

# Peak Performances

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Ellen Jacobs Associates  
611 Broadway #403 New York, NY 10012 USA  
eja@ejassociates.org <http://www.ejassociates.org>  
212.245.5100



photo: Ivan Cavalcanti

photo: Apisak Vithyanond

photo: Ivan Cavalcanti

## COMPANHIA URBANA DE DANÇA | SONIA DESTRI PRESENTS AMERICAN PREMIERE OF "CHAPA QUENTE" AT PEAK PERFORMANCES SEPTEMBER 22-25

When Companhia Urbana de Dança | Sonia Destri made its U.S. debut last fall, the eyes of even the most *been-there-saw-that* critics opened wide with amazement. Destri's boldly original mix of contemporary Brazilian dance and hip-hop infused both forms with new rigor, meditative one moment, explosive the next. Locating the true heart of hip-hop, Destri strips it of its easy tricks, bringing it back to its original emotional depth, expressive range and poetic integrity. The company takes over the Alexander Kasser Theater stage, September 22-25.

For her company's Peak shows, Destri will present the American premiere of "Chapa Quente," which when strictly translated from the Portuguese is "hot plate," but in the case of Destri's dance, the expression suggests the violent heat erupting from confrontations between the police and local gangs. In "Chapa Quente," Destri's point is created through her imaginative and dramatic interweaving of samba and hip-hop. The program also includes "ID:ENTIDADES," which had its New York premiere at New York City Center last fall.

Sonia Destri created the Brazil-based dance group Companhia Urbana de Dança in 2004. After completing her degree in ballet and psychology, Sonia Destri traveled throughout Brazil and Germany working in theater, dance, films, and musicals. Her ideas about choreography radically changed when she was introduced to hip-hop and "b-boying" while she was in Europe. This exposure inspired her to create powerful work that joins hip-hop and her background in contemporary dance.

**MORE**

Destri's dances have been performed in Latin America, France (Festival Hoptimum, Festival de Biarritz, Biennale de la Danse de Lyon), the United States (Fall for Dance/New York City Center), and many festivals and theaters throughout Brazil (including Circuito SESI SP and SESC). In January 2011, Companhia Urbana de Dança was presented as part of Suresnes cités danse, the most important urban dance festival in France.

To learn more about Companhia Urbana de Dança | Sonia Destri, the electronic press kit is attached. For a preview of "ID:ENTIDADES," please visit: <http://bit.ly/chIEYu>.

## TICKET, TRANSPORTATION AND DINING INFORMATION

### Performance times:

September 22, 23 at 7:30pm, September 24 at 8pm, September 25 at 3pm

All tickets are \$15 and are available at the Alexander Kasser Theater Box Office, by calling 973-655-5112 or online at <http://www.peakperfs.org>.

Charter bus service is provided from New York City's Port Authority Bus Terminal – arcade on 41<sup>st</sup> Street between 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenues – to the Alexander Kasser Theater (\$10 per person, roundtrip) for all Saturday and Sunday performances. Bus reservations may be made by calling 973-655-5112 or by visiting <http://www.peakperfs.org>. For train service, available only on weekdays, go online to [www.njtransit.com](http://www.njtransit.com) or call 973-275-5555.

For restaurants close to the Alexander Kasser Theater, visit <http://www.destinationmontclair.com>

**Montclair State University is located at 1 Normal Avenue, Montclair, New Jersey 07043.**

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This presentation of Companhia Urbana de Dança is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional support provided by SESC Rio and Espaço SESC Rio de Janeiro.

Programs in Peak Performances' 2011/2012 season are made possible in part by funds from the Association of Performing Arts Presenters; the National Endowment for the Arts; the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Dept. of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts; New England Foundation for the Arts; Discover Jersey Arts; Alison and James T. Cirenza; and The Honorable Mary Mochary.

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