

DARRIUS STRONG

STRONGmovement

MCKNIGHT
ARTIST
FELLOWSHIPS

Contact

Darius Strong

darius.strongmovement@gmail.com

651.332.4796

strong-movement.com

Bio

Darius Strong is a Twin Cities based choreographer, instructor, and dancer. As the founder and Artistic Director of, STRONGmovement, Strong uses the universal language of dance while blending styles such as Hip hop, Ballet, Modern, and West African to tell stories related to society and humanity. His passion for the youth has led him to the position of hip hop director at Eleve Performing Arts Center where he focuses on teaching young dancers how to connect their identity to movement.

Strong's creative work is supported by the Walker Art Center's Choreographers Evening, Rhythmically Speaking, and The New Griots Festival. He was also featured on an American Standard Billboard advertisement in NYC Time Square in 2016. Strong has created works for Threads Dance Project, Flying Foot Forum, Alternative Motion Projects, TU dance and James Sewell Ballet.

Strong is a 2019 Jerome Hill Artist Fellow, a 2021 McKnight Artist Fellow for Choreographers and a recipient of the 2017 Momentum New Works Award..



What are you working on in the next two years?

In the next two years I will be working on the summer and winter programming with the STRONGmovement team. Approaching January of 2023 we will have our 2 annual Hip hop winter intensive for pre professional artists between the ages of 14-18, in addition we will be holding our 5 annual summer intensive in August of 2023 which is a three-day advanced intensive for serious movers looking to challenge their performance, strength, flexibility, and movement embodiment. Classes in this intensive range from Stability and Conditioning to Modern, Contemporary, Breaking and Voguing. Movers also explore their own choreographic voices in a safe and encouraging space led by the STRONGmovement company. This intensive is meant to bond and build movers across the dance community, from different schools, studios and companies to share their passion and their "why" for movement.

In June of 2023, I will be headed down to Memphis for my McKnight residency at Crosstown Arts. Since one of my main motivators behind creating is music, during my residency in Memphis I will be taking the time to experience the music scene in the Tennessee area/community. Towards the end of my residency on June 19th I and company members of STRONGmovement will be holding a showcase for the Crosstown community where we will perform solo work we



have been researching throughout the spring. To give the Crosstown community a better sense of Minnesota art, a good friend of mine, musician and member of Brass Market Band will be joining myself and the STRONGmovement team to play some live music during our showcase.

In the fall of 2023 STRONGmovement will be a part of a collaborative evening at the Cowles Center for Performing Arts titled Fall Forward. In this production we will showcase a sneak peek of the work we will be putting together for our

Repertoire Available for Touring

6

Super powers, super heroes, supernatural? STRONGmovement finds strength in humanity. Shielding themselves while navigating inside their new fate, the characters in “6” reveal the next step in human evolution, where past/present/future can be manipulated, and each individual’s inner resilience bonds them to face the unknown as an interconnected force.

Performers: 6 Dancers

Tech: Theatrical lighting, Professional sound system, Side wings

company’s production which will be held in April of 2024.

In 2024, my company and I will be holding our 3rd Hip hop intensive. In the spring STRONGmovement will be producing a full evening’s work titled STORYTELLERS, which will be a culmination of work we have created over the past 7 years of our existence. In addition we will be showcasing a new work which is expected to premier in this production. Following our work in the spring, we will be holding our 6th annual summer Intensive and our 4th annual Hip hop intensive for pre professional artists.

Authentic Minds

What does it mean to be original? How does one stay true to self? What is the value in your story/journey? Artist Director Darrius Strong and company STRONGmovement takes us on a journey of what originality looks like to them. This innovative hip hop work, broken into three sections - The Calm, The System, That Raw Raw, focuses on the individual voice. These story tellers are sure to bring you on a journey where they work to find their individual voice, while working together.

Performers: 5 Dancers

Tech: Theatrical Lighting, Professional sounds system, Side Wings

