gong
Philip Livingston,
Christopher Manalansan
Audrie Tran
Michelle Williams
Performers

Micki Saba
Anna Marie Ewert-Pittman
Project Supervisors
Hello and welcome to the one-night-only presentation of my senior major honors project/ Hobson Wildenthal Honors College capstone, The Cost of Visibility. This project is a part of the Visual and Performing Arts program here at UTD and is meant to be a culmination of everything I learned and my personal growth over the past four years. It is not that. I knew from the start of my planning that I could not create a single piece that fully encompasses all the learning, evolving, and letting go that I experienced since August of 2017. Instead, I worked to create an offering, a snapshot of where I am now, as I finish my undergraduate degrees.

College, or rather my first steps into adulthood, pushed me to simultaneously take and release control over my life- to take inventory of what I can and cannot change, of who I think I am and what I care about. In the last few years, I have accepted many parts of myself that I was once scared to even think about. I’ve learned to love and proudly claim my identity as a non-binary, queer/pansexual, leftist artist. In a world where our understanding of identity is rapidly evolving, it has become trickier to figure out who I am, much less share that information with others who may not understand, or even outright reject me. This is complicated further by the not-so-simple fact that one’s identity can and does change over time.

(cont. on next page)
Regarding gender identity and sexual orientation, specifically, widespread awareness and acceptance of diverse identities has been a centuries-long effort in the United States. Even as understanding and discussion of LGBT+ identities grow in the U.S., the stipulations of existence for people who claim LGBT+ identities have historically become more stringent and widespread (both outside and within queer and trans communities). Today, we see talented trans and queer actors starring in Netflix shows or gracing the cover of Times magazine while, at the same time, a record number of anti-trans legislative bills have been proposed or passed at the state level in 2021*.

Discovering and accepting one’s queer or trans identity is just as much a political declaration as a personal one. How do we navigate self-discovery when each part of ourselves has a social and political implication? Will our identities ever stop being the subject of political debate? Frankly, I have no idea. For now, I just know that I feel empowered every day that I choose to continue living out my identity with authenticity and vulnerability. I invite you to join me and the rest of the performers in vulnerability for the next hour. You are also invited to take photos and videos (without flash) of the performance and share them on social media with #CostOfVisibility. Thank you again for your presence.

- Rai Barnard

November 20th is Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDoR). On this day, the lives of trans people who passed from October of the past year through September of the current year are honored.

Given the nature of this show and its temporal proximity to November 20th, we want to acknowledge the prevalence of violence against trans people in the U.S. and abroad that leads to hundreds of deaths every year. Often the deaths of these trans people are underreported or wholly unmentioned by our media. For more information about Transgender Day of Remembrance, please utilize the resources below:

- TDoR website home page
- TDoR 2021 Reports (worldwide)
- TDoR 2021 Reports (U.S.)

Resources for LGBT+ affirming mental health support:

- Trevor Project
- Services & Advocacy for LGBT Elders (SAGE)
- Trans Lifeline
Performers Bios

Rai Barnard is a performing artist, choreographer, and senior undergraduate student at UTD. They are studying Biology as well as Visual and Performing Arts, and they are excited to graduate soon in December 2021! Rai has performed in productions throughout DFW Vena Cava Productions (Dansmonster), MATTIE, Prism Movement Theater (Everything Will Be Fine), Stage West Theatre (The Naughty List), and the Danielle Georgiou Dance Group (Stronger Than Arms). Their favorite color is every shade of green, and (besides dancing) they love to sing, knit, sew, drink coffee, and pet their cat, Athena.

Crystal Gong is a dancer and senior undergraduate student at UTD studying Biology and Neuroscience. She has trained and choreographed under McCallum Fine Arts Academy in Austin and for Collective Movement at UTD. She has also performed with collegiate dance teams such as UTD FSA Modern and Wildcard. Her favorite color is pink (hence the hair), and they also love to drink milk tea and eat poké, collect kpop merchandise, and play with their cat, Gooby.
Philip Livingston is a hip hop instructor and performer. He has experience as a former director of The Alliance and a current director of Ftroop Juniors, in addition to teaching regular classes at Fenton's Dance Factory. He is a captain of the Dallas Mavericks dance group, D-Town Crew, and performs at home games. His prior experience includes middle and high school years as a member of Ftroop, and winning World of Dance Dallas 2017 with The Process. He loves fashion, tabletop games, cartoons, and dogs.

Christopher Manalansan is a senior undergraduate Neuroscience major and Psychology minor at UTD. He started dancing just 3 years ago through various competitive choreography teams. This is his first dance theater production. When he's not dancing, he's working at the Gender Center with Rai, playing PC games, cooking, and making hand embroidered memes.
**Audrey Tran** is a performing artist and an undergraduate student at UTD. They are in their junior year studying molecular biology and is set to graduate May of 2023. They started dancing when they first came to UTD with hip-hop based choreography teams such as UTD's FSA Maharlika, UTD's Collective Movement, and The Alliance: Reborn. They love eating sushi and will never get sick of poké. Other than dancing, they enjoy drawing, watching anime, reading manga, drinking boba, playing games like Genshin Impact, and spending time with their friends!

**Michelle Williams** has been dancing on and off for 16 years (and she has the injuries to show for it.) Her background is in studio dance such as ballet, jazz, and contemporary. They also have had experience in recent years with various hip-hop teams in the Dallas area such as Dancing for a Cause, UTD FSA Modern, Wild Card, Meraki, and Collective Movement. Outside of dance, she is a senior biomedical engineering major that loves to bake for my friends, and they have an unhealthy obsession with their cats.
Music / Sound

Peace Piece
Green House

Metronome - 60 BPM - Lento / Adagio
Metronome - 70 BPM - Andante
Metronome - 80 BPM - Andante
Metronome - 100 BPM - Allegro
Metronome - 120 BPM - Allegro

Music Utility

Tous les garçons et les filles - Slow
Francoise Hardy

Brahms Lullaby
Beth McLaughlin

Saudade
Ana Frango Electrico

Silk Rock - Haha Sounds Collective
HaHa Sounds Collective, Laetitia Sadier

Bamboo and Space Monk
Kwinton Gray Project

ALOK: The Urgent Need for Compassion
The Man Enough Podcast
ft. Alok Vaid-Menon
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tq3C9R8HNUQ

Sophie's Speech at #TransRightsProtest 06/08/2021
Curio/Eric Sophie
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4k5sPji3Y7g
PHOTOGRAPHS


VIDEOS

Gay and Proud (1970)
Lilli Vincenz

"Date Me Or You're Transphobic" - Trans Activist
Blaire White
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ta40ZPTIAIA

"My Gender Isn't Human": Trans TikTok Insanity
Arielle Scarcella
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=St8LnRKv_2k

This is Why I Hate the Trans Community (Response to Bex) Kalvin Garrah
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mIgphlobqvU

Should There Be a Limit to Gender Identities?
Good Morning Britain Good Morning Britain
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDT-Yj5n6zE