



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 18, 2006

CORNISH DANCE THEATER PRESENTS FALL 2006 CONCERT
With Choreography by Bebe Miller, Melissa Rolnick, Pat Hon and Deborah Wolf

SEATTLE, WA – Cornish Dance Theater, the performing ensemble of the Dance Department at Cornish College of the Arts, is pleased to present the Fall 2006 Concert.

Cornish Dance Theater Fall 2006 Concert

Friday, November 17 at 8 pm

Saturday, November 18 at 2 pm & 8 pm

Broadway Performance Hall, 1625 Broadway Avenue, Seattle

Choreography by Bebe Miller, Pat Hon, Melissa Rolnick, and Deborah Wolf

Tickets: \$10 general, \$5 students, seniors & Cornish College alumni.

Tickets can be purchased through Ticket Window at 206.325.6500 or at

www.ticketwindowonline.com or at Ticket Window box offices located at Broadway Market, Pike Place Market, Bellevue's Meydenbauer Center.

Images available upon request.

About the Performance

The concert includes several pieces of different styles including *Resistance lessened or increased and taken*, choreographed by artist-in-residence Bebe Miller. This piece, which is set to music by Johann Sebastian Bach, was premiered at Ohio State University in Spring 2006. The title comes from a poem by Jorie Graham titled, "The Way Things Work" that asks people to embrace new opportunities. The production of Bebe Miller's dance is made possible with support from The Bossak Heilbron Charitable Foundation.

Additionally, the program includes works by guest choreographer, Melissa Rolnick and Cornish faculty members Pat Hon and Deborah Wolf. *Fractured Resonance* by Melissa Rolnick seeks to embody the discord and confusion that occupies the collective psyche. Pat Hon's *Las Hermanas* is based on the novel by Federico Garcia Lorca, which chronicles the story of five sisters and their mother's reclusive relationship with a suitor. Dramatic and tragic, *Las Hermanas* is deeply embedded in the passion of Cuban composer LeCuona's score. Deborah Wolf's piece is built on dynamic lighting and spatial pathways that change in each section and is set to rhythmic and intense music by Marc Mellits and Cominic Frasca.

The Saturday, November 18th matinee performance will be followed by an informal question and answer period.

Biographies

Bebe Miller has been making dances for over 20 years and formed Bebe Miller Company in 1985. Known for a mix of virtuosic, athletic speed and fundamental humanity, the Company has been produced at major dance centers throughout the US and abroad. In addition to her ongoing work with her ensemble, Miller has received commissions from Boston Ballet, Oregon Ballet Theater, Dayton Contemporary Dance Company and Philadanco, among other groups across the country and abroad. She has collaborated with artists in film and digital media work and has received a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, three Bessie awards for choreography, and artist fellowships from the New York Foundation for the Arts and the Ohio Arts Council. She is a Full Professor in Dance at The Ohio State University, currently serves on the boards of Dance USA, Dance Theater Workshop and Danspace Project, and is a member of the International Artists Advisory Board of the Wexner Center for the Arts.

Pat Hon performed extensively for 10 years with ballet companies in France, Austria, Spain, and Germany. In 1983 she received the National Endowment for the Arts' Choreographic Fellowship and since then has choreographed for the Atlanta Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet's Summer Inventions, Singapore Ballet, Ballet Concerto of Miami, Goh Ballet in Canada, Federal Ballet Company of Malaysia, Ballet Petit, and for dancers competing in the International Ballet Competitions in Jackson, Mississippi. Before coming to Cornish in 1978, she taught at the Morelli Studios in New York and in Florence, Italy. Pat began studying ballet at the age of 10 in her native Singapore and continued her studies at Rosella Hightower's Centre de Danse Classique in France. She also studied Flamenco and Classical Spanish dance in Madrid, Spain, and performed with the foremost Spanish dance company, Antonio and his Ballets of Madrid, before coming to New York to attend the Joffrey School and the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance. She has been teaching for 28 years as Professor in the Dance department at Cornish College of the Arts.

Melissa Rolnick was an assistant professor of dance at Arizona State University (ASU) where she was the recipient of the Herberger College of Fine Arts prestigious Distinguished Teaching Award for the 2003-2004 academic year. Previous to teaching at ASU, Melissa was a lecturer in the dance program at Western Washington University and taught in the dance program at Sonoma State University. Melissa has a BFA from SUNY Purchase College and a MFA from Mills College. She has performed extensively with many notable choreographers including Emily Keeler, Joe Goode, Cliff Keuter, Elina Mooney, Ruth Davidson Hahn and Mel Wong. She was a member of the San Francisco Moving Company, Cliff Keuter's New Dance Company, and the Margaret Jenkins Dance Company performing nationally and internationally. She continues to perform, choreograph and teach nationally. Presently, in her new home of Washington she is teaching students of all ages at various community arts organizations in Anacortes, Bellingham, Mt. Vernon and King County. Melissa's choreography has been produced at Dancer's Group Studio and Women's Work in San Francisco, ASU and Scottsdale Center for the Arts in Arizona, Western Washington University, University of Texas Pan American, California State University Fresno, and On the Boards/12 Minutes Max and Kaleidoscope Dance in Seattle.

Deborah Wolf began her professional career performing with the State University of New York/Brockport professional Company in Residence. She then joined Concert Dance Company of Boston, New England's premiere modern repertory company, performing works by over 50 choreographers including Merce Cunningham, Laura Dean, Bebe Miller, and Mark Morris. In 1979 she became CDC's Resident Choreographer, creating 14 works for the repertoire, and in 1983 added the Artistic Directorship to her duties as dancer and choreographer. A recipient of a Massachusetts Artist Foundation Fellowship and seven Finalist Awards in choreography, she has also received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, several Boston arts councils, and Artist Trust. She has choreographed for the Boston Ballet, the Boston

Symphony Youth Concert Series, and numerous other companies. Producer and performer of her own choreography through WolfWorks, she has also been produced by Boston's Dance Umbrella, Jacob's Pillow Inside/Out Series, Choreofest, Intimate Works, Velocity's Strictly Seattle and Under Construction, Composer/Choreographer, Rockhopper Dance, the Festival of Men Dancing, and by On the Boards' 12 Minutes Max Mainstage. She recently created a work for Lehua Dance Company and is setting a work for Repertory Company of Bellingham. Deborah has served on the Board of Directors of d9 Dance Collective, and is currently serving on the Velocity Dance Center Board. Deborah received a BA in Dance from State University of New York at Brockport. She has been on the Cornish faculty since 1992.

About Cornish College of the Arts

Cornish College of the Arts provides aspiring artists with the educational opportunities to become professionals in their fields. The College offers Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in Art, Dance, Design, Performance Production and Theater, and a Bachelor of Music degree. It is one of three private colleges in the United States focusing on both the performing and visual arts, and the only college of its kind in the Northwest. The College is accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design and has a national reputation for its faculty, curriculum, and student performance and exhibition opportunities.

Since its founding by Nellie Cornish in 1914, Cornish College of the Arts has contributed to the nation's cultural and intellectual heritage through its alumni and faculty. Historically, these figures include choreographers and dancers Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, Syvilla Fort and Bonnie Bird; composer John Cage; painters Mark Tobey, William Cumming, and William Ivey; photographer Imogen Cunningham; educator Calvin B. Cady and broadcaster Chet Huntley, to name just a few. More recently these figures are joined by Brendan Fraser (film actor), Patrick Haskett (painter), Steve Jenson (sculptor), Paul Owen Lewis (illustrator), Lois Rathvon McCarter (dancer/choreographer), Evyind Kang (violinist), Jarrad Powell and Joshua Kohl (composers). And, the College continues to represent the Northwest's largest concentration of professional artists dedicated to instruction.

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