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Dance Professor to Explore Choreography Inspired by Spirituality in Charlotte Dance Festival

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ROCK HILL, S.C.—Winthrop University’s Stephanie Milling will explore choreography inspired by the concept of spirituality in her performance at the Charlotte Dance Festival on Feb. 15-16.

The associate professor of dance will perform a piece entitled “Sunlight,” choreographed by Christian Von Howard. Tomoko Deguchi, associate professor of music, and Kristen Wonderlich, assistant professor of music, will accompany Milling’s performance through piano and song.

Milling has previously performed in the Charlotte Dance Festival and was once on the adjudication panel. She submitted a tape and application, and was selected out of many entrants for a slot in the festival.

“It’s really grown,” Milling said of the festival. “When they first started the festival, most of the submissions came from this region. Now they come from all over the United States. It does have much more of a national focus than it used to.”

Milling received a $375 grant from the Arts Council of York County to cover the piano fee at the festival. Performing with Deguchi and Wonderlich’s live music has been a fun adventure, she said.

“It provided more of an artistic license because I’ve asked them to slow down in certain places or speed up in certain places,” she explained.

The Charlotte Dance Festival will take place at 8 p.m. Feb. 15-16 at the Booth Playhouse in the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, located at 130 N. Tryon Street in Charlotte. Tickets are $15 for students and senior citizens, and $20 for general admission. Call the box office at 704/372-1000.

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