



For Immediate Release

SPRING INTO ACTION

BILL T. JONES/ARNIE ZANE DANCE COMPANY, AKRAM KHAN COMPANY, TWYLA THARP/THE ATLANTA BALLET, BALLET ARIZONA, LES BALLETS C DE LA B | ALAIN PLATEL/FRANK VAN LAECKE, LEESAAR THE COMPANY, INTRODANS

JANUARY 2012

**BILL T. JONES/ARNIE ZANE DANCE COMPANY PRESENT WORLD PREMIERE OF "STORY/TIME"
JANUARY 21-22, 26-29**

PEAK PERFORMANCES, ALEXANDER KASSER THEATER, MONTCLAIR, NJ

Times: January 21, 28 at 8pm, January 22, 29 at 3pm, January 26, 27 at 7:30pm

Celebrated as a radical choreographer, who simultaneously provokes and entertains, Bill T. Jones is also a renowned storyteller, as will be seen in the world premiere of his "Story/Time." In this full-evening work, inspired by John Cage's "Indeterminacy," a performance of 90, one-minute stories, Jones, following in the tradition of Cage and Merce Cunningham, will employ chance procedures to determine the order of his stories, many of which are from his own childhood. The original music is by Ted Coffey; the text by Jones; décor by Bjorn Amelan; lighting design by Robert Wierzel and costumes by Liz Prince. The choreography is by Jones with Janet Wong, and members of the Jones/Zane Company.

FEBRUARY 2012

**AKRAM KHAN COMPANY PRESENTS U.S. PREMIERE OF "VERTICAL ROAD" AND "GNOSIS"
FEBRUARY 8-12**

PEAK PERFORMANCES, ALEXANDER KASSER THEATER, MONTCLAIR, NJ

Times for "Vertical Road": February 8, 10 at 7:30pm, February 11 at 8pm

Times for "Gnosis": February 9 at 7:30pm, February 12 at 3pm

The London-based Akram Khan Company will present the American premieres of two award-winning, full-evening dances, "Gnosis" and "Vertical Road," which will be shown at separate performances. Inspired by the story of Queen Gandhari, a character in Hindu epic "Mahabharata," "Gnosis" showcases Khan's uncanny ability to mine and meld the worlds of modern and Kathak, a form of classic Indian dance, in ways that are mutually empowering. Performed by Khan and former Martha Graham principal Fang-Yi Sheu, "Gnosis" received the 2011 South Bank Sky Arts Dance Award. Khan's "Vertical Road" grapples with reconciling spiritual enlightenment in a fragmented, material world. The original score is by Khan's longtime collaborator Nitin Swahney.

MORE

**TWYLA THARP'S "THE PRINCESS AND THE GOBLIN" IS PREMIERED BY THE ATLANTA BALLET
FEBRUARY 10-12, 17-19**

COBB ENERGY PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE, ATLANTA, GA

Times: February 10, 11, 17, 18 at 8pm, February 11, 12, 19 at 2pm

The world premiere of Twyla Tharp's "The Princess and the Goblin," a co-commission by the Atlanta Ballet and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, will receive its world premiere by the Atlanta Ballet at the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre in Atlanta, February 10-19.

Using children from the Atlanta Ballet School and professional performers from the Atlanta Ballet, the dance, choreographed for young and adult audiences, marks Tharp's first use of children in a ballet. George MacDonald's late 19th century classic children's tale, "The Princess and the Goblin" provided the original springboard for the full-evening ballet and the story on which the work is loosely based. Set to selections of Franz Schubert, arranged and orchestrated by composer and Schubert scholar Richard Burke, the music will be played live by the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra.

**BALLET ARIZONA MAKES NY DEBUT AT THE JOYCE THEATER WITH IB ANDERSEN'S "PLAY"
FEBRUARY 22-26**

THE JOYCE THEATER, NEW YORK, NY

Times: February 22 at 7:30pm, February 23, 24, 25 at 8pm, February 25, 26 at 2pm

Take out the welcome mat. Ballet Arizona, one of America's best kept secrets, will finally make its New York City debut when it presents Ib Andersen's "Play" at The Joyce Theater, February 22-26. Playing the word's many meanings, "Play" is a witty look at the classic ballet vocabulary with suggestions of experiences at ballet school, a play of emotions, and a child's sense of discovery, which is not very different from the open spirit and playfulness that an artist must engage when creating. The ballet is set to Mozart, Stravinsky, Britten and Pärt. A former principal dancer with the Royal Danish Ballet and then New York City Ballet, Andersen has been artistic director of Ballet Arizona since 1998.

MARCH 2012

**LES BALLETS C DE LA B | ALAIN PLATEL/FRANK VAN LAECKE'S "GARDENIA"
MAKES U.S. PREMIERE**

MARCH 17-18, 22-25

PEAK PERFORMANCES, ALEXANDER KASSER THEATER, MONTCLAIR, NJ

Times: March 17, 24 at 8pm, March 18, 25 at 3pm, March 21, 22, 23 at 7:30pm

With great emotional power and depth, "Gardenia" tells the transfixing stories of nine transvestites and transsexuals, most between 55 and 65 years old. Originally inspired by the poignant Spanish film, "Yo soy así," which tells of the final closing night of a transvestite cabaret in Barcelona, "Gardenia" is about endings, transience, hope and illusion.

Using an original score by contemporary composer Steven Prengels, the production uses improvisation by the performers, most of whom had once been professional actors. Their own turbulent, and at times hilarious, stories form the heart and soul of the work. The production is directed by Alain Platel and Frank Van Laecke. The renowned Belgian writer Vanessa Van Durme, who also stars in the production, was part of the original creative team.

MORE

LEESAAR THE COMPANY PRESENTS WORLD PREMIERE OF "FAME"**MARCH 29-APRIL 1****PEAK PERFORMANCES, ALEXANDER KASSER THEATER, MONTCLAIR, NJ***Times: March 29, 30 at 7:30pm, March 31 at 8pm, April 1 at 3pm*

In "FAME," a world premiere, director/writer Lee Sher, dancer/choreographer Saar Harari, and a multi-cultural cast of six performers explore the mystery of stage illusion, the distinctions between what is seen and what is perceived. Well-known for their extremely physical choreography and theatrical power, Sher and Harari, both former Israelis, have already received numerous honors including a 2008 Guggenheim Fellowship, a New York Foundation for the Arts fellowship, grants from the National Dance Project, the Map Fund, the Trust for Mutual Understanding, and the Greenwall Foundation.

MAY 2012**INTRODANS MAKES U.S. DEBUT AT THE JOYCE THEATER****MAY 1-6****THE JOYCE THEATER, NEW YORK, NY***Times: May 1, 2 at 7:30pm, May 3, 4, 5 at 8pm, May 6 at 2pm*

American audiences will have their first chance to see one of Holland's first and most well established modern dance companies when Introdans makes it U.S. debut at the Joyce Theater, May 1-6. Founded in 1971, the Dutch company of 19 dancers will bring some of its most celebrated repertory to The Joyce stage including Ed Wubbe's "Messiah," Nils Christie's "Funf Gedichte" and Gisela Rocha's "Paradise?," all of which are U.S. premieres. Introdans, which is now celebrating its 40th anniversary with a world tour, is directed by Roel Voorin Holt; its General Director is the company's co-founder, Ton Wiggers.

WHERE TO GO:

PEAK PERFORMANCES PERFORMANCES ARE IN THE ALEXANDER KASSER THEATER AT MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY, LOCATED AT 1 NORMAL AVENUE, MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY 07043. ALL TICKETS ARE \$15, AND ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE, WWW.PEAKPERFS.ORG OR BY CALLING 973-655-5112.

COBB ENERGY PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE IS LOCATED AT 2800 COBB GALLERIA PARKWAY, ATLANTA, GA 30339. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE, ONLINE AT WWW.TICKETMASTER.COM OR BY CALLING 800-745-3000.

THE JOYCE THEATER IS LOCATED AT 175 EIGHTH AVE AT 19TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE, ONLINE AT WWW.JOYCE.ORG OR BY CALLING 212-242-0800.

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