



The University of Texas at Austin
Theatre and Dance
College of Fine Arts

For immediate release:

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

PRESENTS

FALL FOR DANCE

AN EXPLORATION OF IDENTITY AND SELF-EXPRESSION

THROUGH CONTEMPORARY BALLET

NOVEMBER 7-12, 2017

AT THE B. IDEN PAYNE THEATRE

Under the direction of Jeremy Arnold, Erica Gionfriddo and Dorothy O'Shea Overbey, The University of Texas at Austin's award-winning dance company Dance Repertory Theatre returns to the stage in *Fall For Dance*, November 7-12 at the B. Iden Payne Theatre. An exploration of identity, cultural experience and self-expression through contemporary ballet, *Fall For Dance* features works by renowned artists, including Charles O. Anderson with Jeremy Arnold, Jennifer Freeman, Ray Eliot Schwartz, Erica Gionfriddo and Dorothy O'Shea Overbey.

"At this moment in history, it becomes ever more important for the arts to serve as a vehicle for communication, connection and action. Think of the works in *Fall For Dance* as discussions. Some are familiar, some uncomfortable, some long and winding, and some

make us laugh,” the production’s artistic directors share. “Each conversation is vital for us to practice the art of community.”

Highlights of *Fall For Dance* include Erica Gionfriddo’s *In the Ether*, a live experiment investigating how our digital devices alter the formation and expression of our identities. Through her work Gionfriddo asks: “How does curating our image for different audiences on digital platforms affect our perception of self, others and the world? How are we seduced by the response to the fragments we broadcast?” Gionfriddo is co-founder and director of the award-winning multimedia company ARCOS Dance. She has performed and taught internationally and choreographed for INTERDANSA, SITE Santa Fe, Morehead State University, Shenandoah Conservatory, Motion X Dance DC, Currents New Media, Edinburgh Fringe Festival, [254]Dance-Fest, Barnstorm Dance Fest, Texas State University, Colorado College and Breaking String Theater.

Dorothy O’Shea Overbey’s *Crone*, inspired by Igor Stravinsky’s *Le Sacre du Printemps* (1913), is a story of transformation, following the journey of a woman who loses everything and must choose between forgiveness and revenge. A cross-media project featuring dance, orchestral music and avant-garde costume design, *Crone* is being made into a virtual reality film and is slated for release in 2018. Currently on faculty at the university’s Department of Theatre and Dance, Overbey has danced with Colorado Ballet, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, California Ballet, Dances Patrelle and Ballet NY. She is the founder of Red Nightfall Productions, which produced her short film, *Prelude*, in 2015.

Fall For Dance also features the third installment of the *(Re)current Unrest* project with choreography by Charles O. Anderson and Jeremy Arnold. Inspired by the BlackLivesMatters movement, *(Re)current Unrest pt. 3: Clapback* explores the current state of race relations in the United States, centering on the physicality of taking a knee as a way of “clapping back.” Anderson’s *(Re)current Unrest*, the first work in this series, was premiered by Dance Repertory Theatre in the 2016 concert *Bodies & Souls*.

Anderson is head of the dance program at The University of Texas at Austin and serves as artistic director of the critically acclaimed Charles O. Anderson Dance Projects (formerly dance theatre X), which he founded in 2003. Jeremy Arnold, now in his third year of teaching at the university, was a principal dancer with Tapestry Dance Company from 2014-2017. He tours nationally with Revive Dance Convention and has served on the faculty of Soul 2 Sole Festival, True Sound Rhythm Festival and Dance Masters of America.

Other work presented in *Fall For Dance* includes *Otras Puertas/Otras Rumbos* by Ray Eliot Schwartz, *When* by Jennifer Freeman and *Mirror* by Francis Rodriguez.

For more information on *Fall For Dance* please visit JoinTheDrama.org

CALENDAR LISTING

November 7-12, 2017 – The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance presents *Fall For Dance* at B. Iden Payne Theatre (300 E. 23rd St.), located in the F. Loren Winship Drama Building. A map of the campus: theatredance.utexas.edu/about/location-directions-parking

Performance times are November 7 at 7:30 p.m. (Preview); November 8-10, 12 at 7:30 p.m. and November 12 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets for performances on November 8-12 (\$26 adult, \$21 UT faculty and staff, \$15 student) are now on sale at authorized ticket outlets, which include the Bass Concert Hall Box Office, most H-E-B stores and all Texas Box Office outlets, online at JoinTheDrama.org, or by calling (512) 477-6060 or (800) 982-BEVO. Tickets for the preview performance on November 7 (\$10 adult, \$5 student) are available at the Bass Concert Hall Box Office and F. Loren Winship Building Box Office. Box Office locations and hours: theatredance.utexas.edu/ticketing

ABOUT TEXAS THEATRE AND DANCE

The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance is a world-class educational environment that serves as the ultimate creative incubator for the next generation of artists, thinkers and leaders in theatre and performance.

ALSO THIS SEASON

The Crucible

By Arthur Miller

November 8-19, 2017

The Drowsy Chaperone

Music and Lyrics by Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison

Book by Bob Martin and Don McKellar

December 6-10, 2017

ENRON

By Lucy Prebble

February 21-March 4, 2018

Dance Repertory Theatre presents

Transcendence

March 28-April 8, 2018

UTNT (UT New Theatre)

April 12-22, 2018

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