

Resident artists to stage informal dance concert

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New York City choreographer/dancer Mark Haim with composer/pianist Andre Gribou will perform up to 10 solo dances inspired by J.S. Bach's "Goldberg Variations" at 8 p.m. Saturday in Holmes Auditorium, Harder Hall, on the Alfred University campus. The informal performance, which is open to the public free of charge, is part of the Marlin and Ginger Miller Dance Residency Program, created by a gift from the Millers to Alfred University's Division of Performing Arts. Marlin Miller '54 is a member and former chairman of the AU Board of Trustees. Haim created dances for the opening aria and each of the 30 variations originally written for the harpsichord. The variations range from one to 10 minutes and each is a dance within itself, explains D. Chase Angier, assistant professor of dance at AU. "Every variation has its own expressive language that explores and expands a performer's capabilities, making for a dynamically diverse, highly crafted, virtuosic work," said Angier. "The 'Goldberg Variations' honors the pure dance tradition and redefines virtuosity in modern dance today." The performance will demonstrate how Haim "addresses the challenge of making an 80-minute piece of music, written over 250 years ago for a solo instrument, come alive today," she said.