

MEDIA RELEASE

Media Contact: Marnie Wilson at 604.836.2409

DanceHouse presents

Dorrance Dance (US)

Triple Bill

April 13 & 14, 2018, 8pm

Pre-show chat 7:15pm

Vancouver Playhouse (600 Hamilton Street)

Tickets from \$35 can be purchased at www.dancehouse.ca or by calling the DanceHouse Ticket Centre at 604.801.6225.

Dorrance Dance closes DanceHouse's 10th Anniversary Season

Vancouver, BC – Lauded as “...a concert for the eyes [and] contemporary dance for the ears”, the acclaimed tap dance troupe **Dorrance Dance** returns to Vancouver to fill our senses with mesmerizing rhythm, gravity-defying physicality, and dynamic live music (The Nation).

Artistic director and choreographer **Michelle Dorrance** (2015 MacArthur Fellow) first premiered **Myelination** at New York City Center's 2015 Fall for Dance Festival to immediate critical acclaim. In collaboration with the dancers, Dorrance went on to extend **Myelination (2017)**, into a new full-length work featuring original, live music by Prawn til Dante (Donovan Dorrance and Gregory Richardson) with vocalist Aaron Marcellus. The work seamlessly blends together dancers as both ensemble members and improvisational soloists, challenging the performers to take risks and achieve new heights of technical and musical execution inside of the form of tap dance.

In addition, the rarely seen, Bessie-Award winning **Three to One** (2011), and the whimsical **Jungle Blues** (2012) complete this program, illustrating the great range for which this company is known. Reflecting racial, physical, and stylistic diversity, Dorrance Dance reintroduces tap dance as a living, boundary-breaking art form on to the international contemporary stage – exactly where it should be seen and celebrated.

“I’ve seen the future of tap dancing and it looks like Michelle Dorrance. Her Dorrance Dance company... [puts] on a sensational show – one that emphasizes tap’s possibilities as a creative, artistic form, without ever sacrificing its ability to thrill and excite.” – Sarah Crompton, What’s On Stage

This last show of the season promises to leave dance fans excited about what the future holds both for dance and for the next season of DanceHouse.

ABOUT DORRANCE DANCE

Dorrance Dance is an award-winning tap dance company, founded in 2011 by artistic director and 2015 MacArthur Fellow, Michelle Dorrance, and is based out of New York City. The company's work aims to honor tap dance's uniquely beautiful history in a new, dynamic, and compelling context; not by stripping the form of its tradition, but by pushing it - rhythmically, technically, and conceptually. The company's inaugural performance garnered a Bessie Award for “blasting open our notions of tap” and the company continues its passionate commitment to expanding the audience of tap dance, America's original art form.

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SPEAKING OF DANCE PRE-SHOW TALK

Join host Sas Selfjord, Executive Director of Vancouver Tap Dance in advance of the performance for the Speaking of Dance Pre-show Talk at 7:15pm in the upper lobby of the Playhouse Theatre. This is an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the context and themes about to be explored on stage.

SPEAKING OF DANCE CONVERSATIONS

Date & Time: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 7pm

Location: Djavad Mowafaghian World Art Centre, SFU Goldcorp Centre for the Arts, 149 W. Hastings St

Topic: Tap Dance and Jazz Music: the Evolution of an Art Form

Moderator: Sas Selfjord (Vancouver Tap Dance Society)

FREE

Join Vancouver Tap Dance Society Executive Director Sas Selfjord in a roundtable conversation with guests **TBA**.

DanceHouse is pleased to once again partner with SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs to present Speaking of Dance, a series of public dialogues in roundtable conversations about the world of dance, contextualizing it within culture and society.

