



push / FOLD

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | SAMUEL HOBBS

WWW.PUSHFOLD.ORG



push/FOLD lives at the intersection of dance, sound, and design—fusing raw physicality with immersive, visceral storytelling, speaking across disciplines and communities. Touring nationally and internationally, push/FOLD delivers unforgettable performance and education experiences that ignite the senses and invite audiences into a world of power, beauty, and transformation. Fusing athletics (Track, Swimming, and Martial Arts), with Street, and Contemporary Dance, push/FOLD explores humanity, relationships, and the natural world.

Founded in 2016 by award-winning composer-choreographer and interdisciplinary artist Samuel Hobbs, push/FOLD's work draws inspiration from Dreamtime, channeled through the lens of Visceral Movement Theory™, our unique athletic style using visceral biomechanics to amplify human power in art, athletics, and performance.

Dedicated to merging high-caliber performance with a deep commitment to education and community empowerment, push/FOLD's offerings include masterclasses, workshops, residencies, touring youth-reach programs, artist talks and panel discussions, dance films, and evening-length productions. push/FOLD champions the arts in Portland, OR through our Union PDX festival platform, commissioning artists from around the world to teach and perform in Portland, Oregon, USA.

push/FOLD is a 501(c)(3) arts non-profit based in Portland, Oregon, USA.



THE COMPANY

SAMUEL HOBBS

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, COMPOSER-CHOREOGRAPHER

Samuel Hobbs is a bi-racial Latine presenter, educator, and interdisciplinary artist (Dance, Art, Film, Photography, Music). Named an [Oregon Performing Arts Fellow](#) of 2023, Samuel's works have performed both internationally and nationally since 2014, while teaching contemporary movement and partnering since 2008.

As a choreographer, Samuel's artistic process draws from themes influenced from Dreamtime (meditation and unconscious dreams), and the fascination with athletic forms. Intermixing musical composition and movement due to the experience of synesthesia with sound and momentum (hearing movement and seeing sound), Samuel finds "[a sweet spot between the musical composition and the movement concepts](#)" (Oregon ArtsWatch). Notable commissions and projects include working with the Oregon Ballet Theatre and the Portland Symphonic Choir.

Samuel's movement practice incorporates their training in athletics and dance ([Track, Swimming, Martial Arts, and West African, Street, and Contemporary Dance](#)), and integrates their background in Osteopathy to create the somatic movement method called [Visceral Movement Theory™](#) (VMT). VMT is the backbone of push/FOLD's signature movement-partnering style, training, and education.

As an arts advocate, Samuel collaborates with various stakeholders in the arts to generate abundance-thinking that centers service and reframes leadership as a collective effort. In addition to their mentorship and equity work with organizations and developing artists, Samuel currently serves as an equity and service consultant for several arts organizations and foundations.



MISSION & VISION

OUR REACH



All Ages | **Dance, Music, Athletics** | Artists, Students, Educators



Attracting Art Lovers **Globally** | Audiences of Dance, Music, Theatre



Over **49 countries** via our **virtual components**

VISCERAL MOVEMENT THEORY™ MASTERCLASS
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

PHOTOGRAPHER: HOLLY SHAW

"... was simply poetic... the scenes looked like paintings."
~ Jamuna Chiarini (Oregon ArtsWatch)

"... mood like a modern-day Haydn."
~ Bob Hicks (Oregon ArtsWatch)

"... viscous, tenacious, and pulsing..."
~ Elizabeth Whelan (Oregon ArtsWatch)

PHOTOS & VIDEO



CLICK OR SCAN

PRESS DROPBOX



CLICK OR SCAN

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PERFORMANCES & COLLABORATIONS

push/FOLD delivers a dynamic range of virtuosic dance productions, designed to be tour-ready, accessible, and impactful for any community. From full-length evening experiences to shorter, high-energy works perfect for shared performance events or split-bills, our productions captivate audiences of all ages. We also collaborate across disciplines with local artists, performers, and organizations to craft one-of-a-kind events and cross-pollinate music, theater, and dance audiences that leave a lasting impression.

VIRTUAL & LIVESTREAM ENGAGEMENT

Beyond the physical stage, push/FOLD's Livestream and Virtual engagement options reach global and local audiences alike. Our virtual components ensure that every aspect of our work—from full productions and classes to artist talks and panel discussions—can be experienced from anywhere. This approach expands accessibility and engagement, bringing push/FOLD's innovative artistry to a broader portion of your community.

TAILORED RESIDENCIES & CHOREOGRAPHY

Immerse your community in the creative world of push/FOLD with our tailored residencies. Spanning from 2 - 10 days (and more), each residency is a dynamic blend of masterclasses and workshops, lecture-demonstrations, performances, community discussions and artist-talks, all designed to leave a lasting impact to resonate with your unique vision. We also work with universities and local companies to create and set innovative new works.

MASTERCLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Dive into push/FOLD's masterclasses and workshops for movement, film, sound for dance, and career development. Designed for everyone from high school students and elders to professionals in arts, athletics, and health fields, these sessions challenge, inspire, and embrace participants of all backgrounds and levels. Our [Visceral Movement Theory™](#) and professional development workshops also provide educators and arts leaders with innovative tools and fresh perspectives to invigorate their practice.

LECTURE-DEMONSTRATIONS

Step into the creative heartbeat with push/FOLD's lecture-demonstrations. Led by our Artistic Director and senior company members, these interactive sessions explore our choreographic process and [Visceral Movement Theory™](#). Gain hands-on insights into our innovative work in biomechanics and the techniques that define our distinctive style.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

push/FOLD's student engagement program enriches academic experiences by offering performances and demonstrations for students of all ages. Working with schools and studios, we blend excerpts from our repertory with interactive movement exercises, highlighting the connections between art and science, fostering creativity and curiosity.

ARTIST TALKS & PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Enrich your experience with push/FOLD's artist talks and panel discussions. These open conversations bring together our artists and local voices, inviting audiences to dive deep into the work, explore themes within our repertory or community-selected topics, and create meaningful dialogue and deeper understanding.



TOURING INFO & REPERTOIRE

Possible Venues

Proscenium Theatre, In-the-Round, Site-Specific, Black Box, Installation

Personnel

4 to 7 Dancers, 1 to 2 Artistic Personnel, 1 Technical Director

* *'Vespers'* also includes 3 Choral Soloists and 1 Choral Director *

Touring Productions

Early

Immersing the audience in a world both intense and tender, this raw and visceral production dances through intricate duets and solos as fragments of love, loss, and time.

Look & Feel:

Athletic, Powerful, Serious, Single Narrative Arc.

Length:

60-minutes without an intermission.

Vespers

A rich and evocative interdisciplinary and modern interpretation of Rachmaninoff's 'All-Night Vigil' performed by live choristers blended with the power of athletic contemporary movement and partnering.

Look & Feel:

Classical Choral and Athletic Contemporary, Non-Secular Reverent

Length:

60-minutes without an intermission.

Echoes & Light

This curated evening of works delivers the full spectrum of push/FOLD's creative and athletic breadth—from balletic and meditative duets and quirky vaudevillian quartets to powerful, pulsing pieces infused with theatrical themes and stunning visuals. This customizable program is a multidisciplinary journey for all audiences.

Length:

60 to 120-minutes with an intermission.

BODY OF WORK



CLICK OR SCAN



EARLY

Composer-Choreographer: Samuel Hobbs

Early unfolds as an intimate reflection on love, loss, and time. Performed in the round, the work invites audiences into a shared reflection—where vulnerability and strength coexist in breath and gesture. Driven by an original score and grounded in striking physicality, Early blurs the line between dancer and sound, performer and witness. The choreography builds through cycles of tenderness and rupture, revealing the quiet persistence of connection. Both raw and meditative, Early offers a visceral encounter with what it means to begin, to endure, and to let go—
"its mood like a modern-dayHaydn" (Oregon ArtsWatch).

Look & Feel

Athletic, Powerful, Serious, Meditative, Single Narrative Arc

Length

60-minutes without an intermission

Movement Style

Floorwork, Post-Contemporary Movement & Partnering

Musical Style

Synthetic & Stringed Instrumentals, Vocals, Piano

Costumes

Pedestrian Clothing & Nude Bodies

** Note: Fully Clothed Performances Available **

Possible Venues

Proscenium Theatre, In-the-Round, Site-Specific, Black Box, Installation

Personnel

4 Dancers, 1 Artistic Personnel, 1 Technical Director

Video URL

WWW.VIMEO.COM/PUSHFOLD/EARLY-EVENING

FULL VIDEO



CLICK OR SCAN



VESPERS

Choreographer: Samuel Hobbs | **Music:** Sergei Rachmaninoff

In an evocative and powerful blend of live choral music and the power of athletic movement, 'Vespers' embodies a modern interpretation of Sergei Rachmaninoff's 'All-Night Vigil'. Staged, lit, and choreographed as a true multidisciplinary work, 'Vespers' transcends in a primal reconciliation of past and future—a contemporary reframing of this extraordinary choral masterpiece.

Music

Sergei Rachmaninoff — 'All Night Vigil'

Length

65-minutes without an intermission

Look & Feel

Ethereal, Powerful

Movement Style

Floorwork, Post-Contemporary Movement & Partnering

Costumes

Contemporary Minimalistic Dresses,
Contemporary Leotards

Possible Venues

Proscenium Theatre, Non-Traditional Warehouse Spaces

Personnel

5-7 Dancers, 1-3 Vocal Soloists
2 Artistic Personnel, 1 Technical Director

Video URL

WWW.VIMEO.COM/PUSHFOLD/VESPERS-2024

FULL VIDEO



CLICK OR SCAN



VIDEO LINKS



CLICK TO OPEN



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SPONSORS & SUPPORT

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INFO & MORE



SCAN WITH PHOTO

Front & Back Cover Photography: Jingzi Zhao





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