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**New York City Center Celebrates the
10th Anniversary Season of the
*FALL FOR DANCE FESTIVAL***

**Highlights Include
TWO FREE PERFORMANCES at
THE PUBLIC THEATER'S DELACORTE THEATER
IN CENTRAL PARK, September 16 & 17**

**Plus
Three World Premiere Festival Commissions,
24 International Dance Companies and
Free Lessons, Panels and Workshops**

Festival Runs September 25 – October 5

New York, NY, May 9, 2013 – **New York City Center** is celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the *Fall for Dance Festival* with a very special season, beginning with two FREE evenings of dance at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park, hosted by The Public Theater, on September 16 and 17 (Rain date, September 18). The Festival will continue at City Center from September 25 – October 5 with performances by 20 acclaimed dance companies and artists from around the world, including three new works from today's most exciting young choreographers, commissioned by City Center, in celebration of the tenth anniversary, all for the low ticket price of \$15. The Festival's many free pre-show events will include dance lessons and panels by choreographers, artists and dance educators. Tickets will go on sale Sunday, September 8 at 11 a.m.

The FREE performances at The Public's Delacorte Theater will feature works by four Festival alumni: **New York City Ballet, Paul Taylor Dance Company, Ronald K. Brown/Evidence** and **STREB Extreme Action Company**. (The same program will be performed on both nights.) Free tickets will be distributed, two per person, at The Public's Delacorte Theater on the day of the show and through a virtual ticketing lottery.

The two-week Festival at City Center will consist of five unique programs and will include performances by **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, American Ballet Theatre, Ballet Hispanico, BODYTRAFFIC, Colin Dunne, Dance Theatre of Harlem, doug elkins choreography, etc., Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, Richard Alston Dance Company, Sara Mearns, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui** and **The Royal Ballet**. Additional companies and complete scheduling information TBA.

To celebrate the Festival's 10th season, City Center has commissioned three new works: Annabelle Lopez Ochoa will create a new piece for Ballet Hispanico; Justin Peck will choreograph a new ballet for Sara Mearns, Principal Dancer, New York City Ballet, and a partner TBA; and The Royal Ballet's Artist-in-Residence Liam Scarlett will create a new pas de deux for the company. Each commissioned work will receive its world premiere at the Festival and will be performed twice.

The **Fall for Dance Festival** has received international acclaim for its quality, innovation and success in introducing new and younger audiences to the world of dance. Newcomers and dance enthusiasts alike look forward to the Festival as both an introduction to new artists and a welcome return to familiar and beloved companies.

"We launched *Fall for Dance* nine years ago with the goal of introducing new audiences to dance and providing a highly visible showcase for artists, and it has succeeded beyond our wildest dreams," said New York City Center President & CEO Arlene Shuler. "Since its inception, the Festival has presented 177 diverse companies and introduced more than 220,000 newcomers and dance enthusiasts to an eclectic mix of choreographers and performers. We are thrilled that our 10th Anniversary celebration will open with two free programs at the Delacorte Theater. It is particularly meaningful because the New York Dance Festival, which was held at the Delacorte in the 1960s, '70s and '80s, provided a model and inspiration for our Festival."

"We are delighted to partner with City Center and bring dance back to the Delacorte, where it has such a beautiful and distinguished history," said Public Theater Artistic Director Oskar Eustis. "*Fall for Dance* was formed on the same democratic principles as The Public Theater; indeed City Center and The Public are both democratic artistic institutions intent on making art for the people. It's a match made in heaven, or New York, which is the same thing."

Stanford Makishi serves as Artistic Producer and Ilter Ibrahimof serves as Artistic Advisor to the Festival.

EDUCATION

New York City Center and the NYC Department of Education will co-present the *Fall for Dance* Festival Lab. Dance educators will take two master classes focusing on pieces of repertoire featured in the Festival. City Center teaching artists will then facilitate a workshop geared toward exploring dance techniques and applications to classroom practice.

This year's *DanceTalk* will include two pre-performance panel discussions with Festival artists, moderated by dance scholars. Panels will take place in New York City Center studios and are free and open to the public. Educational groups can make advanced reservations by contacting Chelsea Goding in New York City Center's Education Department at cgoding@nycitycenter.org.

FESTIVAL LOUNGE

For each *Fall for Dance* performance, City Center's beautifully restored Grand Tier lobby will be transformed into Lounge FFD, a vibrant gathering place for audience members and artists. Lounge FFD offers Festival attendees and performers a place to relax and mingle, share a cocktail and a snack, or take a free dance lesson before the show.

FESTIVAL SPONSORS

New York City Center gratefully acknowledges the *Fall for Dance* Festival Leadership Sponsor, Bloomberg, and its Principal Sponsor, MetLife Foundation. City Center is also grateful to its Presenting Partners including Jody and John Arnhold, Barbara and David Zalaznick, Perry and Marty Granoff, and Caroline Howard Hyman. We are especially grateful to our 10th Anniversary Sponsors, including The Ford Foundation, The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, The Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation, Liz and Dean Kehler, Lisa and Richard Witten and Mertz Gilmore Foundation. City Center also recognizes the extraordinary leadership support of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, which inaugurated a \$10 million endowment campaign to ensure the future stability of the annual *Fall for Dance* Festival. Additional generous funding for the *Fall for Dance* Festival endowment has been received from The Peter Jay Sharp Foundation, The Irene Diamond Fund, The Ford Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation and an anonymous donor. More than \$7 million in commitments have been received to date.

NEW YORK CITY CENTER

New York City Center (Arlene Shuler, President & CEO) has played a defining role in the cultural life of the city for nearly 70 years. It was Manhattan's first performing arts center, dedicated by Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia in 1943 with a mission to make the best in music, theater and dance accessible to all audiences. Today, City Center is home to many distinguished companies, including City Center's Principal Dance Company, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, as well as New York City Opera and Manhattan Theatre Club; a roster of renowned national and international visiting artists; and its own critically acclaimed and popular programs. The Tony-honored *Encores!* musical theater series has been hailed as "one of the very best reasons to be alive in New York." Dance has been integral to the theater's mission from the start, and dance programs, including the annual *Fall for Dance* Festival, remain central to City Center's identity. City Center is dedicated to providing educational opportunities to New York City students and teachers with programs such as *Encores!* In Schools and the Young People's Dance Series. City Center recently completed an extensive renovation to revitalize and modernize its historic theater.

TICKETS AND SCHEDULE

The 2013 *Fall for Dance* Festival runs September 25 – October 5 at New York City Center (West 55th Street between 6th and 7th avenues). **All tickets are \$15 and go on sale on Sunday, September 8 at 11 a.m.** Tickets can be purchased online at www.NYCityCenter.org, by calling CityTix at 212.581.1212, or at the City Center Box Office.

Free tickets for the two performances at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park, on September 16 and 17 (Rain date, September 18). will be distributed, two per person, at The Public's Delacorte Theater on the day of the show and through a virtual ticketing lottery.

(All Programming Subject to Change)

HIGH-RESOLUTION PHOTOS ARE AVAILABLE AT:

<http://www.nycitycenter.org/content/misc/ffd13-press.aspx>

FREE Performances at The Public Theater's Delacorte Theater

September 16 and 17, 2013 (Rain Date: September 18)

NEW YORK CITY BALLET

Program TBA

New York City Ballet is one of the world's foremost dance companies, with an active repertory of more than 150 works, most of which were created for NYCB and many of which are considered modern masterpieces. The company was established in 1948 by George Balanchine and Lincoln Kirstein and quickly became world-renowned for its athletic, contemporary style and compelling ballets. Now under the direction of Peter Martins, the company has more than 90 dancers, a 62-member orchestra, an official school (The School of American Ballet), and an annual 23-week season at Lincoln Center. www.nycballet.com

PAUL TAYLOR DANCE COMPANY

Esplanade (1975), Paul Taylor's signature work, brims with youthful exuberance. After exploring relationships – among friends, family, lovers – using natural movement, Taylor sends dancers hurtling fearlessly across the stage.

Paul Taylor Dance Company is one of the world's most highly respected and sought-after ensembles. Dance maker Paul Taylor first presented his choreography with five other dancers in 1954. That modest performance marked the beginning of more than a half-century of unrivalled creativity, and in the decades that followed, Mr. Taylor became a cultural icon and one of history's most celebrated artists, hailed as part of the pantheon that created American modern dance. He now boasts a repertoire of 138 works. The company has performed in more than 500 cities in 64 countries. In the summer of 2001 the company toured in the People's Republic of China and performed in four cities that had never seen American modern dance before. Its season in 2005 at New York City Center marked its 50th Anniversary. It will celebrate its 60th Anniversary with a three-week season at Lincoln Center in March 2014. ptdc.org

RONALD K. BROWN/EVIDENCE

Upside Down (1998), choreographed by Ronald K. Brown, is an electrifying piece set to the music of Malian vocalist Oumou Sangare's "Kun Fe Ko" (*The Uncertainty of Things*), a song that says the destiny of a child is in God's hands, and Fela Anikulapo Kuti's song "Upside Down."

Ronald K. Brown / Evidence, founded by Ronald K. Brown in 1985 and based in Brooklyn, focuses on the seamless integration of traditional African dance with contemporary choreography. Brown uses movement as a way to reinforce the importance of community in African American culture and to acquaint audiences with the beauty of traditional African forms and rhythms. Evidence now tours to some 30 communities in the United States and abroad, and reaches an audience of more than 25,000 annually. www.evidencedance.com

STREB EXTREME ACTION COMPANY

Human Fountain (2011), choreographed by Elizabeth Streb, is inspired by the Bellagio Fountains in Las Vegas. In *Human Fountain*, performers leap from as high as 30 feet from a three story, open honeycomb structure and, with nerve and split-second timing, create cascades of airborne liquid muscle.

STREB Extreme Action Company, founded by MacArthur "genius" award-winning choreographer Elizabeth Streb in 1985 and based in Brooklyn, has traveled from the heights of the experimental dance world to the cutting-edge of popular entertainment. In 2011, the company performed sold-out shows at the Park Avenue Armory, the Whitney Museum of American Art's downtown ground breaking and the River to River Festival. STREB has performed in theaters large and small and served as artists-in-residence at the world's top art museums. The company was commissioned by the London Organizing Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games and the Mayor of London to participate in the London 2012 Festival. On One Extraordinary Day (July 15, 2012), from dawn to midnight, STREB dancers performed 7 action events across major London landmarks including the Millennium Bridge, Trafalgar Square, ending with *Human Eye*, where 32 STREB Action Heroes performed a spoke-dance on the towering landmark of The London Eye. STREB performers are trained in ballet, modern dance, martial arts, acrobatics and the circus arts. www.streb.org

2013 FALL FOR DANCE FESTIVAL

NEW YORK CITY CENTER

September 25 – October 5, 2013

(additional companies TBA)

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

Home (2011), choreographed by Rennie Harris, is a bold, hip-hop work set to a soul-lifting score of gospel house music. *Home* is inspired by stories submitted by people living with or affected by HIV.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater grew from a now-fabled performance of *Revelations* in March 1958 at the 92nd Street Y. Led by Alvin Ailey and a group of young African-American modern dancers, that performance changed forever the perception of American dance. The Ailey company has gone on to perform for an estimated 23 million people in 48 states and 71 countries on six continents – as well as millions more through television broadcasts. Although he created 79 ballets over his lifetime, Mr. Ailey maintained that his company was not exclusively a repository for his own work. In all, more than 200 works by over 80 choreographers have been part of the Ailey company's repertory. Before his untimely death in 1989, Alvin Ailey named Judith Jamison as his successor, and over the next 21 years she brought the company unprecedented success. Ms. Jamison, in turn, personally selected Robert Battle to succeed her in 2011. www.alvinailey.org

AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE

The Moor's Pavane (1949), choreographed by José Limón, is subtitled "Variations on a theme of *Othello*." In the form of a pavane and other dances of the high Renaissance, the dance tells of the hapless Moor, his wrongfully suspected wife, the Moor's treacherous friend and his wife. This work has been cited by critics the world over as Limón's masterpiece.

Note: The Festival also will feature doug elkins choreography, etc.'s performances of Elkins' *Mo (or)town/Redux* (2012), inspired by *The Moor's Pavane*.

American Ballet Theatre, recognized as one of the premier dance companies in the world, brings the highest quality dance and dancers to audiences across the globe. Celebrating its role as

“America’s National Ballet Company,” ABT tours nationally and internationally, performing for over 400,000 people annually. Under the direction of Lucia Chase and Oliver Smith from 1940-1980, ABT developed a repertoire that honored the past while encouraging the development of the art form through the creation of new works. ABT’s mission to create, to present, to preserve, and to extend the great repertoire of classical dancing is evident in its presentation of the classics and seminal works by the great choreographic geniuses of the 20th century. Today, under the artistic direction of former ABT Principal Dancer Kevin McKenzie, the company remains steadfast in its vision as “American” and continues to bring the art of dance theater to the great stages of the world. www.abt.org

BALLET HISPANICO (Festival Commission)

Sombrerísimo, a **world premiere** choreographed by Belgian-Colombian Annabelle Lopez Ochoa especially for *Fall for Dance*, turns a playful eye on stereotype and the removal of convention.

Ballet Hispanico, celebrating 42 years of dance and culture, is recognized as the nation’s leading Latino dance organization. Led by Artistic Director Eduardo Vilaro, the company boasts a rich and diverse repertoire of over 100 works by the foremost choreographers and emerging artists of our time. The works expand on founder Tina Ramirez’s legacy of exploring the diversity of Latino culture through a fusion of classical, Latin, and contemporary dance powered by theatricality and passion. The company has performed for an audience of nearly 3 million, throughout 11 countries, on 3 continents. www.ballethispanico.org

BODYTRAFFIC (Festival Debut)

o2JOY (2012), choreographed by Richard Siegal, is a playful, contemporary dance piece set to great American jazz music. The work is ballet-based, peppered with syncopated hip-hop and drenched in light-hearted humor. As its title suggests, *o2Joy* is an expression of sheer joy through music and movement.

BODYTRAFFIC is helping to establish Los Angeles as a major center for contemporary dance. Founded in 2007 by Lillian Barbeito and Tina Finkelman Berkett, BODYTRAFFIC has surged to the forefront of the concert dance world. Named *Dance Magazine’s 25 to Watch in 2013*, the young company is already internationally recognized for its high quality of work. BODYTRAFFIC has performed at numerous venues throughout the United States and made their Joyce Theater (NYC) debut during the Gotham Dance Festival. www.BODYTRAFFIC.com

COLIN DUNNE (Festival Debut)

Program TBA

Colin Dunne is a leading figure in the world of traditional Irish dance who has made the crossover into contemporary dance and theater. Best known internationally for his performances and choreography in *Riverdance* and *Dancing on Dangerous Ground*, he has been forging a new creative path since his time as artist in residence at University of Limerick, where he completed an MA in contemporary dance in 2002. In 2007 he was nominated for a UK Critics Circle National Dance Award (best male: modern dance) for performances at The Barbican in Fabulous Beast’s production of *The Bull*. His first solo show, *Out of Time*, premiered in January 2008. www.colindunne.com

DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM

Gloria (2012) is choreographed by Robert Garland to music by Francis Poulenc. Harlem has rich cultural legacy that includes music, (jazz, hip-hop), and literature (the Harlem Renaissance's Zora Neale Hurston and Langston Hughes to name a few). Not as well known, but equally vibrant, is its spiritual legacy. *Gloria* stands as a tribute to that history and legacy that still abides in the community of Harlem.

Dance Theatre of Harlem (DTH), founded in 1969 by Arthur Mitchell and the late Karel Shook, opened the inaugural *Fall for Dance* Festival in 2004. The company is a leading dance institution of unparalleled global acclaim that uses the art form of classical ballet to change people's lives. Mitchell, the first African American to become a principal dancer with a major U.S. ballet company, formed DTH to bring new opportunities to the lives of the young people in the Harlem neighborhood in which he grew up. The company's unprecedented success is built on creating innovative and bold new forms of artistic expression. The company also offers extensive community engagement and arts exposure opportunities to audiences in New York, across the country and internationally. The new Dance Theatre of Harlem consists of 18 racially diverse dance artists who perform an eclectic and demanding repertoire at the highest level. www.dancetheaterofharlem.org

DOUG ELKINS CHOREOGRAPHY, ETC. (Festival Debut)

Mo(or)town/Redux (2012), choreographed by Doug Elkins, was inspired by José Limón's seminal *The Moor's Pavane*, a dance based on Shakespeare's *Othello* that tells the story of love, jealousy and betrayal, set to Motown music.

Note: The Festival also will include American Ballet Theatre's performances of José Limón's *The Moor's Pavane*.

doug elkins choreography, etc. came into being in summer 2009 as the next logical step in organizing independent dance, theater and teaching projects for Doug Elkins. The original Doug Elkins Dance Company, founded by Doug, Ben Munisteri, Lisa Nicks and Jane Weiner, debuted at the 11 O'clock News series at Dance Theater Workshop in 1987 and toured nationally and internationally for 15 years as an ensemble of eight. Between 2009 and 2012, the company toured *Fraulein Maria*, a modern dance twist on the beloved movie classic *The Sound of Music*. www.dougelkinschoreography.com

LES BALLETS TROCKADERO DE MONTE CARLO

Black Swan Pas de Deux (From Swan Lake), from the third act of *Swan Lake*, is perhaps the most famous duet in the ballet world. The entrée, adagio, two solos and coda are filled with all manner of virtuosity with the peak of excitement being reached in the coda, which has the famous sequence of 32 fouettes (introduced in Russia in 1895 by the great Legnani). Choreography after Marius Petipa.

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, founded in 1974 by a group of ballet enthusiasts for the purpose of presenting a playful, entertaining view of traditional, classical ballet in parody form and *en travesti*, first performed in the late-late shows in Off-Off Broadway lofts. The TROCKS, as they are affectionately known, quickly garnered glowing reviews in New York and beyond. It is a company of professional male dancers performing the full range of ballet and modern dance repertoire, including classical and original works in faithful renditions of the manners and conceits of those dance styles. For the future, there are plans for new works in the repertoire: new cities,

states and countries to perform in; and for the continuation of the TROCKS' original purpose: to bring the pleasure of dance to the widest possible audience. They will, as they have done for over 39 years, "Keep on Trockin'." www.trockadero.org

RICHARD ALSTON DANCE COMPANY

The Devil in the Detail (2006) is a **New York premiere** choreographed by Richard Alston. Uplifted by the incomparable music of Scott Joplin, performed live, the dancers strut with a jazzy swagger infused with lightness and finesse.

Richard Alston Dance Company's high reputation on the British dance scene is now increasingly spreading overseas. Founded in 1994, the company focuses on Alston's new choreography combined with seminal past works from throughout his 40-year career. Music plays a vital part in the company's identity and, since its inception, Alston has used the work of a diverse range of composers. The company made its U.S. debut with a week-long season at the Joyce Theater in 2004 and has since toured extensively across the U.S., giving its third critically acclaimed and sold-out New York season at the Joyce Theater in 2010. In 2011 Richard Alston Dance Company was nominated as Outstanding Company in the National Dance Awards, presented by the Critics' Circle. www.richardalstondance.org.uk

SARA MEARNS (Festival Debut, Festival Commission)

A **world premiere** pas de deux choreographed by Justin Peck for Sara Mearns, principal dancer, New York City Ballet, and a partner TBA.

Sara Mearns, a principal dancer with New York City Ballet, has performed featured roles in *Firebird*, *The Nutcracker*, *Symphony in C*, *Jewels (Emeralds and Diamonds)*, *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Swan Lake*. Mearns entered the School of American Ballet, the official school of New York City Ballet, full time in 2001 and became an apprentice with New York City Ballet in 2003. The following year, she joined the company as a member of the corps de ballet, becoming soloist in 2006, and principal dancer in 2008. Mearns has originated featured roles in Melissa Barak's *A Simple Symphony*, Martins' *Ocean's Kingdom* and *The Red Violin*, Benjamin Millepied's *Why am I not where you are*, Alexei Ratmanský's *Namouna*, *A Grand Divertissement*, Susan Stroman's *Frankie and Johnny...and Rose*, Lynne Taylor-Corbett's *The Seven Deadly Sins*; and Wheeldon's *Les Carillons*, *The Nightingale and the Rose* and *Rococo Variations*. She is committed to exposing young people to the wonders of classical ballet, and has a weekly video blog on Huffington Post Arts & Culture that takes viewers behind the scenes of her life as a ballerina.

SIDI LARBI CHERKAOUI (Festival Debut)

Faun (2009), a **New York premiere** choreographed by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, is a reinvention of Nijinsky's famous ballet *L'après-midi d'un faune*. The duet looks at the eponymous creature from Stéphane Mallarmé's poem and draws on Claude Debussy's music, with additional music by Nitin Sawhney and costumes by leading fashion designer Hussein Chalayan.

Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui made his debut as a choreographer in 1999 with Andrew Wale's contemporary musical *Anonymous Society*. Since then he has made more than 20 full-fledged choreographic pieces and received many awards, including the Laurence Olivier, two Ballet Tanz Awards for Best Choreographer and the Kairos Prize (2009) for his artistic vision and his quest for

intercultural dialogue. His works include *Sutra*, *Orbo Norvo*, *Babel*, and *TeZukA*. Cherkaoui has been a Sadler's Wells Associate Artist for ten years and is the dance director of Festival Equilibrio in Rome. www.sadlerswells.com

THE ROYAL BALLET (Festival Debut, Festival Commission)

A **world premiere** pas de deux choreographed by Liam Scarlett, Artist-in-Residence with The Royal Ballet.

The Royal Ballet owes its existence to the vision of Dame Ninette de Valois, Irish-born dancer, choreographer and teacher. Based at the Royal Opera House in London's Covent Garden and led by Director Kevin O'Hare, it is Britain's largest ballet company. The company has a wide-ranging repertory showcasing the great classical ballets, heritage works – including those of Founder Choreographer Frederick Ashton and Kenneth MacMillan – as well as new works by the foremost choreographers of today, including Resident Choreographer Wayne McGregor, Artistic Associate Christopher Wheeldon and Artist in Residence Liam Scarlett. Access is a key issue for the company and its work is seen not just at the Royal Opera House but via televised and cinematic performances, outdoor BP Big Screen relays, international touring and through the work of the Company's Education Department. www.roh.org.uk/about/the-royal-ballet

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