

To Whom it May Concern,

For my summer research project, I proposed a research project at the intersection of dance and film in collaboration with myself; screendance collective, 16:9 Dance; and Indianapolis-based dance company, Pheonix Rising Dance Company (PRDC). Throughout the research project, my objects were to explore negative space within a camera frame, perspective of the camera and spectator, and agency of setting or location. I set this as my intention within our rehearsal times and filming time. The methodology used within rehearsal and research was based on perspective of camera and how such influence might alter the dancer's movement and vice versa. The collaboration within the choreographic process and filming process resulted in the dancer's movement, performative qualities, inquiries of new explorations, and editing in post-production.

Due to the funding provided by the Division of Performing Arts Summer 2021 Research Support Award, I was able to remain in Indianapolis, IN and be fully committed to the project's research and construction. This funding covered artist stipends including: three Dancers, one Videographer, one Editor, and one Artistic Director.

This project was a point of entry to some of my research topics I will be pursuing in my thesis this academic year. Each process of creation varies and teaches me new aspects of the intersection of dance and film, and I will continue to expand on the areas I have explored and developed this summer. I believe this project has offered knowledge necessary to the complete of my Thesis in Spring of 2022.

The nature of this collaboration built new and stronger professional relationships within the arts community in Indianapolis. As I prepare to re-enter the professional world after this academic year, this project was beneficial to my screendance collective, 16:9 Dance. Working with PRDC dancers, 16:9 Dance can engage with PRDC audiences, receive recognition with the Indianapolis Arts Community, and expand its market.

This project was also supported by local business, Just Pop In (JPI). A local restaurant specializing in popcorn, Just Pop In is known in greater Indianapolis for their support of the arts. When I reached out to JPI about renting their space for the film shoot - an expense I had not planned for when writing this grant - they offered the space to use for free because of my status as a student and involvement in the arts community. Without their support, this project would have a little less zest.

Thank you, to the Division of Performing Arts, for supporting this experience, research, and film.

With utmost gratitude,

Katie Phelan

(she/her/hers)

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Film Link:

[Division of Performing Arts Summer Research](#)