

# Portfolio of Selected Works

By Tim Rubel

Student work on slide 7.



<https://youtu.be/GQ5c-uLdrul> Excerpt from *...And Two You* (2023). In this section I explore the challenges and expectations of coupling and the darker facets of intimacy.



TRHS dancers: KJ Dahlaw, Ki' Shae Qetlah.  
Photo: Brechin Flournoy



<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/598402597> “Lemon Tree” excerpt from *I Want This Instead* (2021). In this section, I explore complex sexualities and conflicting desires. The image of a lemon as a sweet yet bitter fruit illustrates the duality of this intimate relationship, simultaneously engendering joy, euphoria, frustration, and cynicism.



TRHS dancers: Hannah Westbrook, Dalton Alexander, Derek DiMaritini  
Photo: Henrik Meng.



2. <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/598412481> “Bryan the Worm” excerpt from *I Want This Instead* (2021). Here, the dancers narrate a story of a worm named Bryan, who like humans, sometimes sheds what he doesn't need, sometimes has an ambiguous gender identity, and sometimes navigates being alone in a dark place.



TRHS dancers: Hannah Westbrook, Dalton Alexander, Derek DiMartini  
Photo: Henrik Meng.



3. <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/291062609> “The Wall” excerpt from *Alien* (2018).

*Alien* depicts members of a fictional human race who have come to a new land seeking refuge. This section is a percussive rumination on what it means to have physical obstacles put in place to keep us from where we want to be or from who we want to be with. The dancers embody the roles of the oppressed and the oppressors.



TRHS dancers: Tayler Kinner, Clarissa Dyas  
Photo: Malcolm Wallace.



4. <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/110427814> Untitled excerpt from *Here and Then* (2013). This piece juxtaposes feelings of homelessness and restlessness in Queer communities with stories of people from these communities who find themselves without shelter. This solo explores how a rapidly gentrifying San Francisco, commonly viewed as a “Gay Mecca,” often pushes out the most vulnerable members of the community it is supposed to uplift.



TRHS dancers: Will Woodward, Elisabeth Kindler-Abali, Sam Mitchell  
Photo: Victor Talledos



5. <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/506270413> Password: current. *Traversing the Current* (2019). A work for students. I created this piece in response to the Rio Grande. The Rio Grande is a moving current that has historically connected many people to each other. In more recent times it has been used as a geopolitical barrier to divide people. Yet, it is still a place where one can experience wild birds, dense foliage, and community. The dancers explore these different energies in the piece, which features narration from three of them, who discuss their points of view on the Rio.

6. <https://youtu.be/dsBRBTbBjNE> *Exit Strategy* (2023) A work for students. This piece is inspired by a print work called “Reach” by artist Vernon Finney. Exit Strategy explores the theme of being an insider and an outsider simultaneously. It considers how we reveal our desires through our actions when they cannot be achieved with words; how we belong to a group even if we are planning our exit.



6. <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/236817116> “Imagine yourself as a gay man dancing on the beach (2011), re-staged 2017. In this solo, the audience is taken through an imaginary scenario of a young man searching for belonging and self fulfillment on a gay beach. Through the young man’s embodied monologue, the audience learns of his insecurities, his sexual desires and his inner feelings about gay male culture. I use a gay beach as a symbol of queer sociality. A space where gay men are able to watch other gay men, and watch themselves being watched. In this dance, it is a space where bodies are hyper sexualized, encouraging a performance of confidence and self-assurance that its protagonist has yet to cultivate in himself.



Dancer: Tim Rubel.  
Photo: Aaron Walz