

Northwestern Basketball's
CHRIS COLLINS

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Against **R. KELLY**

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NOVEMBER 2017

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GO *In the Presence of Chasms* runs November 30 to December 1 at Hamlin Park Fieldhouse, 3035 N. Hoyne Ave. \$10 to \$15. rhymedance.com



CONTRAST, COUPLED

Tanniqua-Kay Buchanan and Megan Rhyme join their disparate styles in a new suite of dances. BY BRIAN GOLDEN

Megan Rhyme remembers being mesmerized the first time she saw Tanniqua-Kay Buchanan dance. It was at a Hairpin Arts Center showcase in January, and Buchanan was performing her piece *A Man Was Lynched Yesterday*. "She had a really powerful message," recalls Rhyme. "Her aesthetic was very theatrical and dramatic." Rhyme was particularly taken by the way Buchanan translated difficult subject matter into muscular, narrative-driven art.

In her own work, Rhyme leans toward more ethereal pieces. Thinking this contrast could lead to a striking collaboration, she asked Buchanan to work with her. The result: *In the Presence of Chasms*, a suite of five dances that alternates between Buchanan's topical pieces and Rhyme's abstract musings. Buchanan's *Myuz*, for example, was inspired by remarks made by the mother of Philando Castile after he was shot to death by a police officer, while

Rhyme's *Won't You Care* explores the gaps between, as she puts it, "speeches, speaking, and being heard."

The two women never actually dance together during the 90-minute performance. That's because Rhyme sought to structure *Chasms* like a dialogue rather than a merging of minds: "I want the audience to see two different voices and ask what separates us and, also, what unites us. The goal is to make space for conversation."