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MEDIA ALERT

***NCCAkron Hosts Free Work-in-Process Showing with
Philadelphia Tap Dance Artist
– Choreographer Michael J. Love Shares New Research –***



Michael J. Love; photo by Justin Williams, courtesy The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center

EVENT: Choreographer **Michael J. Love** (Philadelphia, PA) is in residence at the National Center for Choreography-Akron (NCCAkron) as he researches choreographic and conceptual possibilities for his new interdisciplinary tap dance work *rhy/ntology*. Love intends to use *rhy/ntology* to build upon his idea of “(rhy)pistemology,” or rhythm as a system of knowledge, as he explores “rhythm as ontology” as it relates to broader concepts of Afrofuturism and liberation.

The community is invited in for a work-in-process showing of his research to date.

DATE: Thursday, March 19, 5:30-6:30pm

LOCATION: Guzzetta Hall on the University of Akron Campus
288 E. Buchtel Ave
Akron, Ohio 44325

REGISTER: [FREE with RSVP](#)

ARTIST BIO: Michael J. Love, M.F.A. is an interdisciplinary tap dance artist and scholar whose embodied research intermixes Black, queer feminist theories and aesthetics with a rigorous practice to critically engage Black cultural pasts and “rhythm dream” of futurity. Love is Assistant Professor of Dance at Ursinus College. He is also the 2025-26 Baker Foundation Artist-in-Residence at Muhlenberg College. Most recently, Love was a 2021-23 Princeton University Arts Fellow and Lecturer in the Program in Dance at Princeton’s Lewis Center for the Arts. In Texas, Love’s work has been supported and presented by Fusebox Festival and ARCOS Dance and recognized by the Austin Critics' Table. His scholarship has been published in *b2o*: an online journal and *Choreographic Practices*. Love was featured in filmmaker Tiona Nekkia McClodden’s “The Trace Of An Implied Presence” at The Shed in New York and has also enjoyed numerous collaborations with quartet Sō Percussion, rhythm analyst DeForrest Brown Jr., and anti-disciplinary artist Aryel René Jackson. Love’s credits include the Broadway laboratory for choreographer Savion Glover and director George C. Wolfe’s “Shuffle Along...,” and roles in works by choreographer Baakari Wilder. Love is a native of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

ABOUT NCCAKRON: For ten years, the National Center for Choreography–Akron (NCCAkron) has been a leader in dance research and development and a connector for artists. As one of only two choreography centers in the U.S., NCCAkron is an incubator and hub for dance. We also offer audiences opportunities to experiment with and understand dance through conversations, events, podcasts, and books. Over the past decade, NCCAkron has supported 800+ dance artists across 100 U.S. cities, serving as a cultural matchmaker for choreographers and a hyperagent for the national dance field. Offering space and resources for rigorous play and positive failure, NCCAkron has redefined what it means to support dance artists. For more information, visit nccakron.org.

A discrete nonprofit organization, separate from The University of Akron but with offices based there, the establishment and general operation of NCCAkron are made possible by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

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