

## Artist Carlson to visit local area to create newest performance work, 'Doggie Hamlet'

8/17/15



Alfred University brings recent Doris Duke Artist awardee, artist and choreographer Ann Carlson&s newest performance work, “Doggie Hamlet,” to the area Thursday, Sept. 3 at 9 a.m. and Friday, Sept. 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the nevermoor farm, 593 Lever Hill Road, Andover. Admission is free.

Celebrated interdisciplinary artist Carlson is in residency this month at AU exploring and developing her newest piece, culminating in two preview performances.

Carlson is currently conducting a three-week residency/seminar which begin Aug.t 15. This collaborative residency with AU students, scholars, and faculty will culminate in the two work-in-progress showings.

Approximately one hour in length, “Doggie Hamlet” takes place in a lush green meadow and is performed by four (human) performers, an American Sign Language interpreter, a herding dog, and a flock of sheep. This interdisciplinary work combines contemporary dance, classic narrative structure, and elements from competitive sheep herding trials. “Doggie Hamlet” mines the territory of human and non-human relationship, delves into the hierarchy of domestication and wildness, and explores instinct, memory, family, and loss.

“Doggie Hamlet” will be a portal for student engagement with contemporary dialogues on the following disciplines: choreography, performance, sculpture, animal/ environmental studies, design, and social practice. In addition, there will be weekly workshops open to the public in the Miller Performing Arts Center. For more information please contact [performs@alfred.edu](mailto:performs@alfred.edu).

The *New York Times* has said, “Ann Carlson is a conceptual artist who uses gesture, text, and humor to break your heart.” “Carlson&s work mines the ephemeral and the commonplace towards extraordinary results,” said Robin Wander of the Stanford News.

This project is made possible by support from the following programs within the University: Miller Endowment for Excellence in the Arts, School of Art and Design, Miller Dance Residency Program and the Division of Performing Arts; and by Center for the Art of Performance at the University of California, Los Angeles; Vermont Performance Lab; the New England Foundation for the Arts& National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with additional support from the National Endowment for the Arts.