

Jacob's Pillow Dance • 358 George Carter Road, Becket, MA 01223, USA • 413.243.9919 • jacobspillow.org**FOR IMAGES AND MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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TO EXPERIENCE TRISHA BROWN DANCE COMPANY****Pillow and Clark Art Institute will co-present site-specific work on Williamstown campus**

May 8, 2017 – (Becket, MA) Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival has added two more opportunities for audiences to experience Trisha Brown Dance Company. Originally a five-performance run, August 16-19 in the Ted Shawn Theatre, the Pillow has added a Thursday matinee to the company's schedule. Members of Trisha Brown Dance Company will also perform the site-specific work *Trisha Brown: In Plain Site* at the Clark Art Institute on Sunday, August 13, a co-presentation of Jacob's Pillow Dance and the Clark. An icon of American dance with extensive Jacob's Pillow connections spanning more than 30 years, choreographer Trisha Brown died March 18, 2017. In a *New York Times* obituary, chief dance critic Alastair Macaulay wrote "Few dance inventors have so combined the cerebral and sensuous sides of dance as Ms. Brown did, and few have been as influential. Her choreography...helped shape generations of modern dance creators into the 21st century."

Witty, inventive, and free from convention, prolific choreographer Trisha Brown held an uncontested legacy as an icon of post-modern dance. A founding member of the avant garde, experimental Judson Dance Theater along with Steve Paxton and others, Brown went on to form her own critically-acclaimed post-modern dance company in 1970. As the creator of 100 choreographic works and director of six operas, she regularly engaged collaborators who are themselves leaders in music, theater, and the visual arts, including visual artists Robert Rauschenberg, Donald Judd, and Elizabeth Murray, and musicians Laurie Anderson, John Cage, and Alvin Curran. In her lifetime Trisha Brown was the recipient of nearly every award available to contemporary choreographers including a 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.

"Trisha Brown is one of the undisputed great artists of our time and had a deep relationship with Jacob's Pillow, dating back to 1980. I am proud to have her company as one of the anchors of our 85th Anniversary Festival, honoring pioneering roots as we push dance forward," commented Pamela Tatge, Director of Jacob's Pillow. "Countless choreographers and dancers around the world have been influenced by Trisha Brown's ideas and questions, her sense of space, her connection to visual art, and most of all her fierce commitment to "pure movement." I hope this week will be a chance for audiences to discover Trisha's work, and for those who already love her creations to remember and honor this great artist."

The Jacob's Pillow program includes three distinctive Brown works. *Opal Loop* was created in 1980, with an original cast featuring Trisha Brown, Eva Karczag, Lisa Kraus, and Stephen Petronio. The Festival 2017 performances will include four generations of Trisha Brown dancers: Shelley Senter, Eva Karczag, Lance Gries, and Keith Thompson. *L'Amour au théâtre* (2009) is inspired by the baroque opera *Pygmalion*. This complex, musical, abstract dance features intricate and intensely athletic partnering, mirroring excerpts from Jean-Philippe Rameau's *Hippolyte et Aricie*. *Groove and Countermove* (2000) is the final piece in a jazz trilogy (the first part of which was co-commissioned by Jacob's Pillow in 1999) and reveals an intricate world of

counterpoint between one dancer and the company, with music by prolific trumpeter Dave Douglas. Wendy Perron, writing for *The New York Times*, described "... the storm of dance joins the storm of music, culminating in a rousing finale, breathtaking in its spatial and rhythmic architecture."

The Trisha Brown Dance Company continues Brown's legacy through its *Trisha Brown: In Plain Site* initiative. Through this effort, the company draws on Brown's model for reinvigorating her choreography at new sites and in new contexts. In a co-presentation by Jacob's Pillow and the Clark, the company will present *Trisha Brown: In Plain Site* on the Clark's grounds in Williamstown on Sunday, August 13 at 1pm and 4pm. This event is free but reservations will be required; ticket information to be announced.

"We are delighted to collaborate with our friends at Jacob's Pillow and with the exceptional Trisha Brown Dance Company," said Olivier Meslay, Felde and Dena Hardyman Director of the Clark Art Institute. "It will be a magnificent opportunity to see the dancers in dialogue with both our landscape and architecture and to experience the rich synthesis of dance, art, and nature."

Dedicated to offering multiple ways for audiences to engage with and learn about dance, the Pillow will offer pre-show talks before every Trisha Brown Dance Company performance and a post-show talk on Friday, August 18. On August 18 at 5pm, a free hour-long PillowTalk will celebrate Brown's legacy as it is perpetuated by her own company and others, and also explored in Susan Rosenberg's new book *Trisha Brown: Choreography as Visual Art*.

Trisha Brown and Jacob's Pillow

For more than 30 years beginning in 1980, Trisha Brown enjoyed a close relationship with Jacob's Pillow; she taught in The School, created and premiered works, performed on all three of the Pillow's stages, and conducted creative residencies during the summer and in the off-season. This connection was initiated in 1980 by then-Pillow-Director Liz Thompson, who had studied and danced with Brown in the late 1950s and '60s. In that season, Brown and her company performed on two back-to-back shared programs in the Ted Shawn Theatre, and she also taught Composition at The School at Jacob's Pillow.

The company continued to perform at the Festival throughout the 1980s and '90s. Jacob's Pillow was the initial commissioner of *Set and Reset*, widely considered to be a signature Brown work. A landmark collaboration between Robert Rauschenberg, Laurie Anderson, and Trisha Brown, the work had its official premiere at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in 1983, and has been performed at the Pillow in 1986, 1999, and 2011.

Jacob's Pillow was a co-commissioner of *Five Part Weather Invention* and presented the world premiere in 1999, featuring live music composed and performed live by Dave Douglas. That same year, the company carried out residency activities co-sponsored by the Pillow and MASS MoCA.

Trisha Brown and Jacob's Pillow were connected beyond performances, including a 2003 PillowTalk with Brown and dance/writer Deborah Jowitt and a 2011 season-long exhibit featuring items on loan from the company and several pieces of original artwork created by Brown herself. She was also involved in announcing the winner of the Pillow's master campus plan Design Competition in 1986 and served on various advisory committees including the Century Fund Honorary Committee in the early 1980s and the 65th anniversary season Artists' Committee in 1997.

Related multimedia essay on Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive:

Women in Dance: Trisha Brown, written and curated by Maura Keefe:

<https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/themes-essays/women-in-dance/trisha-brown/>

Related videos 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/>

Trisha Brown Dance Company in *Set and Reset* in 1986:

<https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/trisha-brown-dance-company/set-and-reset/>

Trisha Brown Dance Company in *Lateral Pass* in 1986:

<https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/trisha-brown-dance-company/lateral-pass/>

Related video on PillowTV:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27csx8BGN3Q>

Performance & Ticket Details:

Co-Presentation with the Clark: *Trisha Brown: In Plain Site*

Sunday, August 13 at 1pm & 4pm

Clark Art Institute

Free Event

The Trisha Brown Dance Company continues Brown's legacy through its *Trisha Brown: In Plain Site* initiative. Through this effort, the company draws on Brown's model for reinvigorating her choreography at new sites and in new contexts. In a co-presentation by Jacob's Pillow and the Clark, the company will present *Trisha Brown: In Plain Site* on the Clark's grounds in Williamstown on Sunday, August 13. This event is free but reservations will be required; ticket information to be announced.

Trisha Brown Dance Company at Jacob's Pillow

Ted Shawn Theatre, August 16-19

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 8pm

Thursday & Saturday at 2pm (no Sunday matinee)

\$69, \$59, \$39

A limited number of \$35 Under 35 tickets are available; adults ages 18-35 are eligible. One ticket per person; each guest must show valid I.D. at Will Call.

Tickets are on sale now; online at jacobspillow.org, via phone at 413.243.0745, and at the Jacob's Pillow Box Office at 358 George Carter Road, Becket, MA, 01223.

PillowTalk: *Trisha Brown's Legacy*

Friday, August 18 at 5pm

Blake's Barn

Free Event

Trisha Brown's legacy as a pioneering choreographer endures through performances by her company and others, while Susan Rosenberg's new book *Trisha Brown: Choreography as Visual Art* celebrates Brown's choreography, with all efforts discussed here.

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 are taking 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, denny/Donovan projects, Camille A. Brown, Joanna Kotze, and John Heginbotham & Maira Kalman are all participating 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** (<http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/>) is the Pillow's online platform for videos and digital dance resources and remains active every day of the year, encompassing 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 Barack 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.

ABOUT THE CLARK: The Clark Art Institute, located in the Berkshires of western Massachusetts, is one of a small number of institutions globally that is both an art museum and a center for research, critical discussion, and higher education in the visual arts. Opened in 1955, the Clark houses exceptional European and American paintings and sculpture, extensive collections of master prints and drawings, English silver, and early photography. Acting as convener through its Research and Academic Program, the Clark gathers an international community of scholars to participate in a lively program of conferences, colloquia, and workshops on topics of vital importance to the visual arts. The Clark library, consisting of more than 270,000 volumes, is one of the nation's premier art history libraries. The Clark also houses and co-sponsors the Williams College Graduate Program in the History of Art.

The Clark is located at 225 South Street in Williamstown, Massachusetts. Galleries are open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 am to 5 pm. Admission is \$20; free year-round for Clark members, children 18 and younger, and students with valid ID. For more information, visit clarkart.edu or call 413 458 2303.

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