

Place(d)

Choreography by Ryan Nicole Chrisman

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

From the little girl who never went outside...

Above all, I thank my God for His ever-present strength, for blessing me far beyond what I deserve, and for keeping me grounded. Mostly, I thank Him for the grace that allows my failures not to be final. Thank you **Momma & Daddy** for believing in me always, for your unconditional love, and for supporting every minute of every dream, no matter how crazy. It's an honor to be your daughter! **Trey**, you bring me a little piece of home every day. Thank you for your musical soul and your humor; your sister is your biggest fan! To the **superwomen** in my life – you grant me the ability to laugh, cry, and fall back into place. Thank you for being the friends a woman needs! **Brian**, my outstanding fiancé, thank you for your extraordinary patience with my hectic schedule, for listening, loving, coming to my rescue, and making me smile no matter what. **Dancers**, I am incredibly grateful for your endless choreographic contributions. Thank you for rolling in the mud, for putting your hearts into this, and for allowing me to direct the beauty that you all possess. **Betty and Kyle**, thank you for extending your talent and vision to this work and for working with a sound and video novice. **Lee and Justin**, your creative gifts, efforts, and professionalism are truly appreciated. Thank you to **professors and mentors** here and beyond for challenging me, for providing guidance and inspiration, and for giving me a chance. Special thanks to **Brad Pudner** for his angelic landscaping efforts and to **Maureen Mooney McNary, Alex Pile, and Allison Fory** for outstanding service. Thank you also to the **audience**, whose efforts to find their own meaning in the work bring meaning to mine. I am humbled by the efforts of **everyone involved** in bringing this work full circle.

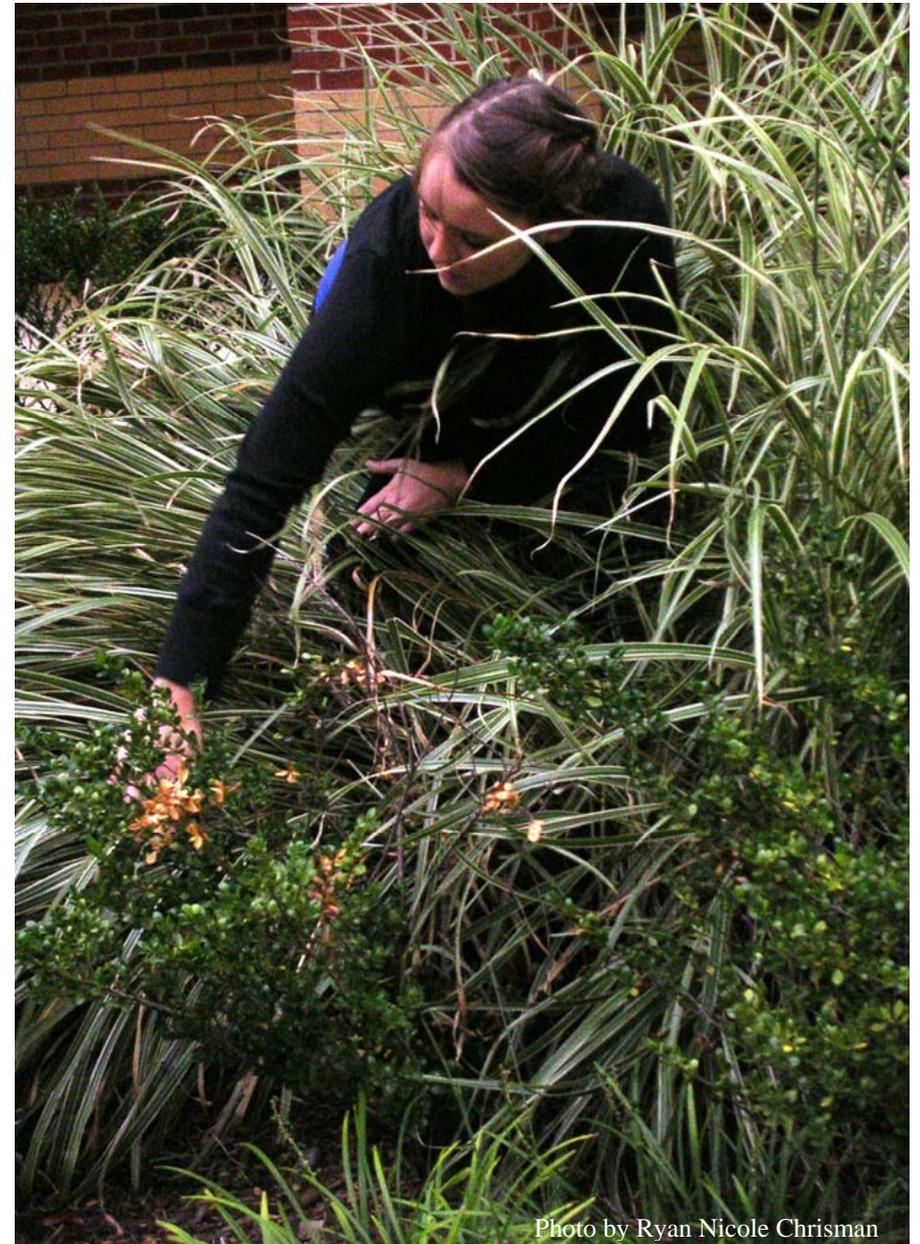


Photo by Ryan Nicole Chrisman

Place(d)

Choreographer/Artistic Director: Ryan Nicole Chrisman

Performers/Collaborators: Sarah Anne Austin, Liz Dawson, Laura Heidhausen, Naomi Horak, David Stern McMichael, Rachel Novak, Katelyn M. Reber, Shelby Leigh Streimer, Patina Lynette Strother

Composer: Kyle Johnson

Musicians: Justin Bland (Trumpet), Lee Hinkle (Percussion)

Costume Design: Ryan Nicole Chrisman

Videographer: Betty Skeen

Video Editing and Design: Betty Skeen and Ryan Nicole Chrisman

Technical Director: Paul D. Jackson

**The audience is encouraged to move around the perimeter of the space while viewing the performance with respect to performers and patrons. Following the performance, the audience is invited to the showing of a film – another view of *Place(d)* - in studio 1912.



Ryan Nicole Chrisman is an MFA candidate from Forest, VA with a passion for teaching and all things southern. As a Graduate Teaching Assistant in the Dance Department, she teaches technique courses in modern and jazz dance and has also taught for the Student Dance Association. Ryan serves as an advisor to UMD's UnBound Dance Team and previously served as co-chair of the student chapter of the National Dance Education Organization. A scholarship student at James Madison University, Ryan graduated as *Outstanding Dance Major* in 2003 with a BA in Theatre & Dance and a BA in Media Arts & Design. At JMU, Ryan was President of JMU Dance Theatre, Vice-President of Scholarship for Sigma Kappa Sorority and an Orientation Program Assistant with the Center for Leadership Services and Transition. Following undergrad, she started two modern dance programs at neighboring arts academies in southern Virginia and co-directed each of the schools' performing companies. She spent two years teaching modern, ballet, jazz, and creative movement to ages 3 – 50 + and was awarded *Creative New Teacher*. Ryan has performed for numerous festivals and productions including the John F. Kennedy Center's 10th annual national festival for the American Collegiate Dance Festival, the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Choreographer's Showcase, and the Maryland Dance Ensemble. As a past member of the Virginia Repertory Dance Company (Dance Teacher Magazine 2001), the Contemporary Dance Ensemble, and the Associate Dance Ensemble, she has performed works by Mark Taylor, Alice Howes, Alan Arnett, Shannon Hummel, Starr Foster, Christalynn Wright, Shane O'Hara, Jessica Pyatt, Stacy Pfeifer, and thompson & trammel. Ryan also toured in 2001 with the VRDC. In 2006 and 2007, she worked with the John F. Kennedy Center of the Performing Arts and legendary ballerina Suzanne Farrell to implement the international pre-professional summer intensive, Exploring Ballet with Suzanne Farrell. Upon receiving her MFA this May, and following a summer teaching position here at the university, Ryan will marry her wonderful fiancé in September! She hopes to relocate to Virginia to continue teaching, performing, creating, and advocating arts education.

participated and performed at ACDF in Radford, VA. In addition, Katelyn has choreographed many dances while at UMD for fellow undergraduates and for the South River Dance Company. This year she is the Student Dance Association Event Coordinator. Katelyn would like to thank Ryan for this wonderful experience and everyone who was involved in this process!

Betty Skeen, born in South Carolina, recently earned her BA in Dance with a minor in Creative Writing from Sweet Briar College. In the past year, she has presented new works at ACDF, Joy of Motion, and Sweet Briar College. She is currently an MFA candidate at the University of Maryland.

Shelby Leigh Streimer is a senior Dance major at the University of Maryland. She has worked with Shannon Hummel and Dianne McIntyre in guest residencies and Marissa Guerrero in her MFA thesis. With training in ballet, modern, jazz and hip-hop, Shelby is looking forward to pursuing a career in dance after graduation. She has been involved in the Student Dance Association for two years and has recently been certified in Pilates. Thank you to Ryan and the dancers for a great experience in this "place."

Patina Lynette Strother is a junior at the University of Maryland, and is a Dance and Family Science double major. She is a native of Philadelphia, PA, and has performed with the Philadelphia Dance Company (Philadanco). Patina also trained with the St. Thomas Dance Exchange program and choreographed at different schools and churches around the city of Philadelphia. She is grateful for the opportunity to work with Ryan on her thesis concert, and is looking forward to the many opportunities that Maryland has to offer.



Photo by Ryan Nicole Chrisman

“Time and space – time to be alone, space to move about – these may well become the great scarcities of tomorrow.” ~ Edwin Way Teale