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Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival Presents Hubbard Street Dance Chicago in the Eighth Week of the 90th Anniversary Season

With Dance Heginbotham on the Henry J. Leir Stage and Liz Lerman performing *Wicked Bodies* on the Jacob's Pillow grounds

July 13, 2022 (BECKET, Mass.)— The eighth week of the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival 2022 welcomes Hubbard Street Dance Chicago to the Ted Shawn Theatre, from Aug. 10-14. Week 8 of the Festival will also feature Dance Heginbotham on the outdoor Henry J. Leir Stage from August 10-14, and a performance by Liz Lerman with her new evening-length dance theater piece, *Wicked Bodies*, on the Jacob's Pillow grounds from August 10-13.

In addition to these onsite performances, PillowTalks will be offered free of charge in Blake's Barn. On Saturday, 2017 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award winner Liz Lerman will discuss both her latest book, *Critique Is Creative: The Critical Response Process® in Theory and Action*, as well as her current performance work, *Wicked Bodies*, exploring a world of old crones, shape-shifters, familiars, and imps. On Sunday, winner of the 2022 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award, Belgian-Moroccan dancer/choreographer/director Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, talks about his work on stages and screens all over the world.

Additionally, on Sunday, Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell, Artistic Director of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, will teach a ballet barre, followed by intermediate level modern dance center combinations exploring movement vocabulary and sequences of the Lester Horton Technique. The workshop will be open to intermediate/advanced dancers, ages 16+.

"This is an amazing week. We host the return of Hubbard Street to the Pillow under the new artistic direction of Linda Denise Fisher Harrell with a program that showcases the power of their high-octane dancers," said Pamela Tatge, Executive and Artistic Director Pamela Tatge. "We're also thrilled to finally be presenting two world premieres by Dance Heginbotham that had been slated for 2020. John Heginbotham is a favorite son of the Pillow as an alum of our School and winner of the 2014 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award. And another long-awaited engagement is the hugely relevant and impactful Wicked Bodies, the newest creation by Liz Lerman, winner of the 2017 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award."

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's mission is to bring artists, art, and audiences together to enrich, engage, educate, and change lives through the experience of dance. *The New York Times* wrote that Hubbard Street

Dance Chicago "ought to bottle itself as a cure for the ills of the era." The relationship between the company and the Pillow has been particularly close, encompassing more than a dozen engagements since 1983.

This program will include *As the Wind Blows*, choreographed by Amy Hall Garner, *B/olero*, choreographed by Ohad Naharin, and *Little Rhapsodies*, choreographed by Lar Lubovitch. Hubbard Street will also perform Aszure Barton's poignant *BUSK*, which has been called "nothing short of phenomenal" (*WTTW Chicago*). Barton is an innovator of form with an impressive career that includes choreographing for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the English National Ballet, and the National Ballet of Canada.

Also during Week 8 of the Festival, Jacob's Pillow welcomes Dance Heginbotham to the Leir Stage, a company which has been celebrated for its vibrant athleticism, humor, theatricality, and commitment to collaboration, with a revival and two world premieres.

Dance Heginbotham will perform an evening of work in collaboration with Ethan Iverson, the critically acclaimed jazz composer, pianist, and Blue Note Records recording artist. The program features a revival; *Easy Win* (2015) draws inspiration from the collaborators' shared experiences within a formal ballet class. A whimsical ode to the repetition, drama, and humor of a dance class, *Easy Win* dissects its rituals with equal amounts of humor and sincerity through dancers that are "keenly alive to the main pulses of Mr. Iverson's music" (*The New York Times*). *Adagio* (World Premiere) is a solo featuring the Ukrainian dancer Vsevolod Mayevsky previously with the Mariinsky Ballet, displaced because of the war and now based in Germany. Finally, *Dance Sonata*, the program's second world premiere, picks up where *Easy Win* left off. If *Easy Win* highlights the rigors and training in the context of a ballet class, *Dance Sonata* is the finale for which the performers have been preparing.

From August 10-14, witches, trials, and exhibitions take flight in Liz Lerman's new acclaimed work, *Wicked Bodies*. Lerman and the unusual cast of performers have been exploring how our bodies become sources of evil and power—from fairy tales to government policies. Why is some knowledge celebrated, some criminalized, and some erased altogether? And who gets to document, describe, and save the remnants? In the presence of magic both old and new, and a surprising collection of witches, audiences will make their way through a restless story and a smashing of worlds. The multidisciplinary piece is designed specifically for a unique setting at Jacob's Pillow.

Aided by an award-winning design team and developed in part at the Pillow Lab, Lerman creates a world of seemingly supernatural elements, leading us into a post-extinction tale. Lerman is a MacArthur Fellow and a Jacob's Pillow Dance Award recipient whose work is rooted in intense research, described as having "expansive range, emotional depth and singular beauty" (*The Washington Post*).

ACCESSIBILITY NOTE: This performance takes place at a single site with chairs under a tent and is wheelchair accessible. The performance site is a short distance from the Jacob's Pillow Box Office. Golf carts are available to assist audience members to and from the site.

ABOUT HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO

Jacob's Pillow has been an artistic home for Hubbard Street Dance Chicago over the last four decades, led by new Artistic Director Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell since 2021, after a career as a professional dance artist and educator. Fisher-Harrell was a dancer with Hubbard Street for three seasons, and was then a principal dancer with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, among other notable accomplishments.

Hubbard Street is among the most original forces in contemporary dance. As one of the only professional dance companies to perform year-round, Hubbard Street is continually touring nationwide and internationally. Now in its 44th year, the main company has appeared in celebrated dance venues in 44 states and 19 countries. The company is committed to keeping its dancers creating and finding innovative ways to share exceptional contemporary dance with the community. Hubbard Street Dance Chicago grew out of the Lou Conte Dance Studio in 1977, and Conte served as Artistic Director for 23 years. In January 2022, Hubbard Street moved to their new home in Water Tower Place on Michigan Avenue. Hubbard Street offers extensive Education and Adaptive Dance Programs to ensure that residents in every neighborhood of Chicago have access to the benefits of dance. Visit hubbardstreetdance.com for more information.

ABOUT DANCE HEGINBOTHAM

Dance Heiginbotham, led by Artistic Director John Heginbotham, is celebrating its 10th Anniversary, having established itself as one of the most adventurous companies on the contemporary dance scene. Praised by *The New York Times* as having "a true theater artist's instinct for commanding his audience," Heginbotham is known for striking choreography that is perceptive, bright, and witty. An alum of The School at Jacob's Pillow and recipient of the 2014 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award, Director John Heginbotham is most recently acclaimed for his choreography in the Tony Award-winning Broadway revival of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Oklahoma!*

Dance Heginbotham had its world debut in January 2012 at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and has since been presented by Arts Brookfield, Baryshnikov Arts Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Carolina Performing Arts, Duke Performances, Harkness Dance Festival, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, The Joyce Theater, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Vail International Dance Festival, among others. In 2016, Dance Heginbotham toured Indonesia, Laos, and the Philippines as cultural ambassadors of the United States with the DanceMotion USASM program, a project of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), produced by BAM.

ABOUT LIZ LERMAN

Liz Lerman has spent the past four decades making her artistic research personal, funny, intellectually vivid, and up to the minute. Her choreography has examined everything from her days as a go-go dancer in 1974 to investigating the matters of our origins by putting dancers in the tunnels of the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, The European Organization for Nuclear Research. A key aspect of her artistry is opening her process to everyone from shipbuilders to physicists, construction workers to ballerinas, resulting in both research and experiences that are participatory, relevant, urgent, and usable by others.

She founded Liz Lerman Dance Exchange in 1976 and cultivated the company's unique multi-generational ensemble into a leading force in contemporary dance until 2011, when she handed the artistic leadership of the company over to the next generation of Dance Exchange artists. Lerman is the recipient of many honors, including a 2002 MacArthur "Genius Grant" Fellowship, a 2011 United States Artists Ford Fellowship in Dance, the 2014 Dance/USA Honor Award, the 2017 American Dance Festival Teaching Award, and the 2017 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award. Her work includes commissions by the Arena Stage (*Healing Wars*; 2014), Harvard Law School (*Small Dances About Big Ideas*; 2005), Portsmouth Music Hall with Portsmouth Shipyard (*The Music Hall's Shipyard Project*; 1996), The Kennedy Center (*Spelunking the Center*; 1993), The American Dance Festival (*Short Stories*; 1991), and The Lincoln Center (*The Perfect Ten*; 1990), among others.

Jacob's Pillow Connections

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago most recently appeared at Jacob's Pillow in 2018, performing works by Ohad Naharin, Crystal Pite, Alejandro Cerrudo, and Lou Conte as part of the company's 40th anniversary celebrations. Prior to that performance, they appeared in 2016, 2014, 2010, 2007, 2003, 2001, 1996, and 1995, 1993, 1992, among earlier dates. The company's relationship with the Pillow dates back to 1983, including an unusual two-week season in 1990.

First appearing at the Pillow in 2012 in the Doris Duke Theatre, Dance Heginbotham returned in 2014. Then in 2015, Dance Heginbotham participated in a Jacob's Pillow residency with acclaimed author and illustrator Maira Kalman. John Heginbotham and Maira Kalman returned in 2017 for a residency in which they developed the work *The Principles of Uncertainty*.

Liz Lerman served on the faculty of The School at Jacob's Pillow and appeared as part of Jacob's Pillow's Inside/Out programming in 1985, returning in the summer of 1986 and for multiple residencies. The Liz Lerman Dance Exchange performed in 1990, 1999, and in the Doris Duke Theatre in 2000. She has also been invited for numerous PillowTalks, including in 1999, 2000, 2017, and in 2020, where she discussed her then work-in-progress, *Wicked Bodies*. In the development of *Wicked Bodies*, Lerman also took part in the 2018-19 In Process Series at the Pillow Lab.

Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive:

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago in Percussion Four in 1992:

https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/hubbard-street-dance-chicago/percussion-four/

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago in Falling Angels in 2014:

https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/hubbard-street-dance-chicago/falling-angels/

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago in N.N.N.N. in 2016:

https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/hubbard-street-dance-chicago/n-n-n-n/

Dance Heginbotham in *The Principles of Uncertainty* in 2017:

danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/dance-heginbotham/the-principles-of-uncertainty/

Dance Heginbotham in Chalk and Soot in 2014:

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

Dance Heginbotham in *Twin* in 2012:

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

Liz Lerman in *Nine Short Dances about the Defense Budget and Other Military Matters* in 1986: danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/liz-lerman/9-short-dances-defense-budget-military-matters/

Liz Lerman Dance Exchange in Site Specific Improvisation in 1995:

https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/liz-lerman-dance-exchange/site-specific-improvisation/

Liz Lerman Dance Exchange in *Hallelujah: In Praise of Fertile Fields* in 2000:

danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/liz-lerman-dance-exchange/hallelujah-in-praise-of-fertile-fields/

PERFORMANCE & TICKET DETAILS — WEEK 8, AUG. 10-14 —

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago Aug. 10-14, Wed.-Sat. at 8pm; Saturday and Sunday at 2pm Ted Shawn Theatre Tickets starting at \$65

Tickets are on sale now; online at jacobspillow.org and via phone at 413.243.0745

Dance Heginbotham
Aug. 10-14, Wed.-Sat. at 6pm; Sunday at 12pm
Henry J. Leir Stage
Tickets starting at \$35

Tickets are on sale now; online at jacobspillow.org and via phone at 413.243.0745

Liz Lerman
Aug. 10-13, Wed.-Sat., 8:15pm
Festival Tent
Tickets starting at \$35

Tickets are on sale now; online at jacobspillow.org and via phone at 413.243.0745

ALSO THIS WEEK

PillowTalk: Liz Lerman's *Wicked Bodies*Sat., Aug. 13, 4pm
Blake's Barn
FREE

2017 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award winner Liz Lerman discusses both her latest book, *Critique Is Creative: The Critical Response Process® in Theory and Action*, and current performance work, *Wicked Bodies*, exploring a world of old crones, shape-shifters, familiars, and imps.

Workshop with Festival Artists: Hubbard Street Dance Chicago Sun., Aug. 14, 10-11:30am

Open to intermediate/advanced dancers, ages 16+

Join Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell, Artistic Director of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, for a ballet barre followed by an intermediate level modern dance center exploring movement vocabulary and sequences of the Lester Horton Technique. We will also explore Hubbard Street Dance Chicago repertory. Get ready to have a great time moving your body!

PillowTalk: Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui

Sun., Aug. 14, 4pm

Blake's Barn

FREE

Winner of the 2022 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award, this Belgian-Moroccan dancer/choreographer/director talks about his work on stages and screens all over the world.

FESTIVAL 2022 EXHIBITS & ARCHIVES—ONGOING

Now & Then: Evocative Dance Portraits by Christopher Duggan

Blake's Barn

Tuesday-Sunday, noon through final curtain

FREE

Photography has been an integral part of Jacob's Pillow throughout its 90 seasons, and Festival Photographer Christopher Duggan has often mined this tradition for inspiration, culminating in these pairings of vintage and contemporary images.

The Ted Shawn Theatre: An Evolving Landmark

Ted Shawn Theatre Lobby

Open daily, noon through final curtain

FREE

While the unveiling of an entirely new stage house takes the focus in 2022, this landmark structure has been a "work in progress" ever since its opening in 1942. Through vintage imagery and artifacts on display, the rich history of America's first dance theater comes into view.

Jacob's Pillow Archives/Norton Owen Reading Room

Blake's Barn

Tuesday-Sunday, noon through final curtain

FREE

This spacious, informal library and reading room allows visitors to view videos, browse through books, access the Pillow's computer catalog, or peruse permanent collections of Pillow programs and photographs from the Archives. The Norton Owen Reading Room and new Special Collections Room also feature recent donations and more archival treasures from the Stephan Driscoll Collection.

Online Exhibit: Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive

This evolving online resource features breathtaking video highlights of Pillow performances from the early 1930s through today, with an expanded section of multimedia essays featuring talks, photos, and other exclusive content organized into various themes. danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org.

ABOUT JACOB'S PILLOW:

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, currently celebrating its 90th Anniversary Season. Jacob's Pillow acknowledges that it rests on the unceded lands of the Muh-he-con-ne-ok, and recognizes the Agawam, Nipmuc, and Pocumtuc who also made their homes in Western Massachusetts. We honor their Elders past, present, and future. Each Festival includes national and international dance companies and free and ticketed performances, talks, tours, classes, exhibits, events, and community programs. The School at Jacob's Pillow, one of the field's most prestigious professional dance training centers, encompasses the diverse disciplines of Contemporary Ballet, Contemporary, Tap, Photography, Choreography, and an annual rotating program. The Pillow also provides professional advancement opportunities

across disciplines of arts administration, design, video, and production through seasonal internships and a year-round Administrative Fellows program. With growing community engagement programs, the Pillow serves as a partner and active citizen in its local community. The Pillow's extensive Archives, open year-round to the public and online at danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org, 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. The Pillow's Executive and Artistic Director since 2016 is Pamela Tatge. For more information, visit www.iacobspillow.org.

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