

FOR IMAGES AND MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SPECIAL COMMISSIONS, SITE-SPECIFIC WORK, WORLD PREMIERES, LIVE MUSIC;
ARTISTS FROM ISRAEL, CUBA, JAPAN, THE U.K., AND CANADA**

December 14, 2016 – (Becket, MA) Following the critical acclaim and record-breaking attendance of Festival 2016, Jacob's Pillow Dance announces its 85th Anniversary Season of exciting programming featuring world premieres, commissions, site-specific work, international artists, live music, and Pillow-exclusive engagements. Running June 21-August 27, Festival 2017 marks a notable moment in the history of the organization, with the first season programmed by Jacob's Pillow Director Pamela Tatge who joined the organization in April of 2016.

Highlights of the 85th Anniversary Season include the Pillow-exclusive engagement *TIRELESS: A Tap Dance Experience* Curated by Michelle Dorrance with artists Reona and Takishi Seo of Japan, Jumaane Taylor of Chicago, Joe Orrach of San Francisco, and Joseph and Josette Wiggan of Los Angeles; a new site-specific work by the world-renowned Pilobolus commissioned for the outdoor Inside/Out stage; the world premiere of *The Principles of Uncertainty*, a collaboration between modern dance artist John Heginbotham and acclaimed author and illustrator Maira Kalman; the U.S. debut of Israeli dance company Roy Assaf Dance; and rare U.S. appearances by Compagnie Marie Chouinard of Canada and Compañía Irene Rodríguez of Cuba, whose program will also include a world premiere. Notably, 11 companies with female artistic directors are represented amongst the Festival 2017 artists, more than half of the Pillow's programmed season in the Ted Shawn and Doris Duke Theatres. Tickets go on sale to the public April 3, online at 12:01am and via phone at 10am (413.243.0745); Jacob's Pillow Members can order as early as January 17.

"It has been an honor to plan the 85th Anniversary Season," says Jacob's Pillow Director Pamela Tatge. "This summer's Festival includes five companies making their Jacob's Pillow debut, an accomplished artist in a new curatorial role, and site-specific works made specifically for the Pillow's unique natural setting. I am also pleased to welcome back the companies of artists with long, rich histories with the organization, including Paul Taylor and Trisha Brown, as well as Pilobolus."

Jacob's Pillow is a National Historic Landmark, recipient of the National Medal of Arts, and home to America's longest-running international dance festival. This season, dance companies from across the U.S. and around the globe travel to Becket, Massachusetts to take part in the 85th Anniversary Season. Festival 2017 international companies include Israel-based Roy Assaf Dance; Japan-based Reona and Takishi Seo of Dorrance's *TIRELESS*; Compagnie Marie

Chouinard of Canada; Aakash Odedra of the U.K.; and Compañía Irene Rodríguez of Cuba. American companies hail from Miami, FL (Miami City Ballet); Washington, DC (The Washington Ballet); Portland, OR (NW Dance Project); Los Angeles, CA; (Ate9 dANCEcOMPANY); San Francisco, CA (Joe Orrach of *TIRELESS*); and New York City (Paul Taylor Dance Company, Ballet Hispanico, Doug Varone & Dancers, Trisha Brown Dance Company, and others). Live musical accompaniment will also be featured in nearly half of all Festival engagements including Dorrance's *TIRELESS*, Jessica Lang Dance, Compagnie Marie Chouinard, Camille A. Brown's *BLACK GIRL: Linguistic Play*, The Washington Ballet, Compañía Irene Rodríguez, and the Heginbotham/Kalman *The Principles of Uncertainty*, among others.

The Pillow continues its decades-long commitment to presenting, commissioning, and supporting the creation of new work. Compañía Irene Rodríguez's program will feature a world premiere work, in addition to the Pillow-commissioned world premieres by Pilobolus, Jessica Lang Dance, and Dance Heginbotham, as well as Annabelle Lopez Ochoa's commissioned *Línea Recta* for Ballet Hispanico. Many Festival 2017 artists have also developed work during Creative Development Residencies at Jacob's Pillow, including John Heginbotham, Mark Dendy, Camille A. Brown, Trisha Brown Dance Company, Kyle Abraham, Michelle Dorrance, and Jessica Lang.

The 85th Anniversary Season offers a range of special engagements taking place outside of the Pillow's traditional theatre spaces. Two works will be created in conversation with its iconic natural setting, including the aforementioned Pilobolus's commissioned world premiere, kicking off the outdoor Inside/Out Performance Series with an extended three-day run, June 21-23. "Pilobolus has always made its work in a rural environment, often looking to nature as a guiding reference for its imagination, which makes this commission a fitting way to commemorate the history of Pilobolus at the Pillow on the occasion of the 85th Anniversary," says Pilobolus Executive Producer Itamar Kubovy. Japanese artist Eiko Otake's site-specific *A Body at the Pillow* will take place across the grounds with three performances on Saturday, July 22.

Jacob's Pillow will continue expanding its presence in the Berkshires community throughout the Festival season and beyond. The Pillow will host free performances at each Third Thursday event throughout the summer (Eiko Otake will perform at the July 20 event). Select Festival artists will also deepen their impact on the community by offering special artist residency activities to be announced. Michelle Dorrance, *TIRELESS* program curator, will host a dynamic new event benefitting the Pillow's growing Community Engagement Programs—an All Styles Dance Battle in the Doris Duke Theatre with Festival artists, participants of The School, and New England-based street artists, Sunday, July 2 at 8pm.

The artist faculty members of The School at Jacob's Pillow are as impressive and diversely experienced as the Festival artists. The 2017 Program Directors include ballet luminary Anna-Marie Holmes; noted master teacher Milton Myers; Broadway choreographer/director Chet Walker; and choreographer, performer, MacArthur 'Genius' Fellow, and Jacob's Pillow Dance Award recipient Michelle Dorrance.

Prior to the Festival, Jacob's Pillow and MASS MoCA will co-present the work-in-progress *XXYY* by choreographer, dancer, director, and TEDGlobal Oxford Fellow Richard Move in

collaboration with theater artist Alba Clemente and visual artist Paolo Canevari on January 20. This spring, visual and performing arts collide in Nick Cave's expansive and awe-inspiring installation *Until*. Two choreographers present solo works in response to the exhibition: iconic Jacob's Pillow Dance Award winner Bill T. Jones (March 4) and writer, actress, and Bessie Award recipient Okwui Okpokwasili (April 7). Tickets available at massmoca.org.

Festival 2017 Schedule

Artist dates and descriptions follow. Select Festival artist descriptions include links to supplemental video clips within *Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive*, featuring past Jacob's Pillow performances.

Season Opening Gala

June 17, Ted Shawn Theatre

The exclusive Season Opening Gala event will include a special performance by Festival 2017 artist Miami City Ballet, a work-in-progress showing of a new work with New York City Ballet principal dancer Sara Mearns in collaboration with international hip-hop duo Company Wang Ramirez, and the dancers of The School at Jacob's Pillow Ballet Program in a world premiere created by acclaimed choreographer Bruce Wells. This signature fundraising event also includes the presentation of the 2017 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award, the opening of a new Blake's Barn exhibit, special pop-up performances, and a festive auction, followed by dinner and dancing to live music.

Miami City Ballet

June 21-25, Ted Shawn Theatre

Described as "bold, light, immediate, intensely musical" (Alastair Macaulay, *The New York Times*), Miami City Ballet opens the 85th Anniversary Season in its first Festival appearance since 1998. Works on the program exhibit the company's wide range and prowess, including master choreographer George Balanchine's challenging and technically precise *Allegro Brillante* set to Peter Ilyitch Tchaikovsky's energetic "Third Piano Concerto No. 3". The program also includes Tony Award-winning choreographer Christopher Wheeldon's elegant *Polyphonia*, danced to György Ligeti's complex and eerily melodious score. Other works to be announced.

Related video in Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive: Miami City Ballet in Square Dance in 1989
<http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/miami-city-ballet/square-dance/>

Jonah Bokaer Choreography

June 21-25, Doris Duke Theatre

Hailed as "a visionary investigator who has redefined visual art and dance" (*Vogue Italia*), choreographer, artist, and alumnus of The School at Jacob's Pillow Jonah Bokaer brings his sleek, elegant aesthetic to the Doris Duke Theatre. His largest production to date *Rules Of The Game* (2016) is set to an original score by GRAMMY Award-winning artist Pharrell Williams for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, co-composed by David Campbell, with set design by visual artist and frequent collaborator Daniel Arsham. The program will also include Bokaer's solo *Study for Occupant* (2012), and the trio work *OCCUPANT* (2013).

Related video in Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive: Jonah Bokaer in 2011 in Why Patterns
<http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/jonah-bokaer/why-patterns/>

Pilobolus

Inside/Out Performance Series, June 21-23

Harnessing the power of the Pillow's pastoral setting, internationally acclaimed dance company Pilobolus will premiere a new work commissioned specifically for the Pillow's iconic outdoor stage set against the Berkshire hills. Alastair Macaulay of *The New York Times* praises Pilobolus's consistent, unique, and powerful aesthetic: "bodies become imagery, and one image merges into another, organically, poetically, inexplicably." The world premiere will kick off the Festival's free Inside/Out Performance Series with an extended three-day run.

Related video in Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive: Pilobolus in Ocellus in 1985

<http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/pilobolus/ocellus/>

TIRELESS: A Tap Dance Experience Curated by Michelle Dorrance

Ted Shawn Theatre, June 28-July 2

Curated and introduced by Jacob's Pillow Dance Award recipient, MacArthur 'Genius' Fellow, and "tireless ambassador of tap" Michelle Dorrance (Gia Kourlas, *The New York Times*), *TIRELESS* exhibits the endless talent, depth, and perseverance of the international tap community. This Pillow-exclusive engagement includes tap dancer and bassist couple Reona and Takishi Seo of Japan in *AUN*; Chicago-based choreographer and performer Jumaane Taylor's ensemble work *Supreme Love*; Joe Orrach of San Francisco in his solo performance entitled *In My Corner*; and tap dancing siblings Joseph and Josette Wiggan of Los Angeles.

NW Dance Project

Doris Duke Theatre, June 28-July 2

Known for its "cutting-edge contemporary work" (Jason Vondersmith, *The Portland Tribune*), NW Dance Project makes its Jacob's Pillow debut. Based in Portland, Oregon and led by former Royal Winnipeg Ballet principal dancer Sarah Slipper, the company is composed of a cast of classically-trained, versatile dancers. The program includes works by a range of accomplished choreographers and rising talents: *Post-Traumatic-Monster* by Felix Landerer, choreographer in residence for Scapino Ballet in the Netherlands; *At Some Hour You Return* by former Nederlands Dans Theater dancer Jiří Pokorný; *Le Fil Rouge* by 2011 Sadler's Wells Global Dance Contest winner Ihsan Rustem; and *MemoryHouse* by Artistic Director Sarah Slipper.

All Styles Dance Battle

Doris Duke Theatre, July 2 at 8pm

Beloved performer, choreographer, Festival artist, and Tap Program director Michelle Dorrance hosts an All Styles Dance Battle with exciting Festival artists, the talented participants of the Tap Program of The School at Jacob's Pillow, and New England-based street artists in the Doris Duke Theatre. This event is a benefit for the Jacob's Pillow Community Engagement Programs.

Jessica Lang Dance

Ted Shawn Theatre, July 5-9

"A prolific choreographer of skillfully constructed dances that respectfully mesh with music and striking visual design" (*The New Yorker*), Jessica Lang and her company return to Jacob's Pillow with a program set to live music. In addition to a Pillow-commissioned world premiere work, the program includes Lang's *Thousand Yard Stare*, a work embodying the incredible pride and honor as well as the searing loss experienced by military veterans, set to emotive

Beethoven music. The program will also include the east coast premiere of Lang's *Lyric Pieces* set to Norwegian composer and pianist Edvard Grieg's short piano pieces with striking set design by Molo Designers Stephanie Forsythe and Todd MacAllen.

Related video on Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive: Jessica Lang Dance in The Wanderer in 2015

<http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/jessica-lang-dance/wanderer/>

Faye Driscoll

Doris Duke Theatre, July 5-9

New York Dance and Performance ("Bessie") Award-winning choreographer Faye Driscoll is an alumna of The School at Jacob's Pillow and "one of the most original talents on the contemporary dance scene" (Roslyn Sulcas, *The New York Times*). Her ensemble work *Thank You for Coming: Attendance* is the first installment of a trilogy which softens the borders between artist and audience, making for an "unpredictable, funny, and endlessly entertaining" experience (Laura Molzahn, *The Chicago Tribune*). Performed in the round with an intimate number of audience members, Driscoll's work is rich, surprising, and deeply human.

Paul Taylor Dance Company

Ted Shawn Theatre, July 12-16

Often lauded for its "youth, vitality, good cheer and a sense of adventure" (Sarah Kaufman, *The Washington Post*), Paul Taylor Dance Company returns to the Pillow for a special 85th Anniversary Season engagement. Led by the vision of renowned modern dance choreographer Paul Taylor, the company is a Berkshires audience favorite with their Pillow debut in 1964 and annual performances at the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in nearby Great Barrington, Massachusetts. The company's program will feature a roster of classic works, including the exuberant and romantic *Esplanade*, set to two Johann Sebastian Bach concertos. Other works to be announced.

Related video on Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive: Paul Taylor Dance Company in Company B in 2000

<http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/paul-taylor-dance-company/company-b/>

Roy Assaf Dance

Doris Duke Theatre, July 12-16

Based in Israel, Roy Assaf Dance makes its U.S. debut in a program of clever and heartfelt works. A rising choreographic star, Assaf has been commissioned by companies across the globe including Batsheva Dance Company, The Royal Swedish Ballet, National Dance Company Wales, and LA Dance Project. The program opens with Assaf's quiet, embracing duet *Six Years Later* which is praised for its "beauty, nuances, and intricate, astute movements" (Ora Brafman, *Jerusalem Post*), and closes with his powerful all-male trio *The Hill*, inspired by veterans' experiences and based on the Hebrew song "Givat Hatachmoshet".

Compagnie Marie Chouinard

Ted Shawn Theatre, July 19-July 23

Marie Chouinard of Montréal, Canada is a world-renowned “hurricane of unbridled imaginativeness” (*The New York Times*). Her company makes its Jacob’s Pillow debut with original and daring works honoring two French artists: the dynamic *24 Preludes by Chopin* set to 24 contrasting piano works by Frédéric Chopin, dubbed one of Chouinard’s “most refreshingly inventive works” (Michael Crabb, *The National Post*); and *Henri Michaux: Mouvements*, inspired by the artist’s book of poems and ink drawings, bridges visual and performance arts.

Aakash Odedra in *Rising*

Doris Duke Theatre, July 19-23

“Simply breathtaking” (Paula Citron, *The Globe and Mail*) British artist Aakash Odedra makes his Pillow debut with his captivating solo work *Rising*. A contemporary dancer with roots in the classical Indian dance styles of Kathak and Bharatnatyam, Odedra is known for his mesmerizing agility and “ecstatic joy in dancing” (Brian Seibert, *The New York Times*). His *Rising* features his own choreography and contributions from acclaimed international artists: British choreographer Akram Khan, recipient of the International Society of the Performing Arts Distinguished Artist Award; 2014 Laurence Olivier Award recipient Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui of Belgium; and Sadler’s Wells Associate Artist Russell Maliphant of the U.K.

Eiko Otake’s *A Body at the Pillow*

Jacob’s Pillow Grounds | July 22

In an exclusive one-day-only engagement, Japanese-born artist Eiko Otake will perform *A Body at the Pillow*, a site-specific solo performance on the historic grounds of Jacob’s Pillow. The work is the newest installment of Eiko’s *A Body in Places* series, which includes performances in train stations, warehouses, and libraries, as well as the irradiated Fukushima, Japan. Praised for her “unassailable intensity,” Eiko is able to “radiate both frailty and abandon” in her performances (Gia Kourlas, *The New York Times*).

Ballet Hispanico

Ted Shawn Theatre, July 26-30

Brimming with theatricality and crisp technique, “the versatile Ballet Hispanico dancers are exquisite” (Rebecca Ritzel, *The Washington Post*). The company offers the thrilling diversity of Latino culture—a fusion of classical, Latin, and contemporary dance. The program features the Pillow-commissioned and flamenco-inspired *Línea Recta* by Colombian-Belgian choreographer Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, set to Spanish guitar by Eric Vaarzon Morel. Other works to be announced.

Ate9 dANCEcOMPANY

Doris Duke Theatre, July 26-30

Led by “choreography’s It girl” (Victoria Looseleaf, *The Los Angeles Times*) Danielle Agami, the Los Angeles-based Ate9 dANCEcOMPANY brings the mesmerizing intensity of Gaga movement to the intimate Doris Duke Theatre. A former company member and rehearsal director of Ohad Naharin’s world-renowned Batsheva Dance Company, the work of Israeli-born Agami is athletic, direct, and intelligent. Her ensemble work *Exhibit B* exposes the challenges the Israeli conflict brings to daily life, and is set to Omid Walizadeh’s hip-hop and Iranian music score. Other works to be announced.

Doug Varone & Dancers

Ted Shawn Theatre, August 2-6

Praised for its “sheer kinetic force and profound emotional insight” (Suzanne Carbonneau, *The Washington Post*), modern dance company Doug Varone & Dancers delivers its expansive vision, versatility, and technical prowess. Celebrating the company’s 30th Anniversary this year, the program features *ReComposed*, inspired by expressionist painter Joan Mitchell’s swirling pastels, set to acclaimed composer Michael Gordon’s tremendous orchestral score *Dystopia*, among other works to be announced.

Related video on Jacob’s Pillow Dance Interactive: Doug Varone & Dancers in Castles in 2009
<http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/doug-varone-and-dancers/castles/>

Kyle Abraham/Abraham.In.Motion
Doris Duke Theatre, August 2-6

MacArthur ‘Genius’ Fellow and Jacob’s Pillow Dance Award winner Kyle Abraham is “a remarkable talent” (Allan Ulrich, *San Francisco Chronicle*). He returns to the Pillow with his newest work *Dearest Home*, a lush collection of solos and duets that embody love and longing, born from dialogues with a diverse set of subcultures. *Dearest Home* is an interactive dance performance that explores cultural views and exchanges about love and the absence of love.

Related video on Jacob’s Pillow Dance Interactive: Kyle Abraham/Abraham.in.Motion in Pavement in 2013
<http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/kyle-abraham-abraham-in-motion/pavement/>

Camille A. Brown & Dancers
Ted Shawn Theatre, August 9-13

Jacob’s Pillow Dance Award recipient Camille A. Brown and her company, Camille A. Brown & Dancers, will present her evening-length New York Dance and Performance (“Bessie”) Award-nominated work *BLACK GIRL: Linguistic Play*, which reveals the complexity of carving out a self-defined identity as a black female in urban American culture. This vividly theatrical work performed to live music explores childhood innocence and the maturation of the Black female through “a common language formed from play, musicality, and empathy” (Eva Yaa Asantewaa, *Time Out New York*).

Related video on Jacob’s Pillow Dance Interactive, Camille A. Brown’s The Evolution of a Secured Feminine in 2010:
<http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/camille-a-brown/the-evolution-of-a-secured-feminine/>

Mark Dendy Project’s *Elvis Everywhere*
Doris Duke Theatre, August 9-13

Applauded for its “speed, force, brilliance and surprise” (Alan M. Kriegsman, *The Washington Post*), Mark Dendy’s work is known for its searing social and political commentary and intense physicality. Inspired by an interview with Donald Rumsfeld on his encounter with Elvis Presley in Las Vegas, Dendy’s *Elvis Everywhere* scrutinizes society’s fascination and obsession with celebrity. Dendy utilizes the arc of Elvis’s life as a metaphor for the United States, drawing chilling parallels to today’s politics. *Elvis Everywhere* is supported by the Jacob’s Pillow Creative Development Residency program.

Trisha Brown Dance Company
Ted Shawn Theatre, August 16-20

Witty, inventive, and free from convention, the prolific choreographer Trisha Brown holds an uncontested legacy as modern dance's "boundary-pusher" (Andy Battaglia, *The Wall Street Journal*). With close Pillow connections dating back more than 35 years, Brown's accolades include the prestigious National Medal of Arts, a Dance/USA Honors Award, a MacArthur 'Genius' Award, a New York Dance and Performance ("Bessie") Award for Lifetime Achievement, and countless others. The program will include a specially curated work for the Pillow's 85th Anniversary Season featuring alumni of Trisha Brown Company, among other works to be announced.

Related video on Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive, Trisha Brown Dance Company in Les Yeux et l'âme in 2011:

<http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/trisha-brown-dance-company/les-yeux-et-lame/>

Compañía Irene Rodríguez

Doris Duke Theatre, August 16-20

A principal dancer and choreographer, Irene Rodríguez is an "intense, exacting" (Siobhan Burke, *The New York Times*) performer and one of the most prominent figures in Cuban dance. Among many other accolades, Rodríguez received First Prize in the Ibero-American Choreography Competition "Alicia Alonso" CIC' 2012. Alongside her six talented dancers and an ensemble of live, onstage musicians, Rodríguez brings flamenco's fiery passion and exhilarating footwork with a unique Afro-Cuban flair, leaving a "trail of triumph and applause" (*Granma*, Cuba). The program will include a world premiere work and a U.S. premiere.

The Washington Ballet

Ted Shawn Theatre, August 23-27

Newly led by former American Ballet Theatre principal dancer Julie Kent, the Washington, DC-based company presents stunning technique, impressive range, and iconic contemporary works heralding the group's "elegant new era" (Sarah Kaufman, *The Washington Post*). The company makes its first appearance at the Pillow since 1980 with Alexei Ratmansky's spellbinding *Seven Sonatas*, among other works to be announced.

Related video on Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive: The Washington Ballet in Double Contrasts in 1980: <http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/the-washington-ballet/double-contrasts/>

The Principles of Uncertainty

Doris Duke Theatre, August 23-27

Jacob's Pillow Dance Award recipient John Heginbotham and acclaimed illustrator and author Maria Kalman join forces in the world premiere of *The Principles of Uncertainty*. Co-commissioned by the Pillow and the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and developed during multiple Pillow Creative Development Residencies, *The Principles of Uncertainty* is an evening-length dance theatre work choreographed and directed by Heginbotham, inspired by Kalman's written and visual art, set to a score composed, arranged, and curated by Brooklyn Rider and Silk Road Ensemble's Colin Jacobsen. Members of The Knights, Jacobsen's innovative chamber orchestra, will perform live.

Related video on Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive: Dance Heginbotham in Chalk and Soot in 2014 <http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/dance-heginbotham/chalk-and-soot/>

The Dog Dance

The Great Lawn, August 26

This participatory event for fleet-footed canines and their dance-loving companions will be led by Elizabeth Johnson, Associate Artist of Dance Exchange and an Artist Educator for the Pillow's Curriculum in Motion program. Free, with a suggested donation to the Berkshire Humane Society.

Jacob's Pillow Year Round

Beyond its summer festival, Jacob's Pillow is an active year-round organization. Through **Jacob's Pillow Curriculum in Motion®**, a nationally-recognized program, Artist Educators work with Berkshire County teachers and students grades K-12 to transform curricula such as biology, literature, and history into kinesthetic and creative learning experiences. 2016-2017 Curriculum in Motion® residencies will take place at Conte Community School, Becket Washington Elementary, and Monument Mountain Regional High School. **Creative Development Residencies** take place at the Pillow throughout the year. Dance artists are invited to live and work at Jacob's Pillow for one to three-week residencies and during that time they are given a stipend, housing, and unlimited access to rehearsal space, the Archives, and staff support. During the 2016-2017 season, Netta Yerushalmy, Ephrat Asherie & Ehud Asherie, Marsha Parrilla, Ronald K. Brown & Arturo O'Farrill, David Dorfman, Mark Dendy, Camille A. Brown, Joanna Kotze, and John Heginbotham & Maira Kalman will all participate in Pillow Creative Development Residencies. The annual \$25,000 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award supports visionary dance artists and choreographers with a residency, performance at the Season Opening Gala, among other engagements. **Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive (JPDI)** is the Pillow's online platform for videos and digital dance resources and remains active every day of the year. JPDI (<http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/>) includes a wide range of Festival artists and video content from the 1930s to 2016 with new content added each month. The Jacob's Pillow **Intern Program** is also active year-round, offering hands-on work experience to college students and recent graduates seeking a deeper education within arts administration and production. At the same time, **The School at Jacob's Pillow** is hosting international auditions and workshops and planning its national audition tour, which will kick off in January in Miami. The School at Jacob's Pillow is a leading center for professional advancement; each year thousands of dancers audition and apply and only 100 are selected to participate in one of four programs in Ballet, Contemporary, Tap, and Musical Theatre Dance. The international students of The School are immersed in Festival life as they take class, attend seminars, and learn classic and new dance work from today's greatest choreographers, mentors, directors, musicians, and Broadway performers.

ABOUT JACOB'S PILLOW: Jacob's Pillow, celebrating its 85th Festival in 2017, is a National Historic Landmark, recipient of the National Medal of Arts, and home to America's longest-running international dance festival. Each Festival includes more than 50 national and international dance companies and 350 free and ticketed performances, talks, tours, classes, exhibits, and events. The School at Jacob's Pillow, one of the most prestigious professional dance training centers in the U.S., encompasses the diverse disciplines of Ballet, Cultural Traditions, Contemporary, and Musical Theatre Dance, as well as an Intern Program in various disciplines of arts administration, design, video, and production. The Pillow's extensive Archives, open year-round to the public, chronicle more than a century of dance in photographs, programs, books, costumes, audiotapes, and videos. Notable artists who have created or premiered dances at the Pillow include choreographers Antony Tudor, Agnes de Mille, Alvin Ailey, Donald McKayle, Kevin McKenzie, Twyla Tharp, Ralph Lemon, Susan Marshall, Trisha Brown, Ronald K. Brown, Wally Cardona, Andrea Miller, and Trey McIntyre; performed by artists such as Mikhail Baryshnikov, Carmen de Lavallade, Mark Morris, Dame Margot Fonteyn, Edward Villella, Rasta Thomas, and hundreds of others. On March 2, 2011, President Obama honored Jacob's Pillow with a National Medal of Arts, the highest arts award given by the United States Government, making the Pillow the first dance presenting organization to receive this prestigious award. For more information, visit www.jacobspillow.org.

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