

Elon Dance Company moves with natural rhythm of campus

Kristel Tedesco
Reporter

A buzzing crowd gathered outside Koury Business Center Sept. 30 as dancers gracefully stepped into their places, framed by the sunlit fountain.

"Dance in the Landscape," Elon Dance Company's first performance of the season, explored the juxtaposition of natural elements and the crafted architecture of Elon's campus. Featuring group improvisation and three choreographed works, the concert showcased the talent and versatility of the dance majors.

"You don't have all the conditions you're used to, like the perfect temperature and floor," said freshman dance major Kayla McGrath. "It's definitely something you have to adjust to."

Throughout the rehearsal process, dancers faced many challenges, including thick Carolina mud, uneven ground and unforgiving brick.

"It's a much more intense process," McGrath said. "It's pushed me to work harder, which I love."

Although last year's performance took place in the Academic Village, the move to Koury Business Center created intricacies and challenges that propelled the artistry of the choreography to new heights, according to Jason Aryeh, concert director and assistant professor of performing arts. Dancers repelled off the columns, ran through the pathways, dove

into the soft grass and flew through the air, exploring all the elements of the space.

"One thing that drew me to the space around Koury Business Center were the huge pillars and the space in between to use as part of the choreography," Aryeh said. "I loved the idea of the fountain as a background."

This was Aryeh's second year as director of the site-specific concert. His African heritage and dance training blended with contemporary dance motifs in the choreography.

"For landscape, it's real natural to come up with moments because I've been dancing outside all my life," Aryeh said. "Landscape is home for me."

Aryeh took on a new challenge this year by collaborating with Clay Stevenson, lecturer of music, to create an original electronic score featuring dubstep beats. The music inspired different movement qualities in the group work and sparked excitement among younger audience members.

But upperclassmen have seen the annual fall concerts progress and evolve throughout their years at Elon.

"It's more cohesive," said Kelsey Herbst, senior dance major and assistant director. "What I like about it is that it uses different visual perspectives on the same space."

Another innovation in this year's concert was the inclusion of student choreography. A trio of dancers gave a mature,



Heather Sandler(left) and Molly Sems (right) perform "Trio" in the Elon Dance Company's "Dance in the Landscape" on Sunday September 30th.

emotive performance that explored the depth of the walkway, choreographed by Herbst. It was followed by Aryeh's piece, which used the space from another viewpoint by framing the dancers

with Koury's massive columns. The small cast size and proximity of the audience created an intimate atmosphere, despite the wide open setting of this year's performance.

Top 10 fall fashion must-haves: A look ahead at autumn styles

Alyssa Baxter
Columnist

Men

• **The jean:** Every guy needs a solid pair of jeans in his closet. This year, it's all about the classic look of light Levis. Don't be afraid of a lighter shade for this season to add texture and contrast to your look. The big change this fall is to single-cuff the bottoms as well.

• **Statement piece:** Add an uncanny flair to your look with a flash of color or a statement piece. Pair a neutral colored sweater or button-down with colored pants or a funky tie or pair of shoes. You will draw attention to your outfit while also expressing your creativity.

• **Light colored pants:** Much like light jeans, light colored pants are also a fall staple. Colors like caramel, camel and

mustard will act as a simple base for the outfit. Less is more this season. It's not about flash, but functional simplicity.

• **Oversized jackets:** Everybody needs a good fall jacket. Ditch the go-to sweatshirt or zip-up and grab an oversized jacket. When going for a wool or cotton peacoat, double or single-breasted styles are great. Stick to neutral colors like black or navy, or go for a subtle pattern that makes a big statement. A little pattern can go a long way.

• **Scarves:** Guys, accessories are not just for girls. This season, go for a bold scarf that really gives your wardrobe a boost. A neutral or dark color will bring attention to your face. Coffee brown, tans, deep teals and burgundy will be the main palette for this fall in menswear, while red, burnt orange and raspberry will be for those who want more personality in their style.

Women

• **Black and blue:** Black and blue are the "it" color combination for this fall season. Don't leave your wardrobe bare. Pair this color combo in a layered look, dress, color block or break up an all-black look with dark blue tones. Be sure not to forget the navy peacoat. The former trend is making a big comeback this year.

• **Burgundy/wine:** Dark red and purple shades are another color-combo staple. Be sure to pick the colors that suit your skin tone best. Whether it is in an oversized sweater, dress or even tights, these colors are the season's new black.

• **Think big:** Large, chunky sweaters and scarves will add texture to your outfit. This fall, they will not only keep you warm but will also bring effortless

style. Add necklaces, bracelets or earrings to make the oversized look more feminine. If long enough, pair sweaters with leggings and boots.

• **Military:** Military-inspired looks are a fall fashion must-have. Sport a modern military style with a sage green jacket, brown leather boots or a canvas satchel. Use accent pieces with metal and leather for a subtle hint of army flair. High collars also give military edge, and gold buttons on a peacoat or jacket can do the same.

• **Make it pop:** Contrast the dark neutral tones of fall, and throw in a pop of color. Even though it's not spring, don't be afraid of bright colors. When wearing all black, pop it with a bright shoe, jacket or lipstick. Different tones and textures can also boost the outfit, like wearing shiny black tights to make the look more chic.

Review: Phoenix Highway member debuts solo project

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Frank Hurd is a name that has been known on campus for several years. He was part of the campus-based band Phoenix Highway, which released its extended play, or EP, "American Blend" last year. On Sept. 12, he released his debut solo project, an EP titled "Pressed for Time." It peaked at No. 11 on the iTunes singer/songwriter chart, alongside notable names like James Taylor, Simon & Garfunkel and The Civil Wars.

Hurd's music fits right in with that category.

The EP begins with "Time Flies Like an Arrow," starting a theme that runs throughout the seven-track disc. The opening lines ask, "Have you ever thought about where all the time has gone and wonder why it keeps on moving and it won't stop no matter what we try?" The track is about the fragility of time and how it seems to escape most people.

Another common theme of the EP is love and how time can sometimes interfere with it. "Something About You" discusses falling in love and looking back to see how the romance blossomed. In "The Seasons Still Change," Hurd sings about how passion remains through the seasons: "Just tell me you still feel the same, and the seasons still change."

Hurd's voice fits the home-grown folk genre well. The songwriting is not outstanding, but his clever and nostalgic look at love forces the listener to think about loves they have lost and sing right along with Hurd.

One thing is guaranteed: If you listen through this album twice, you will quickly get the songs stuck in your head. The catchy choruses and soothing instrumentations are worth your money.