



For Immediate Release

EIGHT PERFORMANCES ONLY!
GARTH FAGAN DANCE PRESENTS WORLD PREMIERE
OF “- - - ING” AS PART OF JOYCE THEATER
ENGAGEMENT, NOVEMBER 16–21

Audiences worldwide have been queuing up and around the block to see “The Lion King,” for which Garth Fagan won the 1998 Tony Award for Choreography. While the show, one of the longest running hits on Broadway, has already had 2,928 performances (as of October 17) with no stop in sight, an unadulterated dose of Fagan’s searing originality and eclectic imagination will be available for eight performances only when Garth Fagan Dance, Fagan’s own Rochester-based company, performs at The Joyce Theater, November 16–21.

One of the season highlights is the world premiere of Fagan’s “- - - ing.” Set to Johannes Brahms’s “Quintet for Clarinet and String Quartet in B minor, op. 115” and marking Fagan’s first use of the composer’s music in a full work since his 1988 “Landscape for 10,” “- - - ing” is divided into three sections with names that help demystify the dance’s title: “- - - ing gains;” “caring flames;” and “howling pains loving gains.” In the piece, a work for twelve dancers, Fagan imaginatively exposes and intensifies the beauty and formality of Brahms by opposing 19th and 21st century musical textures and rhythms.

While Brahms may be one of Fagan’s favorite composers, the choreographer’s taste is not confined to the traditional classics. Witness this season:

“Prelude–‘Discipline is Freedom,’” a 1983 work that celebrates Fagan’s unique vocabulary and the dancers’ command of his wit and elegant technical intricacies, is set to Abdullah Ibrahim (Dollar Brand) and Max Roach.

Performed to music by Wynton Marsalis, “Trips and Trysts” (2000) brims with dancers skittering, scampering and spinning, their bodies taking positions balanced, but

MORE

**GARTH FAGAN DANCE
ADD ONE**

often breathtakingly off-balanced with the greatest of ease. The dance, suggesting the little alliances and dalliances that happen between people during the trips they go on and go through, shimmers with Fagan's appreciation of Marsalis's jazz score.

Set to music by "The Lion King" composer Lebo M, "Woza," which premiered in 1999 and means *come* and also *come celebrate* in Zulu, is a series of suites that move from allusions of the agony of a slave ship to a communal outbreak of exuberant celebration.

"Translation Transition," first performed in 2002, conveys a sense of community, once again revealing Fagan's deep humanist streak. Like the Jazz Jamaica All Stars score that accompanies "Translation Transition," the dance explores the similarities, differences and meeting points between American jazz and the traditional music of Jamaica (ska, reggae and mento).

And finally, there will be last year's hit, "DANCECOLLAGEFORROMIE," set to music by Dmitri Shostakovich, Villa-Lobos and Ferd "Jelly Roll" Morton. The dance was inspired by and dedicated to one of Fagan's heroes, the great American visual artist Romare Bearden. Fagan honors Bearden with choreography that draws upon the poignant spirit of the painter, his juxtaposition of color, shape and pattern, his love of humanity—qualities that Fagan shares.

Jamaican-born Garth Fagan began his career in dance by touring Latin America with Ivy Baxter and her Jamaican national dance company. Baxter, Lavinia Williams and Pearl Primus, famed Caribbean dance teachers, strongly influenced Fagan's work, as did his later studies with Martha Graham, Mary Hinkson, Alvin Ailey and José Limón. A graduate of Wayne State University, Fagan became director of Detroit's All-City Dance Company and performed with and choreographed for the Dance Theatre of Detroit and the Detroit Contemporary Dance Company. In 1970, he moved to Rochester and founded Garth Fagan Dance, now in its 34th season. The company has appeared in many major venues and arts festivals throughout the United States, as well as internationally in France, Turkey, Switzerland, Israel, Germany, Australia and Africa.

In addition to the dances he creates for his own company, Fagan has choreographed pieces for Judith Jamison, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Limón Dance Company. In May 1999, he created one section of "Ellington Elation," a trio of pieces commissioned by New York City Ballet in honor of Duke Ellington's centenary and NYCB's 50th anniversary.

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**GARTH FAGAN DANCE
ADD TWO**

For his choreography in Walt Disney's "The Lion King," Fagan received the 1998 Tony Award, the 1998 Drama Desk Award, the 1998 Outer Critics Circle Award, the 1998 Astaire Award, the 2000 Laurence Olivier Award, the 2001 Ovation Award and the 2004 Helpmann Award. In 2001, Fagan received the Samuel H. Scripps/American Dance Festival Award; that same year, he was also the recipient of the Golden Plate Award, was inducted into the American Academy of Achievement and was presented with the Order of Distinction in the rank of Commander by the Jamaican government. Fagan has also received a New York Dance and Performance Award (Bessie), as have four other members of his company: Norwood Pennewell, Steve Humphrey, Natalie Rogers and Sharon Skepple.

Prior to the Joyce Theater season, Garth Fagan Dance will perform at the Ahmanson Theater in Los Angeles, CA (October 23–24) and the Memorial Art Gallery (November 7) in Rochester, NY. The tour continues with stops at Nazareth College Arts Center in Rochester, NY (November 30–December 5); Imperial Theatre in Augusta, GA (January 21); University of Maine in Orono, ME (January 27); Flynn Theatre for the Performing Arts in Burlington, VT (February 5); and Blumenthal Performing Arts Center in Charlotte, NC (February 12). The company will also perform at Paramount Theater in Seattle, WA (April 9); The Egg in Albany, NY (April 22); Kennedy Center in Washington, DC (April 24); and Paramount Theatre in Charlottesville, VA (April 26).

The evening curtain at The Joyce Theater, Tuesday through Saturday, is at 8pm; Sunday's evening curtain is at 7:30pm. There will also be 2pm matinees on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$42 and are available at the box office, online at www.joyce.org or by calling 212-242-0800. The Joyce Theater is located at 175 Eighth Avenue at 19th Street.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FOR PROGRAM SCHEDULE.

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**GARTH FAGAN DANCE
THE JOYCE THEATER**

175 EIGHTH AVENUE
NOVEMBER 16–21, 2004
BOX OFFICE: 212-242-0800
TICKETS: \$42

Tuesday, November 16, 8pm

Program A

Prelude – “Discipline is Freedom” (1983)
Trips and Trysts (2000)
- - - - ing (World Premiere)
Translation Transition (2002)

Wednesday, November 17, 8pm

Program A

Prelude – “Discipline is Freedom” (1983)
Trips and Trysts (2000)
- - - - ing (World Premiere)
Translation Transition (2002)

Thursday, November 18, 8pm

Program B

DANCECOLLAGEFORROMIE (2003)
- - - - ing (World Premiere)
Woza (1999)

Friday, November 19, 8pm

Program A

Prelude – “Discipline is Freedom” (1983)
Trips and Trysts (2000)
- - - - ing (World Premiere)
Translation Transition (2002)

Saturday, November 20, 2pm

Program B

DANCECOLLAGEFORROMIE (2003)
- - - - ing (World Premiere)
Woza (1999)

Saturday, November 20, 8pm

Program A

Prelude – “Discipline is Freedom” (1983)
Trips and Trysts (2000)
- - - - ing (World Premiere)
Translation Transition (2002)

Sunday, November 21, 2pm

Program A

Prelude – “Discipline is Freedom” (1983)
Trips and Trysts (2000)
- - - - ing (World Premiere)
Translation Transition (2002)

Sunday, November 21, 7:30pm

Program B

DANCECOLLAGEFORROMIE (2003)
- - - - ing (World Premiere)
Woza (1999)

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