

MEDIA RELEASE

Media Contact: Marnie Wilson at 604.836.2409 / mwilson@theartsbiz.com



DanceHouse announces 2018/19 season

Vancouver, BC / Th., March 15, 2018 - As DanceHouse steps into its second decade of programming, the series is bigger and better than ever with six extraordinary productions that span the globe in a glorious intermingling of theatre, storytelling, and movement.

This season incorporates some exciting new changes, first with our expansion to SFU Goldcorp Centre for the Arts. This intimate and technically preeminent venue is the perfect home for Australian indigenous artist **Jacob Boehme's *Blood on the Dance Floor***, which weaves personal and cultural histories into a powerful whole, and British choreographer **Akram Kahn's *Chotto Desh*** which combines Bangladeshi mythology, animation and choreography into a brilliant mélange of memory and narrative.

We've also included two family-friendly presentations (***Chotto Desh*** and ***Viva MOMIX***) this year, so that all ages can enjoy the magic of dance together. All will enjoy **MOMIX's** unique blend of visual theatre that combines ballet, acrobatics, and circus technique to create a universe of wild creativity and a playful effervescence.

To open the season, we welcome the French **Company Wang Ramirez's** sensational new work, ***Borderline***, that pits five dancers and one rigger against the gravitational forces of freedom and control.

We also have two performances from powerhouse Canadian women choreographers, **Crystal Pite** (Vancouver) and **Marie Chouinard** (Montreal). The world premiere of **Kidd Pivot's** new work ***Revisor***, created with writer **Jonathon Young** (*Betroffenheit*) mixes classic farce with radical change. **Compagnie Marie Chouinard** takes inspiration from Bosch's masterpiece to fashion ***Hieronymus Bosch: The Garden of Earthly Delights***.

More than just hybridity, this selection of work combines poetry, painting, stagecraft and the deeply human language of movement to cut across interdisciplinary borders and boundaries. The result is a world of dance that is diverse, open, challenging, and rich with moments of radical beauty and transcendent emotion.

Each of these presentations is paired with opportunities for the audience to participate and engage with the artists and performers through a suite of community engagement programs.

SUBSCRIPTION + TICKET INFORMATION

Subscription renewal begins **March 14**.

New subscriptions on sale **April 16**.

Single tickets on sale **September 10**.

Single ticket prices begin at \$35. 6-show subscriptions begin at \$279.

DanceHouse Ticket Centre: www.dancehouse.ca or 604.801.6225

Complete program details follow.

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2018/19 Season**Company Wang Ramirez (France)***Borderline*

October 26 & 27, 2018, 8pm

Vancouver Playhouse (600 Hamilton Street)

Gravity turns elastic in **Wang Ramirez's** sensational new work ***Borderline*** that combines b-boy dance battles with the soaring movement of Wuxia martial arts, to trace a line between chaos and control. Fueled by the performers' stunning technical skill, and composer Jean-Philippe Barrios' (Lacrymoby) score, choreographic duo **Sébastien Ramirez** and **Honji Wang** fluidly blend contemporary dance with diasporic identity and blunt social commentary to carve out new territory in the interstitial space between air and ground. "Poetry in gravity-defying motion." - *The Evening Standard*

Akram Khan Company (UK)*Chotto Desh*

November 21 - 24, 2018, 8pm + November 24, 2018, 2pm

SFU Goldcorp Centre for the Arts (149 W Hastings)

Choreographer/dancer **Akram Khan's** ***Chotto Desh*** ('small homeland' in Bangladeshi) takes a storybook view of Khan's childhood, growing up under the stern eye of his authoritarian father.

Freely mixing Kathak dance with storytelling and mime, Khan creates a series of worlds that run from the ordinary to the mythic. While themes of exclusion and identity are wound throughout, the work is light on its feet and filled with a luminous humanity that grounds the fantastical in the universal. "An absolute triumph." - *The Scotsman*

Co-presented with **SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs** and **Théâtre la Seizième**.

Jacob Boehme & ILBIJERRI Theatre Company (Australia)*Blood on the Dance Floor*

February 6 - 9, 2019, 8pm

SFU Goldcorp Centre for the Arts (149 W Hastings)

A descendant of the Narangga and Kaurna nations of South Australia, choreographer/performer **Jacob Boehme** was diagnosed with HIV in 1998. After receiving his diagnosis, he turned to his traditional culture as a means to deal not only with his own life, but also that of his community ("gay, Blak and pos.") Grounded in Aboriginal dance and storytelling, ***Blood on the Dance Floor*** incorporates activism, autobiography, and performance into an incendiary work of raw and radical emotion. "...compelling synergy..." - *The Age*
Co-presented with **SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs** and **Talking Stick Festival**.

Kidd Pivot (Vancouver)**Created by Crystal Pite & Jonathon Young***Revisor* | **World Premiere**

February 20 - 23, 2019, 8pm

Vancouver Playhouse (600 Hamilton Street)

From choreographer and director **Crystal Pite** and writer **Jonathon Young**, the creators of the internationally acclaimed *Betroffenheit*, comes ***Revisor***, a new dance/theatre hybrid that uses the classical

tropes of satire and subversion to examine the relationship between people and politics with eviscerating wit and bold physicality. "Pite is an image-maker of rare distinction." – *The Australian*

Compagnie Marie Chouinard (Montreal)

Hieronymus Bosch: The Garden of Earthly Delights

March 15 & 16, 2019, 8pm

Vancouver Playhouse (600 Hamilton Street)

In honour of the 500th anniversary of the Dutch painter Hieronymus Bosch, choreographer **Marie Chouinard** creates a living canvas, embodying the seething, heaving fecundity of Bosch's most infamous masterpiece. Backed by an original score by Louis Dufort and brimming with Chouinard's visual wit, the performance unfolds in quixotic tableaux of wonderment and horror that combine erotic entanglement, stunning choreography and painterly beauty to create an experience of near-Paradisiacal ravishment. "...brilliant and fantastic dance theatre." - *Kronen Zeitung*

MOMIX (US)

Viva MOMIX

April 12 & 13, 2019, 8pm

Vancouver Playhouse (600 Hamilton Street)

In celebration of **MOMIX's** many works, *Viva MOMIX* distills more than three decades of work into a confetti-coloured explosion of illusion, beauty, and near-stratospheric levels of invention and creativity. Choreographer **Moses Pendleton** combines visual theatre with ballet, acrobatics, and circus technique to create performance spectacles that suspend the rational mind, and replace it with wonder and a glorious sense of play. "...wondrously agile human dancers..." - *The New York Times (on Opus Cactus)*

Community Engagement Series

Speaking of Dance Conversations

Dates and speakers TBA

FREE EVENT - Speaking of Dance Conversations is a series of free public dialogues and roundtable conversations about the world and contextualizing it within culture and society. Presented by noted writers, choreographers, and creative thinkers, Speaking of Dance is a platform for everyone to share and develop their observation and interpretation of dance.

Presented in partnership with **SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs**.

Speaking of Dance Pre-show Talks

Dates and speakers TBA

On performance nights, join us at 7:15pm at the theatre for the Speaking of Dance Pre-Show Talk. Talks are hosted by local writers and critics, often in conversation with visiting artists from the performing company.

This is an excellent opportunity to gain insight into the presentation you are about to experience.

Presented in partnership with **SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs**.

Masterclasses

Dates and times TBA

Did you know: each time DanceHouse brings a company into town, it comes with perks for the Vancouver community? DanceHouse engages each visiting company in a series of local masterclasses, reaching

beyond the stage and directly into the community. Join a DanceHouse masterclass and learn directly from the exceptional artists you are about to see on stage!

Presented in partnership with **Harbour Dance Centre**, **Lamondance**, **SFU School for the Contemporary Arts**, **Training Society of Vancouver**, and **Arts Umbrella**.

About

DanceHouse connects Vancouver audiences and the local arts community to the international world of dance by presenting exceptional companies that are recognized for their excellence, innovation, and international reputation. DanceHouse is a program of the Seismic Shift Arts Society which is a provincial non-profit society and a federally registered charitable organization.

Mission: DanceHouse presents exceptional international caliber dance of scale to engage, inform and challenge, and to offer transformative cultural experiences for Vancouver audiences.

