



For Immediate Release

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RESILIENCE Dance Company presents *Entry Points*

Entry Points

Nov. 6th – 8th, 2026

\$20 - \$35

Catherine B. Berges Theatre at COCA - 6880 Washington Ave, St. Louis, MO 63130

Tickets: www.resiliencedancecompany.com. On sale August 24th.

St. Louis; August 5th, 2026

Entry Points, RESILIENCE Dance Company's signature Fall repertory performance, returns for its 6th iteration and 3rd year at COCA's Catherine B. Berges Theatre. The company's nine professional dancers will perform four world premieres by **Hannah Garner**, **Cassie Wang**, **Faith Balderrama**, and **Florian Lochner and Alice Klock of FLOCK**. In addition, RDC will restage audience favorite *KAIROS* (2024), by **VIM VIGOR**, as part of the concert. Audiences can expect a thrilling array of technique and artistry, ranging from athletic floorwork and skilled contemporary partnering, to release-driven Countertechnique and multi-dimensional dance theater. Emily Haussler, RDC's Artistic Director, has curated choreographers to underscore the technical strengths and range of the company, and to fill stylistic niches in the STL concert dance scene. Audiences are invited into the worlds of each work, with "entry points" into fresh ideas, perspectives, and explorations that center the human experience. RDC concerts will expand an audience's ideas of what dance can be, foster community connection, and spark genuine engagement through art – where audiences feel curious, entertained, inspired, or moved.



Hannah Garner, named a 2025 Princess Grace Award recipient in Choreography and '25 to Watch' by Dance Magazine, is a NYC based dancer/choreographer making work that "tackles topics like death and queer identity through rigorous, inventive movement and wit" (Dance Magazine). Her work as 2nd Best Dance Company is "exploratory, empathetic, and goofy... blending humor and tragedy to grapple with big ideas in very messy, human ways." She will create a 25-min full-company dance theater work that interrogates, through serious play, what does it mean to be alive?



Cassie Wang is a freelance choreographer in Boston, MA who has developed a master work, *The Head is Not the Star of the Body*, over the past two years and through significant residencies at Boston Center for the Arts and Jacob's Pillow. RDC will adapt a 20-min excerpt of this 80-min work, featuring 6 dancers in white, working with minimal props, set entirely to the music of Big Thief. Cassie's "dancemaking lives on a spectrum between the hyperliteral and the poetic, centering on longing as both subject and method."



Faith Balderrama is an emerging freelance choreographer and accomplished dancer from Chicago, IL, in addition to a certified Countertechnique teacher – one of 64 in the world. Her work was previously selected for RDC's 2nd St. Louis Contemporary Dance Festival in 2025. She has performed extensively with South Chicago Dance Theatre, The Seldoms, and Little Fire Dance Collective. Her pieces "address overlooked aspects of social, political, and cultural constructs that hinder human empathy, trust, and reconciliation." She will create a full company piece, connecting the artists on stage with the community in the audience.



Florian Lochner and Alice Klock are an internationally renowned choreographic duo – together, known as **FLOCK**. After meeting at Hubbard Street in 2017, they set a plethora of works at spaces including Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Charlotte Ballet, Whim W'Him, GroundWorks DanceTheater, Backhausdance, Orsolina 28, Ballet Idaho, University of Michigan, Seattle Dance Collective, the Goethe Institut, the Alonzo King LINES Ballet BFA, and the 92nd Street Y. They will be creating a trio, "built on physical honesty, non-gendered partnering, and the magic of deep collaboration. Their movement draws on myths and stories with an emphasis on exploring the beauty and power within the human spirit."



VIM VIGOR is an internationally renowned Michigan based company led by **Shannon Gillen**, investigating human behavior, identity, and social connection through movement, dance theater methodologies, and conceptual choreographic practice. Their 2024 work, *KAIROS* was celebrated for showing "unimaginably complex and daring feats of partnering with an impossibly organic timing. There is no need for theatrics, just a pure obsession with living in the moment." (St. Louis Dance HQ).



Quotes:

Praise for RDC:

"Resilience Dance Company, now concluding its seventh season, has rapidly grown its reach throughout the Midwest from Saint Louis to Chicago and beyond... routinely delivering breathtaking levels of physical and creative risk." -Will Brighton, St. Louis Dance HQ, Once Here, Still Moving, 2026

"Entry Points [celebrated] dancers' daring physicality and agility, with bold partnering, rapid-fire sequences of quick and dynamic choreography, soaring leaps, and high extensions" -Melissa Miller, St. Louis Dance HQ, Entry Points 2025

"In every way, Entry Points is an unrelenting scream. A scream of joy, a scream of thirst, and a scream of triumph... Resilience delivered an evening of visionary artistry and rigorous physicality that not only parades the immense growth of its own company, but continues the rocketing forward of Saint Louis's dance scene as a whole. -Will Brighton, St. Louis Dance HQ, Entry Points 2024

"I find Resilience Dance Company to be one of the most exciting things to happen to St. Louis' dance community in years. Their research-based movement approach and embrace of improvisation have captured my attention every time I've been fortunate enough to see them perform." -Calvin Windschitl, St. Louis Dance HQ, Come With Me 2023

Tickets:

Single tickets for *Entry Points* will go on sale August 24th, 2026 and can be purchased online through our website (www.resiliencedancecompany.com). Show times include a Friday and Saturday evening performance at 7:30pm, and a Sunday matinee at 2:30pm. Tickets will range from \$20 - \$35, with students, artists, and seniors having access to discounted rates. Audiences who cannot afford the listed rates may email info@resiliencedancecompany.com to request an accommodation. No one is turned away for lack of funds.

About RESILIENCE Dance Company:

RESILIENCE Dance Company (RDC) is a non-profit, contemporary modern dance company with a mission to create exceptional dance experiences that fuel human connection. Founded in 2019 by Artistic and Executive Director Emily Haussler, RDC's work is rooted in building healthy, sustainable dance spaces that put artists first and enable curiosity, play, and creative risk taking. Highly collaborative, RDC both creates original, evening-length works each season and commissions a mix of emerging and renowned choreographers at the cutting edge of contemporary dance. RDC envisions a future where there are no more "starving artists", and programs multiple education, outreach, and professional initiatives to uplift artists, inspire the next generation, and bridge communities.



About Emily Haussler, Artistic & Executive Director:

Emily Haussler (she/her) is the Artistic and Executive Director of RESILIENCE Dance Company (RDC), founded in 2019 in St. Louis, MO. Overall, her work centers on building healthier, more sustainable dance communities by equipping dancers with resources for their mental health, physical wellbeing, and artistic success. She believes in the power of collaboration and in challenging the toxic norms of the dance world, seeking to create engaging, visceral dance works inside of healthy dance spaces. During her tenure with RDC, Emily has choreographed seven evening-length works, the most recent of which, *Benchmarks 9.0*, was performed in both St. Louis and Chicago. Her notable short works have been shown in St. Louis, MO (Washington University, The Link Auditorium, The Mahler Ballroom), Kansas City, MO (The Gem Theater), Detroit, MI (Detroit Institute of the Arts), Cape Girardeau, MO (Southeast Missouri State University), Nashville, TN (The Looby Theater), and Durham, NC (American Dance Festival). Furthermore, her dance film, *There Are No Rules*, was shown at Exchange Choreography Festival 2020. She serves as an adjunct professor at Webster University (Contemporary Partnering, Modern) and has taught master classes at several universities across the St. Louis region, including Lindenwood, Principia, Washington University, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, and more.

Prior to founding RDC, Emily danced professionally with Common Thread Contemporary Ballet (2017) and Emily Duggins Ehling (2020), and as a trainee with Nashville Ballet (2018) and The Big Muddy Dance Company (2019). Emily holds a B.A. in Dance and Biology from Washington University in St. Louis where she was the recipient of the Ian D. Cramer Prize for Dance (2018) and the Marcus Artist in Residence Award (2022).