

*Enough*  
**Choreographic and performance research**  
**by**  
**Taylor Walker (Graduating Senior / Dance Program)**

Taylor created an original work for the fall dance concert. She was looking to work and focus on the theme surrounding the racial climate in this country this past year. She was especially motivated to research and create a dance following the death of George Floyd. Taylor chose to choreograph a solo which she would also perform. Her research went beyond the conventional mode of dance creation and performance. Being in the midst of a global pandemic, the performance would have to be a filmed version of the dance. Filming dance, or dance on film, as it is known in the industry, was all new to Taylor.

Taylor began exploring various locations in which to shoot the dance. She examined multiple camera angles and lighting that would best complement the work and highlight the white dress that she chose as the costume for this piece. After various options, Taylor chose to film her work in the old E. Moore gym. The main reason for this choice was the backdrop to her piece; the cage window shutters that would give the viewer the feeling of confinement and restriction, and a sense of incarceration. The camera angles, especially the close up at the conclusion of the piece, were clear reference and a deliberate choice to the George Floyd incidence of suffocation. The white color for the costume served as a reference of morning, grief and afterlife.

After some research into the music that would fit the piece, Taylor chose *I Can't Breathe* by H.E.R. The music choice was deliberate. Taylor initially begun her creative process with a similar music score in which the opening section had breathing sounds. Together we examined her work and concept. After further rehearsals with the her original score, Taylor came to the conclusion and dropped the breathing part as it gave a very "animated" message that overwhelmed the physical aspect of her choreography. By taking that section out she actually elevated and gave a stronger voice to the physical, to the space and to the overall look of her piece.

The end product was effective. *Enough* was a strong piece of choreography both as in craft and performance elements. Taylor's simple but powerful performance brought strong images that came through the lens of the camera. The dance was both emotional and physical. The camera angles and lighting coupled with the stark background of the caged-in windows drove Taylor's concept across the screen and touched her audiences.

It was a pleasure to mentor Taylor through this process. She had a strong image and concept from the start and was very clear at what her end product was going to be. Throughout the process she showed how passionate she was about this project and how important it was for her to see it to fruition. The results speak for themselves.



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