

Dec. 8, 2016

Contact: Laura Faure, festival director 207-786-6381 | <u>bdfpress@bates.edu</u>

EDITORS: For faculty images, please visit http://dance-festival-dev.bates.edu/about/press-room/ (password: press)

Bates Dance Festival announces 35th anniversary season, June 23-Aug. 6

LEWISTON, Maine -- The Bates Dance Festival, northern New England's leading contemporary dance training and presenting program, announces its 35th season, June 23-Aug. 6, 2017.

The festival includes the renowned Professional Training Program for dancers 18 years and older (July 15-Aug. 6), offering 31 classes a day in a wide range of disciplines; and the Young Dancers Workshop, a three-week intensive training program for pre-professional dancers ages 14-18 (June 23-July 14).

Complementing these programs, the festival hosts creative residencies for accomplished companies and choreographers, as well as lectures, panels and showings by more than 60 internationally recognized dance artists from around the globe.

Recognized as an important gathering place for the national dance community where cooperation, collaboration and experimentation are nurtured, the Bates Dance Festival each summer brings more than 270 students from across the U.S. and overseas to the Bates College campus to study, create and perform.

Highlighting the festival's 2017 season are workshops, residencies and performances by such acclaimed choreographers and companies as David Dorfman Dance, Christal Brown INSPIRIT, zoe | juniper, Danny Buraczeski, Nancy Stark Smith and Lisa Race, among others.

Special performances include a 35th Anniversary Gala that will honor longtime director Laura Faure and will feature Larry Keigwin, Bebe Miller, Doug Varone, Tania Isaac, Riley Watts, Sara Pearson and Patrik Widrig, and Omar Carrum and Claudia Lavista.

The season will culminate with "Mill Town," a site-specific performance installation created by choreographer Stephan Koplowitz with music by composer Todd Reynolds. The piece will be staged in



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The season will culminate with "Mill Town," a site-specific performance installation created by choreographer Stephan Koplowitz with music by composer Todd Reynolds. The piece will be staged in

and around a former textile mill in downtown Lewiston and will feature a cast of more than 60 performers.

Learn more about the Bates Dance Festival at www.batesdancefestival.org; by emailing Alexandra Bell, admission director, at dancefest@bates.edu; or by calling 207-786-6381.

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