

KINETIC LIGHT

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**DISABILITY ARTS ENSEMBLE KINETIC LIGHT
PERFORMS AT HOBART & WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES
AND UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER**

August 17, 2022 – As part of the company’s Fall 2022 East Coast tour, the internationally-recognized disability arts ensemble Kinetic Light will perform at Hobart & William Smith Colleges on Saturday, September 3 and University of Rochester Friday, September 9. The company is renowned as leaders in disability and dance. Performances are accessible and open to the public.

Working in the disciplines of art, technology, design, and dance, Kinetic Light creates, performs, and teaches at the nexus of access, queerness, disability, dance, and race. The company is led by disabled artists; disabled artists create, design, and perform the work, which speaks to and emerges from disability aesthetics and disability culture.

At both presentations, Laurel Lawson and Alice Sheppard of Kinetic Light will perform *Under Momentum*, a duet that celebrates the joys of continuous motion, the allure of speed, and the beautiful futility of resisting gravity. Releasing into these explorations of momentum, torque, and suspension, Lawson and Sheppard reveal the exhilaration of wheeled movement, performing on a series of ramps designed by artist and design researcher Sara Hendren.

Under Momentum premiered in 2018 and has been performed in its duet form at Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Green Show (OR), Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival (MA), the Whitney Museum of American Art (NY), Forward Motion Festival (FL), Atlanta Beltline (GA), and beyond.

Kinetic Light commits to an artistically equitable approach to access within its artistic works, culture, and day-to-day operation. The Hobart & William Smith Colleges and University of Rochester engagements will include accessible theater experiences through expanded accessible seating, accessible marketing, patron services, quiet space, and more.

For each engagement, Kinetic Light will be in residence for the week prior: engaging with students and faculty, presenting workshops in access, technology, and disability culture, and engaging with the regional disability community. For specific details, please contact Cynthia Williams (HWS) at 315.781.3495/williams@hws.edu or Missy Pfohl Smith (UofR) at 585.20.1002/m.p.smith@rochester.edu.

“Laurel Lawson and I are so pleased to visit Rochester and Geneva, regions with such deep disability history and community. We are grateful to the Hobart & William Smith Colleges and University of Rochester for presenting Kinetic Light and welcoming us to campus. It will be a rich and exciting experience,” shared Alice Sheppard, Founder and Artistic Director of Kinetic Light.

Performance Details

Kinetic Light at Hobart & William Smith Colleges

Saturday, September 3, 7:30pm

Deming Dance Theatre, Gearan Center for the Performing Arts

300 Pulteney Street

Geneva, NY 14456

Access: This performance will include haptic experience of the soundscape, ASL interpreters before, during, and after the show, audio description through the Audimance app, accessible seating, tactile experiences, sensory kits, quiet space, and exit and entry welcome during performances.

Tickets: \$15 general public/free for HWS students // tickets available at the Gearan Center box office one hour prior to performance; subsidized tickets available in advance by contacting (315) 781-3495 or Williams@hws.edu

Masks and proof of vaccination are required.

Kinetic Light at University of Rochester

Friday, September 9, 8pm

Sloan Performing Arts Center

407 Alumni Road

Rochester, NY 14627

Access: This performance will include haptic experience of the soundscape, ASL interpreters before, during, and after the show, audio description through the Audimance app, accessible seating, tactile experiences, sensory kits, quiet space, and exit and entry welcome during performances.

Tickets: \$0-15 <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/alice-shepard-and-kinetic-light-tickets-367818483987>

Masks and proof of vaccination are required.

ABOUT KINETIC LIGHT

Founded by Alice Sheppard in 2016, Kinetic Light is a disability arts ensemble working at the intersections of disability, dance, design, identity, and technology. Through nuanced investment in the histories, cultures, and artistic work of disabled and/or Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), the company promotes intersectional disability as a creative force and access as an aesthetic critical to creating transformative art and affirming the disability arts movement. Kinetic Light artists include Jerron Herman, Laurel Lawson, Michael Maag, and Alice Sheppard.

Company member Lawson leads the development of artistically accessible approaches, software, and products including Audimance, an app offering multiplex audio description experiences. Kinetic Light's field-building and community work includes Access ALLways, a holistic approach to artistically equitable access; a fellowship program for disabled arts workers; events aimed at supporting U.S. disabled artists in their own art-making; and more.

Kinetic Light has been presented by the BRITT Music & Arts Festival (OR), Curtis R. Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center (EMPAC) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (NY), Jacob's Pillow (MA), MCA Chicago (IL), New York Live Arts (NY), Ferst Center for the Arts (GA), Walker Art Center/Northrup (MN), The Whitney Museum (NY), and The Wilson Center (NC). The company has received funding from the Mellon Foundation, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Ford Foundation, MAP Fund, National Endowment for the Arts, and New England Foundation for the Arts, among others. For more info: <https://kineticlight.org>

FUNDING CREDITS

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