

Jacob's Pillow Dance • 358 George Carter Road, Becket, MA 01223, USA • 413.243.9919 • jacobspillow.org

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JACOB'S PILLOW DANCE FESTIVAL PRESENTS WORLD PREMIERE OF THE PRINCIPLES OF UNCERTAINTY, A COLLABORATION BETWEEN CHOREOGRAPHER JOHN HEGINBOTHAM AND ARTIST/AUTHOR MAIRA KALMAN

August 9, 2017 – (Becket, MA) Jacob's Pillow Dance Award recipient John Heginbotham and acclaimed illustrator and author Maira Kalman join forces in the world premiere of *The Principles of Uncertainty*, closing the Festival in the Doris Duke Theatre, August 23–27. 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, designed by Kalman and inspired by her written and visual art, and 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, and Maira Kalman herself is also featured in the performance.

Each of the collaborators are deeply respected in their own fields. John Heginbotham received the 2014 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award; Andrew Boynton of *The New Yorker* has commented "The mind of John Heginbotham is a magical place...[he] has such a strong choreographic personality—a refreshing mixture of casualness and discipline, lunacy and sincerity." Kalman is a celebrated literary and visual artist, and the author and illustrator of more than a dozen books, including *The Principles of Uncertainty*, based on her illustrated column for *The New York Times*; of which critic Ariel Levy wrote, "Her depictions here of radiant fruit bowls, pink bedrooms and people in flamboyant hats make the case that our consolations for loss, bewilderment and impending death are beauty, humor and surprise. And Kalman can be very witty, particularly in the face of the grim and the unsolvable."

"This is a work of great humor and poignancy," said Pamela Tatge, Director of Jacob's Pillow. "John and Maira have created a whimsical and unpredictable world: one where we are guided by a company of brilliant dancer/actors and stunning visual elements. These are two deeply inquisitive minds and the result of their collaboration is truly inventive and deeply affecting. A bonus for us, since the Festival's opening in June, has been to have an immersive exhibition of some of Maira's source materials and drawings for the work displayed in the lobby of the Doris Duke Theatre -- our audiences have been duly teased and their interest piqued about all that's to come!"

"The Principles of Uncertainty is the result of a wish to work with an artist who moves me", says John Heigenbotham. "Imagine having privileged access to the mind of someone you admire, and you can understand what it's been like for me to collaborate with the glorious Maira Kalman. This dance, like a lot of Maira's work, is about the experience of having limited time. The action can play out in a lot of ways. Heartbreak is there, humor and optimism are both there. Pink is there. Dance and music: there and there. Madame Bovary is really there."

This new work draws inspiration from the highly detailed, intimate worlds created in Kalman's paintings and illustrations, particularly from her book, *The Principles of Uncertainty* (2009). The piece is based on Heginbotham and Kalman's shared interest in the passage of time and its relation to the seemingly mundane objects and experiences that make up daily life. A central theme of the work is the human experience, as a temporary participant in an ever-changing world. These ideas and themes are explored through a series of vignettes that are woven through with Heginbotham's rich choreography and Kalman's unique design elements

including sets, projections, and costuming. An array of eclectic vocabularies -- dance, text, music, sets and projections -- work in concert as *The Principles of Uncertainty* behaves as a welcoming, non-linear, and occasionally absurd travelogue.

Lighting was created by prolific designer Nicole Pearce, with projection design by creative technologist Todd Bryant. The score was composed, arranged, and curated by violinist and composer Colin Jacobsen, who has collaborated previously with Heginbotham on *Chalk and Soot*, which was premiered at the Pillow in 2014.

This premiere is celebrated through a number of corresponding events and offerings including a season-long free exhibit of Kalman's work in the Doris Duke Theatre lobby, a PillowTalk with Maira Kalman, and a master class with a member of Dance Heginbotham; details below. On Saturday evening, August 26, *The Principles of Uncertainty* performance will be part of the Pillow's Festival Finale event, which includes a ribbon cutting for the new Perles Family Studio and a post-performance party.

Jacob's Pillow Connections

John Heginbotham is the recipient of the 2014 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award. He first came to the Pillow in 1991 as a student of The School at Jacob's Pillow, in Bessie Schönberg's Choreography Workshop. He performed at the Pillow with Rebecca Stenn (1995 and 1998), Susan Marshall and Company (1997 and 1998), and with the Mark Morris Dance Group for 10 seasons. He was also a cast member of the Pillow's production of *The Men Dancers: From the Horse's Mouth* in 2012.

Dance Heginbotham performed as part of the 2011 Inside/Out performance series, and again in the Doris Duke Theatre during the 2012 and 2014 Festivals. Heginbotham created another Pillow-commissioned work, *Chalk and Soot*, during Creative Development Residencies.

Related Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive Videos

Dance Heginbotham in *Twin* (2012):

https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/dance-heginbotham/twin/

Dance Heginbotham in *Chalk and Soot* (2014):

http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/dance-heginbotham/chalk-and-soot/

About John Heginbotham

Originally from Anchorage, Alaska, John Heginbotham graduated from The Juilliard School in 1993, and was a member of the Mark Morris Dance Group from 1998–2012. In 2011, he founded Dance Heginbotham (DH), a performance group devoted to the presentation of his dance and theatrical work. In addition to DH, Heginbotham is active as a freelance choreographer. Recent projects include Daniel Fish's Bard Summerscape production of *Oklahoma!* (2015), *Angels' Share* for Atlanta Ballet (2014), and Isaac Mizrahi's *Peter and the Wolf* for the Guggenheim Museum's Works & Process Series (2013), which has become an annual holiday event.

Heginbotham's growing list of opera commissions include *Candide* with the Orlando Philharmonic (2016); *The Magic Flute* at the Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, directed by Isaac Mizrahi (2014); Handel's *Alceste* for the American Classical Orchestra (2014); and *Maria de Buenos Aires* at the Cork Opera House (2013). In the fall of 2017 he will choreograph the San Francisco Opera production of John Adams' and Peter Sellars' new opera *Girls of the Golden West.*

Heginbotham was a Fellow at the NYU Center for Ballet and the Arts (2016), and has received two Jerome Robbins Foundation New Essential Works (NEW) Fellowships (2010, 2012). In addition to directing the Dartmouth Dance Ensemble, he is on faculty at Darmouth College and is a founding teacher of Dance for PD®, an ongoing collaboration between the Mark Morris Dance Group and the Brooklyn Parkinson Group.

About Maira Kalman

Born in Tel Aviv, Israel, and raised in New York, Maira Kalman is the author and illustrator of 18 children's books including *Fireboat, Looking at Lincoln*, and *What Pete Ate*, as well as five books for adults. Her online columns for The New York Times were compiled into two volumes, *The Principles of Uncertainty* and *The Pursuit of Happiness*.

Kalman created an illustrated edition of the classic *The Elements of Style* by Strunk and White and Michael Pollan's *Food Rules*. She is a frequent contributor to *The New Yorker*, including cover art and an upcoming illustrated column based on travels to museums and libraries. Her travel pieces have appeared in *Departures, Culture and Travel*, and *The New York Times*, among others. She has created fabric for Isaac Mizrahi and Kate Spade, and sets and costumes for the Mark Morris Dance Group. In 2013, she performed the role of The Duck in Isaac Mizrahi's production of *Peter and the Wolf* at The Guggenheim Museum.

Her two most recent books about design, *My Favorite Things* and *Ah-Ha to Zig Zag* were published in October 2014 in conjunction with the re-opening of the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum in New York City for which she curated the exhibit, *Maira Kalman: My Favorite Things*. She recently published *Girls Standing on Lawns* (2014) with text by Daniel Handler in conjunction with the photography department of the Museum of Modern Art. Kalman's latest book, *Beloved Dog*, was published in October 2015 by Penguin Press.

In 2010, a retrospective of her work entitled *Maira Kalman: Various Illuminations (of a Crazy World)* originated at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in Philadelphia and traveled to a Los Angeles, San Francisco, and New York City. In April 2014, all of the original paintings for *The Elements of Style* were exhibited together for the first time at the Frist Center for the Arts in Nashville, TN. Through September 2017, she has an exhibit on view at New York's Metropolitan Museum entitled *Sara Berman's Closet*. Future book projects include an illustrated edition of *The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas*.

About Dance Heginbotham

The mission of Dance Heginbotham (DH) is to move people through dance. DH is a New York-based contemporary dance company committed to supporting, producing and sustaining the work of choreographer John Heginbotham. With an emphasis on collaboration, DH engages with national and international communities with its unique blend of inventive, thoughtful, and rigorous dance theater works. Founded in 2011, DH has quickly established itself as one of the most adventurous and exciting new companies on the contemporary dance scene, and is celebrated for its vibrant athleticism, humor, and theatricality, as well as its commitment to collaboration. DH has shared the stage with music icons including Alarm Will Sound, Brooklyn Rider, Ethan Iverson, Gabriel Kahane and Shara Nova, and in 2016 presented *Fantasque*, a collaboration with puppeteer Amy Trompetter, commissioned and produced by Bard College's Summerscape Festival.

DH had its world premiere in January of 2012 at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and has since been commissioned and presented by Arts Brookfield, Bard College, Baryshnikov Arts Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Carolina Performing Arts, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Joyce Theater, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Vail International Dance Festival, among others. In the spring of 2016, the company toured to Indonesia, Laos, and the Philippines as cultural ambassadors of the United States with the DanceMotion USA^{SI} program, a project of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), produced by BAM. DH celebrated its 5th Anniversary in February 2017 with the world premiere of *Lola*, performed with the world-renowned violinist Joshua Bell, and commissioned by The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the National Symphony Orchestra, Christoph Eschenbach, Music Director, as part of the 2016-2017 season.

About The Knights

The Grammy-nominated orchestral collective, The Knights, are flexible in size and repertory, dedicated to transforming the concert experience. Engaging listeners and defying boundaries with programs that showcase the players' roots in the classical tradition and passion for artistic discovery, The Knights have "become one of

Brooklyn's sterling cultural products... known far beyond the borough for their relaxed virtuosity and expansive repertory" (New Yorker).

The Knights' 2017 summer season includes a world premiere by Judd Greenstein and an East Coast premiere by Vijay Iyer; returns to Central Park's Naumberg Concerts, Tanglewood, the Ravinia Festival, and Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. This fall, The Knights' embark on their second Home Season in Brooklyn, in partnership with the downtown venue BRIC, presenting family concerts and evening performances. Next is a U.S. tour with Israeli mandolinist Avi Avital and Syrian clarinetist and composer Kinan Azmeh. This follows a 2016-17 season which saw the release of the album *Azul* on Warner Classics with longtime collaborator Yo-Yo Ma; a debut at Washington DC's Kennedy Center as part of the inaugural "SHIFT: A Festival of American Orchestras;" and a European tour, which took them to the Easter Festival at Aix-en-Provence and three concerts across Germany, including one at the new Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg where the ensemble's performance was lauded as one of the best in the new hall (*Hamburg Abendetter*).

The Knights evolved from late-night chamber music reading parties with friends at the home of violinist Colin Jacobsen and cellist Eric Jacobsen. The Jacobsens, who serve as artistic directors of The Knights, were selected from among the nation's top visual, performing, media, and literary artists to receive a prestigious United States Artists Fellowship in 2012. The Knights' roster boasts remarkably diverse talents, including composers, arrangers, singer-songwriters, and improvisers, who bring a range of cultural influences to the group, from jazz and klezmer to pop and indie rock music. The unique camaraderie within the group retains the intimacy and spontaneity of chamber music in performance.

The Principles of Uncertainty was created during residencies at BAM Fisher, The Banff Centre, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the NYU Center for Ballet and the Arts. Additional support for the creation and touring of *The Principles of Uncertainty* provided in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, Howard Gilman Foundation, Jerome Robbins Foundation, and Dance Heginbotham's Commissioners' and Benefactors' Circles.

Performance & Ticket Details

The Principles of Uncertainty at Jacob's Pillow Doris Duke Theatre, August 23-27 Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 8:15pm Saturday & Sunday at 2:15pm \$45, \$35, \$25

A limited number of \$20 Under 35 tickets are available; adults ages 18-35 are eligible. One ticket per person; each guest must show valid I.D. when picking up tickets 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.

ALSO THIS WEEK

The Washington Ballet Ted Shawn Theatre, August 23-27 Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 8pm Thursday, Saturday, Sunday at 2pm (added Thursday matinee)

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*, Jiří Kylián's thrilling *Petite Mort*, and Annabelle Lopez Ochoa's absorbing *Sombrerisimo*. Tickets start at \$45.

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/

Inside/Out Performance Series: Leonardo Sandoval/Parangolé Collective Wednesday, August 23 at 6:15pm Free Event

Live Music

Brazilian tap dancer Leonardo Sandoval, described by the *Chicago Sun-Times* as "strong yet fine-boned, capable of authority and nuance," is quickly gaining a reputation in the tap world and beyond for his musicality and for adding his own Brazilian flavor to tap dancing. An alumnus of The School at Jacob's Pillow, he performs excerpts from his first full-length work, *Music from the Sole*, an hour-long show created with bassist and composer Greg Richardson. Sandoval's choreography and performing style are rooted both in America's tap dance heritage, and in Brazil's rich rhythmic and musical traditions, with additional influences from jazz and contemporary dance. In addition to his solo work, he is currently performing with Dorrance Dance, touring across the U.S. and abroad.

Inside/Out Performance Series: American College Dance Association Highlights Thursday, August 24 at 6:15pm Free Event

For the second year, American College Dance Association (ACDA) presents highlights from its regional festivals. The ACDA supports and promotes the wealth of talent and creativity from college and university dance departments. Each spring, regional conferences are hosted around the country with performances, workshops, panels, and master classes. At each conference, a panel of expert adjudicators assess works choreographed by undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and guest artists. A selection of standout works from the 2017 conferences will be featured in this program.

PillowTalk: *Maira Kalman's Principles of Uncertainty*Friday, August 25 at 5pm
Blake's Barn
Free Event

Both whimsical and brilliant, the work of author, illustrator, and artist Maira Kalman inhabits a world all its own. She is currently represented at the Metropolitan Museum by an installation entitled *Sara Berman's Closet*, and an exclusive exhibit of her work is on view throughout the season in the Doris Duke Theatre Lobby. In this intimate conversation, she explores some of her past work and her new collaboration with choreographer John Heginbotham.

Inside/Out Performance Series: Charya Burt Cambodian Dance Friday, August 25 at 6:15pm Free Event

Showcasing Charya Burt's inventive choreography, based in Cambodia's classical dance tradition, this program includes her 2016 San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival premiere, *Heavenly Garden*; a demonstration of classical Cambodian movements and gestures; *Sentimental Dance* from the classical repertory; and *Intersections Through Time*, which explores her personal journey as an immigrant artist. Dedicated to the preservation and advancement of Cambodian dance through formal instruction, workshops, and public performances, Charya Burt Cambodian Dance was established in 1993 after Charya left the Royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh to immigrate to the San Francisco Bay Area. Today, the company continues its original mission along with developing and presenting new works deeply rooted in tradition that also push artistic boundaries to help the art form evolve and stay relevant.

PillowTalk: Inside the Dancer's Art Saturday, August 26 at 4pm Blake's Barn Free Event Rose Eichenbaum has spent over 30 years interviewing and photographing dancers; she shares highlights of her life's work in a new book and exhibition on view all season in the Ted Shawn Theatre lobby, featuring a number of Pillow images.

Inside/Out Performance Series: Red Sky Performance Saturday, August 26 at 6:15pm

Free Event

Red Sky Performance is Canada's leading company of contemporary Indigenous performance in dance, theater, music, and media. They will perform *Miigis*, a commissioned work which will be the centerpiece of a Toronto celebration for Canada's 150th anniversary. In Anishinaabe culture (the culture of the indigenous people of Canada), the miigis shell represents the breath of life, and informs travel to the Great Lakes and to a place where wild rice grows (manoomin) on water. Red Sky is an award-winning company founded in 2000 by Artistic Director Sandra Laronde. Touring since 2003, the company has delivered 1,523 performances across Canada and 159 international performances in 12 countries on four continents.

The Dog Dance The Great Lawn, August 26 at 11am Free Event

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. The event is free, with a suggested donation to the Berkshire Humane Society.

Festival Finale Saturday, August 26

The ultimate end-of-summer celebration! The evening includes performances by Heginbotham Dance and The Washington Ballet and the opening of the new Perles Family Studio, followed by desserts, drinks, and a dance party in the new studio with DJ BFG. Tickets start at \$50 including performance; \$40 party-only tickets are available.

Sunday Master Class with Festival Artist: Dance Heginbotham Sunday, August 27, 10am Doris Duke Theatre

Dance Heginbotham company member Macy Sullivan teaches a 90-minute master class open to all intermediate and advanced dancers ages 16 and over. Pre-registration is required at jacobspillow.org. Quiet observation is welcome; \$15 per class or \$80 for a 6-class card.

Sunday Film Event: *Wendy Whelan: Restless Creature* Sunday, August 27 at 4:30pm Blake's Barn

After 30 years with New York City Ballet, legendary dancer Wendy Whelan retired from the company and focused on independent, contemporary projects. This film follows her throughout the extraordinary chapter of life and career that all dancers must face. Whelan's dance work *Restless Creature* premiered at Jacob's Pillow in 2013 and portions of this documentary were filmed at the Pillow. The screening will be introduced by Whelan herself. Tickets \$10.

FESTIVAL 2017 EXHIBITS & ARCHIVES - ONGOING

The following exhibits and offerings are free and open to the public June 19 through August 27, 2017.

JACOB'S PILLOW JUMPS Blake's Barn

Open Wednesday-Saturday noon to final curtain (approx. 10pm) and Sunday-Tuesday noon to 5pm Free Offering

Celebrating 85 Jacob's Pillow seasons, this exclusive new collection of original images connects today's artists with the pioneering dancers of yesteryear. From John Lindquist's iconic photos of the Men Dancers to Christopher Duggan's current season image of Camille A. Brown—with scores of others in between—these dancers truly soar.

INSIDE THE DANCER'S ART

Ted Shawn Theatre Lobby

Open Wednesday-Sunday, noon to final curtain (approx. 10pm)

Free Offering

In her thirty-year career of photographing and interviewing veteran and emerging dancers, Rose Eichenbaum has elicited eloquent, poetic, and insightful descriptions of the inner world of the dancer's life and art. This exhibit encompasses highlights from her new book for Wesleyan University Press, *Inside the Dancer's Art*, including many Jacob's Pillow images.

MAIRA KALMAN'S PRINCIPLES OF UNCERTAINTY

Doris Duke Theatre Lobby

Open Wednesday-Sunday, noon to final curtain (approx. 10pm)

Free Offering

In tandem with her Dance Heginbotham collaboration, *The Principles of Uncertainty*, premiering at the Pillow August 23-27, one-of-a-kind artist and author Maira Kalman shares some favorite images in this exhibition, created especially for Jacob's Pillow. Both whimsical and brilliant, Kalman's work explores the intersections of dance, life, and art in unexpected ways.

JACOB'S PILLOW ARCHIVES/NORTON OWEN READING ROOM

Blake's Barn

Open daily, Wednesday-Saturday noon to final curtain (approx. 10pm) and Sunday-Tuesday noon to 5pm

Free Offering

This newly-expanded informal library and reading room allows impromptu visitors to view videos, browse through books, access the Pillow's computer catalog, or peruse permanent collections of Pillow programs and photographs from the Pillow's Archives. The Norton Owen Reading Room also features recent donations and more archival treasures from the Stephan Driscoll Collection. Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive, available on a popular touch-screen kiosk in the Reading Room, provides instant access to rare film clips ranging from the present day back to the 1930s.

ONLINE EXHIBIT: JACOB'S PILLOW DANCE INTERACTIVE danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org

This ever-expanding website allows new dance lovers and aficionados to enjoy highlights from the past 84 seasons of Pillow performances, anytime and anywhere. Discover video excerpts from artists including Savion Glover, Martha Graham Dance Company, Carmen de Lavallade, Trisha Brown, Merce Cunningham Dance Company, Michelle Dorrance, and Pillow founder Ted Shawn and his Men Dancers, among countless others. A recent expansion features a series of multimedia essays from renowned dance scholars on three distinct themes: Tap, Women in Dance, and Dance of the African Diaspora. This newly-launched editorial platform features more than 30 essays on topics richly archived and relevant to conversations surrounding today's dance field. Each essay includes archival materials of various media, including video interviews with artists, scans of original printed programs, photographs, and rare performance excerpts, resulting in an expert-led tour through the extensive Archives.

FESTIVAL 2017 COMMUNITY CLASSES - ONGOING

Morning Classes

Ruth St. Denis Studio

June 5-August 25, Monday-Friday at 8am

Open to all experience levels, Jacob's Pillow Morning Classes take place each weekday morning in the historic Ruth St. Denis Studio on the Jacob's Pillow grounds. The class schedule includes Pilates with Pilates Certified instructor Sean P. Gallagher on Mondays; African Dance with Marilyn Sylla and live drumming by Jamemurrell Stanley on Tuesdays; Ballet with Ian Spencer Bell and Sharon MacDonald on Wednesdays; Zumba with Ilana Siegal on Thursdays; and Modern with varied Guest Artists including Paul Dennis, Ryoko Kudo, and Adam H. Weinert on Fridays. Other guest artists to be announced. All participants must be age 16 and over; \$10 per class or \$55 for a 6-class card. Participants younger than 18 will require a parent/guardian signature on a liability waiver.

Families Dance Together

Bakalar Studio

July 7-August 18, Fridays at 5pm

Led by Pillow Artist-Educator Jeff Bliss, this intergenerational class is a unique opportunity for children and adults to experience the joy of creating simple dances together. Families Dance Together is for children ages 5-18, accompanied by an adult. Participants under 18 years require a parent/guardian signature on liability waiver. Classes are \$5 per adult and \$1 per child. Families Dance Together is a Jacob's Pillow/Becket Arts Center collaboration. Call 413.623.6635 to pre-register.

TALKS, TOURS, OBSERVATION - ONGOING

Pre-Show Talks

30 minutes prior to every performance

Free Offering

Pillow Scholars offer helpful insight prior to every performance; located in Blake's Barn for Ted Shawn Theatre shows and on the Doris Duke Theatre porch for Duke shows.

Post-Show Talks

Thursday and Friday, immediately following the performance

Free Offering

Pillow Scholars moderate entertaining and informative discussions with dancers, directors, and choreographers; offered Fridays for Ted Shawn Theatre performances and Thursdays for Doris Duke Theatre performances.

Observe Dancers of The School

Monday-Saturday, check jacobspillow.org or onsite signage for specific times

Sommers Studio

Free Offering

Festival visitors are welcome to observe dancers of The School at Jacob's Pillow in classes and rehearsals.

Guided Tours

Thursday and Saturday at 5:30pm

Free Offering

Visitors can learn about the history and legends of Jacob's Pillow, a National Historic Landmark, on guided tours of the grounds. Self-guided tour maps are also available in the Welcome Center.

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, dendy/Donovan projects, Camille A. Brown, Joanna Kotze, and John Heginbotham & Maira Kalman have all participated 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 hosts international auditions and workshops. 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.

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