

# the warriors

## a love story



WINNER  
MERVYN STUTTER'S  
SPIRIT OF THE FRINGE  
**fringe**  
2014



WINNER  
VIDEO DESIGN  
Austin  
CRITICS TABLE  
AWARDS  
2016

# ARCOS

DANCE



"I LOVED EVERY SECOND OF IT"

-THE SCOTSMAN



"LEAVES YOU BREATHLESS"

-FRINGE REVIEW



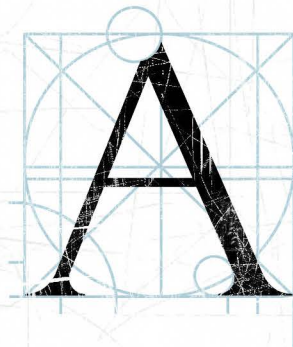
"EXQUISITE...MESMERIZING"

-FRINGEBISCUIT



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TRAILER { <http://vimeo.com/108270199> }



**INSPIRED BY AN ACTUAL FAMILY LEGACY, *THE WARRIORS: A LOVE STORY* CONFRONTS THE DISTURBING BEAUTY AND PROFOUND DEVASTATION OF WAR.**

Searching through his grandmother's trunk after her death, Eliot, a documentary filmmaker and musician, is transported into the past by the physical mementos he encounters. Moment after fractured moment reveal the intertwined lives of Ursula, a German dancer and survivor of the Allied bombing of Dresden, and Glenn, an American philosopher and war veteran. An ensemble of dancers, interactive video projections, and live music conjure up an entire universe emerging from a single small trunk.



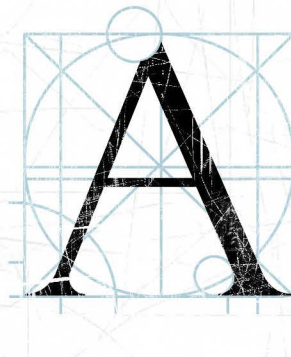
The audience becomes witness to a series of scenes from the young artist's imagination: an adventurous modern dancer's horrific flight through her burning city; a philosophy professor's struggle to make sense of chaos; the all-too-seductive military indoctrination and propaganda process, as it has evolved over the decades; Plato's allegory of the Cave; the courtship of former "enemies" in postwar Munich; and a soldier's epiphany upon nearly shooting his own reflection in an abandoned farmhouse in France.



**AS THE LIVING MEMORY OF OLDER GENERATIONS FADES, *THE WARRIORS* PROVOKES US TO CONSIDER IF ACTS OF ART, PHILOSOPHY, OR LOVE CAN CHALLENGE THOSE WHO MAKE WAR AND THE IDEA OF AN INHUMAN ENEMY.**

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### AWARDS + REVIEWS



**"THE WARRIORS ASKS IMPORTANT QUESTIONS: CAN WE LOVE OUR ENEMIES OR EVEN UNDERSTAND THE LOSSES WE INFLICT ON THEM? CAN ART-DANCE IN PARTICULAR-DO MORE THAN WORDS?"**

-THE HERALD OF SCOTLAND

**"A VIVID KALEIDOSCOPIC VISION, A UNIQUE VISION, ONE AS VIBRANT AND VARIOUS AS LIFE ITSELF"**

-BROADWAY BABY



**"TRUE SYNTHESIS OF DANCE, LIGHTING, SOUND, VIDEO, AND STAGECRAFT"**

-THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

**"A POIGNANT AND RELEVANT STORY"**

-THE AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN

**"NEATLY WOVEN...WITH GRAVITY AND LOVE"**

-THE LIST UK

**"STAGED WITH AMBITIOUS SCOPE"**

-THE TIMES OF LONDON

**"A STARTLINGLY ASSURED PIECE OF WORK"**

-EDINBURGH FESTIVALS MAGAZINE

**"BROUGHT TO LIFE WITH APLOMB"**

-DANCING TIMES

**"THIS IS A SHOW THAT STICKS WITH YOU"**

-KC STUDIO



**"I LOVED EVERY SECOND OF IT"**

-THE SCOTSMAN



**"LEAVES YOU BREATHLESS"**

-FRINGE REVIEW



**"EXQUISITE...MESMERIZING"**

-FRINGEBISCUIT

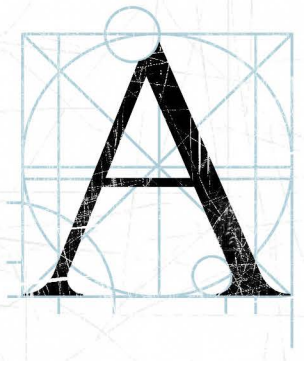
**"CAPTIVATING...EXACTLY THE KIND OF SHOW WE NEED RIGHT NOW"**

-THE PITCH

Full press features and reviews can be found at [arcosdance.com/media-coverage](http://arcosdance.com/media-coverage).

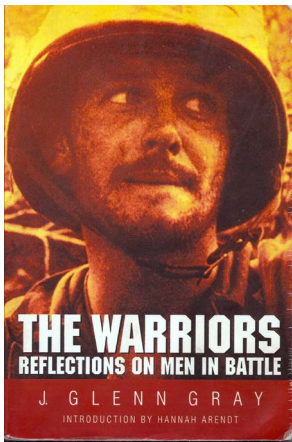


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## OUTREACH + ENGAGEMENT

While *The Warriors: A Love Story* can be booked as a standalone performance, the artists of ARCOS are passionate about embedding outreach and education directly into their performance work. This intimate and historically resonant multimedia production about the effects of war on individuals and society is a particularly effective tool to engage communities in greater depth with the way these issues continue to affect us all. ARCOS pursues such engagement through talkbacks, lectures, workshops, community service, and other interdisciplinary events. The company actively reaches out to local organizations that serve military members, veterans, and war refugees: diverse audience members with a range of experiences can offer essential perspectives in the conversations that the production provokes about war and peace, and our personal roles and responsibilities in the world.



J. Glenn Gray's philosophical memoir, *The Warriors: Reflections on Men in Battle*, features excerpts from his journal entries written during the war, continues to be translated into new languages, and has long been on the Marine Corps Commandant's Professional Reading List. Inspired by this text and the lives that Glenn and Ursula led before and after the war, ARCOS presents the show so that viewers will consider the small actions we can take each day to work toward peace. In prior performances of the show, ARCOS collaborated with social service organizations in the community that serve the homeless, by volunteering for and promoting programs that were committed to the national **Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness**—to connect the explicit effects of war with larger social problems that we can work together to solve.



ARCOS served as guest artists-in-residence of the departments of Philosophy and Dance and Theatre at Colorado College in 2015, where they presented *The Warriors: A Love Story*, taught advanced modern dance, and participated in a seminar with students of Philosophy and Anthropology.

COLORADO  
COLLEGE

ARCOS  
DANCE

"An impressive and moving performance in all respects—I loved the choreography as well as the light/visuals and sound."

**RICK ANTHONY FURTAK**  
CHAIR, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

"Even as a lifelong dancer and choreographer myself, I confess I sometimes have trouble 'staying with' dance as an audience member. The place of the dancing in *The Warriors: A Love Story* was so compelling I not only stayed with it; far more, the dance enabled a profoundly emotional, embodied experience of the story, and of calling us to be present with the hurts and horrors of war in a strikingly human, somehow exquisitely beautiful way."

**SARAH HAUTZINGER**  
CHAIR, ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT

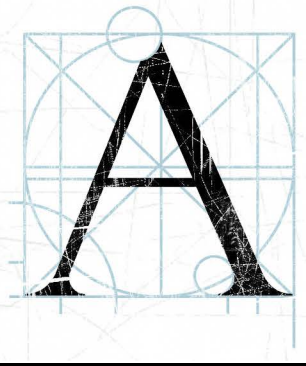
"Your artistry and hard work were so alive in the performance and the connections you made with the audience afterwards. I enjoyed how you excavated these memories/stories through movement, text, images and elaborated upon them. Like a nut cracked open."

**SHAWN WOMACK**  
CHAIR, DANCE AND THEATRE DEPARTMENT

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**“AND THIS MORNING, WHEN I ROSE, TIRED AND DISTRAUGHT FROM BED, I KNEW THAT  
IN ORDER TO SURVIVE THIS TIME I MUST LOVE MORE. THERE IS NO OTHER WAY.”**

**- J. GLENN GRAY**

## COMPANY

ARCOS experiments rigorously to discover adventurous new forms of contemporary performance, inspired by questioning dominant understandings of the world, turbulent processes of traditions in flux, and the complexity of being human today. They have been invited to present work at MacCallum Choreography Festival, SITE Santa Fe, CURRENTS New Media Festival, {254} Dancefest, Barnstorm Dance Festival, and their multimedia piece *The Warriors: A Love Story* received Mervyn Stutter's "Spirit of the Fringe" award at the Edinburgh Fringe.



**ERICA GIONFRIDDO**  
DIRECTOR / CHOREOGRAPHER



**CURTIS UHLEMANN**  
DIRECTOR / CHOREOGRAPHER



**ELIOT GRAY FISHER**  
DIRECTOR / MULTIMEDIA ARTIST

ERICA GIONFRIDDO is co-founder of ARCOS and a dancer, choreographer, and somatic researcher experimenting with how and where bodies—and humans—connect. She studied at Shenandoah Conservatory and has performed the repertoire of choreographers including Anna Sokolow, David Parsons, Robert Moses, Gail Gilbert, Arturo Fernandez, and Luciana Achugar. She has been commissioned to choreograph for Moorehead State University, Shenandoah Conservatory, Motion X Dance DC, Texas State University, and INTERDANSA, where her work toured in Catalonia, Spain. She is a certified Pilates Mat Teacher Trainer, GYROKINESIS® and GYROTONIC® trainer, and an adjunct lecturer in dance at University of Texas at Austin.

CURTIS UHLEMANN is co-founder of ARCOS and studied modern dance at Brockport College and American Dance Festival. He has performed works by José Limón, Betty Jones, Lisa Race, David Dorfman, Paul Taylor, David Parsons, and Mark Morris. Curtis served as designer and choreographer for the Boston Crusaders Drum and Bugle Corps and ten-time world champions Cadets Drum and Bugle Corps. His choreography has been presented throughout the United States and Europe, receiving acclaim from the government of Spain, Dancing Times, and Dance Magazine, which recognized its exceptional use of space layered with visceral movement and a keen sense of musicality.

ELIOT GRAY FISHER propels ARCOS' integration of new media and compelling dramatic narrative in performance. He studied as an interdisciplinary artist at Goddard College and has composed music and designed sound for short and feature film, theater, and dance, created documentary and animated shorts, built interactive installations, and written and directed original theater. Merging forms and concepts from outside conventional territories for art, he seeks to create a directly engaging and participatory relationship with an audience. His projects include immersive media design for ARCOS, fieldwork with Yoeme people in Mexico, an environmental documentary in Brazil, and dance films in Catalonia.

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ARCOS has participated in artistic residencies and performed at Colorado College, Texas State University, Playa Summerlake, Ucross Foundation, and KHN Center for the Arts, and received grants from National Endowment for the Arts, Rea Charitable Trust, Donors Trust, Hatchfund, and New Mexico Arts. ARCOS also offers professional-level training classes, performance intensives, development workshops, and grants to independent artists and youth.



ARCOSDANCE.COM

